

Revamping of Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana

*43. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is in the process of revamping the Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY) so as to extend the same to unorganized sector;
- (b) if so, the details of the proposed change;
- (c) whether Government is planning to add more categories like autorickshaw and taxi drivers, rag pickers, etc., under RSBY; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) to (d) The Government has extended the RSBY to all building and other construction workers registered under the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Condition of Service) Act, 1996.

In the Budget for the year 2010-11, the Government has announced extension of RSBY to all such Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA) beneficiaries who have worked for more than 15 days during the preceding financial year. The Railway Minister has also announced extension of the scheme to all licenced porters, vendors, and hawkers, who are from the unorganized sector and are socially challenged.

The National Social Security Board constituted under the Unorganised Workers' Social Security Act, 2008 has, *inter-alia*, recommended extension of Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY) to other target groups also. In view of this, the Government has constituted Task Force for extending social security schemes to domestic workers. The Task Force has submitted its report. It has recommended extension of RSBY to these workers. The Government has also set up a Task Force for suggesting schemes to provide social security to Rickshaw Pullers, street vendors, rag pickers etc. The Task Force is likely to submit its report in next couple of months. A working Group has also recently been constituted for sanitation and leather workers. It is the endeavour of the Government to extend the scheme to other target groups also in phased manner.

Establishment of a solar plant near air-force training base in Jaisalmer

†*44. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.