

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1790
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.02.2023**

WELFARE AND UPLIFTMENT OF SKILLED/ UNSKILLED LABOURERS

†1790. SHRI MAHABALI SINGH:

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

- (a) the details of schemes/programmes being run/implemented by the Government for the welfare and upliftment of the unskilled and skilled labourers/ workers in the country;**
- (b) the details of funds approved/released and utilized in this regard during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;**
- (c) whether the Government has conducted/ proposes to conduct any study/survey in respect of condition of the workers at work places;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the outcome in this regard; and**
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to improve the overall conditions including safety, health and work conditions of the workers?**

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): In order to harvest dividend of young population of the country and to provide skilled training to the unskilled semi-skilled and unemployed youth, workforce, Government of India launched National Skill Development Mission. It intends to create convergence across sectors and States in terms of skill training activities. Under the Mission, there are about 20 Central Ministries/Departments including Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) involved in the implementation of more than 40 schemes for various skill development programmes to develop skilled manpower to meet the requirements of different sectors. Major schemes include Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS), Rural Self Employment and Training

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Institutes (RSETI), Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY), etc. Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) 2016-20 is a flagship scheme of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship being implemented with an objective to provide skill development training i.e. Short Term Training (STT) and Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL), across the country in diverse sectors.

Further to provide social security benefits to the workers in the unorganised sector, including agricultural labourers, Government enacted the Unorganised Workers' Social Security Act, 2008. This Act stipulates formulation of suitable welfare schemes for unorganised workers including farm labourers on matters relating to: (i) life and disability cover, (ii) health and maternity benefits, (iii) old age protection and (iv) any other benefit as may be determined by the Central Government.

The Life and Disability cover is provided through Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY) and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY). PMJJBY is available to the people in the age group of 18 to 50 years having a bank/post office account who give their consent to join/enable auto debit. Risk coverage under this scheme is for Rs. 2.00 lakh in case of death of insured, due to any reason, at an annual premium of Rs. 436/- which is to be auto debited from the subscriber's bank/post office account.

(i) The Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) is also available to the people in the age group of 18 to 70 years with a bank/post office account who give their consent to join/enable auto debit. The risk coverage under the scheme is for Rs 2.00 lakh in case of accidental death or total permanent disability and Rs. 1.00 lakh for partial permanent disability; due to accident at a premium of Rs. 20 per annum which is to be deducted from the account holder's bank/post office account through 'auto-debit'.

(ii) The Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (ABPMJAY) provides an annual health cover of Rs. 5 lakhs per eligible family for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization corresponding to 1949 treatment procedures across 27 specialties.

Contd..3/-

(iii) In order to provide old age protection, the Government of India launched Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-Dhan (PM-SYM) pension scheme in 2019. It provides monthly pension of Rs.3000/- after attaining the age of 60 years. The workers in the age group of 18-40 years whose monthly income is Rs. 15000/- or less and not a member of EPFO/ESIC/NPS (Govt. funded) can join the PM-SYM Scheme. Under this scheme 50% monthly contribution is payable by the beneficiary and equal matching contribution is paid by the Central Government. These schemes are demand driven and accordingly the budget is allocated.

Apart from above, other schemes such as Public Distribution System through One Nation One Ration Card scheme under National Food Security Act, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, Deen Dayal Upadhyay Gramin Kaushal Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, Gareeb Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyan, Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana, Deen Dayal Antyodaya Yojana, PMSVANidhi, Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana etc. are also available for the unorganised workers including labourers depending upon their eligibility criteria.

e-SHRAM portal was launched in August, 2021 with an objective to create National Database of Unorganised Workers (NDUW) of the age group of 16-59 years to facilitate delivery of Social Security Schemes/Welfare Schemes of the Central and State Governments to the unorganized workers.

(c) to (e): Directorate General Factory Advice Service and Labour Institutes (DGFASLI) has conducted safety and occupational health surveys to ascertain the status of working conditions, safety and health of the workers in factories. Unit Level Consultancy Studies are also undertaken at the request of management. Further, a National Study on Occupational Safety, Health and Working Environment was conducted in Asbestos Cement Product Industries from November, 2018 to February, 2019.

The Government of India has declared the National Policy on Safety, Health and Environment at Workplace (NPSHEW) which aims to establish a preventive safety and health culture in the country through elimination of the incidence of work related injuries, diseases, fatalities, disasters and to enhance the well-being of employees in all the sectors of economic activity in the country.

The Government has also introduced “The Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2019” to consolidate and amend the laws regulating the occupational safety, health and working conditions of the persons employed in an establishment and the matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

For the manufacturing sector, the Government of India has enacted a comprehensive legislation i.e., the Factories Act, 1948, for ensuring the occupational safety, health and welfare of the workers employed in the factories registered under the Factories Act, 1948.

The matters relating to safety, health and welfare of persons employed in the mines are dealt with under the Mines Act, 1952, Rules and Regulations made there under. Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) under the Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India administers this Act for ensuring safety in the mines of the country.

To maintain the safety of labourers working under great risk conditions in mines DGMS organizes conference, training programme, workshop to sensitize owners, agent, manager, supervisors and workers towards safety measures and avoid unsafe practices in mines.

The officials of Directorate General of Mines Safety, regularly make inspection of the mines and if any irregularities/ deficiencies in relation to safety, health and welfare are found concerned mine management are addressed for the redressal.

For the port sector, the Dock Workers (Safety, Health and Welfare) Act, 1986 has been enacted by the Central Government to take care of safety, health and welfare of the dock workers working in the ports. The Dock Workers (Safety, Health and Welfare) Act, 1986 and Regulations, 1990 framed thereunder are being enforced by DGFASLI through the Inspectorate of Dock Safety offices in the major ports of the country.