

Unclaimed money under ESI

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

- (a) whether huge amount of unclaimed money is lying with ESI; and
- (b) if so, whether Government is taking up any concrete step to utilise such unclaimed money?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) is a Social Security Organization, which provides Medical/Cash Benefits to Insured Persons (IPs) and their dependent family members during course of sickness/disablement. Statutory contributions are received from employer and employees at the rates prescribed in the ESI Act, 1948 and ESI (Central) Rules, 1950. There are no provisions in the Act to refund contribution to IPs. As such, there is no question of any unclaimed amount lying with ESIC.

- (b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Safety audits of mines

724. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether in view of Jharkhand coal mine disaster, Government has decided to conduct safety audits for all the mines in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether a road map for high standard of mine safety is proposed to be drawn in consultation with Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS);
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether detailed investigation was carried out on the mine accident in Rajmahal area of Eastern Coal Field, if so, what are the preliminary findings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) The matters relating to safety, health and welfare of persons employed in coal mines are dealt with under the Mines Act, 1952, Rule and Regulations made thereunder.

Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) under the Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India administers this Act for ensuring safety in coal mines in the country.