

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5001

ANSWERED ON:07.05.2012

UNORGANISED SECTOR WORKERS

Deo Shri Kalikesh Narayan Singh;Pakirappa Shri S.;Panda Shri Baijayant;Rani Killi Krupa;Singh Rajkumari Ratna;Yadav Shri M. Anjan Kumar

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

- (a) the number of workers employed in the unorganised sector in the country;
- (b) the percentage of elderly and women employees in each sector alongwith the workforce covered by pension scheme;
- (c) whether the Government has made any assessment regarding the deteriorating health conditions of labourers in the unorganised sector; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the measures being taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR & EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE)

(a): According to the survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) during 2009-10, the number of workers employed in the unorganised sector was 43.7 crore.

(b): Sector-wise number of unorganised workers is not available. As on 29.02.2012, more than 1.90 crore person have availed benefits under Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS).

(c) & (d): Though no assessment regarding the deteriorating health conditions of labourers in the unorganized sector has been made, with a view to providing healthcare for the poor, the Government launched the Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY). Under the scheme, a smart card based cashless health insurance cover of Rs. 30000 per annum on a family floater basis is provided to BPL families (a unit of five) in the unorganised sector. The scheme became operational from 01.04.2008. More than 2.94 crore BPL families have been covered under the scheme as on 30.04.2012.

RSBY has been extended to building and other construction workers {registered under the Building and other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Condition of Service)} Act, 1996}, street vendors, beedi workers, MGNREGA beneficiaries (who have worked for more than 15 days during the preceding financial year) and domestic workers.