GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2356 TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.08.2025

SHORTAGE OF LABOUR IN PUNJAB

2356. SHRI CHARANJIT SINGH CHANNI:

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

- (a)whether it is true that industries in Punjab are facing a major shortage of labourers as a large number of migrant workers have not returned, if so, the details thereof;
- (b)whether the said shortage is affecting the key industries like textiles, bicycles, auto parts, and hosiery and if so, the details thereof;
- (c)whether the Government has assessed the impact of migrant workers on production and exports; and
- (d)if so, the details of the steps taken/being taken by the Government to solve the problem, such as attracting the workers back, training of local youth or offering help to the industries?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): The State Government of Punjab has reported that there are no major labour shortages in the state's industries. However, keeping in view India's vision of becoming 'Atmanirbhar', Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Schemes for 14 key sectors were announced with an outlay of Rs. 1.97 lakh crore to enhance India's Manufacturing capabilities and Exports.

The 14 sectors are: (i) Mobile Manufacturing and Specified Electronic Components, (ii) Critical Key Starting Materials/Drug Intermediaries & Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients, (iii) Manufacturing of Medical Devices (iv) Automobiles and Auto Components, (v) Pharmaceuticals Drugs, (vi) Specialty Steel, (vii) Telecom & Networking Products, (viii) Electronic / Technology

Products, (ix) White Goods (ACs and LEDs), (x) Food Products, (xi) Textile Products: MMF segment and technical textiles, (xii) High efficiency solar PV modules, (xiii) Advanced Chemistry Cell (ACC) Battery, and (xiv) Drones and Drone Components.

The purpose of the PLI Schemes is to attract investments in key sectors and cutting-edge technology; ensure efficiency and bring economies of size and scale in the manufacturing sector and make Indian companies and manufacturers globally competitive. These schemes have the potential of significantly boosting production, employment and economic growth over the next five years or so.

The PM Vishwakarma Scheme was launched on 17.09.2023 to provide end-to-end support to artisans and crafts people of 18 trades who work with their hands and tools. Under the scheme, PM Vishwakarma beneficiaries across the country including Punjab, are provided support for marketing, branding, packaging, skill upgradation etc.

Under the Government of India's Skill India Mission (SIM), the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) delivers skill, re-skill and up-skill training through an extensive network of skill development centres under various schemes, viz. Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), Jan Sikhshan Sansthan (JSS), National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) and Craftsman Training Scheme (CTS) through Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs), to all the sections of the society across the country including the rural areas of Punjab. The SIM aims at enabling youth of India to get future ready, equipped with industry relevant skills.
