

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) In order to boost employment generation in Textiles and Retail Sector, Government has recently taken the following initiatives:-

- (i) Under the Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojana (PMRPY), employers would be provided an incentive for enhancing employment by reimbursement of the 8.33% Employer's Pension Scheme (EPS) contribution made by the employer in respect of new employment. In addition to this, for the textile sector dealing with the manufacture of wearing apparel (except fur apparel and manufacturing of knitted and crocheted apparel), Government will reimburse the Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) contribution of 3.67% in addition to paying EPS contribution to 8.33%.
- (ii) Government has also decided for introduction of Fixed Term Employment for apparel and manufacturing sector under Section 15(1) of Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946.
- (iii) Further, Government has prepared a Model Shops and Establishment (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Bill, 2016 for retail sectors, and has circulated it to State Governments for adopting the same as it is or modifying their existing State Shops and Establishment Act as per their requirement. The Bill will cover all the establishments employing ten or more workers except for manufacturing units.
- (iv) In order to ensure basic aspects of safety and maintain healthy working conditions for workers, including women, the proposed amendments in the Factories Act, 1948 include provisions relating to imposing obligation upon the occupier to make a provision of Personal Protective Equipment for workers exposed to various hazard; providing canteen facilities in factories; providing for shelters or rest room and lunch rooms in respect of factories employing seventy five or more workers; providing drinking water in all factories irrespective of number of workers; permitting women in night shifts if adequate safeguards regarding safety, health and transport exist.

**Implementation of the Building and Other construction  
Workers' Welfare Cess Act, 1996**

1122. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that about ₹ 27,000 crores collected as cess meant for the welfare of construction labourers lies unused in banks in various States due to the failure to implement the Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Cess, Act, 1996; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken to see that the said Act is implemented properly in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) The Government has enacted the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996 and the Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Cess Act, 1996 to regulate the employment and conditions of service of building and other construction workers and to provide for their safety, health and welfare measures.

As per Section 18 of the Building and Other Construction Workers (RECS) Act, 1996, the State Governments/UTs Administration have constituted State Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board for welfare of construction workers. Under the Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Cess Act, 1996, a cess @ 1% of the cost of construction is collected by the State Governments/UTs Administration and given to their respective State Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Board for meeting the expenses on welfare of construction workers.

The responsibility of collecting cess and its utilization for welfare of construction workers lies with the respective State Governments/UTs Administration and State Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Boards.

As per information received from the State Governments, amount of cess collected and its utilisation, State-wise, is given in the Statement (*See below*).

The Cess fund is utilized by the State Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Boards in terms of Section 22 of the Act for providing immediate assistance in case of accident, pension after age of 60 years, loans/advances for the purpose of construction of house, premia for Group Insurance Scheme, financial assistance for education of children, medical expenses, maternity benefits, etc. Central Government has been issuing directions under Section 60 of the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996, to the State Governments/UTs Administration from time to time for proper implementation of the Acts.

The Central Government *vide* order dated 8th October, 2015, issued under Section 60 of the Building and Other Construction Workers (RECS) Act, 1996, has directed the State/UTs to ensure coverage of death and disability due to accident, natural death, pension during old age, health and maternity benefit, financial support for primary and secondary education and skill training for construction workers and their wards.

Further, the Central Government *vide* Order dated 9th September, 2015, constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Labour and Employment) to monitor the implementation of directions issued under Section 60 of the Act, specifically with reference to utilization of Cess Fund for Welfare Schemes enumerated under Section 22 of the Act, by State/UTs Welfare Board.

The Monitoring Committee held its meetings on 23rd November, 2015, 6th January, 2016, 6th April, 2016 and 21st July, 2016 with the Principal Secretaries/ Secretaries, Labour Department of State/UTs.

***Statement***

*State-wise position of Number of Workers Registered, Cess Collected and Amount Spent under the Building and Other Construction Workers Act, 1996*

As on 31.03.2016 (Provisional)

Sl. No.	Name of the States/UTs	Amount of cess collected (₹ in crore)	Amount spent (₹ in crore)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1153.61	205.46
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	65.36	51.6
3.	Assam	468.58	9.28
4.	Bihar	695.03	71.46
5.	Chhattisgarh	581.84	355.19
6.	Goa	69.03	0
7.	Gujarat	1254.91	21.24
8.	Haryana	1546.56	115.87
9.	Himachal Pradesh	288.44	25.4
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	455.73	154.83
11.	Jharkhand	251.01	98.5
12.	Karnataka	3388	205
13.	Kerala	1265.29	1195.88
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1575.62	552.04
15.	Maharashtra	3799.74	217.66
16.	Manipur	21	10.99
17.	Meghalaya	80.02	0.93

1	2	3	4
18.	Mizoram	34.1	20.8
19.	Nagaland	20.06	3.34
20.	Odisha	941.19	120.06
21.	Punjab	773.36	285.75
22.	Rajasthan	1217.76	242.11
23.	Sikkim	64.67	20.68
24.	Tamil Nadu	1411.49	506.78
25.	Telangana	231.02	39.31
26.	Tripura	115.32	8.72
27.	Uttar Pradesh	2220.06	346.81
28.	Uttarakhand	129.23	14.09
29.	West Bengal	1071.86	557.68
30.	Delhi	1536	174.71
31.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	37.02	1.33
32.	Chandigarh	75.83	4.9
33.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	3.08	0
34.	Daman and Diu	37.17	0.54
35.	Lakshadweep	4.26	0
36.	Puducherry	78.93	45.86
TOTAL		26962.18	5684.8

**Annual health check-up for workers in ESIC**

1123. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) proposes to offer free annual health check-up to insured members with age 40 and above under its health insurance scheme in a bid to improve the health of mothers and their infants, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that a large section of insured persons work under harsh and hazardous industrial environments and hence are more likely to develop illnesses, if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/being taken to cover all such persons under the proposed health check-up?