their safety, health and welfare measures and for other matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. Under the Act, The States/UTs Government and State Welfare Boards are mandated to frame and implement various welfare schemes for the building and other construction workers.

The Central Government has been issuing directions under Section 60 of the Building and Other Construction Workers (RECS) Act, 1996, to the State Governments/ UT Administrations from time to time for proper utilisation of cess fund in terms of the provisions of the Act for providing social security and other welfare measures for the building and other construction workers.

(f) The Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board constituted under Section 18 of the Building and Other Construction Workers' (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996, perform the following functions as stipulated under Section 22 of the Act:-

(i) provide immediate assistance to a beneficiary in case of accident;

(ii) make payment of pension to the beneficiaries who have completed the age of sixty years;

(iii) sanction loans and advances to a beneficiary for construction of a house not exceeding such amount and on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed;

(iv) pay such amount in connection with premia for Group Insurance Scheme of the beneficiaries as may be prescribed;

(v) give such financial assistance for the education of children of the beneficiaries as may be prescribed;

(vi) meet such medical expenses for treatment of major ailments of a beneficiary or, such dependant, as may be prescribed;

(vii) make payment of maternity benefit to the female beneficiaries; and

(viii) make provision and improvement of such other welfare measures and facilities as may be prescribed.

Rights of domestic workers

2029. PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government recognises domestic workers in its official definition of 'labourer';

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government plans to introduce legislation for recognising and protecting the rights of domestic workers;

(e) if so, the timeline for the introduction of such reforms; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (f) For recognising and protecting the rights of domestic workers the Government has introduced a Bill, ' The Code on Social Security' in the Lok Sabha on 11.12.2019, in which domestic workers have been defined as wage workers.

National Career Service project

2030. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present status of unemployment rate on usual status (principal status and subsidiary status) for persons of age 15 years and above in the country;

(b) what steps have been taken by Government for employment generation in the country besides encouraging private sector of the economy;

(c) the present status of the National Career Service (NCS) project which comprises a digital platform for the job-seekers; and

(d) whether there is an imbalance between the demand and supply of employment and whether Government is going to propose a scheme to correct it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) As per the results of annual Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) conducted by National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation during 2017-18, the estimated unemployment rate on usual status (principal status + subsidiary status) basis for the persons of age 15 years and above to the extent available was 6.0%.

(b) Employment generation coupled with improving employability is the priority of the Government. Government has taken various steps for generating employment in