

**Security of women working in private companies**

†1522. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether following labour laws reforms, women have got exemption from working in night shifts;
- (b) whether companies and establishments are backing out from providing security to women;
- (c) if so, the manner in which women's security will be ensured in night shifts in such a situation; and
- (d) if not, the nature of Government's involvement with regard to security of women working in a private company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRIBANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (d) As regards the woman worker employed in the various factories registered under the Factories Act, 1948; the provisions contained under Section 66 of the Factories Act, 1948 are applicable. As per the provisions contained under Section 66, woman worker is not allowed to perform any manufacturing process except during 6.00 A.M. and 7 P.M. Further, the State Government may by notification in the official gazette, in respect of any factory or group or class or description of factories, authorize the employment of any woman worker between the hours of 5.00 A.M. and 10.00 P.M. The enforcement of the Factories Act, 1948 and Rules framed there under is carried out by the respective State Governments. Further, the State Government have been empowered to make rules for providing the exemption from the restrictions of working between the hours of 6.00 A.M. and 7.00 P.M., to the woman worker employed only in fish-curing and fish-canning factories.

**Return of unclaimed funds by EPFO to beneficiaries**

1523. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

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

- (a) whether last year Government had announced to return the unclaimed ₹ 27,000/- crores of Employees' Provident Fund to its beneficiary;

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.