

Hospital having bed occupancy of less than 60% can be opened to non Insured Persons (IIPs) on payment of user charges.

(b) For utilization of spare capacity in Employees State Insurance (ESI) Hospitals, a scheme has been framed and circulated to all concerned for implementation.

Amendment to Contract Labour Act, 1970

3839. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to amend the Contract Labour Act, 1970 to ensure a fair deal for contract workers;

(b) if so, the salient features of the proposed amendment; and

(c) how the above amendment ensures equal wages, facilities and benefits like regular employees?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) to (c) A proposal to amend the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 is under consideration of the Government.

Reviewing labour laws

3840. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is reviewing some of the labour laws, which are standing as obstacles for employment generation, welfare of labour force, etc.;

(b) if so, the details of laws that the Ministry proposes to review;

(c) whether any decision has been taken in the Indian Labour Congress held recently with regard to the above; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) and (b) Review of labour laws is a continuous process and amendments are made in labour laws from time to time in order to, *inter-alia*, promote employment generation, welfare of labour force, etc. Recent amendments carried out include those under the Payment of Wages Act, 1936, the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965, the Apprentices Act, 1961, the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972, the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948, the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, the Plantation Labour Act, 1951 and the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923. In addition the Government has introduced the Labour Laws (Exemption from Furnishing Returns and Maintaining of Registers by Certain Establishments) Amendment Bill, 2011 and the Mines (Amendment) Bill, 2011.

(c) and (d) In the 43rd Session of Indian Labour Conference held during 23-24 November, 2010 several recommendations were made these include, statutory fixation of National Floor Level Minimum Wage, strengthening social dialogue, strict implementation of labour laws, devising broad based social security, strengthening of labour enforcement machinery, amendments in the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970, payment of minimum wages to MGNREGA workers, and various measures for promoting skill development and training etc.

Unorganised workers covered under RSBY

3841. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise details of unorganised workers in the country who have already been covered by Rastriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY) and what is the contribution of Central Government, State Government and workers;

(b) whether construction workers, forest workers, rag pickers, street vendors, rickshaw pullers, head loaders, home based workers, servant employed for the house hold works, agricultural workers, MNREGA workers, shops and commercial establishment workers are included in this scheme;

(c) whether it is a fact that some hospitals are not entertaining the Rastriya Swasthya Bima Yojana Card; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) and (b) State-wise number of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families in unorganized sector covered under Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY) is given in the Statement (See below). The premium under RSBY is shared in the ratio of 75:25 between Central and State Government. In case of States of North East region and Jammu and Kashmir, the ratio is 90:10. The workers have to pay Rs. 30 as Registration/Renewal fee.

The scheme has been extended to building and other construction workers registered with Welfare Boards constituted under the Building and other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Condition of Service) Act, 1996, street vendors, beedi workers, MGNREGA beneficiaries who have worked for more than 15 days during the preceding financial year and domestic workers.

(c) and (d) The beneficiary having smart card is entitled to benefits under the scheme at empanelled hospitals.