

(c) whether Government is considering labour law reforms in wake of the changing employment scenario in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH): (a) and (b) The Statement showing position of threatened strikes due to industrial disputes during the period 2009-10 to 2012-13 is as follow:

Year	Strike Notice Received	Intervened	Averted	Pending
2009-10	443	443	433	10
2010-11	750	750	732	18
2011-12	747	747	731	16
2012-13	773 '	773	766	7

It is clear from above that there is no spurt in the number of industrial disputes.

However, some cases of industrial violence have been reported in the State Sphere from Manesar, Puducherry, Ghaziabad and Greater Noida.

(c) and (d) Labour reform is a continuous process and labour laws are amended from time to time.

#### **Social security schemes for tribal workers**

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

(a) whether any Social Security Scheme and Health Safety Scheme are applicable to large number of female and male tribals working in unorganised sector like Kendu leaves, Sal leaves, Mahuwa and other minor forest products; and

(b) whether Government is thinking seriously to bring a special legislation for the employment condition and social security of forest workers working in different States like Odisha, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Assam, all north-east States, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH): (a) The Government has launched on 01.10.2007 the Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY) to provide smart card based cashless health insurance, including maternity benefit, cover of Rs. 30,000/- per annum on family floater basis to BPL families, including tribals working in the unorganised sector. The scheme became operational from 01.04.2008. The scheme is presently being implemented in 28 States/Union Territories and more than 3.75 crore families are availing the benefits of the scheme. They are also provided social security benefits under National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) comprising Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS), Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS), Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS), National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS), Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY), and Aam Admi Bima Yojana (AABY).

(b) With a view to providing social security to unorganized workers, including forest workers, the Government has already enacted the "Unorganized Workers' Social Security Act, 2008". The Act provides for constitution of National Social Security Board at the central level to recommend social security schemes *viz.* life and disability cover, health and maternity benefits, old age protection and any other benefit as may be determined by the Government for unorganized workers. The Government has taken steps in the context of all these social security benefits through the schemes like Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY), Aam Adami Bima Yojana (AABY) and Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS).

#### **Enhancement of salary limit of Employees Provident Fund**

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

(a) whether Government is considering to enhance the salary limit of employees of provident fund to Rs. 15000/- and reduce the number of workers from 20 to 5 in view of the mechanization and downsizing of the workers; and

(b) whether Government is also considering to raise the provident fund related pension to Rs. 2000/- per month as minimum pension?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH): (a) Proposals for enhancing the wage ceiling from Rs. 6500/- to Rs. 15000/- and reducing the threshold limit from 20 to 10 under the Employees Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 are under consideration of the Government.