

Card requires collection of biometric data of Insured Persons (IPs) which require IPs to visit camps at the Branch Office of Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) or camp held at the premises of the employer from time to time. Thereafter, de-duplication of biometric data is done before Pehchan Card is issued. Similar process is followed for issuance of Pehchan Card to the family of Insured Persons (IPs).

(c) At present, there are 151 Employees' State Insurance (ESI) hospitals in the country for providing treatment and supply of medicines to the Insured Persons (IPs).

**Proposal to amend the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947**

2326. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to amend the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 to permit easier retrenchment of workers by industries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) The Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) has suggested certain amendment to Section 25FFF of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 in the context of implementing the National Manufacturing Policy. This Ministry has organized two tri-partite consultations with the stakeholders to ascertain their views. The proposed amendments have not been finalized.

**Non-payment of minimum wages by outsourcing agencies**

2327. DR. T. N. SEEMA:

SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that many services of Government departments/semi-Government/Public Sector are operated and delivered through outsourcing agencies and that the employees of such agencies are not provided adequate salary as per the Minimum Wages Act, medical facilities and PPF schemes;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government and the mechanism existing with Government to ensure payment of minimum wages to their employees as per the Minimum Wages Act; and

(c) the action taken against those outsourcing agencies for non-payment of minimum wages to their employees as per the Minimum Wages Act during last two years and the current year?