

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3931  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.03.2017**

**DEATH CLAIMS**

**3931. SHRI G. HARI:**

**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) proposes to settle PF money claimed after death of an employee within seven days from 20 days at present;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether all the death cases claims will be given top priority and officers in charge at all EPF offices will personally monitor such claims on day-to-day basis; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

**(a) & (b): As per paragraph 72(7) of the Employees' Provident Funds (EPF) Scheme, 1952, the claim complete in all respects submitted along with the requisite documents shall be settled and benefit amount paid to the beneficiaries within 20 days from the date of its receipt by the Commissioner.**

**The field offices of Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) have been directed to settle claims in cases of deaths within seven days of receipt of such claims.**

**(c) & (d): Yes, Madam. Public Relation Officer and officials in the Facilitation Centres of EPFO have been instructed to scrutinise the claim forms received in respect of death cases and guide the claimants for submission of all required documents in one go only. An official has been specially earmarked to handle such claims. Regional Provident Fund Commissioners have been directed to personally monitor the death cases on day-to-day basis.**

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO: 502

ANSWERED ON:06.02.2017

Inoperative EPF Accounts

BAHADUR SINGH KOLI

- (a) the criteria adopted for classifying an EPF account as inoperative;
- (b) the total number of inoperative EPF accounts as on date and the total value of money deposited in these accounts;
- (c) whether annual interest for the money in these accounts is credited regularly and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the action taken/being taken to pay the due amount to the eligible persons; and
- (e) whether there is any provision for the employees to withdraw from PF account in any part of the country and if so, the details thereof?

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:-

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)

(a): The provision of inoperative accounts are mentioned in paragraph 72(6) of the Employees' Provident Funds (EPF) Scheme, 1952. An account becomes inoperative in following cases:-

(i) In case, any amount becoming due to a member as a result of supplementary contribution from the employer in respect of leave wages/arrears of pay, installment of arrear contribution received in respect of a member whose claim has been settled on account but which could not be remitted for want of latest address.

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(ii) In case of accumulation in respect of any member who has either retired from service after attaining age of fifty-five years or migrated abroad permanently or died, but no application for withdrawal under paragraphs 69 or 70, as the case may be, has been preferred within a period of thirty six months from the date it becomes payable.

(iii) In case if any amount remitted to a person, is received back undelivered, and it is not claimed again within a period of 36 months from the date it becomes payable.

In all above cases the amount shall be transferred to an account to be called the Inoperative Account.

(b): As on 31.03.2016, a sum of Rs. 40,865.14 crore in 9,29,89,648 accounts had been classified as inoperative accounts.

(c): As per paragraph 60(6) of the Employees' Provident Funds Scheme, 1952, interest shall not be credited to the account of a member from the date on which it has become Inoperative Account, under the provisions of sub-paragraph (6) of paragraph 72.

(d): The following actions have been taken by Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) to pay the due amount to the eligible persons :

(i) A portal namely 'Inoperative Accounts Online Help Desk' to assist the members to identify their inoperative accounts has been launched.

(ii) Allotted Universal Account Numbers (UAN) to identify the members without intermediation of the employers.

(iii) Awareness campaigns have been undertaken through electronic as well as print media from time to time to educate the members to transfer or withdraw their Provident Fund (PF) accumulations.

(e): For withdrawal, the member is required to submit his claim form to the office of EPFO where his account is maintained.

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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**LOK SABHA**

**STARRED QUESTION NO. 503  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.04.2017**

**IMPACT OF GLOBAL SLOWDOWN ON LABOUR AND INDUSTRY**

**†\*503. SHRI HARINARAYAN RAJBHAR:**

**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any comprehensive study of the impact of global financial slowdown on domestic labour and industry;**
- (b) if so, the details and the findings thereof;**
- (c) the number of labourers who reportedly lost their jobs due to closure of various industries in the country during the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise including Uttar Pradesh; and**
- (d) the role played by the Government in rehabilitation of the affected labourers during the said period?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

**(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.**

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 503 FOR 10.04.2017 BY SHRI HARINARAYAN RAJBHAR REGARDING IMPACT OF GLOBAL SLOWDOWN ON LABOUR AND INDUSTRY.**

(a) & (b): V.V. Giri National Labour Institute, an autonomous institution of the Ministry of Labour & Employment had conducted a study based on a request of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry on Global Downturn and Export Sector in India: Impact on Production, Export and Employment during 2009-2010. The main objective of the study was to assess the impact of the economic slowdown on exports, production and employment in three specific export intensive sector, namely textiles, diamond and handicrafts. The study also evaluated the efficacy and efficiency of the stimulus packages initiated by the Government of India to counter the slowdown and ensure recovery.

The study indicated that after the economic slowdown of about a year and a half, the recovery of the Indian economy was evident from May–June 2009. The details and key findings of the study are at **Annexure-I**.

(c) :The details are placed as Annexure-II .

(d): Under the Industrial Dispute Act, 1947 in the event of closure, every worker affected is entitled U/S 25-O (8), compensation equivalent to 15 days average pay for every completed year of continuous services. In addition under Rajiv Gandhi Shramik Kalyan Yojna worker is paid Unemployment Allowance and vocational training is provided for skill development.

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 503 FOR ANSWER ON 10.04.2017 REGARDING “IMPACT OF GLOBAL SLOWDOWN ON LABOUR AND INDUSTRY.**

**Key findings**

The main objective of the study was to assess the impact of the economic slowdown (2007-2009) on exports, production and employment in three specific export intensive sectors, namely textiles, diamond and handicrafts. The study also evaluated the efficacy and efficiency of the stimulus packages initiated by the government of India to counter the slowdown and ensure recovery. The study suggested policy measures and an action plan to boost output, exports and employment in the context of economic slowdown in the three referred sectors. The study was based on macro and micro level information and generated employment coefficient with respect to exports.

The study noted that the global slowdown during 2007-2009 had an adverse impact on export growth in the textile, diamond and handicraft industries. This resulted in the decline of employment potential of these labour intensive sectors. However, it is important to note that there was a difference in terms of formal and informal sectors as far as the impact of employment is concerned. While the employment levels in the formal sector enterprises remained more or less the same during the crisis period, the fall in employment took place primarily in the informal sector or small enterprises.

Based on the detailed sectoral as well as sub-sectoral analysis, the study recommended that stimulus packages introduced to revive the export industry like interest subvention, cut in excise duty, etc. will have to be continued for at least two fiscal years to revive the exports and economic growth.

The study highlighted policy issues at two levels: Cross-cutting structural issues of a medium- to long-term nature; and Sector-specific issues of immediate concern flowing primarily from the present study.

