

Industrial Relations, the Code on Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions and the Code on Social Security by simplifying, amalgamating and rationalizing the relevant provisions of the existing Central Labour Laws. Out of these 4 Labour Codes, the Code on Wages, 2019, has been notified on 8th August, 2019 in the Gazette of India. The Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2019 was introduced in Lok Sabha on 23rd July, 2019 and subsequently, referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour for examination. The Industrial Relations Code, 2019 has been approved by the Cabinet for its introduction in Parliament and The Code on Social Security, 2019 is at pre-legislative stage.

**Contribution of Government to EPFO scheme**

1082. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has collected data on the number of employees of SC/ST category from PSUs and private firms;

(b) if so, the objectives of such an exercise and the detailed findings of the exercise;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government will make contributions to EPFO schemes on behalf of SC/ST employees; and

(d) if so, the budgetary allocation for the same and by when this would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) To ensure that benefits are provided to economically underprivileged sections of the society, funds are earmarked in specific schemes of the Government for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs). Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has, therefore, conducted a sample survey of the establishments covered under the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952.

(c) and (d) EPFO administers Employees' Provident Funds (EPF), Scheme, 1952, Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS), 1995 and Employees' Deposit Linked Insurance (EDLI) Scheme, 1976. Government contributes the Government share of pension

contribution (@1.16 per cent) under EPS, 1995 and Minimum Pension of ₹1000/-per month in respect of all pensioners including SC/ST under EPS, 1995.

**Complaints regarding delay in payment of unorganised labourers**

†1083. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received complaints regarding delay in payments and the under payment of wages fixed by Government to unorganised labourers;
- (b) if so, the officer or agency responsible for paying the eligible workers according to the work done during that particular day; and
- (c) whether there has been instances of preparing fake muster rolls for misappropriation of Government money, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) Under various Labour laws, including Minimum Wages Act, 1948, Payment of Wages Act, 1936, the enforcement is secured at two levels. In the Central Sphere the enforcement is secured through the Inspecting Officers of the Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) commonly designated as Central Industrial Relations Machinery (CIRM) and the compliance in the State Sphere is ensured through the State Enforcement Machinery. The designated inspecting officers conduct regular inspections and in the event of detection of any case of non-payment or underpayment of minimum wages, they direct the employers to make payment of the shortfall of wages. In case of non-compliance, penal provisions prescribed under Section 22 of the Minimum Wages Act are taken recourse to.

**Amendment in Child Labour Act**

1084. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry propose to amend the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 to increase the age banning child labour from 14 years to 16 years or 18 years; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.