

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

**STARRED QUESTION NO. 439
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.03.2018**

TEA GARDEN WORKERS

***439. SHRI RAM PRASAD SARMAH:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has unveiled any scheme to pay sufficient compensation to the dependents of labourers of Tea Garden in case of death of the present or Ex-Tea garden worker;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Government has any policy/scheme for social and economic security of Tea Garden workers; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)**

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 439 FOR 26.03.2018 BY SHRI RAM PRASAD SARMAH REGARDING “TEA GARDEN WORKERS”.

(a) & (b): No, Madam. However, under the Employees’ Compensation Act, 1923 which is applicable to organised tea plantations, there is a provision for compensation to the dependents of worker.

(c) & (d): The Plantation Labour Act, 1951 mandates the tea estates to provide basic welfare services and amenities viz. housing, medical and primary education, water supply, sanitation etc. to the tea garden workers. Moreover, the workers of the tea industry are covered by all social security legislations like the Employees’ Compensation Act, 1923, the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972, the Employees’ Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952, the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965, the Maternity Benefit Act 1961, the Payment of Wages Act, 1936, the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976, the Assam Tea Plantation Provident Fund, Pension Fund and Deposit Link Insurance Fund Scheme Act 1955 – only for Assam.

Besides, the government implements through the Tea Board various welfare activities for tea plantation workers and their dependants in tea estates. The welfare activities undertaken by the Tea Board under the Human Resource Development (HRD) Scheme aim at improving the health and hygiene of workers, education of wards of workers and imparting training to improve skills for growers/workers.
