

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. Under Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) 2.0 programme, ESI Scheme has been extended to new areas. The ESI Scheme has been extended to 541 districts. It has been decided to extend the benefits of ESI Act, 1948 to the entire country by the year 2022.

(b) The number of employees covered under ESI Scheme as on 31.03.2018 was 3.11 crore and the number of Insured Persons entitled to all benefits (as on 31.03.2018) was 3.43 crores. In Maharashtra, the number of employees covered and the Insured Persons as on 31.03.2018 were 41.70 lakhs and 45.94 lakhs respectively.

(c) Periodical surveys are carried out from time to time for bringing more units and their employees under the umbrella of ESI Scheme. Survey programme has been launched w.e.f 01.07.2019 for a period of three months.

Misuse of existing labour laws by industries and business firms

3612. SHRI SANJAY RAUT : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many industries and business firms are misusing and not adhering existing labour laws in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the details of steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to amend existing labour laws in the country for the benefit of workers/employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (c) "Labour" falls under the Concurrent List. Central and State Governments takes action in accordance with respective Labour Laws. No such incident of misusing Labour Laws by industries and business firms has been reported. However, in case of violation of Labour Laws, suitable legal actions are initiated against the defaulter. The Office of Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) through its regional offices and State Labour Machineries conduct inspections regularly under various labour laws to ensure the compliance of laws by the industries and business firms in their respective jurisdiction.

The Ministry has taken steps for drafting four Labour Codes namely The Code on Wages; The Code on Industrial Relations; The Code on Social Security and Welfare;

and The Code on Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions by simplifying, amalgamating and rationalizing the relevant provisions of the Central Labour Laws. The Labour Codes envisage extension of minimum wages and timely payment of wages to all 50 crore workers, provision of appointment letter, annual medical check-up, grievance redressal mechanism for workers, and safety and other welfare measures.

ESI dispensaries in Kerala

3613. SHRI BINOY VISWAM : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that many districts in Kerala does not have any ESI dispensaries;
- (b) the district-wise details of the same; and
- (c) whether Government is ready to allocate new ESI dispensaries especially in those districts which does not have any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (c) All districts in Kerala have Employees' State Insurance (ESI) Dispensaries, The district-wise number of dispensaries in the State of Kerala is given in Statement (*See below*). In addition, recently Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) has given its "In Principle" approval to Government of Kerala for setting up of new ESI dispensaries, as under:

1. Kanan Devan Hills, District Idukki.
2. Mannankandam, District Idukki.
3. Mananthavady, District Wayanad.
4. Sulthan Bathery, District Wayanad.

Statement

Details of ESI dispensaries in Kerala

Sl. No.	Name of District	No. of ESI Dispensaries
1.	Thiruvananthapuram	14
2.	Kasargode	01
3.	Kannur	13