The Cross-cutting issues include: Need for diversification of exports; Continued skill development of workers; Simplification of the duty draw back and incentives claim procedure; Investment in infrastructure; and Measures to formalise the informal employment.

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 503 FOR ANSWER ON 10.04.2017  
REGARDING "IMPACT OF GLOBAL SLOWDOWN ON LABOUR AND INDUSTRY**

**State & Industry-wise Closure of Units & Workers affected thereby**

<b>Central Sphere</b>		
<b>Year</b>	<b>No of Units</b>	<b>Workers Affected</b>
<b>2014-15</b>	<b>Nil</b>	<b>Nil</b>
<b>2015-16</b>		
<b>State/UT</b>	<b>No of Units</b>	<b>Workers Affected</b>
<b>Chhattisgarh</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>153</b>
<b>2016-17</b>		
<b>State/UT</b>	<b>No of Units</b>	<b>Workers Affected</b>
<b>West Bengal</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>61</b>
<b>Jammu &amp; Kashmir</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Haryana</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>823</b>
<b>Punjab</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>	<b>2</b>	
<b>Karnataka</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>72</b>
<b>Kerala</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>862</b>
<b>Chhattisgarh</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Uttarakhand</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>165</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2068</b>

<b>State Sphere</b>		
<b>Year 2014</b>		
<b>State/UT</b>	<b>Number of Units</b>	<b>Number of Workers Affected</b>
Andhra Pradesh	3	326
Chandigarh	1	8
Haryana	2	59
Himachal Pradesh	2	70
Karnataka	5	552
Telangana	2	2745
Tripura	16	396
Uttarakhand	2	123
<b>Total</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>4279</b>

<b>Year 2015 (Provisional)</b>		
<b>State/UT</b>	<b>Number of Units</b>	<b>Number of Workers Affected</b>
Andhra Pradesh	1	260
Chhattisgarh		
Goa	2	44
Himachal Pradesh	1	90
Karnataka	1	96
Tripura	9	687
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1177</b>

<b>Year 2016 (Provisional)</b>		
<b>State/UT</b>	<b>Number of Units</b>	<b>Number of Workers Affected</b>
Tripura	14	566

**Note:** 1. The statement in respect of State Sphere is based on the returns/information received in the Labour Bureau from respective State Government. The information w.r.t the Central Sphere is based on the information available in the Ministry of labour & Employment.

2. No information w.r.t Uttar Pradesh has been reported in the Labour Bureau.

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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 651  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.02.2017**

**RATIONALISATION OF LABOUR LAWS**

**651. DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE:**

**SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE:**

**SHRI RAHUL SHEWALE:**

**SHRI VINAYAK BHAURAO RAUT:**

**SHRI E.T. MOHAMMED BASHEER:**

**SHRIMATI RAKSHATAI KHADSE:**

**SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:**

**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has initiated/proposes to initiate a process of simplifying, rationalising and amalgamating the 44 labour laws into 4 codes and if so, the details and the current status thereof;**
- (b) whether the new labour policy proposes to uphold the interests of the labourers by ensuring better social security, safety of organised/unorganised labourers in the country and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government for better and effective implementation of Labour Laws, compliance under various laws as per the international treaties and conventions in place in this regard?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

**(a) & (b): Reforms in labour laws are an ongoing process to update legislative system to address the need of the hour and to make them more effective and contemporary to the emerging economic and industrial scenario. The Second National Commission on Labour which submitted its Report in 2002 had recommended that the existing Labour Laws should be broadly grouped into four or five Labour Codes on functional basis. Accordingly, the Ministry has taken steps for**

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**drafting four Labour Codes on Wages; Industrial Relations; Social Security & Welfare and Safety and Working Conditions, by simplifying, amalgamating and rationalizing the relevant provisions of the existing Central Labour Laws. These initiatives will reduce the complexity in compliance due to multiplicity of labour laws and facilitate setting up of enterprises and thus creating the environment for development of business and industry in the country and generating employment opportunities without diluting basic aspects of safety, security and health of workers.**

**(c): Conventions of International Labour Organization (ILO), on ratification create legally binding obligation for ratifying country. Ratification of a convention is a voluntary process. India ratifies a convention only when our national laws and practices are in full conformity with the Convention. So far, India has ratified 45 Conventions and 1 Protocol.**

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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 664  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.02.2017  
EXPANSION OF EPF AMBIT**

**664. SHRI C.N. JAYADEVAN:**

**SHRI V. ELUMALAI:**

**SHRI RAMDAS C. TADAS:**

**SHRI RAM CHARITRA NISHAD:**

**SHRI A. ARUNMOZHITHEVAN:**

**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government proposes to bring in more employees from Public and Private sector as well as unorganized sector into the ambit of EPF;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard;**
- (c) whether the Government is considering to make employee's contribution to EPF optional for certain sectors like textile and apparel workers;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the other measures taken by the Government for welfare of such workers; and**
- (e) whether the Government is also considering to hike the wage ceiling for availing EPF benefits and if so, the details thereof along with its likely impact on the EPF scheme?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

**(a) & (b): To bring in more employees from public and private sector into the ambit of Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO), an Employees' Enrolment Campaign, 2017 has been launched for the period 01.01.2017 to 31.03.2017.**

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**Under the campaign, an employer, whether already covered or yet to be covered, can enroll employees who remained un-enrolled for any reason between 01.04.2009 and 31.12.2016 by making a declaration of such employees during the campaign period. Such declaration shall be valid only in respect of employees who are alive as on 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2017 and no proceedings under section 7A of the Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions (EPF & MP) Act, 1952 or under paragraph 26B of the Employees' Provident Funds (EPF) Scheme, 1952 or under paragraph 8 of the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 have been initiated against their establishment or employer, as the case may be, to determine the eligibility for membership of such employees.**

**(c) to (e): Making Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) contribution optional for employees, inter-alia, envisages amendment to the EPF & MP Act, 1952 and Schemes framed thereunder which has not been done. Further, it has not been decided to raise the present wage ceiling for coverage under the EPF& MP Act, 1952.**

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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2885  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.03.2017**

**EPFO INVESTMENT IN EXCHANGE TRADE FUNDS**

**2885. ADV. M. UDHAYAKUMAR:**

**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the government is looking at raising retirement fund body EPFO's investment in exchange trade funds to 15% from the existing 10%;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether this issue was discussed in the Central Board of Trustees of EPFO recently; and**
- (d) if so, the deliberations made in the said meeting and the final decision taken by EPFO in this regard?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

- (a): No, not at the present moment.**
- (b): Does not arise in view of reply to part (a) of the Question above.**
- (c): No, Madam.**
- (d): Does not arise in view of reply to part (c) of the Question above.**

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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2901  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.03.2017**

