

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3737  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.03.2025**

**WELFARE OF SCS, STS & MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES**

**3737. ADV. CHANDRA SHEKHAR:**

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

- (a) the details of measures being taken by the Government to strengthen labour law enforcement and monitoring, particularly in sectors with high concentrations of informal workers from Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and marginalized communities;**
- (b) the details of the concrete actions being taken by the Government to ensure that minimum wage standards, fair working conditions and social security provisions are upheld for said vulnerable workers;**
- (c) the details of the initiatives being taken by the Government to extend social security benefits to informal workers, particularly those from Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and other marginalized communities along with the measures being taken to ensure their financial security and well-being;**
- (d) the details of the measures taken by the Government to address the disproportionate representation of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other marginalized communities in the informal sector along with the concrete steps being taken to ensure their transition to formal employment opportunities with adequate social protection and benefits; and**
- (e) the reasons for the persistent wage gap between formal and informal sector workers and outline the concrete measures being taken by the Government to reduce this gap and promote inclusive economic growth, particularly for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other marginalized communities?**

**ANSWER**

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

**(a) to (e): 'Labour' being a subject under the Concurrent List, the enforcement of labour laws is done by the State Governments and the Central Government in their respective jurisdictions. In the Central Sphere, the implementation of labour laws are done through various**

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**organizations of the Ministry viz., Office of Chief Labour Commissioner (Central), Employees Provident Fund Organization (EPFO), Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC), Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS), Directorate General Factory Advice Service and Labour Institutes (DGFASLI) etc.**

**The Government has enacted the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 to ensure that workers get wages at a rate not less than the minimum rate of wages fixed by the appropriate government. The Act provides for different minimum wages across various industries. The provisions of Minimum Wages Act, 1948 and Payment of Wages Act, 1936 are also applicable to workers from SC/ST communities.**

**The Government implements various welfare schemes for workers, including informal sector workers from SC/ ST communities, such as Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) for healthcare, Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY) and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) for life and accident insurance respectively. Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-Dhan (PMSYM) for pension benefits, the One-Nation- One-Ration-Card Scheme for food security, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) for housing, and skill development initiatives such as Deen Dayal Upadhyay Gramin Kaushal Yojana and Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana, the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme for employment guarantee, to name a few.**

**Employment generation coupled with improving employability is a priority of the Government. Accordingly, Government is implementing various employment generation schemes/ programmes in the country including informal sector workers from Scheduled Caste & Scheduled Tribes. These inter-alia include Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), MGNREGS, 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), etc. The details of various employment generation schemes/programmes being implemented by the Government may be seen at [https://dge.gov.in/dge/schemes\\_programmes](https://dge.gov.in/dge/schemes_programmes)**

**Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India, is running the National Career Service (NCS) Portal which is a one-stop solution for providing career related services including jobs from private and government sectors, information on online & offline job fairs, job search & matching, career counselling, vocational guidance, information on skill development courses, skill/training programmes etc. through a digital platform [www.ncs.gov.in]. As on 28.02.2025, more than 4.7 crore vacancies have been mobilised on NCS Portal.**

**Persons from SC/ST communities are also eligible for the above schemes/ programmes.**

**Further, Department of Social Justice and Empowerment (DoSJ&E) launched the Pradhan Mantri – Dakshta Aur Kushalta Sampann Hitgrahi (PM-DAKSH) Scheme, a Central Sector Scheme, in the financial year 2020-21, for providing skill training to SCs, OBCs, EWSs, DNTs, Safai Karamcharis including Waste Pickers through the empaneled training institutes. The main objective of PM-DAKSH Scheme is to enhance the skills of target group and make them employable in both wage-employment and self-employment. The scheme is being implemented on pan India basis. Once the training programmes under this scheme are completed, assessment and certification of trainees are conducted and the certified trainees are provided with placement opportunities either in wage-employment or self-employment.**

**The Ministry of Tribal Affairs is implementing the scheme ‘Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Vikas Mission (PMJVM)’ through TRIFED which envisions to strengthen tribal entrepreneurship initiatives and to facilitate livelihood opportunities by promoting more efficient, equitable, self-managed, optimum use of natural resources, Agri / Minor Forest Produce (MFPs) / Non-farm produce. Under the scheme, financial support of INR 15.00 lakhs is provided to the State Governments for setting up of each Van Dhan Vikas Kendras (VDVKs) which are the centers of value addition activities of MFPs/Non-MFPs.**

**The National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC), a Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, facilitates credit linkage by providing concessional loans to eligible Scheduled Tribe individuals/SHGs for undertaking income-generating activities and self-employment, thereby fostering entrepreneurship.**

**Ministry of Labour and Employment is also implementing the “Welfare of SC/ST jobseekers Scheme” through the network of 25 National Career Service Centres for SC/ST (NCSC-SC/STs) across the country to enhance the employability of SC/ST jobseekers through pre recruitment training, vocational guidance, career counselling and computer training etc. with a view to preparing them to meet the demands of the labour market.**

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