

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

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 418  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.07.2017**

**SETTLEMENT OF PF/EPF, ETC. ON RETIREMENT**

**418. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to settle the PF/EPF, Gratuity etc. of retiring person on the day of retirement itself; and**  
**(b) if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

**(a) & (b): Directions have been issued by Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) to all its field offices to make the payment of Provident Fund and Pension to members of Employees' Provident Funds (EPF) Scheme, 1952 and Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS), 1995 on the date of retirement itself.**

**As regards settlement of gratuity, as per Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972, the employer shall arrange to pay the amount of gratuity within thirty days from the date it becomes payable to the person to whom the gratuity is payable.**

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

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 427  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.07.2017**

**PROPOSAL TO BRING PRIVATE PROVIDENT FUND TRUSTS UNDER  
EPFO**

**427. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY:**

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to bring about hundreds of private Provident Fund Trusts under Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO); and**  
**(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

**(a) & (b): No, Sir. However, private Provident Fund Trusts which have taken exemption under the Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions (EPF & MP) Act, 1952 are under monitoring and control of Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO).**

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MINISTRY OF FINANCE  
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS  
(BUDGET DIVISION)

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1069

TO BE ANSWERED ON TUESDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2017/SHRAVANA 3, 1939 (SAKA)

“LOYALTY BENEFIT TO EPF SUBSCRIBERS”

**1069.** SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS:  
SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN:  
DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU:  
SHRI T.G. VENKATESH:

**QUESTION**

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Government has accepted the recommendation of EPFO for payment of Loyalty Benefit scheme to its subscribers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether it is also a fact that there is a slab system in payment of this Loyalty Benefit Scheme, if so, the details thereof ?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE  
(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

- (a) : No, Sir.
- (b)&(c): Question does not arise.

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1214  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.07.2017**

**INVESTMENT OF EPFO FUNDS IN ETFS**

**1214. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) invested Rs. 6577 crores in the first year i.e. 2015-16 while the figure for 2016-17 was Rs. 14,982 crores in Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs);
- (b) if so, details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the EPFO is considering to invest a sum of Rs. 20,000 crores in ETFs during 2017-18; and
- (d) if so, details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

(a) & (b): The details of investment in Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) are as under:

**2015-16 (Fig. in Rs. Crore)**

|                         |              |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| <b>SBI Nifty 50 ETF</b> | <b>4,922</b> |
| <b>SBI Sensex ETF</b>   | <b>1,655</b> |
| <b>Total</b>            | <b>6,577</b> |

**2016-17 (Fig in Rs. Crore)**

|                         |               |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| <b>SBI Nifty 50 ETF</b> | <b>7,912</b>  |
| <b>SBI Sensex ETF</b>   | <b>2,691</b>  |
| <b>UTI Nifty 50 ETF</b> | <b>1,911</b>  |
| <b>UTI Sensex ETF</b>   | <b>662</b>    |
| <b>CPSE ETF</b>         | <b>1,808</b>  |
| <b>Total</b>            | <b>14,984</b> |

(c) & (d): The investment limit in ETFs has been recommended to be raised from 10 per cent to 15 per cent by the Central Board of Trustees, Employees Provident Fund in its 218<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 27.05.2017. Accordingly the estimated investment in ETF for the current Financial Year is approximately Rs. 22,500 crore.

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2019  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.08.2017**

**AGREEMENTS WITH BANKS FOR EASY DEPOSIT AND WITHDRAWALS  
OF EPF CONTRIBUTIONS**

**2019. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO:**

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

- (a) whether Government has made agreements with banks for easy deposit and withdrawals of Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) contributions;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) the details of banks which have entered into agreements with Government for such transactions; and**
- (d) whether such agreements will reduce the administrative expenses of Government?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

**(a) to (d): The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has tied up/entered into agreement with ten banks to collect EPFO dues and to make payments of Provident Fund (PF) withdrawals, pension and insurance to EPFO beneficiaries. These banks are State Bank of India, Punjab National Bank, Indian Bank, Allahabad Bank, Union Bank of India, Bank of Baroda, HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, Axis Bank and Kotak Mahindra Bank.**

