

**Investments of EPFO funds in ETFs**

355. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has assessed the performance of investments made by Employees' Provident Fund Organisation in Exchange Traded Funds (ETF) in the recent past;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the strategy chalked out for further investments of EPFO funds in ETFs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) Monitoring and review of investments made by Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) in Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) is done by Central Board of Trustees (CBT), Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) from time to time. The absolute return on ETFs investment of ₹ 7,468 crores as on 30th June, 2016 by EPFO was 7.45 per cent.

(c) The CBT, EPF in its 207th meeting held on 31.03.2015 decided to invest up to 5 per cent of its total corpus in ETFs. A sum of ₹ 6,577 crore was invested in 2015-16. In 2016-17 also, 5 per cent of its incremental funds is to be invested by EPFO in accordance with the decision of 207th meeting of CBT.

**Violation of wage and safety regulations in Jharkhand**

356. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some companies in Jharkhand are violating wage and safety regulations; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The cases of violation of wages and safety provisions in the State of Jharkhand have been reported. The information pertaining to these violations have been annexed as available.

**Statement**

*Enforcement of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the Payment of Wages Act, 1936 for the year 2015-16 in the State of Jharkhand*

Sl. No.	Enactment	No. of Irregularities	No. of Convictions
1.	Minimum Wages Act, 1948	1809	37
2.	Payment of Wages Act, 1936 (Mines)	1223	14

*Prosecution and Convictions under Section 92 and 96 of the Factories Act, 1948 for the year 2014 in the State of Jharkhand*

No. of Prosecution Launched	Convictions
34	0

**Findings of survey by Labour Bureau**

357. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the survey conducted by Labour Bureau indicated that India has created less jobs in comparison to entering of lakhs of new people into job market every month;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the other findings of the surveys of the last three years;

(c) the reasons for such lackings in creating new jobs; and

(d) the steps taken to create new employment opportunities in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) Labour Bureau has been conducting Quarterly Quick Employment Surveys (QES) in the selected labour-intensive and export-oriented sectors namely textiles including apparels, metals, gems & jewellery, automobiles, transport, IT/BPO, leather and handloom/power loom to assess the effect of economic slowdown on employment in India.

The sector-wise changes in employment from 2012-13 to 2014-15 are given in the Statement.