

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1680
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2011
PENSION FOR WORKERS OF UNORGANISED SECTOR
Muttamwar Shri Vilas Baburao

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

- (a) whether the Government has introduced any pension scheme namely Swavalamban for the workers of unorganised sector in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the date of its take off;
- (c) the number of workers likely to be benefited by this scheme initially and the time by which it is likely to be implemented country wide; and
- (d) the number of States which have shown interest in the scheme and the extent to which they have expressed their desire to contribute in it?

Answer

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT(SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE)

(a) to (c) : To encourage the workers of unorganised sector to voluntarily save for their retirement and to lower the cost of operations of the New Pension System (NPS) for such subscribers, the Central Government announced a co-contributory pension scheme 'Swavalamban' in the Union Budget 2010-11. The Government of India (GoI) will contribute a sum of Rs. 1,000 to each eligible NPS subscriber who contributes a minimum of Rs. 1,000 and maximum Rs. 12,000 per annum under the Swavalamban Scheme. The GoI contribution has been announced for the current year and the next three years i.e. upto the year 2013-14. The Government has targetted to cover around 10 lakh subscribers each during the 4 years of the Scheme, totaling to around 40 lakh subscribers. The Swavalamban Scheme has been launched on 26.09.2010 and workers of unorganised sector from any part of the country can join this Scheme. The Interim Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) has been mandated by the Government to implement the Swavalamban Scheme all over the country.

(d): In response to the appeal of the Finance Minister in his Budget Speech 2010-11, the State Governments of Haryana and Karnataka have also announced a co-contributory scheme for some specified occupational groups in the un-organised sectors, wherein a sum of Rs. 1,200 per annum will be contributed by these State Governments to the accounts of eligible subscribers of the respective state, over and above the contribution of the Central Government and the individual subscribers.