

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 839
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.12.2022**

RIGHT OF WORKERS

839. SHRI LAVU SRI KRISHNA DEVARAYALU:

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

- (a) whether there is any Government regulation to enforce rights of workers who seek employment through the labour chowks which are held in every part of the country and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- (b) whether it is true that most of the workers employed through the labour chowks are not getting minimum wages and if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;**
- (c) the details of gender-wise data of men and women, transgenders and others who have sought employment through labour chowks in the last three years, State-wise;**
- (d) whether pregnant women who find work through labour chowks are entitled to any privileges such as maternity leave and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and**
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to integrate the labour force operating through labour chowks into the formal economy?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SHRI RAMESWAR TELI)**

(a): In October, 2018 government had issued Model Welfare Scheme for Building and other Construction Workers (BOCW) and action plan for strengthening the implementation machinery. The provisions of benefits under Model Welfare Schemes are life and disability cover, health and maternity cover, education to ward of beneficiaries to take pro-active steps to facilitate transit accommodation/labour shed cum night shelter, mobile toilets/mobile crèches to BOCW workers in the area of concentration prior to their finding the work, skill development and awareness programmes, pension. These welfare schemes are implemented by State governments.

(b): The Minimum wages Act, 1948 is applicable to employment in construction/ maintenance of roads and building operations. The Central and State governments are appropriate authorities to fix minimum wages and its implementation. Complaints of non-payment of minimum wages are dealt with by respective authorities as the case may be.

(c): Data of workers in labour chowks is not centrally maintained.

(d): The model welfare scheme has provision for paid maternity leave to registered construction workers ranging from 90 days to 26 weeks for up to two deliveries.

(e): Ministry of Labour & Employment has on 26/8/2021 launched e-SHRAM portal for registration of unorganised workers to create a National Database of unorganised workers that is seeded with Aadhaar. One of the main objectives for the creation of database is to share the database of unorganised workers with the State/UT governemnt enabling them to identify the unorganised workers and facilitate social security and welfare schemes benefits to them. Dattopant Thengadi National Board for Workers Education and Development (DTNBWED), an autonomous organisation under the Ministry of Labour and Employment, is organizing the grass root campaign at labour chowks to propagate different schemes of the Government for the unorganized sector workers. Officials of DTNBWED visit the labour chowk and spread awareness on government schemes to the workers and encourage them to register on e-shram Portal, PMSYM, PMBSY, PMJJY along with other social security schemes. The approach is to reach to the workers at their workplace.
