

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) So far as benefits under Employees' State Insurance (ESI) Scheme are concerned, the ESI Corporation has already launched/ approved two separate schemes to provide medical facilities to selected category of self-employed workers like Auto-rickshaw drivers and domestic workers and their family members on pilot basis at Delhi/Hyderabad. Construction workers in offices of the construction agency situated in the implemented areas were already covered under ESI Scheme. Subsequently, w.e.f. 01.08.2015, ESI Scheme has also been extended to the construction site workers deployed in implemented areas.

With regard to Employees Provident Fund, the EPF and MP Act, 1952 is applicable to notified industry/establishment employing 20 or more persons. Auto-rickshaw drivers generally fall under unorganized sector and majority of them are self-employed persons. The said Act has been extended to establishments engaged in Building and Construction Industries w.e.f. 31.10.1980. The workers engaged by these establishments are extended EPF benefits subject to the provisions of EPF and IMP Act, 1952.

Further, for extending the social security benefits to Scheme workers like Anganwadi, ASHA and Mid-day Meal workers, a Committee has been set up under the Chairpersonship of Secretary (Labour and Employment).

ESI and EPF facilities for construction workers

897. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU:

SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is planning to provide ESI and EPF facilities for construction workers also;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by which time the Act will come into force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) ESI Act, 1948 applies to factories/ establishments with 10 or more persons employed in implemented areas and as such construction workers in the offices of the construction agency situated in the implemented areas were already covered under ESI Scheme. Subsequently, w.e.f. 01.08.2015, the ESI Scheme has also been extended to the construction site workers deployed in implemented areas.

With effect from 31.10.1980, Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 has been made applicable to establishments employing 20 or more persons which are engaged in Building and Construction Industry.

The workers covered under Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 get benefits under Employees' Provident Funds Schemes, 1952, Employees' Deposit-Linked Insurance Scheme, 1976 and Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995.

Special schools for child labourers

893. SHRI A. U. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of special schools (Child Labour Rehabilitation-cum-Welfare Centres) operational in the country at present, State/Union Territory-wise;

(b) the details of financial assistance provided and utilised by these special schools during the last three years and the current year, State/Union Territory-wise including Bihar; and

(c) the other steps taken/ being taken by Government for welfare of child labourers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) As per the information received from District Project Societies, the number of Special Training Centres operational at present under National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme is given in Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) The NCLIP Scheme is implemented through District Project Societies under chairmanship of administrative head of the District namely District Magistrate/Deputy Commissioner. Grant under the Scheme is released (directly to District Project Societies. Grant released to District Project Societies under the Scheme, State wise, during last three years and current year is given in Statement-II (*See below*).

(c) Government is following a multi-pronged strategy for elimin of child labour. It comprises of statutory and legislative measures, rehabilitation and universal elementary education along with convergence with other schemes for socio economic development. The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 has been amended to prohibit employment of children below 14 years of age in all occupations and processes. The amendment also prohibits employment of adolescents in hazardous occupations and processes. Government is implementing the National Child Labour Project (NCLP)