

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3895
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.03.2018**

PF SCHEME FOR BEEDI WORKERS

†3895. SHRI SADASHIV LOKHANDE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the State-wise number of Beedi workers covered under the provident fund scheme in the country;**
- (b) the details of the Government mechanism put in place to ensure that all the benefits available under the existing labour laws are provided to all the workers in the country;**
- (c) whether the Government is aware of the unscrupulous acts of certain dishonest persons working/active in the EPFO offices who are allegedly exploiting the workers; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government to check the exploitation of the workers?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)**

(a): There are 41,67,833 Beedi workers as on 31.12.2017 under the Employees' Provident Funds Scheme, 1952 in the country. A statement showing State-wise number of Beedi workers is at Annexure.

(b) The following actions have been taken by Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) in respect of defaulting establishments to protect the interest of workers covered under the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions (EPF & MP) Act, 1952:

- (i) Action under section 7A of the Act against the defaulting establishments for assessment of dues.**
- (ii) Action under Section 14B of the Act for levying of damages for belated deposit of dues.**
- (iii) Action under Section 7Q of the Act for levy of interest for belated remittances.**
- (iv) Recovery actions as provided under Section 8B to 8G of the Act.**

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- (iv) Action under section 14 of the Act for filing prosecution against the defaulters before the competent court of law.**
- (v) Action under section 406/409 of Indian Penal Code (IPC) against the employer for non-payment of employees' share of contribution deducted from the wages/salary of the employees but not deposited in the fund.**
- (vi) Default management system has been implemented to minimize default by establishments.**

(c) & (d): When complaints against EPFO officials are received, these are processed for investigation by the vigilance functionaries in EPFO. The following system improvement steps has been taken by EPFO for facilitation of workers:-

- (i) Improved and reliable service to provide minimum interface with EPFO officials with the help of latest Information Technology.**
- (ii) Online grievance/complaint registration on CPGRAMS & EPFiGMS online grievance management portals.**
- (iii) Compliance complaints are sent to field offices online and being monitored by Head Office.**
- (iv) Online settlement of member claims for those having Universal Account Number (UAN) with member Aadhaar verified and Know Your Customer (KYC) updation.**
- (v) Real time monthly updation of member accounts.**
- (vi) Reducing the time to 7 days for settlement of death claims and 10 days for other claims.**
- (vii) Settlement of PF claim on the retirement date.**
- (viii) Monthly Pension payment credited on 1st day of the month.**
- (ix) Mode of Payment of all dues made only through National Electronics Funds Transfer (NEFT).**

Annexure

Statement referred to in reply to part (a) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3895 for reply on 19.03.2018 by Shri Sadashiv Lokhande, M.P. regarding 'PF Scheme for Beedi Workers'.

Sr. No.	Name of State	No. of Beedi Workers covered under Employees' Provident Fund Scheme as on 31.12.2017
1	ANDHRA PRADESH	9766
2	ASSAM	1665
3	BIHAR	35712
4	CHHATTISGARH	18207
5	GUJARAT	810
6	JHARKHAND	72717
7	KARNATAKA	652376
8	KERALA	69562
9	MADHYA PRADESH	220951
10	MAHARASHTRA	195022
11	ODISHA	162782
12	RAJASTHAN	25963
13	TAMIL NADU	720546
14	TELANGANA	963413
15	TRIPURA	269
16	UTTAR PRADESH	20072
17	WEST BENGAL	998050
	TOTAL	41,67,883
