

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 16
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25TH APRIL, 2016**

SOCIAL SECURITY TO WORKERS

16. SHRI J.J.T. NATTERJEE:

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

- (a) whether a large percentage of workers in the country is engaged in informal employment and majority of them have low earnings with limited or no social protection;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;**
- (c) whether the Government has formulated/proposed to formulate any specific plans for such kind of employees; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

(a to d): As per the latest results of the labour force survey on employment and unemployment conducted in 2011-12 by National Sample Survey Office (NSSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, the percentage of workers in the country engaged in informal employment was 92.4%.

In order to provide social security to unorganised workers, the Government has enacted the “Unorganised Workers’ Social Security Act, 2008” and has increased ambit of Rashtriya Swasthya BimaYojana (RSBY) to cover larger cross section of workers and their families. Equal Remuneration Act, 1973 provides for payment of equal remuneration to men and women workers for the same work or work of similar nature without any discrimination. The Act is effectively enforced by the Central and State Government by conducting regular inspections to detect the violation of provisions of the Act by establishments. The coverage of establishments under The Employees’ Provident Fund & Miscellaneous Provisions (EPF&MP) Act has been enlarged to include construction workers.

The Government has also launched Prime Ministers’ Jan Dhan Yojana for financial inclusion of the poor and also three insurance schemes, namely (i) Prime Ministers’ Suraksha Beema Yojana (PMSBY), which provides insurance cover on account of an accident. (ii) Atal Pension Yojana (APY), which is a Government backed pension scheme aimed at unorganized sector and (iii) Prime Ministers’ Jeevan Jyoti Beema Yojana (PMJJBY), a Government backed insurance scheme providing life insurance cover to people in the age group of 18 to 50 and having a bank account at a nominal premium.
