

1970 and Minimum Wages Act, 1948 have provisions regarding minimum wages. The State Governments are the appropriate Government in respect of the private establishments and the state establishments. In central sphere, Chief Labour Commissioner (Central)'s organization, known as Central Industrial Relations Machinery, conduct inspection of the establishment which falls under the central sphere and action is taken against the erring employers by filing prosecution and claim case in the Court or the Authority as per the provisions of the said Acts.

(c) Section 23 and 24 of the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970 have provisions for punishment of imprisonment, fine or both for contravention of any provisions of the said Act and the Rules made thereunder.

**Coaching-cum-guidance centres for SC/ST**

4464. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to increase the number of "Coaching-cum-Guidance Centres for SC/ST" in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to increase the same?

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

(b) Coaching-cum-Guidance Centres (CGCs) for SC/STs have been set up in 23 States, one each at Delhi, Jabalpur, Kanpur, Chennai, Hyderabad, Thiruvananthapuram, Kolkata, Jaipur, Ranchi, Surat, Aizwal, Bangalore, Imphal, Hisar, Nagpur, Bhubaneswar, Guwahati, Mandi, Kohima, Jowai, Jammu, Jalandhar and Naharlagun. CGC for SC/ST at Puducherry has been approved recently. Continuous efforts are made to set up CGCs in the States not covered so far.

**ESI coverage to all construction workers**

4465. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether construction workers are generally migrant labour and more prone to accident; and

(b) whether Government proposes to consider to extend the Employees' State Insurance (ESI) coverage to all construction workers for the health and medical care of their family and compensation pension and accident benefits?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE) : (a) The migrant workers come from various segments of unorganised

workers. Many of the building and other construction workers are migrant workers. The building and other construction work involves inherent risk to life and limb of the workers.

(b) No Sir, at present there is no proposal to extend ESI coverage to the construction workers.

**Setting up of national social security authority for unorganized sector**

4466. SHRI S. THANGAVELU : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Advisory Council has chalked out a comprehensive social security package for huge unorganized sector to provide benefits such as health and life insurance, maternity care, disability pension etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether Government has also decided to set up a National Social Security Authority to oversee plan implementation; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE) : (a) to (c) National Advisory Council (NAC) has recommended a Minimum Social Security Package which includes life and disability cover, financial protection against ill health, maternity benefits and pension upon retirement for unorganized workers. NAC has also recommended single window architecture for implementing the Minimum Social Security Package which, *inter-alia*, includes setting up of National Social Security Authority at the Central level. The suggestion of NAC regarding setting up of a National Social Security Authority to oversee plan implementation is under consideration of the Government.

**Employment generating sector**

4467. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the majority of new employment created in the last five years has been in construction sector and the if so, the details thereof;

(b) if not, which sector and the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to make this sector more organized and provide health and allied benefits for those labourers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per results of the most two recent quinquennial labour force surveys on employment and unemployment conducted during 2004-05