

Misuse of welfare fund for construction workers

†1363. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a case of misuse of fund meant for the welfare of construction workers has been reported and whether it is being investigated;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Supreme Court of India has directed Government to prepare a model scheme for the welfare of construction workers throughout the country comprising therein the issues like education, health, social security and pension; and
- (d) if so, the details of progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The State Welfare Boards maintain accounts and other relevant records in regard to use of the welfare cess fund and the accounts of the State Welfare Boards are subject to audit by CAG of India annually in terms of Section 27 of the Building and Other Construction Workers (RECS) Act, 1996.

(c) and (d) Pursuant to the directions of Hon' ble Supreme Court contained in its judgment dated 19.03.2018 and order dated 04.10.2018 in W.P. (C) No.318/2006, the Central Government formulated and circulated to all the States a model welfare scheme for BOC workers relating to death and disability cover, health and maternity cover, financial assistance for education, transit accommodation/Labour shed cum night shelter, mobile toilets and mobile creches, skill development and awareness program.

New labour law

1364. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is bringing new labour law amalgamating existing 44 Central Labour Laws;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government is taking care of rights of labourers and their social security in the process?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) The Ministry has taken steps for drafting four Labour Codes on Wages; Industrial Relations; Social Security; and

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Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions respectively, by simplifying, amalgamating and rationalizing the relevant provisions of the existing Central Labour Laws. The 4 Labour Codes contain provisions relating to wage, social security, safety, health and grievance redressal mechanism for workers. These initiatives are expected to provide wage security, social security, occupational safety and working conditions to the workers.

Steps to create more employment opportunities

1365. SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the NITI Aayog has admitted rise in unemployment in the country;
- (b) whether the employment growth rate slipped during last two years;
- (c) whether the incidence of unemployment among youths in 15-29 age group is also rising and if so, to what extent; and
- (d) what steps/programmes Government are likely to take/launch to create more employment opportunities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) The labour force surveys on employment –unemployment are conducted by Labour Bureau, Ministry of Labour and Employment, last such survey was conducted during 2015-16. Moreover, National Sample Survey Office (NSSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation also conducted annual Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) which was conducted during 2017-18. As per the results of the survey, the estimated unemployment rate and worker population ratio on usual status (principal Status + subsidiary status) basis in the country is given below:–

Surveys*	2017-18 (PLFS)	Employment-Unemployment survey by Labour Bureau (2015-16)
1	2	3
Unemployment Rate (aged 15 years and above)	6%	3.7%
Unemployment Rate (age 15-29 years)	17.8%	10.2% (age 18-29 years)