

(e) Government has taken various steps for generating employment in the country like encouraging private sector of economy, fast tracking various projects involving substantial investment and increasing public expenditure on schemes like Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) run by Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGA), Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY)—National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) scheme run by Ministry of Rural Development and National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM) run by Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation.

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), about 28.85 lakh persons were given skill development training in the year 2015-16 (till Oct, 2015) under these schemes.

Government has implemented the National Career Service (NCS) Project comprises a digital portal that provides a nation-wide online platform for jobseekers and employers for job matching in a dynamic, efficient and responsive manner and has a repository of career content.

A new scheme "Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojana" has been initiated by the Ministry of Labour and Employment in the year 2016-17 for incentivising industry for promoting employment generation.

Further, Government has approved special package for employment generation and promotion of export in Textile and Apparel sector. The incentives are intended to create over one crore jobs in three years.

Expansion of health care services of ESIC to all districts

1707. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of districts in the country in which the health care services of Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) are available at present;

(b) whether the ESIC has formulated any plan to expand its services to all the districts of the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) Sir, in 393 districts of the country, health care services of Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) are available at present.

(b) and (c) Under ESIC 2.0 reforms initiative, it has been decided to extend the coverage of ESI Scheme to all states and districts; of the country in phased manner. In the first phase, the scheme shall be expanded to all areas in 393 districts where the scheme is partially implemented. In the balance districts where the scheme is not implemented, initially the Scheme shall be launched in the district headquarters followed by the entire district.

The ESI Corporation has formulated plan to expand its health services to all the districts of the country as under:-

Primary medical care facilities in newly implemented areas is to be provided to the insured persons and their family members using one or more of the following options:-

- Setting up of an ESI one doctor dispensary;
 - Tie-up within the existing Government facilities;
 - Mobile medical vans;
 - Through Insured Medical Practitioners;
 - Through private nursing homes;
2. Secondary/Tertiary is to be arranged through:
- Establishing new hospitals;
 - Expanding old ESI hospitals;
 - Tie-up arrangements for tertiary care.

Amendment in Minimum Wages Act

1708. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to amend the Minimum Wages Act for the welfare of labourers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has increased the Minimum Daily Wages of the unskilled workers in agriculture sector; and