GOVERNMENT OF INDIA LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4608 ANSWERED ON:11.08.2014 SOCIAL SECURITY Patil Shri Bheemrao Baswanthrao

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

(a) whether the Unorganised Workers Social Security Act, 2008 has not been implemented properly and the workers of unorganised sectors do not have access to the social security benefits as per the Act;

- (b)if so, whether the National Social Security Board (NSB) for unorganized workers does not have sufficient power to implement, monitor or enforce the said Act;
- (c)if so, whether the Government has proposed to give more powers to NSB so as to implement the schemes meant for unorganised workers;
- (d)if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e)the total number of social benefit schemes being implemented by the Government under this Act since its inception?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR STEEL, MINES, LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI)

- (a) to (d): With a view to providing social security to unorganized workers, the Government enacted the `Unorganised 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 functions of National Board, inter alia, include:
- 1. to recommend to the Central Government suitable schemes for different sections of unorganised workers;
- 2. monitor the implementation of schemes; and
- 3. advise the Central Government on matters arising out of the administration of the Act.

There has also a provision for constitution of similar Boards at the State level. The Status of Implementation of Unorganised Workers` Social Security Act, 2008 at the State Level is at Annexure A.

- (e): Government has already taken various steps to provide social security for the unorganized workers. Some of these schemes are listed as under:
- 1. Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (Ministry of Rural Development).
- 2. National Family Benefit Scheme (Ministry of Rural Development).
- 3. Janani Suraksha Yojana (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare).
- 4. Handloom Weavers' Comprehensive Welfare Scheme (Ministry of Textiles).
- 5. Handicraft Artisans` Comprehensive Welfare Scheme (Ministry of Textiles).
- 6. Pension to Master Craft Persons (Ministry of Textiles).
- 7. National Scheme for Welfare of Fishermen and Training and Extension (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries).
- 8. Janshree Bima Yojana and Aam Admi Bima Yojana (Department of Financial Services).
- 9. Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (Ministry of Labour and Employment).