**TOTAL FUND OF EPF**

**2901. SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY:**

**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to bring in more employees from Public and Private sector as well as from unorganized sectors into the ambit of EPF;**
- (b) the total number of EPF accounts and the amount accumulated in their accounts as on date, zone-wise, State/UT-wise;**
- (c) the number of EPF accounts not updated and undistributed interest lying in Interest Suspense Account and closing balance as per consolidated Annual Accounts of the EPFO till 31st March 2016; and**
- (d) the steps taken by Government for speedy disposal of EPF claims of the EPF subscribers?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

**(a): The Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions (EPF & MP) Act, 1952 is applicable to every establishment employing 20 or more persons which is either a factory engaged in any industry specified in Schedule-I of the Act or an establishment to which the Act has been made applicable by the Central Government by notification in the Official Gazette.**

**An Employees' Enrolment Campaign, 2017 has been launched for the period 01.01.2017 to 31.03.2017 to bring in more workers in the ambit of EPFO. Under the campaign, an employer, whether already covered or yet to be covered, can enroll employees who remained un-enrolled for any reason between 01.04.2009 and 31.12.2016 by making a declaration of such employees during the campaign period. Such declaration shall be valid only in respect of employees who are alive as on 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2017 and no proceedings under section 7A of the Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions (EPF & MP) Act, 1952 or under paragraph 26B of the Employees' Provident Funds (EPF) Scheme, 1952 or under paragraph 8 of the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 have been initiated against their establishment or employer, as the case may be, to determine the eligibility for membership of such employees.**

**Contd..2/-**

**(b): There was a total of 17.14 crore Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) accounts as on 31.03.2016. The State/UT-wise details of EPF accounts and amounts accumulated therein, as on 31.03.2016 is at Annex.**

**(c): As on 31.03.2016, a total of 12.21 lakh accounts were pending for updation.**

**There is no account known as 'Interest Suspense Account'. However, para 51 of the Employees' Provident Funds Scheme, 1952 provides for 'Interest Account' in which income to the Fund is credited and out of which interest to the members is paid. As per the consolidated Annual Accounts of the EPFO, till 31st March, 2016, Rs. 9,737.46 crore is available to be credited to the subscribers' accounts upto 31.03.2016.**

**As per consolidated Annual Accounts of EPFO for the year 2015-16, the closing balance in Interest Account as on 31st March, 2016 is Rs. 45,135.25 crore.**

**(d): EPFO has taken various steps for speedy settlement of claims which inter alia include:**

- Composite Claim Form (Aadhaar) and Composite Claim Form (Non-Aadhaar) has been introduced by replacing the erstwhile Claim Forms No. 19, 10C and 31, with a view to simplify the submission of claims by the subscribers. The Composite Claim Form has been further simplified to include self-certification by EPF subscribers. The Composite Claim Form (Aadhaar) can be submitted to the EPFO without attestation of their employers.**
- EPFO has mandated to settle claims within 20 days.**
- Online Transfer Claim Portal (OTCP) has been introduced to facilitate seamless transfer of claims.**
- An online payment facility has been developed for employers for payment of dues. The internet banking (INB) facility enhances efficiency and payment and ensures anytime, anywhere online access while usage of existing internet bank account to make payments online.**
- National Electronic Fund Transfer (NEFT) has been introduced for payments.**

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2901 FOR REPLY ON 20.03.2017 BY SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY REGARDING TOTAL FUND OF EPF.**

**State/UT- wise EPF accounts and the amount accumulated in the accounts**

**(As on 31-03-2016)**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>State/UT</b>	<b>No. of Accounts (in lakh)</b>	<b>Amount (in Crore)</b>
1	ANDHRA PRADESH	32.63	7,066.54
2	BIHAR	10.39	1,780.66
3	CHHATTISGARH	13.30	2,652.10
4	DELHI	139.72	30,647.53
5	GOA	11.89	2,271.95
6	GUJARAT (includes Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli)	134.20	22,829.71
7	HARYANA	123.92	18,914.45
8	HIMACHAL PRADESH	11.66	2,400.04
9	JHARKHAND	18.12	2,637.87
10	KARNATAKA	201.61	54,577.49
11	KERALA (includes Lakshadweep)	26.36	9,367.64
12	MADHYA PRADESH	38.39	9,625.90
13	MAHARASHTRA	341.28	1,02,015.69
14	STATES OF ASSAM, ARUNACHAL PRADESH, TRIPURA, MEGHALAYA, NAGALAND, MANIPUR & MIZORAM	8.18	2,706.11
15	ODISHA	26.30	5,849.50
16	PUNJAB (includes Chandigarh)	56.36	12,826.38
17	RAJASTHAN	42.73	8,539.18
18	TAMIL NADU (includes Puducherry)	210.13	42,514.86
19	TELANGANA	93.93	23,401.39
21	UTTARAKHAND	22.74	3,321.92
21	UTTAR PRADESH	72.43	16,618.05
22	WEST BENGAL (includes Sikkim and Andaman & Nicobar Islands)	77.87	18,589.68
	<b>All India Total</b>	<b>1,714.14</b>	<b>4,01,154.63</b>

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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2911  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.03.2017**

**VACANT POST IN EPFO APPELLATE TRIBUNALS**

**2911. SHRI SUMEDHANAND SARSWATI:**

**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether a number of posts of presiding officers and other staff are lying vacant in various labour courts particularly in the Employees' Provident Fund Appellate Tribunals in the country and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) the time since these posts are lying vacant along with the details of posts reserved for various categories out of the said vacant posts; and**
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to fill the vacant posts expeditiously?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

**(a) & (b): As per the Organizational and cadre restructuring in Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) approved by the Government vide letter dated 27.12.2016 posts were sanctioned for EPFAT Benches at Delhi & Bengaluru. The details of the post sanctioned, in position and vacant are Annexed.**

**(c): Filling up of the posts are done following procedures envisaged in the Recruitment Rules or other provisions relating to the said posts.**

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**LOK SABHA USQ No. 2911 for 20.03.2017 raised by Shri Sumendhanand Sarswati regarding vacant post in EPFO Appellate Tribunals.**

**EPFAT Delhi**

<b>Designation</b>	<b>Sanctioned Post</b>	<b>In Position</b>	<b>Vacant Post</b>
Presiding Officer	1	1	Nil
Registrar	1	1	Nil
DY Registrar	1	1	Nil
Section Officer	2	0	2
Assistant	8	1 UDC+1 Social Security Assistant	6
PPS	1	0	1
PS	2	0	2
PA	2	1	1
Steno	1	2	+1
MTS	5	3+ 1 Staff Car Driver	1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>

