GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 251 TO BE ANSWERED ON 08TH DECEMBER, 2022

BENEFICIARIES UNDER ABRY

251. SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR:

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

- (a) The number of beneficiaries under the Atmanirbhar Bharat Rojgar Yojana (ABRY) in various States including Uttar Pradesh; and
- (b) (b) the details of funds allocated, sanctioned and released under ABRY in the country along with the achievement made in providing employment to the youth of the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAMESWAR TELI)

- (a) The number of beneficiaries under the Atmanirbhar Bharat Rojgar Yojana (ABRY) in various states including Uttar Pradesh is at Annexure.
- (b) An amount of Rs. 6400 Crore has been allocated during the financial year 2022-23 for the scheme. Since inception of the scheme, till 28.11.2022, an amount of Rs. 8180.00 Crore has been sanctioned and benefits of Rs. 7855.07 Crore have been provided to 60.13 lakhs beneficiaries under the scheme.

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 251 due for reply on 08.12.2022

Number of Beneficiaries State-Wise (As on 28.11.2022)			
State Name	Number of Beneficiary Establishments	Number of Beneficiary Employees	
ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR	36	477	
ISLANDS ANDHRA PRADESH	4025	166059	
ARUNACHAL PRADESH	17	514	
ASSAM	659	19751	
BIHAR	1205	27951	
CHANDIGARH	1575	64467	
CHATTISGARH	2929	84814	
DELHI	3128	225942	
GOA	538	20812	
GUJARAT	15484	641689	
HARYANA	7604	397214	
HIMACHAL PRADESH	2151	83058	
JAMMU AND KASHMIR	885	19339	
JHARKHAND	2232	62492	
KARNATAKA	10933	483494	
KERALA	2716	95923	
LADAKH	16	186	
MADHYA PRADESH	6202	203996	
MAHARASHTRA	22336	974021	
MANIPUR	56	1409	
MEGHALAYA	37	1208	
MIZORAM	15	377	
NAGALAND	17	234	
ORISSA	4176	89023	
PUNJAB	6507	170237	
RAJASTHAN	11412	325050	
SIKKIM	112	3763	
TAMIL NADU	16615	812807	
TELANGANA	5349	281114	
TRIPURA	150	5440	
UTTAR PRADESH	12350	430552	
UTTARAKHAND	2409	93180	
WEST BENGAL	7654	226239	
Grand Total	151,530	6,012,832	

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 258 TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.12.2022

VALIDITY OF EMPLOYEES' PENSION (AMENDMENT) SCHEME, 2014

258. SHRI M. SHANMUGAM:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

- (a)whether the Supreme Court gave an order recently upholding the validity of Employees' Pension (Amendment) Scheme, 2014, while removing the cut-off date in the 2014 amendments;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c)whether Government has formulated a policy in view of the judgement and the scheme for implementing it;
- (d)whether any consultation is being made with the trade union organisations for the effective implementation of the scheme and to remove doubts, if any; and
- (e)if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAMESWAR TELI)

(a) to (e): The Hon'ble Supreme Court, in its judgment dated 04.11.2022 has held that the provisions contained in the notification no. G.S.R. 609 (E) dated 22nd August 2014 are legal and valid. The directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the judgement are under examination.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1049 TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.12.2022

REVIEW OF EMPLOYEES' PENSION SCHEME

1049. SHRI MASTHAN RAO BEEDA:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

- (a)whether it is a fact that Government constituted a highempowered monitoring committee in 2018 for evaluation and review of the Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS);
- (b) whether Government has implemented the recommendations made by the committee;
- (c)if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d)whether Government has undertaken any other reforms with respect to the functioning of EPS; and
- (e)if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAMESWAR TELI)

- (a) to (c): Yes, Sir. As per recommendations made by High Empowered Monitoring Committee constituted by the Government for complete evaluation and review of Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995, the Government vide Notification G.S.R. No. 132(E) dated 20.02.2020 has implemented a recommendation regarding restoration to normal pension after completion of fifteen years from the date of such commutation, in respect of those members who availed the benefit of commutation of pension under the erstwhile paragraph 12A of this Scheme, on or before the 25th day of September, 2008. However, no decision has been taken to increase the minimum pension under EPS, 1995 from Rs.1,000/- to Rs.2,000/- per month, as recommended by the High Empowered Monitoring Committee.
- (d) & (e): Review and revision of schemes is an ongoing process. Section 15 of the Code on Social Security, 2020 notified on 29.09.2020, which subsumes 9 Central labour laws, including the Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 envisages to frame various schemes including pension for the employees and their family members. However, the said Code has not yet to come into force.

