

Commissioner (Central) initiates the action and in the cases of industries/establishments where the State Government is the appropriate authority, the enforcement of provisions of the Act is done by the officials of the State Labour Department.

(c) During the last three years, 1,51,715 inspections were conducted and 3397 prosecutions were launched against those found violating the Act. As per available information, 1086 inspections have been conducted and 335 prosecutions launched during the current year.

(d) A number of protective provisions have been incorporated in various labour laws for creating congenial work environment for women workers viz. Maternity leave, Separate washing facilities, Medical Bonus, Protection against sexual harassment, non-employment in dangerous employments, prohibition of lifting excessive weights, creche facility, time off for feeding children, non-employment in any part of mine below ground, employment beyond 7.00 PM upto 6.00 AM etc.

Security for women working in call centres

2741. SHRIN. BALAGANGA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a total lack of security for women working in call centres in the country, especially during nights;

(b) if so, the details of measures that Government is taking to ensure safety of women;

(c) whether it has come to the notice of Government that call centres violate the normal safety norms for women, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by Government to ensure safety to women?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH) : (a) to (d) The Business Process Organisations (BPOs)/ Call Centres are covered under the Shops and Establishment Act, which is a State Act and enforced by respective State Governments. The details of Business Process Organisations (BPOs)/Call Centres are not centrally maintained. However, the Central Government, from time to time, advises the State Governments to enforce the Labour laws effectively. Ministry of Home Affairs has issued a detailed advisory dated 04th September, 2009 to all State Governments and Union Territories wherein they have been advised, *inter-alia*, to make a comprehensive review of the effectiveness of the machinery in tackling the problem of crime against women. The advisory, *inter-alia*, advises the State Governments and Union Territories on gender sensitization of the police personnel, adopting appropriate measures

for swift and salutary punishment to the persons found guilty of violence against women, minimizing delays in investigations of crime against women and improving the quality of investigations, setting up 'Crime Against Women Cell' in district where these do not exist, setting up of special courts, improving the safety conditions and special steps for security of women working in night shifts of call centers.

Inadequate basic infrastructure in ESIC hospitals in Karnataka

2742. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the number of Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) hospitals in Karnataka are not having adequate basic infrastructure to meet the demands of ESI beneficiary, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has taken any measures to provide required facility at all the ESIC hospitals in Karnataka; and

(c) 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) to (c) Following two Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) hospitals are functioning in Karnataka:

(1) ESI Corporation hospital Rajajinagar, Bangalore

(2) ESI Corporation hospital at Peenya, Bangalore.

There is adequate staff in these two hospitals and all the clinical and para clinical departments have most of the required equipment.

Huge inoperative amount of EPFO accounts

2743. SHRIDEVENDER GOUD T. :

SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an amount of Rs. 22,636 crore are lying in inoperative accounts of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO), if so, the details thereof;

(b) the reasons for such huge inoperative accounts; and

(c) the efforts the Ministry is making either to transfer the funds to the new accounts or return money to the account holders?