

Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996 and the Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Cess Act, 1996 with a view to regulating the employment and conditions of service of building and other construction workers and provide for their safety, health and welfare measures etc. Under the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996, every State Government has to constitute a State Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board. The functions of the Board include providing welfare and social security measure such as immediate assistance to a beneficiary in case of accident, payment of pension to the beneficiaries who have completed the age of 60 years, loan and advances for construction of house, paying amount in connection with premia for Group Insurance Scheme etc.

(d) and (e) As per the information received from the States/UTs, 33 States/UTs have constituted the Welfare Boards. The Central Government has issued directions to the concerned State Governments/UTs to set up the Welfare Board under Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996.

(f) Under the Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Cess Act, 1996, a cess @ 1% of the construction cost is collected by the State and given to the respective Welfare Boards for meeting the expenses on welfare of construction workers. As per information received from States/UTs total amount of cess collected upto 30.6.2011 is Rs. 5265.57 crore (approximate).

New cells in employment exchange for girls

†3207. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether, keeping in view the growing interest of girls in education and jobs, there is a need to open new cells in employment exchanges of every State for receiving the applications of the girl so that the State-wise factual data can be collected about the applications of the girls;

(b) whether Government proposes to reserve a certain percentage of jobs in all types of Government jobs so that the girls can have proper place in Government jobs; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) Data about women job-seekers is already being maintained by the Employment Exchanges. Modernisation and computerization of employment exchanges provides online facilities for registration, etc. which eliminates the need for separate cells in employment exchanges for girls. However, some State Governments have opened such cells keeping in view the local needs.

(b) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Central Government.

(c) Some State Governments like Maharashtra, Gujarat, UP, etc. have made provisions for horizontal reservation in government jobs for women.

Workers moving to metropolitan cities for employment

3208. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of workers shift from their native States to the neighbouring metropolitan cities every year in search of employment;

(b) whether any survey has been made by Government to assess migrant labourers moving to the major metropolitan cities;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) to (d) Every citizen has a right to migrate to any part of the country. However, Government's effort has been to prevent distress migration. The Government has not conducted any survey regarding the migrant labourers moving to major metropolitan cities. As per census 2001, 314.54 million persons moved for various reasons within the country. Out of these, 29.90 million migrated for reasons of employment. In order to safeguard the interests of the migrant workers, the Government has enacted Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979 which, *inter-alia*, provides for payment of minimum wages, journey allowance, displacement allowance, residential accommodation, medical facilities and protective clothing etc.