**The main objective of the multi banking arrangement is to provide more options to the employers to remit the Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) contribution directly from their bank accounts. This will not only make the transactions cost effective but also ensure real time transfer of funds through net banking.**

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

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2020  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.08.2017**

**UNIVERSAL ACCOUNT NUMBER TO PERSONS EMPLOYED IN  
UNORGANIZED SECTOR**

**2020. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN:**

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

- (a) whether Government was able to provide Universal Account Number (UAN) to all those who are employed in unorganised sector;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and modalities adopted by Government to ascertain the number of persons engaged in unorganized sector; and**
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

**(a) to (c): Universal Account Number (UAN) is allotted by Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) to the workers covered under the Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952.**

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

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2026  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.08.2017**

**SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS TO WORKERS THROUGH LABOUR CODE**

**2026. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to introduce a labour code which will provide social security cover to the entire workforce in the country, including self-employed and agricultural workers;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government intends to provide social security benefits to 45 crore workers; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

**(a) to (d): The Second National Commission on Labour has recommended that the existing Labour Laws should be broadly grouped into four or five Labour Codes on functional basis. Accordingly, the Ministry has taken steps for drafting four Labour Codes on Wages; Industrial Relations; Social Security & Welfare; and Safety and Working Conditions respectively, by simplifying, amalgamating and rationalizing the relevant provisions of the existing Central Labour Laws. Ministry of Labour and Employment has prepared a preliminary draft on Labour Code on Social Security 2017 by simplifying, amalgamating and rationalizing the relevant provisions of the 15 existing Central Labour Laws and placed on the website of the Ministry on 16.3.2017, inviting comments of the public/stakeholders. The provisions of the Code on Social Security 2017 are under consideration.**

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

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2028  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.08.2017**

**CALCULATION OF AVERAGE PENSIONABLE SALARY BY EPFO**

**2028. SHRI D. RAJA:**

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

- (a) whether Government has noticed discrimination in Circular No. pension-1/12/33/EPS amendment 96/Vol-II/34007 dated 23rd March, 2017 whereby Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has exempted Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) members who are drawing pensionable salary exceeding Rs. 15000 on or after September, 1994 from getting benefit of higher option;**
- (b) if so, whether Government will take steps to remove this discrimination;**
- (c) whether EPFO has taken decision to calculate average pensionable salary by applying 60 months' salary for employees retired/retiring after September, 2014 instead of 12 months' salary prescribed for employees who have retired before September, 1994; and**
- (d) if so, whether Government will take steps to rectify this discrimination?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

**(a) & (b):** Vide circular dated 23.03.2017 administrative instructions have been issued by Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) to allow eligible members to avail pension on Higher Wages approved by the Government as per the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

**(c) & (d):** Para 11 of the Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS), 1995 has been amended vide notification No. G.S.R. 609(E) dated 22.08.2014 providing that the pensionable salary shall be the average monthly pay in the span of 60 months' preceding the date of exit from the membership of the Fund.

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

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2030  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.08.2017**

**INVESTMENT OF EPFO FUNDS IN ETFs**

**2030. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:**

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

- (a) whether the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) proposes to raise investment limit in Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) to 15 per cent;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (c) the steps taken by Government to have an exit policy for liquidating investments in ETFs, securities and State loans to maximize returns before raising the proportion of equity linked investments?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

**(a) & (b): The investment limit in Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) has been recommended to be raised from 10 per cent to 15 per cent by the Central Board of Trustees (CBT), Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) in its 218<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 27.05.2017.**

**(c): The policy for accounting investments in ETFs was placed before the CBT, EPF in its 218<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 27.05.2017 and no final recommendation has been made by the CBT.**

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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2031  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 2<sup>ND</sup> AUGUST, 2017**

**INCREASE OF UNEMPLOYMENT RATE**

**2031. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that unemployment rate has steadily increased from 2014 to 2016;**
- (b) the month-wise unemployment rate from January 2017 to June 2017 and the corresponding figures from 2014-15 and 2015-16;**
- (c) the amount disbursed under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana in the last three years; and**
- (d) the number of people who have benefited under the scheme in the last three years?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

