

[9 December, 2004]

RAJYA SABHA

covered under the Building and Other Construction Workers (RECS) Act, 1996.

Functioning of EPFO

763. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have called a meeting to discuss the functioning of the EPFO (Employees Provident Fund Organisation);

(b) if so, the objectives of the proposed meeting to discuss functioning of the EPFO;

(c) whether it is a fact that trade unions have expressed their unhappiness at the lack of constructive activities from the EPFO;

(d) the details of the representations of diverse trade unions on the EPFO; and

(e) the steps proposed by Government to resolve all such disputes and criticism against the EPFO?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO): (a) and (b) The Parliamentary Consultative Committee attached to Ministry of Labour and Employment is scheduled to discuss the working of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation on 14th Dec, 2004.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. However, the All India Trade Union Congress have expressed their unhappiness about the working of the EPFO; and

(e) the CBT, EPF and the Government regularly monitor and review the performance of Employees' Provident Fund Organisation to ensure better service standards.

Unemployment in the country

764. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware about the unemployment of the educated in the country;

(b) if so, what steps Government are considering to employ the educated unemployed youths in the country;

(c) whether it is a fact that it is a sensational issue in the country since long; and

(d) whether Government would take any action to solve the burning issue in urban areas especially in States like Assam and the other States of the country?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Government is targeting creation of around 5 crore employment opportunities during the Tenth Plan period. Out of these, nearly 3 crore employment opportunities will be created in the normal growth process and remaining 2 crore through special employment generation programmes in the labour intensive sectors. Both educated and uneducated unemployed youth in rural and urban areas will benefit from these. The strategy is being implemented in all the states of the country including Assam.

Working ratio of men and women

†765. **SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH:** Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a general feeling in the world till now that men work more than the women in all the areas;

(b) whether Government are aware of the survey recently conducted in America which reveals that the women work more than the men; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to conduct this kind of survey in the near future in the country that may reveal the actual fact for the information of the general public?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO): (a) No, Sir. Government is not aware about the fact that men work more than women in all areas.

(b) No, Sir. The Government is not aware of any such survey conducted in America which reveals that women work more than men.

(c) No, Sir.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.