**EPFAT Bengaluru**

<b>Designation</b>	<b>Sanctioned Post</b>	<b>In Position</b>	<b>Vacant Post</b>
Presiding Officer	1	1	Nil
Registrar	1	1	Nil
DY Registrar	1	0	1
Section Officer	2	1 Section Supervisor	1
Assistant	8	2 Social Security Assistant	6
PPS	1	0	1
PS	2	0	2
PA	2	0	2
Steno	1	0	1
MTS	5	0	5
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>19</b>

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2931  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.03.2017**

**EMPLOYEE ENROLMENT CAMPAIGN**

**2931. SHRI RAJESH KUMAR DIWAKER:**

**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the EPFO is planning to launch Employee Enrolment Campaign, 2017, offering opportunity to Employees to voluntarily declare details of the employees' hitherto deprived of social security benefits under EPFO;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) the *modus operandi* methodology being adopted for operating the said scheme and for collection of contributions to be made under the declarations; and**
- (d) the time by which the said scheme is likely to be made operational?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

**(a) to (d): An Employees' Enrolment Campaign has been launched by Employees' Provident Fund Organisation during the period 01.01.2017 to 31.03.2017, in order to extend social security benefits to all the eligible workers in the country. During the Campaign, various financial incentives are being offered to establishments to enroll their workers.**

**An employer, whether already covered or yet to be covered, can enroll employees who remained un-enrolled for any reason between 01.04.2009 and 31.12.2016 by making a declaration of such employees during the campaign period. Such declaration shall be valid only in respect of employees who are alive as on 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2017 and no proceedings under section 7A of the Employees' Provident Funds &**

**Contd..2/-**

**Miscellaneous Provisions (EPF & MP) Act, 1952 or under paragraph 26B of the Employees' Provident Funds (EPF) Scheme, 1952 or under paragraph 8 of the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 have been initiated against their establishment or employer, as the case may be, to determine the eligibility for membership of such employees. For the declaration made under this campaign, the employer shall be responsible to remit the employer's contribution, interest under section 7Q of the Act and damages. As an incentive, the following shall apply to the declarations made under the campaign:-**

**(i) The employee's share of contribution if declared by the employer not to have been deducted shall not be required to be paid.**

**(ii) The damages to be paid by the employer in respect of the employees for whom declaration has been made under this campaign shall be at the rate of Rupee 1(one) per annum.**

**(iii) No administrative charges shall be collected from the employer in respect of the contribution made under the declaration.**

**If the employer fails to pay within 15 days of making the declaration, the dues, interest and damages payable by him in respect of the declaration made under this campaign, such declaration shall be deemed to have not been made under this campaign.**

**\*\*\*\*\***

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2947  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.03.2017**

**EPF ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES**

**2947. SHRI A. ARUNMOZHITHEVAN:**

**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has deferred/proposes to defer the move to cut EPF administrative charges from 0.85% to 0.65% of workers salary for its EPF scheme;**
- (b) if so, the details therefor and the reasons therefor;**
- (c) whether this issue has been long pending due to certain reasons; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken/being taken in this regard?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

**(a) to (d): The Government vide notification dated 15.03.2017 has reduced the administrative charges under Employees' Provident Funds Scheme, 1952 from 0.85 per cent to 0.65 per cent.**

**\*\*\*\*\***

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3918  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.03.2017**

**PRIVATE BANKS TO COLLECT EPF PAYMENTS**

**3918. SHRI GUTHA SUKENDER REDDY:**

**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government proposes to permit private banks to collect Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) payments from the subscribers;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

**(a) to (c): The Government vide Notification No. G.S.R. 6 (E), dated 4<sup>th</sup> January, 2017 has notified private sector banks to collect statutory dues under Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions (EPF & MP) Act, 1952 electronically through internet banking.**

**\*\*\*\*\***

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3923  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.03.2017**

**DIVERSION OF PF FUND**

**3923. SHRIMATI V. SATHYA BAMA:**

**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether it is true that PF money cannot be expended for any purpose other than the payment to individual members and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Provident Fund money has been reportedly diverted for setting up of a Senior Citizens Welfare Fund despite strong resistance from the EPFO Trustees; and**
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

**(a): As per paragraph 53 of the Employees' Provident Funds Scheme, 1952, the Fund shall not, except with the previous sanction of Central Government, be expended for any purpose other than the payment of the sums standing to the credit of individual members of the Fund or to their nominees or heirs or legal representatives in accordance with the provisions of the Scheme.**

**(b): No, Madam.**

**(c): Does not arise in view of reply to part (b) of the Question above.**

**\*\*\*\*\***

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4035  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.03.2017**

**VIOLATION OF LABOUR LAWS BY PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION  
COMPANIES**

**†4035. SHRI RAMESH BIDHURI:**

**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has received complaints of violation of labour laws by the private construction companies/contractors during the last three years;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;**
- (c) the action taken by the Government against these private construction companies/contractors for safeguarding the interests of the labourers; and**
- (d) whether the Government has proposed any other better alternative to implement the labour laws effectively and if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

**(a) to (d): Labour being on the Concurrent List the enforcement of labour laws is done both by the State Governments and the Central Government in their respective jurisdictions. While in the Central Sphere, the enforcement is done through the inspecting officers of the Chief labour Commissioner (Central) commonly designated as Central Industrial Relations Machinery (CIRM), the compliance in the State Sphere is ensured through the State Enforcement Machinery. The details of the complaints in regard to violation of labour laws is not centrally maintained.**

**Contd..2/-**

**A well-established Central Industrial Relations Machinery (CIRM) is in place to enforce various labour laws in Central Sphere. The country-wide network of Dy. Chief Labour Commissioners and Regional Labour Commissioners under the control of Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) is mandated to settle the complaints/claims in regard to grievances/complaints arising out of the enforcement of various labour laws. For effective implementation of various labour laws, regular inspections are conducted by the Officers of Central Industrial Relations Machinery (CIRM). The Ministry has also mandated inspections to be done through the Shram Suvidha Portal in a time bound manner to minimize discretion and for more transparency. Also, special drives of inspection are conducted.**

**Besides, a grievance redressal mechanism exists in the States/UTs in respect of the grievances pertaining to establishment coming under the State Sphere.**

**\*\*\*\*\***

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4065  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.03.2017**

**EXTENSION OF ESIC AND EPFO BENEFITS**

**4065. SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA:**

**SHRI ASHOK SHANKARRAO CHAVAN:**

**SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR:**

**SHRI T. RADHAKRISHNAN:**

**SHRI S.R. VIJAYAKUMAR:**

**KUNWAR HARIBANSH SINGH:**

**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether Anganwadi, Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA) and midday meal scheme workers are demanding for long to provide the benefit of ESIC and EPFO schemes and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Government has formed a Committee in this regard and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Government proposes to extend benefits under ESIC and EPFO to the Anganwadi, ASHA and mid-day meal scheme workers in the country;**
- (d) if so, the number of persons likely to be benefited and the time by which it is likely to be implemented, State/UT-wise; and**
- (e) the further steps taken/being taken by the Government to include the unorganized sector in ESIC and EPFO schemes?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

**(a) to (d):** The Ministry has constituted an inter-ministerial Committee under the chairpersonship of Secretary (Labour & Employment) to examine the issue of giving social security benefits to the unorganized sector e.g. Anganwadi, Mid-day meal and Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs) workers. The other members of this Committee include representatives from Ministries of Women & Child Development, Human Resource Development, Finance and Health & Family Welfare.