**(a) & (b): As per the result of labour force surveys on employment and unemployment conducted by Labour Bureau, Ministry of Labour and Employment, the estimated unemployment rate for persons aged 15 years and above on usual status basis in the country was 3.4% and 3.7% during 2013-14 and 2015-16 respectively. Month-wise data for 2017 is not available.**

**(c) & (d): Government of India merged the Prime Minister's Rojgar Yojana (PMRY) and Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) to form the Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) as a credit linked subsidy scheme, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) is implementing the PMEGP since 2008-09 through Banks. The Margin Money provided to the units and employment generated under PMEGP is given below:**

| <b>Year</b>    | <b>Margin Money provided<br/>(in Rs. Crore)</b> | <b>Estimated employment generated<br/>(in lakh persons)</b> |
|----------------|---|---|
| <b>2014-15</b> | <b>1122.5</b>                                   | <b>3.58</b>   |
| <b>2015-16</b> | <b>1020.1</b>                                   | <b>4.08</b>   |
| <b>2016-17</b> | <b>1280.9</b>                                   | <b>3.23</b>   |
| <b>2017-18</b> | <b>226.7<br/>(as on 09.07.17)</b>               | <b>0.62<br/>(upto 30.06.2017)</b>                           |

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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2648**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 9<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2017**

**AMOUNT SPENT UNDER PMRPY IN 2016-17**

**2648. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:**  
**DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:**

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

- (a) whether the job growth has decreased in the last two years;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;**
- (c) the steps taken for generating employment in the country including the private sector and in the core sectors like IT/BPO, handloom/ powerloom, textiles, automobiles, etc.; and**
- (d) the amount spent in 2016-17 under the Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojana (PMRPY), for promoting employment generation and the number of job opportunities actually generated, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**  
**(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

**(a) to (d): Labour Bureau has been conducting Quarterly Quick Employment Surveys in the selected labour intensive and export-oriented sectors namely textiles, leather, metals, automobiles, gems and jewellery, transport, IT/BPO and handloom/ powerloom to assess the effect of economic slowdown on employment in India since September, 2008. The coverage of the quarterly Quick Employment Survey has also been enhanced during 2016 with more industries/sectors. The results of the surveys for the last two years are at Annex-I & II.**

**Government has taken various steps for generating employment in the country like encouraging private sector of economy, fast tracking various projects involving substantial investment and increasing public expenditure on schemes like Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGA), Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana- National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM). The Make in India,**

**Skill India, Digital India schemes are being implemented by the Government and these are likely to enhance the employment base. MUDRA and START UPS scheme are being initiated by the Government for facilitating self employment.**

**Loans under Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) Scheme have been extended by banks, Non Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) and Micro Finance Institutions (MFIs) to small/micro business enterprises by providing loans upto 10 lakh for manufacturing, processing, trading, services and activities allied to agriculture for promotion of self-employment.**

**In order to give impetus to textile industry in the country Government has been implementing various policy initiatives and schemes such as the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS), Scheme for Development of Technical Textiles, Schemes for the Development of the Powerloom Sector, Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP), Integrated Skill Development Scheme (ISDS), Schemes for Development of Silk and Sericulture sectors, National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP), Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme(CHCDS), Yarn supply Scheme, National Handicrafts Development Programme (NHDP), North East Region Textiles Promotion Scheme (NERTPS), etc. Last year, Government of India had notified the Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (A-TUFS) for technology upgradation in the textiles sectors. Government is also implementing PowerTex India, a comprehensive scheme for Powerloom Sector Development. Further, the Government had approved a special package for textile sector with an outlay of Rs. 6000 crore to boost employment generation and exports particularly in apparel and Made-ups sector.**