Ministry of Finance

Department of Expenditure

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1500

TO BE ANSWERED ON 20TH DECEMBER, 2022/29 AGRAHAYANA, 1944 (SAKA)

Decline to increase EPFO pensions

QUESTION

1500: Shri Muzibulla Khan:

Will the Minister of *Finance* be pleased to state:

- (a) why the Ministry of Finance has turned down a recommendation from the Ministry of Labour to increase EPFO's pension;
- (b) if no increase in pensions is expected, how Government plans to support pensioners during these tough times; and
- (c) whether there is any relief expected, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE

(SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHARY)

- (a) Keeping in view the huge financial implications, fiscal constraints aggravated by Covid-19 and burden on Central Exchequer, increase in EPFO pension was not found feasible.
- (b) & (C) The Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS), 1995 is a Defined Contribution- Defined Benefit Social Security Scheme. The corpus of the employees' pension fund is made up of (i) contribution by the employer @ 8.33 percent of wages; and (ii) contribution from Central Government through budgetary support @ 1.16 percent of wages, upto an amount of Rs. 15000/- per month. All benefits under the scheme are paid out of such accumulations. The fund is valued annually as mandated under paragraph 32 of the EPS, 1995. Since the year 2000, the fund ran into actuarial deficit. However, the government, for the first time in the year 2014, provided a minimum pension of Rs.1000/- per month to the pensioners under EPS, 1995 by providing budgetary support which was in addition to the budgetary support of 1.16% of wages provided annually towards EPS to Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO).

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1855 TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.12.2022

SUPREME COURT VERDICT ON EPF PENSION SCHEME

1855. SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware about the Supreme Court verdict of 4th November on EPF Pension Scheme;
- (b)by when Government will implement this verdict and instruct the EPFO to take actions for giving higher pension; and
- (c) the quantum of the corpus fund available with the EPFO till date?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAMESWAR TELI)

- (a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the judgment are under examination.
- (c): The details of the corpus available with the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation, as on 31.03.2022, are as under:

SI. No.	Name of the Scheme	Amount (Rs. In crore)
1	Employees' Provident Fund Scheme, 1952	11,37,096.72
2	Employees' Pension Scheme,	6,89,210.72
3	Employees' Deposit-Linked Insurance Scheme, 1976	37,828.56
TOTAL	<u> </u>	18,64,136.00

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1862 TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.12.2022

SUPREME COURT JUDGEMENT ON EPF PENSION SCHEME

1862. DR. JOHN BRITTAS:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

- (a)whether the Supreme Court has stipulated a time frame for Government to act on the judgement on EPF Pension Scheme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the response thereto; and
- (c) the effect of the Supreme Court judgement on EPF and the social security measures for the workers, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAMESWAR TELI)

- (a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The Hon'ble Supreme Court, in its judgment dated 04.11.2022 has prescribed different sets of timelines to implement the directions as under:
 - i. Six months to address the lack of statutory basis for the requirement of employees to pay 1.16% additional contribution.
 - ii. Four months to exercise option under paragraph 11(4) of the scheme by all the employees who did not exercise option but were entitled to do but could not due to the interpretation on cut-off date by the authorities.
 - iii.Eight weeks to implement the directives contained in the judgment dated 04.10.2016 of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in R. C. Gupta case relating to interpretation of the proviso to paragraph 11(3) (pre-amendment) of the Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995.
- (c): The said judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court has legal, financial, actuarial and logistical implications.