**(e):** In addition to above, the ESIC has also launched two pilot schemes for auto-rickshaw drivers in Delhi and for domestic workers in Delhi and Hyderabad.

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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4076  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.03.2017**

**EPFO CLAIMS**

**†4076. DR. VIRENDRA KUMAR:  
SHRI KRUPAL BALAJI TUMANE:**

**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) the number of claims received and lying pending in the various Employee Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) offices during each of the last three years and the current year along with the reasons therefor, State/UT-wise;**
- (b) the concrete steps taken/being taken by the Government for expeditious settlement of these pending cases in a time bound manner; and**
- (c) the time by which the said cases are likely to be disposed of?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

**(a): The State-wise (including UTs) details of cases pending for settlement in Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) in the last three years (from 2013-14 to 2015-16) and current year 2016-17 (upto February, 2017) is at Annex.**

**(b): The following steps have been taken by EPFO for speedy settlement of claims:**

- Composite Claim Form (Aadhaar) and Composite Claim Form (Non-Aadhaar) have been introduced by replacing the erstwhile Claim Forms No. 19, 10C and 31, with a view to simplify the submission of a single claim by the subscribers. The Composite Claim Form has been further simplified to include self-certification by Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) subscribers.**

**Contd...2/-**

- **The Composite Claim Form (Aadhaar) wherein details like Aadhaar Number and Bank Account Number of members have been seeded in their Universal Account Number (UAN) and whose UAN have been activated by their employers, may submit claim forms directly to the EPFO without attestation of their employers.**
- **EPFO has been mandated to settle claims within 20 days.**
- **Online Transfer Claim Portal (OTCP) has been introduced to facilitate seamless transfer of claims.**
- **An online collection facility has been developed for employers for collection of dues through Internet Banking (INB) facility.**
- **Over 99.35 per cent of all payments, including monthly pension payments, are effected electronically through National Electronic Funds Transfer (NEFT).**

**(c): As per the provisions contained in paragraph 72(7) of the Employees' Provident Funds (EPF) Scheme, 1952, claims complete in all respects are to be settled within 20 days.**

**On an average, 96 per cent of the total claims are settled within 20 days of their receipt.**

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**\*\*\*\*\***

**ANNEX REFERRED TO IN PART (a) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4076 FOR  
REPLY ON 27.03.2017 BY DR. VIRENDRA KUMAR AND SHRI KRUPAL BALAJI TUMANE  
REGARDING EPFO CLAIMS**

State-wise details of cases Pending for Settlement (Number of Cases/Claims)								
STATE/ OFFICE	2016-17 (up to February, 2017)		2015-16		2014-15		2013-14	
	WORK- LOAD	CLOSING BALANCE	WORK- LOAD	CLOSING BALANCE	WORK- LOAD	CLOSING BALANCE	WORK- LOAD	CLOSING BALANCE
ANDHRA PRADESH	332393	5025	390163	216	387545	1341	358600	5868
BIHAR	80649	76	74501	412	71849	244	63847	190
CHHATTISGARH	117599	383	135692	5440	112131	131	104714	236
DELHI	976884	16419	954986	6534	928814	261	1054746	10468
GOA	67684	964	87426	1101	87962	537	88175	1008
GUJARAT	787772	15422	901039	4071	954530	7317	903111	3409
HARYANA	1029584	22494	1041986	11105	1061215	15721	1035464	11093
HIMACHAL PRADESH	95066	988	115744	99	130994	1170	126618	1467
JHARKHAND	50251	328	132632	146	161058	121	157228	188
KARNATAKA	661274	10913	1640358	2893	1954699	1050	1963817	34071
KERALA	374197	6304	408417	7062	394961	4057	388767	10604
MADHYA PRADESH	325626	4115	334477	245	349169	4	337811	396
MAHARASHTRA	2764887	52323	3032074	44301	3061583	30199	3168941	67651
NORTH-EAST REGION	41772	486	74123	238	81544	380	71590	125
ODISHA	265317	2905	277743	597	283966	135	237495	5349
PUNJAB	380580	1500	472529	1790	524896	161	522759	3460
RAJASTHAN	328601	5137	343607	194	339447	312	338838	240
TAMIL NADU	1821666	35248	1873124	32353	2035652	29726	2013734	43358
TELANGANA	811117	19386	872599	2164	885555	1849	859373	24129
UTTAR PRADESH	656740	2827	665643	1712	623660	471	676191	2188
UTTARAKHAND	173149	1632	192167	881	200499	249	199993	2648
WEST BENGAL	580562	11244	577292	627	700349	276	719921	4748
GRAND TOTAL	12723370	216119	14598322	124181	15332078	95712	15391733	232894

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE  
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

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LOK SABHA  
UN STARRED QUESTION NO. 4910  
TO BE ANSWERED ON MARCH 31, 2017/CHAITRA 10, 1939 (SAKA)  
EQUITY CAP FOR PENSIONS

4910. Shri J.C. Divakar Reddy

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

- (a) whether the Government has raised equity cap for pensions;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and progress made so far; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance  
(Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar)

(a) to (c) As per the pattern of investment to be followed by Non Government Provident Funds, Superannuation Funds, and Gratuity Funds, notified vide notification No. 11/14/2013- PR dated 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2015, the investment in equities and related investment should be in the range of 5% to 15%. In accordance with this investment pattern, the Government in the Ministry of Labour and Employment has raised the Employees Provident Fund investment in Exchange Traded Funds from 5% to 10 %.

