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Title: Need to provide adequate wages and ensure proper extension of social security schemes to the workers engaged on contract basis in Southern Railways.

SHRI M.B. RAJESH (PALAKKAD): I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the pathetic condition of workers engaged on contract basis for cleaning Railway premises including station, platforms etc in the Southern Railways. There workers are not paid the prescribed minimum wages. Further 13% of their meagre wages is deducted in the name of contribution towards EPF and ESI. However no proof of this remittance is given to labourers. The poor workers are deprived of social security benefits including treatment in hospitals. The authorities are turning a blind eye to the complaints of non payment of minimum wages and remittance of EPF, ESI contribution. Hence, I request the Hon'ble Railway Minister to look into this issue and take urgent steps to ensure minimum wages are paid to these workers. I further demand a considerable hike in the wages and also to regularize all contract workers.