

(a) whether Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour in its 39th report in February, 2009, had recommended that rate of contribution from Government to the Employees Pension Scheme (EPS), 1995 should be fixed at least at half of the rate of contribution by the employer or the employees;

(b) if so, whether the same has been accepted by Government; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) An Expert Committee was constituted under the Chairmanship of the Additional Secretary (L&E) in June, 2009 to review the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 entirely. The Committee submitted its report to the Central Government on 5th August, 2010 and the same is under examination of the Central Board of Trustees (CBT), Employees' Provident Fund.

**Compensation to construction workers died working
for CWG and DMRC**

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

(a) the State-wise and year-wise total number of construction workers died and got injured in accident at work place during last three years;

(b) whether these construction workers were registered and covered by any Insurance Scheme and whether the family members have got the compensation;

(c) whether it is a fact that in spite of the intervention of Hon'ble Court, those who died while working in Delhi Metro Rail Corporation and Common Wealth Games 2010, their family members have not got the compensation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Denial of rights to contract labour

281. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that many private companies, in order to reduce their wage bill, have resorted to go for contract labour using loopholes in the labour laws and denying them all the fundamental rights of the workers;

(b) if so, the measures Government is planning to take for ensuring every fundamental rights of the workers; and

(c) the action taken in the incidents of companies hiring armed guards to browbeat workers in strike for their rights?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) Respective State Governments are the appropriate Government for implementation of labour laws in private Companies. However, labour laws have adequate provisions to safeguard and protect the interest of workers. Also in order to keep pace with the socio-economic changes these laws are updated and amended from time to time so that the interest of workers is protected.

(b) In order to protect the fundamental rights of workers, the Government has enacted various labour legislations and created an Inspectorate whose primary responsibility is to enforce the said legislations and take action against violators. In Central Sphere establishments, the Office of Chief Labour Commissioner is responsible for implementation of most of the labour laws and for State Sphere, the respective State Governments are responsible for implementation of the labour laws.

(c) Hiring of armed guards is *per se* not illegal. However, if they are used for an activity that violates laws, respective appropriate Governments have to take action against such perpetrators.

Bringing Government contractors under PF umbrella

282. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) is considering to bring even the Government contractors under the PF umbrella;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that EPFO is considering to make major changes to the law governing statutory savings; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) and (b) The Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 applies to such classes of establishment which are notified by Government of India employing 20 or more employees in accordance with provisions under Section 1(3)(b). The Act would also apply to contractors engaged in Government establishment in eligible cases.

However, if the Government contractor is an establishment belonging to or under the