

the country like encouraging private sector of economy, fast-tracking various projects involving substantial investment and increasing public expenditure on schemes such as Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) and Deendyal Antodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM).

Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) has been initiated by Government *inter alia* for facilitating self-employment. Under PMMY collateral free loans upto ₹ 10 lakh, are extended to micro/small business enterprises and to individuals to enable them to setup or expand their business activities.

Government has implemented the National Career Service (NCS) Project which comprises a digital portal that provides a nation-wide online platform for the job seekers and employers for job-matching in a dynamic, efficient and responsive manner and has a repository of career content to job seekers.

Besides, Ministries/ Departments/ States run skill development schemes across various sectors to improve the employability of youth and also facilitate placements. Schemes such as the National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) wherein Government reimburses 25 per cent of the stipend payable to apprentices also enhances employability of the youth to access employment.

Construction of ESI hospital in Kochi

1087. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering the proposal to construct 100-bed ESI hospital in Kochi;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons for delay in considering the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) The upgradation of the existing Employees' State Insurance Scheme (ESIS) Hospital in Ernakulam (Kochi) from 65 beds to 100 beds hospital has been approved by Employees' State

Insurance (ESI) Corporation during its 175th meeting of ESI Corporation held on 18.09.2018.

ESI dispensaries in Kerala

1088. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether final giving operational nod for the sanctioned ESI dispensaries in Kerala is still under consideration;
- (b) if so, the reasons for not giving operational nod for the sanctioned ESI dispensaries;
- (c) the status of giving operational nod for such dispensaries; and
- (d) the details of the dispensaries which are awaiting operational nod?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (d) As per prevailing procedure, once sanction is granted by Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) for starting dispensary in any State, concerned State Government is required to operationalise such dispensaries. There is no need for any further operational nod from ESIC.

Draft wage code

1089. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the labour Ministry has suggested nine-hour regular working day in its draft wage code as against eight hours now but stayed away from fixing a national minimum wage;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government have made any consultation with all stakeholders of employees regarding nine-hour working regular working day and fixing a national minimum wage; and
- (d) if so, details in this regard?