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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5834  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.04.2017**

**MINIMUM WAGE FOR TEA GARDEN WORKERS**

**5834. SHRI PREM DAS RAI:**

**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government is working on a law to introduce a minimum wage for tea garden workers to ensure parity of wages across States;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Government is aware of the malpractices of overtime, poor working conditions, starvation and deaths in tea gardens;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) the details of labour benefits like provident fund, gratuity and insurance paid to tea garden workers in the last three years, State/UT-wise?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

**(a) & (b): Under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the fixation of minimum wages for the tea garden workers, falls under the purview of State Government which is the appropriate Government to fix/revise the minimum wages.**

**The wages in the major tea growing States are as per agreement reached between the producer associations and workers unions.**

**It may not be possible to develop uniform system for fixing rates of wages throughout the country due to differences in socio-economic and agro-climatic conditions, prices of essential commodities, paying capacity, productivity and local conditions influencing the wage rate.**

**Contd..2/-**

**(c) to (e): The working conditions of the tea plantation workers are governed and monitored by the Plantations Labour Act, 1951(PLA) through the concerned State Governments for which separate Rules are framed by them. The said Act provides for regulation of the conditions of work in tea plantations and the welfare measures for the workers employed in tea plantations. The Act is unique in the fact that it requires the employers to provide the workers with housing, medical facilities, sickness and maternity benefits and other forms of social security measures. There are provisions for educational facility for the children, drinking water, conservancy, canteens, crèches and recreational facilities for the benefit of the tea plantation workers and their families in and around the work places in the tea estates.**

**Besides PLA, number of other industrial and social security legislations are also applicable to tea garden workers which include Employees' Compensation Act, Payment of Gratuity Act, Provident Fund & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, (Assam Tea Plantation Provident Fund, Pension Fund and Deposit Link Insurance Fund Scheme Act 1955 – only for Assam), Payment of Bonus Act, Maternity Benefit Act, Payment of Wages Act, Equal Remuneration Act, Industrial Disputes Act, Factories Act and Industrial Employment (Standing Order) Act, 1946. These Acts are also governed and monitored by the concerned State Governments.**

**\*\*\*\*\***

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5910  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.04.2017**

**EPF HOSPITALS**

**5910. SHRI P.R. SUNDARAM:  
SHRI PR. SENTHIL NATHAN:**

**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has any funds under the EPF for the development of EPF hospitals and dispensaries in Tamil Nadu;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the funds ear-marked for the same in the last 3 years, year-wise;**
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any studies on the positive and negative impacts of EPF Hospitals and health of labour force in the country;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the findings thereof; and**
- (e) the funds allocated in the last two years for the medical needs of rural labour force in the country, State/UT-wise?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

- (a): No, Madam.**
- (b): Does not arise in view of the reply to part (a) of the Question above.**
- (c): No, Madam.**
- (d): Does not arise in view of the reply to part (a) of the Question above.**
- (e): The Government does not allocate funds exclusively for the medical needs of the rural labour force. However, State/UT-wise details of funds allocated for last two years i.e. 2015-16 and 2016-17 for medical needs of the Beedi/Lime Stone and Dolomite Mines (LSDM)/Iron Ore, Manganese and Chrome Mines (IOMC)/Mica Mines/Cinema workers are at Annex.**

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**\*\*\*\*\***

**ANNEX REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5910 BY SHRI P.R. SUNDARAM AND SHRI PR. SENTHIL NATHAN FOR 10.04.2017 REGARDING EPF HOSPITALS.****FUNDS ALLOCATED FOR MEDICAL NEEDS OF BEEDI/LIME STONE AND DOLOMITE MINES (LSDM)/IRON ORE, MANGANESE AND CHROME MINES (IOMC)/MICA MINES/CINEMA WORKERS FOR LAST TWO YEARS I.E. 2015-16, 2016-17**

S. No.	Name of the Region	State/UT	BUDGET ALLOCATED (Rs. in Thousands)	
			2015-16	2016-17
1	Ajmer	Rajasthan, Gujarat, Haryana	88329	96836
2	Allahabad	Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Jammu & Kashmir, Uttarakhand, Chandigarh	77649	83332
3	Bengaluru	Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu	173415	187212
4	Bhubaneswar	Odisha	133589	133306
5	Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh, Telangana	144448	162026
6	Jabalpur	Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh	194591	203061
7	Karma	Bihar, Jharkhand	134601	143059
8	Kolkata	West Bengal, Guwahati, Assam	107590	119791
9	Nagpur	Maharashtra, Goa	66501	72047
Total			1120713	1200670

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5948  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.04.2017**

**EXPANSION OF PF COVERAGE**

**5948. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA:**

**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government proposes to make it mandatory for all the units with more than 10 workers to provide PF cover to ensure social security to workers;**
- (b) if so, the details and the salient features thereof;**
- (c) the steps being taken for its implementation along with the time by which it is likely to be implemented; and**
- (d) the details and the additional number of employees likely to be covered under it?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

**(a): No decision has been taken in this regard.**

**(b) to (d): Do not arise in view of reply to part (a) of the Question above.**

**\*\*\*\*\***

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 683  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.02.2017**

**WELFARE OF CONSTRUCTION WORKERS**

**683. SHRI ARKA KESHARI DEO :  
SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:  
SHRI VIJAY KUMAR HANSDAK :**

**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the money so collected by levying 2% cess on all construction work by the Government has been fully utilised for the welfare of construction workers:**
- (b) if so, the money collected and spent on welfare of workers during each of the last three years;**
- (c) whether the Government has issued/proposes to issue Universal Account Number (UAN) to construction workers for getting benefits under provisions of Employees Provident Fund Act: and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof State-wise along with the other measures taken by the Government for welfare of construction workers?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

**(a) & (b): The Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Cess Act, 1996, provides levy and collection of cess at such rate not exceeding two per cent but not less than one per cent of the cost of construction as the Central Government may notify. The cess has been levied and being collected at the rate of 1% of the cost of construction as notified by the Central Government in the Official Gazette.**

**Contd..2/-**

**The cumulative total of the amount of cess collected by the States/ UTs upto 20.12.2016, at the rate of 1% of the cost of construction is Rs. 31694 crore of which Rs. 6866 crore has been spent.**

**(c) & (d): Universal Account Number (UAN) allotted to construction workers is 50,09,413 as on 17.01.2017.**

**The Government has enacted the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996 and the Building and other Construction Workers' Welfare Cess Act, 1996 to regulate the employment and conditions of service of building and other construction workers and to provide for their safety, health and welfare measures.**

**The State Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Boards of the respective states have formulated welfare schemes to provide benefits to building and other construction workers as mandated under Section 22 of the Act. Section 22 of the Act stipulates following benefits:**

- (a) provide immediate assistance to a beneficiary in case of accident;**
- (b) make payment of pension to the beneficiaries who have completed the age of sixty years;**
- (c) 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;**
- (d) pay such amount in connection with premia for Group Insurance Scheme of the beneficiaries as it may deem fit;**
- (e) give such financial assistance for the education of children of the beneficiaries as may be prescribed;**
- (f) meet such medical expenses for treatment of major ailments of a beneficiary or, such dependent, as may be prescribed;**
- (g) make payment of maternity benefit to the female beneficiaries; and**
- (h) make provisions and improvement of such other welfare measures and facilities as may be prescribed.**

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2827  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.03.2017**

