

(c) the steps taken to ensure that unclaimed money is neither misused nor disbursed to wrongful claimants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) to (c) As per balance sheet of Employees' provident fund organization for the financial year 2007-2008 (un-audited), there is a total amount of Rs.3837.70 crores in the Inoperative Account. The claims of inoperative account holders are settled by taking all measures prescribed in the Manual of procedures to avoid misuse or wrongful disbursement.

New ITIs to minority concentrated areas in Kerala

1031. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for initiating new ITIs in the Minority (Muslims) concentrated blocks in Kerala, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the competent authority of Kerala had represented to DGE and T to sanction above new ITIs in English/ Malayalam medium considering the peculiar situation prevailed in the State;

(c) if so, the status of above representation;

(d) whether the above representation will be considered in affirmative; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) Opening of new ITIs and administration of existing ITIs is under the control of State Government. However, Central Government has decided to set up 1500 new ITIs in Public Private Partnership mode during Eleventh Plan in unserved blocks of the country.

(b) to (e) No such proposal has been received in the DGE and T. However, State Governments are competent to open ITIs in their jurisdiction in any medium of instruction prescribed in Eighth Schedule of the Constitution of India.

Insurance for construction workers

1032. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is providing insurance for construction workers;

(b) if so, the complete details thereof;

(c) the role of State Governments in this regard; and

(d) if not, by when such a proposal will come into force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) to (d) The government has decided to extend Rashtriya

Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY) to building and other construction workers who are Above Poverty Line (APL) and not covered under the ongoing scheme which is so far available only to the below Poverty Line (BPL) families.

Benefits under the scheme shall be the same as are under the ongoing RSBY for below poverty line workers. All building and other construction workers registered under the Building and other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Services) Act, 1996, shall be eligible under the scheme.

The premium for the scheme shall be paid from the funds collected by the Welfare Boards constituted by the respective State Governments under the Building and other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996. With the announcement of the Scheme, the initiative has now to come from the State Governments for its implementation.

Fifth Economic Census, 2005 regarding labour

1033. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:
SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:

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

(a) whether millions of Indian shifted to jobs in the retail trade, manufacturing and allied agricultural activities such as livestock, farming and fishing, according to the Fifth Economic Census, 2005 released on 29th of May 2008;

(b) if so, does this position relate to the period 1998 and 2005;

(c) whether this change in rural job-profile is on account of unremunerative crop prices or due to mechanization of agricultural operations; and

(d) the percentage of people solely engaged in agricultural operations as also of those employed in other rural activities as mentioned in part (a) above?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the house.

Amendment to labour laws

1034. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to amend labour laws in view of economic liberalization;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) to (c) Review/updation of labour laws is an ongoing process