

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2014  
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2015  
MIGRATION OF WORKERS  
Sonker Smt. Neelam

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

- (a) whether the Government intends to review the existing Labour Policy to check the migration of skilled and unskilled workers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the minimum wage fixation policy for such migrant workers in the country;
- (d) whether the future of workers is not secure due to the contract policy in the country and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (e) whether the Government has formulated pension policy for securing the future of the workers of unorganized sector; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)

(a): No, Madam.

(b): Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c): Migrant workers are entitled to the minimum wages prescribed for various scheduled employments under the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948.

(d): There is no contract policy of the country as such. For protection of migrant labourers, there is a system of registration and ensuring certain benefits and facilities by the registered contractor which inter- alia includes minimum wage at the destination state. For labourers engaged by contractors, the scale of compensation shall not be less than the minimum wage as per law. The machinery of Chief Labour Commissioner of the Ministry of Labour & Employment and that of the State Government conduct regular inspection and visits to work sites to ensure that the facilities and wages spelt out in the The Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979 and Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970 - are available to the workers. Although the liabilities to ensure payment of wages and other benefits is primarily that of the contractor, in case of default on his or her part, the principal employer becomes liable.

The interests of these workers in terms of other service conditions are safeguarded under various other social welfare legislations such as Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972; Employees' Provident Fund & Misc. Provisions Act, 1952; Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995; Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948; Minimum Wages Act, 1948; Payment of Wages Act, 1936; Maternity Benefit Act, 1961; Equal Remuneration Act, 1976; Payment of Bonus Act, 1965; Workmen Compensation Act, 1923; Mines Act, 1952 and Factories Act, 1948, wherever they apply to contract and migrant labourers.

(e) & (f): The Central Government launched a co-contributory pension scheme namely Swavalamban Pension Scheme in 2010-11 for the workers in the unorganized sector. Under this scheme, the Government contributes a sum of Rs.1000/- to each eligible NPS subscriber who contributes a minimum of Rs.1000/- and maximum Rs.12000/- per annum. The scheme is implemented by the Department of Financial Services through the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA). The objective of the scheme is to provide at least Rs. 1000/- per month of pension upon attaining the age of 60 years.