

suggested for creating online single window system for making compliance as user friendly, simple and for bringing transparency. Employers can seek the registration, license etc. online and can also file returns etc. online.

The Working Group also considered the system of penalties under various Acts and the need to introduce changes in these for better enforcement. Most of the labour laws have lost their efficacy because of very meager penalties. There is a viewpoint that penalties should be graded depending on the seriousness of offence, the number of times the offence has been committed and the capacity to pay. Compounding of offence is a well recognized criterion for imposing penalties. In addition there should also be a provision to change it through rules rather than amendment of Acts. Similar to the benefits, penalties too could be indexed.

Medical colleges under ESIC in Karnataka

1967. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of medical colleges opened by Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) during the last three years in the country, particularly in Karnataka;

(b) whether the colleges have started functioning with adequate teachers, staff and infrastructure;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether ESI has any plan to reserve 50 per cent Under Graduate seats for the workers' wards covered under ESI scheme and if so, the details of procedure to select them; and

(e) the measures taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) One Medical College at Rajaji Nagar, Bangalore (Karnataka) has been opened by the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) during the last three years.

(b) and (c) The medical college has started functioning with adequate teachers, staff and infrastructure as per Medical Council of India norms.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise in view of reply to part (d).