

(b) if so, whether any assessment has been made about the implementation of NCLP in Visakhapatnam in the last three years; and

(c) if so, the outcome of such assessment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) The National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme is already sanctioned in the district of Vishakapatnam. However, Special Training Centres (STCs) under the District Project Society have been closed since July, 2013 after mainstreaming of children to the formal education system. NCLP, Vishakapatnam has now assessed the existence of child labour in the district through some programme/raids and requested the Ministry for release of fund for conducting detailed survey for identifying child labour. An amount of ₹ 4.00 lakh has been released to Project Society during the current financial year 2016-17 for conducting survey on child labour. Fund will be released to the Project Society for restarting of STCs after receiving the detailed survey report from the Project Society.

#### **Amendment in Payment of Wages Act**

719. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is going to amend the Payment of Wages Act for willing business establishments to pay salaries through cheques or using electronic modes;

(b) whether it will serve the objective of cashless economy; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) The Payment of Wages (Amendment) Bill, 2016 was introduced in Parliament on 15th December, 2016. The Bill could not be considered and passed in the Winter Session as the House adjourned on 16.12.2016 and subsequently prorogued on 18.12.2016. Thereafter, the Payment of Wages (Amendment) Ordinance, 2016 was promulgated on 28.12.2016.

A new Bill *i.e.* The Payment of Wages (Amendment) Bill, 2017 to amend the Payment of Wages Act, 1936 has been introduced in Lok Sabha on 03.02.2017 after withdrawal of the Payment of Wages (Amendment) Bill, 2016.

Amendment of Section 6 of the Payment of Wages Act, 1936 enables the employers to pay wages to their employees by (a) cash or (b) cheque or (c) crediting to their bank account; and also enables the appropriate Government to specify the industrial

or other establishment, by notification in the Official Gazette, which shall pay to every person employed in such industrial or other establishment, the wages only by cheque or by crediting in his bank account.

**Plantation workers in Kerala**

720. SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has noted a huge influx of untrained workers from other States into Kerala in recent years;

(b) whether the efforts of State Government in ensuring health and safe living conditions for them have not taken off;

(c) whether Central Government will extend 60 per cent funding to introduce a total health insurance for them on the lines of Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana; and

(d) whether it will help to extend help to construct homes for 2000 plantation labourers in high range areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) No such information is available.

(c) and (d) No such decision has been taken by the Central Government.

**Jobseekers and employers under National Career Service Portal**

721. SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of jobseekers and employers registered in the National Career Service (NCS) Portal till 1st January, 2017;

(b) among the registered jobseekers how many have got employed until now;

(c) among companies registered, how many are private and how many are PSUs;

(d) whether there is any system available with Government to monitor the extent of availability of promised working conditions and wages for the persons employed through NCS; and

(e) if any company violates the assured service conditions or wages, whether Government would intervene for the employee or would Government have a right to take up the matter?