

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4799
ANSWERED ON:04.05.2012
EMPLOYEES ENGAGED IN POWER PLANTS
Patle Kamla Devi

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of contract workers, labourers engaged in power plants including those of National Thermal Power Corporation Limited (NTPC) and its subsidiary companies in the country alongwith the manner in which wages are paid to these workers/labourers, State-wise and company-wise;
- (b) the details of social security facilities like those of provident fund, medical, leave etc. being provided to them;
- (c) whether large number of workers/labourers working on contract basis in these subsidiary companies are not being provided Provident Fund account number;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (e) the amount deducted to this effect from their salaries during the last three years and the current year, company-wise; and
- (f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to protect the interests of the contract workers/labourers and provide Provident Fund account number to them?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL)

- (a): Contract workers/labourers are engaged on need basis in power plants. They are engaged through appropriate agencies with no relaxation in labour laws/rules.
- (b): Contracting agencies have to provide entitled social security to the workmen. These entitlements are also subject to scrutiny by authority enforcing labour laws.
- (c): The contracting agencies executing the work have been allotted independent Provident Fund Code by respective Regional Provident Fund Commissioner for ensuring compliance of Provident Fund Provisions as per the Act in respect of workers/labourers engaged by such agencies.
- (d): Does not arise.
- (e): The details of the amount deducted are maintained by the contracting agencies, as per the regulations provided by EPF.
- (f): In order to facilitate compliance of statutory provisions, it is ensured that contract is awarded to only such agencies having Provident Fund code under EPF&MP Act. The Central power companies ensure that the provisions of labour laws are adhered to in respect of the contract labourers engaged in the power plants including payment of wages, PF and other facilities during release of running bill/final payment to the contracting agencies providing the contract workers, by cross checking the records. Workers have right to seek adjudication through Central Labour Laws enforcing agencies.