

(c) Details of the number of companies and the total amount in default for the last three years are given below:

Year	Total number of establishments defaulted	Amount in Default (Rs. in Crores)		
		EPF	ESIC	ESIC
2008-09	79,931	1,08,184	2,993.12	1,267.32
2009-10	79,059	1,32,087	2,923.14	1,309.00
2010-11	78,588	1,64,964	2,979.71	1,357.00

Covering all the labourers under medical and ESI scheme

2444. SHRI KHEKIHO ZHIMOMI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of Labourers working in different parts of the country in small, micro industry or unorganised sector are not covered under medical and ESI scheme;

(b) if so, the calculated number of labourers in the country;

(c) whether Government has made any policy or plan to cover all these big number of labourers under ESI scheme or provident fund scheme for their better future; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) to (d) The Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948 applies to employees of factories employing 10 or more persons and certain specified establishments such as shops, hotels and restaurants, cine and preview theatres, road-motor transport undertakings, newspaper establishments, educational and private medical institutions employing 20 or more persons located in areas where the scheme is in force. 14 States have also extended coverage to shops and establishments employing 10 or more persons. Employees of factories and establishments covered under the scheme drawing monthly wages upto Rs. 15,000/- are covered under the scheme. As on 31.03.2011, the scheme is in force in 790 industrial centres in the country covering 1.55 crore insured persons. The total number of beneficiaries including family members of insured persons who are entitled to medical care under the scheme is 6.02 crore. The scheme is in force in all States and Union Territories except Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Manipur, Sikkim, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep. Similarly, under the provisions of the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952, establishments employing

20 or more persons are coverable. The establishments which are not coverable statutorily could be 'covered on voluntary basis if a majority of the employees and employer are willing.

For the purpose of coverage under ESIC and Employees Provident Fund, there is no criterion whether the establishment falls under organized or unorganised sector. Hence, no such separate details of the number of unorganised sector workers covered under the Employees' Provident Funds Scheme, 1952 or Employees State Insurance Scheme are available. The total number of workers in 6,60,546 establishments have 6,15,88,670 members' accounts under Employees' Provident Fund Organization.

Finalisation of Indian Labour Conference

2445. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN:
SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI:

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

- (a) whether the next Indian Labour Conference has been finalized; and
- (b) if so, the details worked out so far?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) and (b) The 44th Session of the Indian Labour Conference is scheduled to be held on 14th and 15th February, 2012. It has been decided that the following issues will be discussed during the Conference:-

- (1) Minimum Wages
- (2) Social Security
- (3) Employability and Employment

Child labourers in the country

2446. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of child labourers in the country as per the latest Census;
- (b) whether it is a fact that Child labourers are getting meagre amount per day in comparison to adult labourers;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to rescue them and rehabilitate them?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) As per 2001 Census, there were 1.26 crore working children in the country in the age group of 5-14, out of which approximately 12 lakh children were working in hazardous occupations. The latest Census figures have not been received.