

(b) whether it is also a fact that some cities, including Hyderabad, have been selected for this purpose;

(c) if so, the progress of setting up of these institutes;

(d) whether any private participation is envisaged in setting up of such institutes; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Assam and Haryana have been requested to allot land in their respective states for setting up the Institutes.

(d) and (e) Public-private partnership mode is also one of the options being considered for setting up the institute.

#### **Setting up a National Military memorial**

\*567. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is yet to set up a National Military Memorial to honour the scores of armed forces personnel who have sacrificed their lives for the nations, even after 60 years of Independence;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the status and timeline for constituting a National Military Memorial in New Delhi to honour these martyrs and their families?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) A proposal for construction of National War Memorial at India Gate Complex has been under consideration for some time in consultation with the Ministry of Urban Development, which has to assign the land for the project.

A Group of Ministers (GoM) has been constituted by the Government in August 2009 to decide on the appropriate location of National War Memorial. The GoM is being serviced by the Ministry of Urban Development. Necessary action can be taken only after the recommendations of GoM are finalized.

#### **Children working in Mines**

†\*568. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards a report titled "India's Childhood in Pits", which is about the children aged between 5 to 19 years working in mines;
- (b) if so, the description given in the report regarding the condition of these children;
- (c) whether Government has received any information from the State Governments in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) and (b) A report titled "India's Childhood in Pits" published by Dhatri Resource Centre for Women and Children, Samata, has been received in the Ministry of Mines. The Report claims that a large number of children in India face marginalization due to State Governments' inability in delivering basic development services because of which large sections of rural, dalit and adivasi children are suffering from malnutrition, illiteracy, starvation, homelessness and illness. The Report further claims that this desperate situation is pushing children into child labour in mining and other forms of labour. It also claims that the study found that children of local communities around mine sites were rarely found to benefit from mining.

(c) and (d) Neither Ministry of Mines nor Ministry of Labour & Employment have received any information from the State Governments in this regard.

#### **Beneficiaries under EPF scheme**

†\*569. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the total percentage of beneficiary employees covered under the Employees Provident Funds (EPF) scheme at present;
- (b) when expert committee headed by Special Secretary of his Ministry was constituted and by when it has been asked to submit its report;
- (c) the provision for minimum pension in EPF scheme and whether the retired employees are getting pension per month on time; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE) (a) to (d) The total number of beneficiaries covered under the Employees' Provident Funds Scheme, 1952 as on 31.03.2009 is 470.72 lakhs.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.