

is extended to women borrowers. Almost 75% loans (9.02 crore out of total 12.27 crore sanctioned loans as on 31st March, 2018) given under the MUDRA scheme, have been given to women entrepreneurs.

Ministry of Labour and Employment has targeted the issue by taking various steps to increase female labour participation rate which includes the enactment of the Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Act, 2017 which provides for enhancement in paid maternity leave from 12 weeks to 26 weeks and provisions for mandatory crèche facility in the establishments having 50 or more employees; issue of an advisory to the States under the Factories Act, 1948 for permitting women workers in the night shifts with adequate safety measures. The Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 provides for payment of equal remuneration to men and women workers for same work or work of similar nature without any discrimination. Further, under the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the wages fixed by the appropriate Government are equally applicable to both male and female workers and the Act does not discriminate on the basis of gender.

Female labour force participation rate

1691. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) India's female labour force participation rate in the past four years, the year-wise details thereof;
- (b) the global share of women in the labour force; and
- (c) whether Government is taking any steps to improve women's participation in the labour force, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) As per the results of available labour force surveys on Employment-Unemployment conducted by Labour Bureau, Ministry of Labour and Employment, the estimated labour force participation rate for females aged 15 years and above on usual status basis in the country during 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2015-16 was 30.0%, 26.5%, 31.1% and 27.4 % respectively.

(b) As per the modelled estimates of International Labour Organisation (ILO), the global share of women in the labour force was 39.29% in 2017.

(c) A number of protective provisions have been incorporated in various labour laws for creating congenial work environment for women workers. The Equal

Remuneration Act, 1976 provides for payment of equal remuneration to men and women workers for same work. Government enacted Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Act, 2017 which provides for enhancement in paid maternity leave from 12 weeks to 26 weeks and provisions for mandatory crèche facility in establishments having 50 or more employees. The Minimum Wage Act, 1948 is equally applicable to both men and women. The Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946 provides the safeguards against sexual harassment of women workers at their work places.

Under the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY), a special rebate of 0.25% is extended to women borrowers. Almost 75% loans (9.02 crore out of total 12.27 crore sanctioned loan as on 31st March, 2018) given under the MUDRA scheme, have been given to women entrepreneurs.

Government is providing training to women workers through a network of Women Industrial Training Institutes, National Vocational Training Institutes and Regional Vocational Training Institutes.

Under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana, special focus and provisions have been made for encouraging more women participation. In order to enable the newly skilled women to settle into their new jobs/vocations, post placement support is being provided at the rate of ₹ 1500 per month for two months for within domicile and three months for outside the domicile placement. All women trainees under PMKVY are provided with travelling allowances of ₹ 1000/1500 per trainee per month depending upon whether training centre is within the district of domicile of candidate or outside.

Deaths of workers due to accidents

†1692. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that hundreds of workers die due to accidents in factories and mines in the country owing to improper implementation of safety standards;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) has highlighted in its report that the bulk of funds set up for welfare of workers is used in administrative expenses while maximum limit for the same is fixed at five per cent of the total amount; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.