

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1990
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.03.2023**

RASHTRIYA SWASTHYA BIMA YOJANA

1990. SHRI SISIR KUMAR ADHIKARI:

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

- (a) whether the bima yojana for unorganised workers, which saw an allocation of ten lakh in the last budget, has been stopped for 2023-24;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the details of State-wise expenditure involved therein;**
- (c) the details of allocations and expenditure towards Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY), family pension-cum-life insurance scheme for plantation workers, rehabilitation of bonded labour therein; and**
- (d) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government towards improvement in working conditions of child-woman labour and other employment and training programmes since 2014?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): With the launch of Ayushman Bharat –Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) on 23.09.2018, Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY) got subsumed in it. 0.22 crore beneficiary families belonging to BPL and 11 other defined categories that were enrolled under RSBY, are now covered under AB-PMJAY.

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(d): The Government having given consideration to various aspects of the problems of child labour enacted the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 which was amended in 2016. The amended Act is now called the Child and Adolescent Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 which inter-alia provides for complete prohibition of work or employment of children below 14 years in any occupation and process and adolescents in the age group of 14 to 18 years in hazardous occupations and processes. It also provides for stricter punishment for employers for violation of the Act and made the offence as cognizable.

Further, Ministry of Labour & Employment has been implementing National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme for rehabilitation of child labourers through District Project Societies under the chairmanship of the District Magistrate. Under the NCLP scheme, the children in the age group of 9-14 years are rescued / withdrawn from work and enrolled in the NCLP Special Training Centres (STCs), where they are provided with bridge education, vocational training, mid-day meal, stipend, health care, etc. before being mainstreamed into formal education system. NCLP scheme has now been subsumed under Samagara Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) Scheme with effect from 01.04.2021. Henceforth, the rescued child labourers will be mainstreamed into formal education system through STC operational under SSA.

Further, Ministry of Labour & Employment administer the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 which inter-alia provides that there shall be no discrimination in an establishment or any unit thereof among employees on the ground of gender in matters relating to wages by the same employer, in respect of the same work or work of similar nature done by any employee and also prevent discrimination against women while making recruitment for the same work or work of similar nature, or in any condition of service subsequent to recruitment such as promotion, training or transfer. The provisions of the Act have been extended to all establishments or employment.

The Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 has been subsumed in the Code on Wages, 2019 which also provides that there shall be no discrimination in an establishment or any unit thereof among employees on the ground of gender in matters relating to wages by the same employer, in respect of the same work or work of similar nature done by any employee.

The Maternity Benefit Act, as amended in 2017, provides the paid maternity leave from 12 weeks to 26 weeks for two surviving children. It also has enabled provision of “Work from Home”, after availing of the maternity benefit by the woman, where the nature of work being assigned of such nature, for such period and on such conditions mutually agreed upon by the employer and the woman employee.

Vide notification dated 29th January, 2019 under Mines Act 1952, the Government allowed the employment of women in the aboveground mines including open cast workings between 7 pm and 6 am and in below ground mines working between 6 am and 7 pm in technical, supervisory and managerial work where continuous presence may not be required.
