

**Number of self-employed persons under PMMY**

1359. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to include the number of self-employed persons created under the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) to the job creation data being collected by the Labour Bureau;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the reasons presented for this move; and

(c) whether such a proposal has been accepted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) In order to assess employment generation including self-employed under Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY), Ministry of Labour and Employment has taken a decision to institute a Survey for this purpose. Labour Bureau, an attached office of the Ministry of Labour and Employment has already been entrusted with this survey work.

**Modifications made in EPFO**

1360. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the changes or modifications made in the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) for the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what are the newly included conditions by EPFO for getting pension for an Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) member; and

(d) whether return of capital is eligible and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 is a social security legislation to provide for the institution of provident funds, pension fund and deposit-linked insurance fund and is applicable to establishments which belong to industries and classes of establishments listed in Schedule-I and where number of employees is 20 or more. The three Schemes framed under the said Act include (i) The Employees' Provident Funds (EPF) Scheme,

1952; (ii) The Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS), 1995; and (iii) The Employees' Deposit-Linked Insurance (EDLI) Scheme, 1976.

The major changes or modifications made in the above three Schemes during the last three years viz. 2015, 2016 and 2017, *inter-alia*, include:—

- settlement of claims under EPF, EPS and EDLI Schemes within 20 days from the date of its receipt in lieu of 30 days;
- enhancement of the maximum assurance benefit under EDLI Scheme, 1976 in the event of death from ₹ 3.60 lakh to ₹ 6.00 lakh;
- limiting the liability of the Pension Fund in the event of death of a member in respect of whom no contribution is received for a period of 36 months;
- amendment in paragraph 72(6) of the EPF Scheme, 1952 wherein changes have been made in the conditions leading to a Provident Fund account becoming an Inoperative Account;
- launching of 'Employees' Enrolment Campaign 2017';
- provision for allowing private sector banks to collect contribution from employers under the Schemes;
- reduction in administrative charges under EPF Scheme, 1952 from 0.85 per cent to 0.65 per cent of the wages, etc.

(c) Membership under the EPS, 1995 in case of new entrants after 1.9.2014 has been made applicable where the pay is less than or equal to ₹ 15,000/- only. Existing members who were contributing on higher wages to the Pension Fund as on 1.9.2014 were allowed option to continue to contribute on higher wages after 1.9.2014 provided they contribute @ 1.16 per cent on salary exceeding ₹ 15,000/-, as an additional contribution. The fresh option was to be exercised within a period of six months from 1st September, 2014, extendable further for a period not exceeding six months.

The pensionable salary shall be the average monthly pay of sixty months preceding the date of exit from the membership of the Pension Fund instead of 12 months, with effect from 01.09.2014.

(d) The provision for return of capital has been deleted from the EPS, 1995 with effect from 26.09.2008.