GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1839 TO BE ANSWERED ON 31.07.2023

FUNDS ALLOCATED FOR DEVELOPMENT OF E-SHRAM PORTAL

1839. SHRI PARTHIBAN S.R.:

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

- (a)the steps taken/being taken to increase the number of registrations of unorganized workers on the e-Shram Portal in order to maximize the benefits that can be availed by these workers of unorganized sector;
- (b)the details of funds allocated, sanctioned and disbursed during the last five years for the development of the Portal; and
- (c)the action taken/being taken by the Government for improving the participation of women in the labour force both urban and rural areas, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): Ministry of Labour & Employment launched eShram portal (eshram.gov.in) on 26th August 2021 for creation of a comprehensive National Database of Unorganised Workers verified and seeded with Aadhaar.

To increase the number of registrations, the matter is taken up with all the States/UTs from time to time. The registration facility is available at over 4 lakh Common Service Centres (CSC) across the country. State Seva Kendras have also been taken on board. Further, CSC organises awareness camps (including night camps) at various places for mobilisation of workers. eShram portal has also been on boarded on Unified Mobile Application for New-age Governance (UMANG) App for easy registration through mobile. Rs. 48.54 crore has been sanctioned/ disbursed for development and maintenance of eShram portal.

Government has taken various steps to improve women's participation in the labour force and quality of their employment. A number of protective provisions have been incorporated in the labour laws for equal opportunity and congenial work environment for women workers. These include enhancement in paid maternity leave from 12 weeks to 26 weeks, provision for mandatory creche facility in the establishments having 50 or more employees, permitting women workers in the night shifts with adequate safety measures, etc.

Government has taken a decision to allow the employment of women in the above/ground mines including opencast working between 7 pm and 6 am and in below ground working between 6 am and 7 pm in technical, supervisory and managerial work where continuous presence may not be required.

The Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 has now been subsumed in the Code on Wages, 2019 which 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. Further, no employer shall make any discrimination on the ground of gender while recruiting any employee for the same work or work of similar nature in the conditions of employment, except where the employment of women in such work is prohibited or restricted by or under any law for the time being in force.

Further, in order to enhance the employability of female workers, the Government is providing training to them through a network of Women Industrial Training institutes, National Vocational Training Institutes and Regional Vocational Training Institutes.

As on 25th July 2023, over 28.97 crore unorganised workers have registered on eShram portal. Out of the above registrations 52.77% workers are female.