**EMPLOYEES IN ADHOC BASIS IN PSUs**

**†2827. SHRI HARINARAYAN RAJBHAR:**

**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) the total number of employees who have rendered their services in Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) on ad-hoc basis for more than 20 years;**
- (b) the steps taken by the Government to better the future of these employees;**
- (c) whether any pension related demand has been made by the labourers who have worked for so long; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the Government thereon?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

- (a): Such statistics is not maintained centrally.**
- (b): The ad-hoc employees working in Public Sector Undertakings are eligible for Social Security benefits. Their interests have been protected under various labour laws, strict implementation of which is ensured by issuing directions/instructions from time to time.**
- (c): No such demand has been received in this Ministry.**
- (d): Does not arise in view of reply to part (c) of the question above.**

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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3996  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.03.2017**

**EXPANSION OF EPF COVERAGE**

**3996. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA:**

**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has made or proposes to make it mandatory for all the units with more than 10 workers to provide PF cover to ensure social security to workers;**
- (b) if so, the details and the salient features thereof;**
- (c) the steps being taken for its implementation and the time by which it is likely to be implemented; and**
- (d) the additional number of employees likely to be benefited therefrom, State/UT-wise?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

**(a): No decision has been taken in this regard.**

**(b) to (d): Does not arise in view of reply to part (a) of the Question above.**

**\*\*\*\*\***

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4097  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.03.2017**

**BURDEN ON OFFICERS**

**4097. SHRIMATI RAKSHATAI KHADSE:**

**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government proposes to reduce the burden on the officers working under Ministry of Labour and Employment; and**  
**(b) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

**(a) & (b): Adequate numbers of officers are posted in the Ministry to handle the work as allocated under the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961. As such, there is no proposal to reduce the burden on the officers.**

**\*\*\*\*\***

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4123  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.03.2017**

**DEENDAYAL UPADHYAY SHRAMEV JAYATE KARYAKRAM**

**4123. SHRI RAJESHBHAI CHUDASAMA:  
SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWARA:**

**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) the workers provided with the facility of 'P F Account' under 'Deendayal Upadhyay Shramev Jayate Karyakram' in the country so far, State/UT-wise;**
- (b) whether several thousand crore of rupees are lying dormant in lakhs of PF accounts, if so, the details thereof along with the action plan formulated by Government to provide this amount to the genuine persons; and**
- (c) whether the Government has any proposal to divert this unclaimed amount for other purposes, if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

**(a): The facility of Provident Fund (PF) Account is not linked with Deendayal Upadhyay Shramev Jayate Karyakram. The employees are entitled to statutory provident fund benefits if they are engaged in any specified establishment under the provisions of Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions (EPF & MP) Act, 1952 and Schemes framed thereunder.**

**(b): There is no dormant amount in Employees' Provident Fund (EPF). However, as per para 72(6) of the Employees' Provident Funds Scheme, 1952, certain amounts are classified as Inoperative Accounts. All such Inoperative Accounts have, however, definite claimants. As on 31.03.2016, an amount of Rs. 40,865.14 crore has been classified as Inoperative Accounts.**

**The following actions have been taken by Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) to facilitate payments from Inoperative Accounts:**

**Contd..2/-**

- (i) **EPFO has launched a portal namely 'Inoperative Accounts Online Help Desk' to assist the members to identify their inoperative accounts.**
- (ii) **Awareness campaigns have been undertaken through electronic as well as print media from time to time to educate the members to transfer or withdraw their PF accumulations.**

**The total amount paid to the beneficiaries from inoperative accounts during the last four years is as under:**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Amount settled (Rs. in crore)</b>
<b>2012-13</b>	<b>2890.40</b>
<b>2013-14</b>	<b>4316.71</b>
<b>2014-15</b>	<b>6491.01</b>
<b>2015-16</b>	<b>5826.89</b>

**(c): No, Madam.**

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE  
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

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**LOK SABHA**  
**UN STARRED QUESTION NO. 5056**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON MARCH 31, 2017/CHAITRA 10, 1939 (SAKA)**  
**CONTRIBUTORY PROVIDENT FUND**

5056. Shri Sukhbir Singh Jaunapuria

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

- (a) the existing rate of pension under Contributory Provident Fund (CPF) pensioner in the country;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to increase the said rate;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether the Government has the data relating to the number of CPF pensioners in the country as on 31 March, 2016 and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance  
(Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar)

(a) to (d) No pension is admissible to Contributory Provident Fund (CPF) employees on their retirement. However, Ex-gratia is payable to CPF beneficiaries who retired before 01.01.1986 or died while in service before 01.01.1986. Presently following ex-gratia payment is admissible to the CPF beneficiaries who had retired from service prior to 01.01.1986:

S.No	Group of Service to which CPF retirees belonged at the time of retirement	Enhanced amount of basic monthly ex-gratia
1	Group A Service	Rs. 3,000/-
2	Group B Service	Rs. 1,000/-
3	Group C Service	Rs. 750/-
4	Group D Service	Rs. 650/-
5	Widows and dependent children of the deceased CPF beneficiary	Rs. 645/-

Dearness ex-gratia equal to 50% of the enhanced amount of ex-gratia and Dearness Relief of the 5<sup>th</sup> Pay Commission, as notified from time to time, on the sums of enhanced amounts of ex-gratia and dearness ex-gratia shall also be admissible to them. There is no proposal to increase the aforesaid rates.

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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5789  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.04.2017**

**HEALTH SAFETY SCHEME**

**5789. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY KOTHA:**

**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:**

**(a) whether the Government has extended or proposes to extend the benefits under the ESIC and EPF for construction workers in a phased manner; and**

**(b) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken in this regard?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

**(a) & (b): The employees of construction agencies/offices of builders were already covered under section 1 (5) of the Employees' State Insurance (ESI) Act. With effect from 01.08.2015, the benefits of the ESI Scheme to the construction site workers located in the implemented areas have also been extended. Similarly, the Employees' Provident Fund & Miscellaneous Provisions (EPF & MP) Act, 1952 is applicable to all the establishments engaged in building and construction industry and employing 20 or more persons w.e.f. 31.10.1980.**

**Accordingly, the social security benefits under EPF & MP Act as well as ESI Act are admissible to construction workers.**

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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5806  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.04.2017**

**LINKING OF AADHAAR CARDS WITH UNIVERSAL ACCOUNT NUMBER**

**5806. SHRIMATI KIRRON KHER:**

**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) the details and the number of Aadhaar cards linked to Universal Account Number (UAN) database of Employee's Provident Fund at present, State/UT-wise;**
- (b) whether the Government proposes a complete linking of Aadhaar cards with UAN; and**
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the time by which it is likely to be done and if not, the reasons therefor?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

