GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3283 TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.12.2019

RURAL LABOURERS

3283. SHRI ABDUL KHALEQUE:

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

- (a)whether the Government has any plan to bring new rules to improve the working conditions of rural labourers;
- (b)if so, the details thereof;
- (c)whether the Government has any data to suggest the average number of workdays for labourers in a year and if so, the details thereof;
- (d)the facilities being provided by Government to the rural labourers; and
- (e)whether the Government considering setting up of a monitoring body like tribunals at the block level to address labour related issues in rural areas and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e): A draft Code on Social Security 2019 has been prepared by amalgamating, simplifying and rationalizing the relevant provisions of the existing Nine Central Labour Acts relating to social security for organised and unorganised sector workers which aims towards expansion of coverage of social security.

In order to provide social security benefits to the workers in the unorganised sector, including rural labourers, as per their

eligibility, Government enacted the Unorganised Workers' Social Security Act, 2008. This Act stipulates formulation of suitable welfare schemes for unorganised workers 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. Life and disability cover is provided through Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY) and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) to the unorganised workers depending upon their eligibility. The health and maternity benefits are addressed through Ayushman Bharat scheme.

For old age protection in the form of monthly pension, Ministry of Labour & Employment has launched Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-Dhan Yojana launched on 05^{th} March, 2019 which is a voluntary and contributory pension scheme for providing monthly minimum assured pension of Rs. 3,000/- on attaining the age of 60 years. The unorganised workers in the age group of 18-40 years whose monthly income is Rs. 15,000/- or less and not a member of EPFO/ESIC/NPS can join the scheme. Under the scheme, 50% monthly contribution is payable by the beneficiary and equal matching contribution is paid by the Central Government.
