

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2016
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2013
NON ACCESSIBILITY OF PF ACCOUNT
Mani Shri Jose K.

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

- (a) whether more than Rs. 25,000 crores is lying idle with the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) covering Provident Fund (PF) deductions made by contractors from the wages of contract workers;
- (b) whether many such PF accounts of contract workers are inoperable and not accessible to its beneficiaries;
- (c) if so, whether the Government has any plan to launch an awareness drive to sensitise the contract workers on the PF money;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the EPFO will also mandate inclusion of the PF Registration Codes in every Identity Card issued to contract workers; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a): No, Madam,

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

(c) & (d): Employees' Provident Fund & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 and the Schemes framed thereunder do not distinguish between regular employees and contract workers.

It has been Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO)'s constant endeavor to make all the employees, enrolled under the Act, aware about the procedures to deal with Provident Fund money.

Directions have recently been issued by EPFO to the field offices across the country for holding public meetings, seminars, workshops, educational camps with employers' associations and workers' unions to publicize the initiatives and ongoing activities benefiting the labourers including contract labourers.

Procedural simplifications have been made for quick settlement of claims of the members and transfer their Provident Fund moneys to their individual bank accounts as per details given belows-

a) Process of settlement of claims made efficient by reducing the process of approval to two levels.

b) National Electronic Fund Transfer (NEFT) facility has been started to expedite the transfer of funds directly to the members' bank account.

c) The member is kept informed of status of his claim as indicated in the above two steps through SMS, if he provides his mobile number at the time of submitting claim.

Facility of e-Passbook has also been provided on the website of the EPFO. After registering himself on the EPFO website, PF member can view or take a printout of his PF statement.

(e): No, Madam.

(f): Does not arise in view of reply to Part (e) of the Question above.