

Deen Dayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihood Mission (DAY-NRLM) and National Urban Livelihood Mission (NULM) is stimulating creation of self-employment. Programmes such as Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY), Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana and Pradhan Mantri YUVA Yojna are enhancing the employability of the labour force to access job opportunities.

National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM) was launched by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation (HUPA), Government of India in 24th September, 2013 by replacing the existing Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY). It aims to impart skill training to urban poor in market oriented courses to improve their employability and to enable them to start self-employment ventures. Interest Subvention is provided on individual and group bank loans sanctioned to enable them to set up microenterprises. Self Help Groups are also linked with banks to encourage them to undertake income-generating activities.

Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) is implementing Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), which is a major credit-linked subsidy programme aimed at generating self-employment opportunities through establishment of micro-enterprises in the non-farm sector by helping traditional artisans and unemployed youth.

The Stand UP India scheme was launched on 5th April, 2016, in order to facilitate bank loans from Scheduled Commercial banks between ₹ 10 Lakh and 1 crore to atleast one Schedule Caste (SC) or Schedule Tribe (ST) borrower and at least one woman borrower per bank branch for setting up a Greenfield Enterprise in trading, services or manufacturing sector. As on 22.12.2017, 48,778 loans have been extended under the scheme.

The Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojna is a scheme to extend collateral free loans below ₹ 10 Lakh in the non agricultural sector to individuals to enable them to set up or expand their business activities. It is divided into three categories namely Shishu (upto ₹ 50,000), Kishore (₹ 50,000 to ₹ 5 Lakh) and Tarun (₹ 5 Lakh to ₹ 10 Lakh).

Increasing of pension for labourers

†3775. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of retired labourer pensioners of Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) is about 28,50,000 at present;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether the retired labourer pensioners of EPFO are getting only ₹ 1000/- per month pension at present;

(c) whether it is impossible for any family to survive on ₹ 1000/- monthly pension;

(d) if so, whether Government would consider to increase the pension of the retired labourer pensioners of EPFO upto an amount needed for the survival of their family;

(e) if so, by when; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The total number of pensioners of Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) as on 31.03.2017 were 56,49,797, which include, member pensioners, spouse pensioners, children pensioners, nominee pensioners, parent pensioners and orphan pensioners.

(b) The pension under Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS), 1995 is calculated as per the provisions of EPS, 1995 which may be more or less than ₹ 1000/- per month depending upon the pensionable salary and pensionable service of the member pensioner.

(c) No such information is available in the Ministry.

(d) to (f) The Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS), 1995 is a self-funded Scheme with contribution from employer @ 8.33 per cent of wages (up to Rupees Fifteen Thousand). Further, Government contributes 1.16 per cent of wages in EPS, 1995 upto a salary limit of ₹ 15,000/- per month. All benefits under the Scheme are paid out of such accumulations.

Further, the Government has fixed minimum pension to ₹ 1000/- per month under EPS, 1995 with effect from 01.09.2014 by providing budgetary support keeping in view the widespread demand. No decision regarding increasing the minimum pension of ₹ 1000/- to EPS, 1995 pensioners has been taken.

Payment of enhanced wages

3776. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had increased minimum wages for workers engaged in sweeping and cleaning activities by 40 per cent w.e.f. 19th January, 2017;