GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 436 TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.08.2013

FUNCTIONING OF MULTI FUND MANAGERS IN EPFO

436. SHRI C. M. RAMESH:

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

- (a)whether there is a well established and proper mechanism to oversee the functioning of Multi Fund Managers namely, HSBC AMC, ICICI Prudential AMC, SBI and Reliance Capital AMC, appointed for managing the corpus of Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO); and
- (b)if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The functioning of the Portfolio Managers are overseen in the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) under the guidance of an independent external consultant, M/s Credit Rating Information Services of India Limited (CRISIL). A dynamic benchmark is prepared by M/s CRISIL with reference to which performance of the Portfolio Managers is monitored. M/s CRSIL also assists in evaluation of performance of the four Portfolio Managers on quarterly basis. Besides, an independent external Concurrent Auditor is appointed to monitor adherence to the prescribed Investment Pattern & Investment Guidelines by these Portfolio Managers.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 437 TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.08.2013

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PENSION TO RETIRED EMPLOYEES COVERED UNDER PF SCHEME

437. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI:

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

- (a)when the Ministry has submitted for giving pension to all those retired employees who are covered under Provident Fund Scheme;
- (b)whether it is a fact that Government is working on giving pension to the tune of Rs. 1000 per month to all those who are covered by Provident Fund;
- (c)if so, the details thereof; and
- (d)what would be the burden on Government once this proposal is fructified?

ANSWER

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

- (a): The Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 came into effect from 16th November, 1995 replacing the erstwhile Employees Family Pension Scheme, 1971, which inter-alia provides superannuation/retirement and family pension.
- (b) to (d): Yes, Sir. In order to secure a minimum pension of Rs. 1,000/- per month under Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS), 1995 to the member pensioners, the present Government contribution to EPS, 1995 is required to be raised from the existing 1.16% to 1.79% of wages thereby increasing the Government's present contribution from approximate Rs.990 crore per annum to Rs.1533 crore per annum in the first year. An analysis of the trend in the contribution made by the Central Government suggests that the contribution of the Central Government has been increasing at an average of 10-15% per annum over the last five years.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

RAJYA SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO. 127 TO BE ANSERED ON 14.08.2013

IMPLEMENTATION OF MINIMUM PENSION FOR RETIRED WORKERS IN MADHYA PRADESH

*127. DR. CHANDAN MITRA:

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

- (a)whether it is a fact that about 610 million retired workers receive a paltry pension of Rs. 250 per month from the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO);
- (b)whether Government proposes to ensure that all EPF subscribers get minimum pension of Rs. 1000 per month and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c)by when the proposal is likely to be implemented, especially in Madhya Pradesh?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SIS RAM OLA)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House,

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.127 FOR 14.08.2013 REGARDING 'IMPLEMENTATION OF MINIMUM PENSION IN MADHYA PRADESH' BY DR. CHANDAN MITRA.

- (a): As on 31.03.2012, out of 40.44 lakh pensioners of Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS), 1995 under the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO), 2.92 lakh pensioners are drawing a pension of less than Rs.250/- permonth.
- (b) & (c): A proposal to ensure a minimum pension of Rs.1000/- to the member pensioners of EPS, 1995 all over the country, including Madhya Pradesh, is under consideration of the Government.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

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RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1044 TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.08.2013

CONTRACT WORKERS' PF CODE ON THEIR IDENTITY CARDS

1044. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM:

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

- (a)whether the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) is holding a large sum of Rs. 25,000 crores, deducted and deposited by contractors on account of wages paid to their contract labour;
- (b)if so, whether most of the accounts under this category are inseparable and not accessible to beneficiaries;
- (c)whether Government would take steps to sensitise the contract labourers about EPF and simplify the procedures to deal with the PF money; and
- (d)whether EPFO is planning to make it mandatory for all Government agencies to have their contract workers' PF codes embedded on their identity cards?

ANSWER

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

- (a): No, Sir.
- (b): Does not arise in view of reply to Part (a) of the Question above.
- (c): Employees' Provident Fund & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 and the Schemes framed thereunder do not distinguish between regular employees and contract workers.

It has been 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 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 below:-

- a) Process of settlement of claims have been 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.

(d): No such proposal is under consideration of the Government.