**(a): The details of Aadhaar numbers linked with Universal Account Number (UAN) State/UT-wise are at Annex.**

**(b) & (c): Yes, Madam. The process is entirely online and a continuous activity and all new subscribers including those who are left out are consistently urged by the Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) through their respective employers to complete the uploading of their Aadhaar number to achieve complete linking of Aadhaar number with UAN.**

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**Annex**

**ANNEX REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5806 TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.04.2017 BY SHRIMATI KIRRON KHER REGARDING LINKING OF AADHAAR CARDS WITH UNIVERSAL ACCOUNT NUMBER**

**Status of Aadhaar cards linked**

Sl. No.	State	Contributing Members (As on 31.03.2016)	Aadhaar Nos. Linked
1	Andhra Pradesh	8,92,387	5,26,452
2	Bihar	2,88,521	84,833
3	Chhattisgarh	3,60,161	1,21,583
4	Delhi	24,92,295	11,90,325
5	Goa	1,64,211	83,272
6	Gujarat (including Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli)	24,97,818	12,25,346
7	Haryana	19,12,950	8,81,225
8	Himachal Pradesh	2,59,115	1,98,362
9	Jharkhand	4,23,030	2,28,253
10	Karnataka	45,61,741	22,00,893
11	Kerala	10,07,327	6,88,059
12	Madhya Pradesh	9,03,547	5,97,018
13	Maharashtra	74,99,726	31,70,270
14	North East Region (including Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Tripura, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur & Mizoram)	2,86,388	16,241
15	Odisha	6,77,821	2,34,796
16	Punjab (including Chandigarh)	9,88,937	7,06,990
17	Rajasthan	8,75,822	3,40,242
18	Tamil Nadu (including Puducherry)	45,27,430	13,17,319
19	Telangana	24,00,146	12,65,575
20	Uttar Pradesh	16,44,799	8,81,087
21	Uttarakhand	4,75,648	2,31,298
22	West Bengal	24,82,614	6,98,141
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,76,22,433</b>	<b>1,68,87,580</b>

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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5842  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.04.2017**

**EPFO APP**

**5842. SHRI A. ARUNMOZHITHEVAN:**

**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the EPFO is developing an App for pensioners and hope to roll it out early next year and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the said App is expected to reduce the enormous amount of paper work and time taken to process the applications and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the EPFO has also undertaken a massive effort to upgrade its technology so that subscribers are able to use its services online without any interface with officials at the EPFO; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

**(a) & (b): Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) is developing online claims settlement process by receiving application online. The application will be integrated with Unified Mobile App for New-age Governance (UMANG) App to receive the claims online. However, time frame to rollout the same has not been finalized.**

**(c) & (d): Yes, Madam. EPFO has engaged Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), Pune as its technical consultant for upgradation of its technology.**

**Necessary hardware by way of the latest technology for servers, storages & Networking equipments have been installed at three data centers in Delhi, Gurugram & Secunderabad.**

**The data centres at Gurugram and Secunderabad have been co-located through the data centre of Railtail Ltd. The data centre in Delhi is owned by EPFO itself.**

**EPFO has also opted for the very latest in software by installing the entire Operating System (OS) on Redhat stack. The data base also is the latest in terms of the release of Oracle viz Oracle 12C.**

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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5890  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.04.2017**

**EPFO INVESTMENT IN SPECIAL DEPOSIT SCHEME**

**5890. SHRIMATI VANAROJA R.:**

**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Employees Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) has made good use of its year end windfall from the Government's Special Deposit Scheme with an investment of nearly Rs.10,000 crore in top rated corporate bonds clinching best possible rates;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the EPFO earns an interest income of about Rs. 4,700 crore from the Government's Special Deposit Scheme while together with other standalone provident funds which may be more than Rs. 12,000 crore; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

**(a) & (b): Presently, Government's Special Deposit Scheme is not available for investment. However, as on December, 2016, Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has an investment of Rs. 54,518.11 crore in Special Deposit Scheme of the Government.**

**During the financial year 2016-17, EPFO has invested in top rated Corporate bonds on various occasions. Those companies include Rural Electrification Corporation (REC), Power Finance Corporation (PFC), National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) & National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD).**

**(c) & (d): The details of interest income from Government's Special Deposit Scheme of other standalone provident funds are not maintained centrally. However, the details of interest income of EPFO from Government's Special Deposit Scheme for the last three years are as under:**

- 1. 2016-17 : Rs. 4484 crore**
- 2. 2015-16 : Rs. 4741 crore**
- 3. 2014-15 : Rs. 4734 crore**

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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**LOK SABHA**

**STARRED QUESTION NO. 508  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.04.2017**

**REVIEW OF EPF SCHEME**

**\*508. SHRI K.N. RAMACHANDRAN:**

**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has undertaken any review/proposes to review the Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) Scheme;**
- (b) if so, the details and the findings thereof along with the follow-up action taken thereon;**
- (c) whether the Government has received representations/proposals from various quarters in this regard; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

**(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.**

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 508 TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.04.2017 BY SHRI K.N. RAMACHANDRAN REGARDING REVIEW OF EPF SCHEME.**

**(a) & (b):** Review of Employees' Provident Funds (EPF) Scheme, 1952 is an ongoing process based on the changing socio-economic scenario to safeguard the interests of workers. On the basis of review of the Scheme, various amendments to the Scheme have been carried out in the recent past, which, inter alia, are as follows:-

**(i)** Reduction of Administrative Charges payable by the Employer for the purpose of paragraph 30 and sub-paragraph (1) of paragraph 38 of the Employees' Provident Funds (EPF) Scheme, 1952 from 0.85 per cent to 0.65 per cent of the pay.

**(ii)** Allowing private sector banks to collect statutory dues under Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions (EPF & MP) Act, 1952 electronically through internet banking.

**(iii)** An Employees' Enrolment Campaign was launched for the period 01.01.2017 to 31.03.2017 which has now been extended upto 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017. During the Campaign, various financial incentives are being offered to establishments to enrol their workers.

**(iv)** The Government, vide notification no. G.S.R.1065 (E) dated 11<sup>th</sup> November, 2016 has amended Paragraph 72(6) of the Scheme wherein changes have been made in the conditions leading to becoming an account as an Inoperative Account.

**(v)** The Government, vide notification no. G.S.R. 1035 (E) dated 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2016 has amended the EPF Scheme, 1952 providing that the worker who is a Nepalese national on account of Treaty of Peace and Friendship of 1950 and the worker who is a Bhutanese national on account of India-Bhutan Friendship Treaty of 2007 shall be deemed to be an Indian Worker.

**(c) & (d):** Representations from various quarters/stakeholders are received for review/amendment of EPF Scheme, 1952. The suggestions so received are considered while carrying out amendment to the Scheme.

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