

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) Review of Employees' Provident Funds (EPF) Scheme, 1952 is an ongoing process based on the changing socio-economic scenario.

(c) and (d) Representations from various stakeholders are received for review/ amendment of EPF Scheme, 1952. The suggestions so received are considered while carrying out amendment to the Scheme.

**Exploitation and different wages for contract workers in automobile sector**

2501. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has undertaken any study about the difference between wages paid to contract labourers and permanent labourers, doing the same work in the automobile sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has any proposal to address such exploitation of contract workers in the automobile sector in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Rule 25(2)(v) of Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Central Rules, 1970 framed under the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 stipulates that in cases where the workman employed by the contractor perform the same or similar kind of work as the workmen directly employed by the principal employer of the establishment, the wage rates, holidays, hours of work and other conditions of service of the workmen of the contractor shall be the same as applicable to the workmen directly employed by the principal employer of the establishment on the same or similar kind of work. Further, the said rule provides that in case of any disagreement with regard to the type of work the same shall be decided by the Deputy Chief Labour Commissioner (Central).

**Reduction in jobs in the country**

2502. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether reduction in jobs is at a worrisome rate in the country;

- (b) whether it is a fact that the country is losing jobs at a worrisome rate;
- (c) the year-wise date of jobs being created in the last three years; and
- (d) the reasons for the increase or decrease in the rate of job creation in the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (d) As per the result of surveys on employment and unemployment conducted by Labour Bureau, Ministry of Labour and Employment, the estimated employment for persons aged 15 years and above on usual status basis was 48.04 crore during 2013-14 and 46.77 crore during 2015-16. The worker population ratio and unemployment rate for the persons aged 15 years and above on usual status basis during last three years is given below:—

(Figures in%)			
Year	2012-13	2013-14	2015-16
Worker Population Ratio	51.0	53.7	50.7
Unemployment Rate	4.0	3.4	3.7

Employment generation is a key priority of the Government. The Twelfth Five Year Plan projects 5 crore new job opportunities to be generated in the non-farm sector and will provide skill certification to the equivalent number. In order to improve the employability of youth, around 20 Ministries run skill development schemes across 70 sectors. According to the data compiled by National Skill Development Agency (NSDA), MSDE, number of persons skilled across various sectors were 76.12 lakh and 28.85 lakh during 2014-15 and 2015-16 (till Oct., 2015) respectively. Further, the employment provided under different schemes are given below:—

Schemes		2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme	Employment Generated (in Lakh Persons)	3.80	3.58	2.23
Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme	Employment Generated (in crore persondays)	220.36	166.28	235.14

Schemes		2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana	Candidates placed (in Lakh)	1.37	0.54	1.35
National Urban Livelihoods Mission	No. of beneficiaries assisted for setting up of Individual/ Group Microenterprises	134160	35449	39851

#### **Legislation for the security of journalists**

2503. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received any representation from this Journalists Association seeking to bring out a special legislation for the security of journalists;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any action has been taken by Government in this direction; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A representation has been received from the Kerala Union of Working Journalists, State Committee, Thiruvananthapuram, to amend the Working Journalist and Other Newspaper Employees (Condition of Service) and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1955.

Further, a copy of report of fact finding Committee constituted by Hon'ble Chairman, Press Council of India has also been received from the Press Council of India recommending laws for protection of journalists.

(c) and (d) The representation received from the Kerala Union of Working Journalists, State Committee, Thiruvananthapuram has been forwarded to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, being a nodal Ministry for Media and Working Journalist, for furnishing the comments with regard to proposal received from the Union.

#### **Workforce moving out of agriculture**

2504. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that 93 per cent of Indian population is engaged in