GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2543 TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.03.2025

WAGES, HEALTH AND SAFETY MEASURES FOR WORKERS IN RAJASTHAN

†2543. SHRI MURARI LAL MEENA:

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

- (a)whether the Government proposes to strengthen health and safety measures for workers in the country, especially those from Rajasthan, so that they can be protected from extreme temperatures and other extreme weather events, if so, the details therefor;
- (b)whether the climate adaptation policies has been implemented effectively in Rajasthan so that the working conditions of workers can be improved and their livelihood is secured, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons thereto;
- (c)whether the Government has started awareness programmes at the local level so that workers can understand and adopt ways to protect themselves from the effects of climate change if so, the details thereof;
- (d)whether special schemes has been devised for employment generation in the areas affected by extreme heat/climate change, especially in Rajasthan, so that workers can have alternative means of livelihood, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e)whether the Government proposes to give higher remuneration to the workers of Rajasthan in the centrally run schemes of the Government, so that they can make a good living if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SUSHRI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE)

(a) to (e): The Government of India has enacted the Factories Act, 1948, which provides for safety, health and welfare of workers working in the factories registered under the Act. There are elaborate provisions pertaining to ventilation and temperature, Artificial humidification at their work workrooms. The government has issued advisories to States and Union Territories, including Rajasthan, requesting them to ensure that employers and industries in their jurisdiction take effective steps to mitigate the adverse effects of extreme hot weather on workers. These steps include rescheduling working hours, ensuring adequate drinking water facilities, conducting regular health checkups for workers, and providing emergency ice packs and heat illness prevention materials to construction workers etc.

The subordinate/attach offices under the Ministry of Labour and Employment organize training programs/awareness sessions focused on ways to deal with the heatwave for outdoor workers and laborers who are most exposed to extreme heat conditions on regular basis.

Government is implementing various employment generation schemes/ programmes in the country including the State of Rajasthan which include Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY), Rural Self Employment and Training Institutes (RSETIs), Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM), Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY), Stand-UP India Scheme, Startup India, etc.

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) aims at enhancing livelihood security of households in rural areas of the country by providing at least one hundred days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work as well as proactively ensuring social inclusion.

Further, Ministry of Labour and Employment is running the National Career Service (NCS) Portal for providing career related services like job matching, career counseling, vocational guidance, information on skill development courses, internships etc.

Under the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the Central Government and State Government, as appropriate government, fix, review and revise the minimum wages of the employees employed in the scheduled employments under their respective jurisdictions.

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