GOVERNMENT OF INDIA LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2642
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2012
UNORGANISED SECTOR WORKERS
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Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the State-wise details of the workers presently working in the organized and unorganized sectors in the country;
- (b) whether the condition of the workers of unorganized sector which provides a large number of employment is more pitiable than those of the organized sector;
- (c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (d) the measures being taken by the Government for the welfare and to improve the condition of the workers of the unorganized sector; and
- (e) the amount provided for the said purpose, State-wise and year-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH)

- (a) As per the survey carried out by the National Sample Survey Organization in the year 2009-2010, the total employment in both organized and unorganized sector in the country was of the order of 46.5 crore. Out of this, about 2.8 crore (6%) were in the organized sector and the balance 43.7 crore (94%) in the unorganized sector. State-wise employment in the organized sector, as 31st March 2010 is at Annexure-I. However, data on State-wise workers in unorganized sector is not maintained.
- (b) to (d) The unorganized sector workers suffer from cycles of excessive seasonality of employment, lack of a formal employeremployee relationship and absence of social security protection. With a view to providing social security to unorganized workers, the Government enacted the `Unorganized Workers` Social Security Act, 2008`. The Act provides for constitution of National Social Security Board at the central level to recommend social security schemes viz. life and disability cover, health and maternity benefits, old age protection and any other benefit as may be determined by the Government for unorganized workers. The Government has initiated steps in the context of all these social security benefits.

The Government launched the Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY) to provide smart card based cashless health insurance, including maternity benefit, cover of Rs. 30,000/- per annum on family floater basis to BPS- families (a unit of five) in the unorganized sector. The scheme became operational from 01.04.2008. The scheme is presently being implemented in 26 States/ Union Territories and more than 3.31 crore smart cards have been issued as on 30.11.2012.

The Aam Admi Bima Yojana (AABY) was launched on 02.10.2007 with a view to providing insurance cover to the head of family or one earning member of rural landless households. The scheme is being implemented through the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), Under the scheme, the head of the family or an earning member of the family is eligible to receive the benefits of Rs. 30000/-in case of natural death, Rs.75000/- accidental death, Rs.75000/- for total permanent disability and Rs. 37500/- for partial permanent disability. More than 1.77 crore lives are covered under AABY as on 31.10.2012.

The Government has been implementing Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS), which has been expanded by revising the criteria of eligibility. All citizens above the age of 60 years and living below poverty line are eligible for benefits under the scheme. For persons above the age of 80 years, the amount of pension has been raised from Rs. 200 to Rs. 500 per month. More than 2.27 crore persons have availed benefits under the scheme as on 31.10.2012.

(e) State-wise and year-wise, central funds released to States/UTs under Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY) is at Annexure-II.

A sum of Rs. 1000 crore was allocated under AABY Premium Fund during the financial year 2007-2008 and placed with Life Insurance Corporation of India. During 2008-09, an additional sum of Rs. 1000 crore was allocated to augment the AABY Fund to meet the target coverage under AABY Scheme.

Funds are released to States/UTs combined for National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), of which IGNOAPS is a component and no separate allocation for IGNOAPS is made.