

workers and hence do not get benefits under the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government has received any request from the Rajasthan Government to include labourers employed in stone crushing in construction workers to benefit the stone crushing labourers of Rajasthan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (d) The list of work defined as "building or other construction work" under Section 2(1) (d) of the Building and Other Construction Workers' (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996, does not include "stone crushing". However, Section 2(1) (d) of the Act vests powers in the State Government, to further expand the list so as to include more such other work as "building or other construction work". The State Government of Rajasthan, in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 2(1)(d) of the Building and Other Construction Workers (RECS) Act, 1996, has expanded the "definition" of "building or other construction work" laid down under the Act by way of notifying "stone cutting, breaking and crushing" as building or other construction work *vide* notification dated 02.02.2015 and thereby included persons engaged in such work under the definition of "building worker" as defined under section 2(1)(e). Consequent to the said notification dated 02.02.2015 workers engaged in "stone cutting, breaking and crushing" work are eligible for registration as beneficiary in the State in terms of section 12 of the BOCW (RECS) Act, 1996 and availing of benefits of the welfare schemes formulated under section 22(1) of the Act.

As the authorities of the State Government/State Welfare Board are the appropriate authority vested with the statutory powers to apply section 2(1)(d), section 2(1)(e), section 12 and section 22(1) of the Act, the reference of the Rajasthan State BOCW Welfare Board seeking guidance from the Central Government in this regard was not appropriate and accordingly returned.

#### **Creation of jobs for educated youths**

†435. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has formulated any comprehensive plan for providing employment and creating jobs for educated youths;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of persons got employment in organised sector during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) Employment generation coupled with improving employability is the priority of the Government. Government has taken various steps for generating employment in 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 Deendayal 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.

Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojana (PMRPY) had been launched by the Ministry of Labour and Employment for incentivising employers for promoting employment generation. Under this scheme, Government is paying entire employer's contribution (12% or as admissible) towards EPF and EPS for all eligible new employees for all sectors for 3 years. The terminal date for registration of beneficiary through the employer under PMRPY was 31.03.2019 and till that date 1,18,05,003 beneficiaries have availed benefit under the scheme.

Besides these initiatives, flagship programmes of the Government such as Make in India, Digital India, Swachh Bharat Mission, Smart City Mission, Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation, Housing for All, Infrastructure development and Industrial corridors have the potential to generate productive employment opportunities. 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 percent of the stipend payable to apprentices also enhances employability of the youth to access employment.

As per the results of Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) conducted by National Sample Survey Office, Ministry of Statistics and programme Implementation during 2017-2018, the estimated Worker Population Ratio on usual status (principal status+subsidiary status) basis for persons aged 15 years and above (which includes both for organized and unorganized sector) is 46.8% out of which 19.2% are in the organized sector.

#### **ESIC hospitals in Andhra Pradesh**

436. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that there is no ESIC run hospital in the State of Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government received any request/proposal regarding operating ESIC run hospitals in the State of Andhra Pradesh in the recent past; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Consequent to the division of erstwhile State of Andhra Pradesh, two Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) run hospitals which were functional in undivided state, have territory-wise remained with the State of Telangana. Since Andhra Pradesh was left without any ESIC run hospital due to this division, at present, there is no functional ESIC run hospitals in the state.

(c) and (d) No request/proposal has been received at ESIC Headquarters from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for operating ESIC run hospital in the State, in the recent past.

#### **Loss of jobs during recession**

437. SHRI G. C. CHANDRASHEKHAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) what are the measures that the Ministry is planning to take to support the employees who lost their jobs during recession;