**The Ministry of Labour & Employment is implementing “Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojana” from 2016-17 with the objective of incentivising industry for promoting employment generation with a budget allocation of Rs. 1000 crore. Under this scheme employers would be provided an incentive to enhance employment where the Government will pay the employer’s contribution of 8.33% EPS for the new employees for a period of 3 years. In textiles sector (apparel and made-ups), the Government will also pay the 3.67% EPF contribution of employers in addition to paying the 8.33% EPS contribution. Benefits under the scheme are available from 09<sup>th</sup> August, 2016 and over 6588 establishments have availed benefits covering over 3.02 lakh new employees amounting to Rs. 31,04,05,612/-.**

**Government has also implemented the National Career Service having a portal ([www.ncs.gov.in](http://www.ncs.gov.in)) for online registration and posting of jobs for job-seekers and provide other employment related services.**

**ANNEX-I**

**ANNEX REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) to (d) OF THE RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2648 FOR 09-08-2017**

**STATEMENT OF JOB GROWTH IN 8 MAJOR SECTORS AS PER QUARTERLY QUICK EMPLOYMENT SURVEYS CONDUCTED BY LABOUR BUREAU.**

**(in lakhs)**

| <b>Sl. No.</b>           | <b>Industry/ Group</b>         | <b>Jan,14 to Dec,14</b> | <b>Jan,15 to Dec,15</b> |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>1</b>                 | <b>2</b>                       | <b>4</b>                | <b>5</b>                |
| <b>1</b>                 | <b>Textiles</b>                | <b>1.41</b>             | <b>0.72</b>             |
| <b>2</b>                 | <b>Leather</b>                 | <b>-0.07</b>            | <b>-0.08</b>            |
| <b>3</b>                 | <b>Metal</b>                   | <b>0.74</b>             | <b>0.37</b>             |
| <b>4</b>                 | <b>Automobile</b>              | <b>0.25</b>             | <b>-0.08</b>            |
| <b>5</b>                 | <b>Gems &amp; Jewellery</b>    | <b>0.11</b>             | <b>-0.19</b>            |
| <b>6</b>                 | <b>Transport</b>               | <b>-0.11</b>            | <b>-0.04</b>            |
| <b>7</b>                 | <b>IT/BPO</b>                  | <b>1.93</b>             | <b>0.76</b>             |
| <b>8</b>                 | <b>Handloom/<br/>Powerloom</b> | <b>-0.05</b>            | <b>-0.11</b>            |
| <b>TOTAL (Year wise)</b> |                                | <b>4.21</b>             | <b>1.35</b>             |

**ANNEX REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) to (d) OF THE RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2648 FOR 09-08-2017**

**The sector-wise details regarding total employment under first round and change estimates of employment under 2nd, 3rd and 4th Rounds are presented as under:**

| <b>Sector-wise Change of Employment</b> |                                       |  |   |   |   |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|---|---|---|
| <b>S. No.</b>                           | <b>Sector</b>                         | <b>Level Estimates(First Round) and Change Estimates of Employment (2nd , 3rd and 4th Round) (in lakh)</b> |   |   |   |
|   |                                       | <b>Change Estimates (1 July,2016 over 1 April,2016)</b>  | <b>Change Estimates (1 Oct, 2016 over 1 July, 2016)</b> | <b>Change Estimates (1 Jan, 2017 over 1 Oct, 2016 )</b> | <b>Change Estimates (July – December, 2016)</b> |
| <b>1</b>                                | <b>Manufacturing</b>                  | <b>-0.12</b>   | <b>0.24</b>   | <b>0.83</b>   | <b>0.95</b>                                     |
| <b>2</b>                                | <b>Construction</b>                   | <b>-0.23</b>   | <b>-0.01</b>  | <b>-0.01</b>  | <b>-0.25</b>                                    |
| <b>3</b>                                | <b>Trade</b>                          | <b>0.26</b>  | <b>-0.07</b>  | <b>0.07</b>   | <b>0.26</b>                                     |
| <b>4</b>                                | <b>Transport</b>                      | <b>0.17</b>  | <b>0.00</b>   | <b>0.01</b>   | <b>0.18</b>                                     |
| <b>5</b>                                | <b>Accommodation &amp; Restaurant</b> | <b>0.01</b>  | <b>-0.08</b>  | <b>0.00</b>   | <b>-0.07</b>                                    |
| <b>6</b>                                | <b>IT/ BPO</b>                        | <b>-0.16</b>   | <b>0.26</b>   | <b>0.12</b>   | <b>0.22</b>                                     |
| <b>7</b>                                | <b>Education</b>                      | <b>0.51</b>  | <b>-0.02</b>  | <b>0.18</b>   | <b>0.67</b>                                     |
| <b>8</b>                                | <b>Health</b>                         | <b>0.33</b>  | <b>0.00</b>   | <b>0.02</b>   | <b>0.35</b>                                     |
|   | <b>Total</b>                          | <b>0.77</b>  | <b>0.32</b>   | <b>1.22</b>   | <b>2.31</b>                                     |

