

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 176
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.07.2025**

HEALTHCARE AND SAFETY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION LABOURERS

†176. SHRI HARISH CHANDRA MEENA:

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

- (a) the details of the steps taken by the Government to address the professional hazards like Cancer, Musculoskeletal diseases, respiratory issues and other health problems;**
- (b) the details of the initiatives taken by the Government to implement extant professional safety laws including ensuring the availability of safety gears like Steel toe boots, Hard Hat, Ear mufflers, mask and harness at the construction sites;**
- (c) the details of the measures taken by the Government to improve the accessibility to healthcare for migrated construction labourers especially with respect to mobile health and cancer screening programme and the portability of the Government health schemes; and**
- (d) the details of the deaths of the construction labourers during the last five years and the current year including the number of cases wherein compensation granted, number of claims rejected and the cases wherein the claims are pending for disposal in the country, State-wise including Rajasthan?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): The Central Government is committed to protect and promote the welfare, social security, safety and health of labourers. The Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996 [BOCW (RE&CS) Act, 1996] and Central rules, 1998 regulate the employment and conditions of service of building and other construction workers, provide for their safety, health and welfare measures and for other matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. Further, the BOCW Central Rules, 1998 (Rules 34–232) lay out detailed provisions which are given below:

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Chapter VI, provides for provisions related to safety of workers' Eye protection and safety from electrical hazards, Chapter XII has provisions related to safety of workers engaged in demolition of buildings, Chapter XIII deals with excavation and tunneling works, Chapter XVI provides for safety belt, safety net, etc., Chapter XXI prescribes mandatory mechanism of reporting in case of accidents, accident enquiring procedures, etc., Chapter XXIV provides Occupational health services for the construction workers.

In order to safeguard the interest of the Migrant workers, the Government has enacted the Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Services) Act, 1979 which, inter alia, provides for registration of certain establishments employing Inter-State Migrant Workers, licensing of contractors etc. Workers employed with such establishment are to be provided payment of minimum wages, journey allowance, displacement allowance, residential accommodation, medical facilities and protective clothing etc.

The Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) [CLC(C)] organization through its field offices enforces various provisions of the BOCW (RE&CS) Act 1996 and the rules made thereunder ensuring the safety measures of workers working in construction sites in the Central Sphere. Regular inspections are conducted as per the Inspection Scheme of the Ministry of Labour & Employment. State Labour Departments conduct similar inspections in their respective States.

Further, in order to augment the efforts in the direction of safety and health of construction workers, "Construction Advisory Service (CAS) Division" has been created in Directorate General of Factory Advice Service & Labour Institutes (DGFASLI), Mumbai that has initiated various certificate courses in the field of Construction Safety.

Under Section 22 of the BOCW Act, 1996 State Welfare Boards provide benefits such as accident assistance, pensions, housing loans, group insurance, educational support, maternity benefits, and medical benefits.

Relevant provisions of the BOCW Act, 1996 have been subsumed in the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020 (OSH Code) and Code on Social Security, 2020 (SS Code).

Respective State BOCW Welfare Boards maintain updated data on deaths, compensation granted, rejected or pending. Major causes include falls, road accidents, and electrocution.

As per details reported by Nation Health Authority the 14 States viz. Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Uttar Pradesh, Nagaland, Chandigarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Sikkim, Telangana, Tripura, Bihar, Punjab have signed Memorandum and Understanding (MoU) with State Health Authority in the concerned States for coverage of building/construction workers under Ayushman Bharat -Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY).