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

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2664  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.08.2017**

**DEFAULTS IN PAYING EMPLOYER'S CONTRIBUTION OF SOCIAL  
WELFARE SCHEMES**

**2664. SHRI K.K. RAGESH:**

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

- (a) whether there is any list of corporate entities who defaulted on paying employer's contribution of social welfare schemes for labourers to Government; and**  
**(b) if so, whether Government has initiated any action against such corporates?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

**(a) & (b): Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) maintains the list of establishments who defaulted on paying employer's contribution under the Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions (EPF & MP) Act, 1952 and the Schemes framed thereunder. However, an exclusive list of only Corporate entities is not maintained.**

**Upon identification of the default, cognizance is taken by the field offices who initiate action under Section 7A of the EPF & MP Act, 1952 for the determination of dues.**

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

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2665  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.08.2017**

**INCREASING GOVERNMENT SHARE OF CONTRIBUTION UNDER EPS, 1995**

**2665. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI:**

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

- (a) whether Government will increase Government share of contribution under EPS, 1995 from 1.16 per cent to 8.33 per cent to support minimum pension level of Rs. 3000/- per month along with dearness allowance as recommended by Koshiyari Committee, if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor;**
- (b) whether Government will extend ESI facilities to Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) pensioners for comprehensive medical care for them, without deducting pension amount for the same, if so, the details thereof; and**
- (c) whether Government will restore the right to commutation of the pensioners to restore the commuted portion of pension?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

**(a):** Due to financial constraints, increase in Government share of contribution under Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS), 1995 from 1.16 per cent to 8.33 per cent has not been accepted. Further, neutralizing of inflation as recommended by the Koshiyari Committee has not also been accepted.

However, the Government started providing a minimum pension of Rs. 1000/- per month to the pensioners under EPS, 1995 from 01.09.2014.

**(b) & (c):** No decision has been taken by the Government in this regard.

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

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2666  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.08.2017**

**EPFO'S INVESTMENT IN STOCK MARKET THROUGH ETFS**

**2666. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the EPFO's investment in stocks through Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) would cross the Rs. 45,000 crore mark by the end of this fiscal;**
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the rate of return on this investment for the last year was 13.3 per cent;**
- (c) whether it is also a fact that as on April, 2017 the stock investment stood at Rs. 21,559 crore; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

**(a): No, Sir.**

**(b): No, Sir.**

**(c) & (d): Yes, Sir. The details are as under:**

**(Rs. in crore)**

|                                      |                  |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>SBI Nifty 50 &amp; Sensex ETF</b> | <b>17,178.99</b> |
| <b>UTI Nifty 50 &amp; Sensex ETF</b> | <b>2,573.06</b>  |
| <b>CPSE ETF</b>                      | <b>1,807.81</b>  |
| <b>Total</b>                         | <b>21,559.86</b> |

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

**RAJYA SABHA**

**STARRED QUESTION NO. 184  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.08.2017**

**INTEREST RATE OF EPF**

**\*184. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA:**

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

- (a) whether Government has any proposal of keeping the rate of interest payable on Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) above the market rates of interest in the prevailing regime of low interest rates;**
- (b) whether Government is considering to raise the salary limit under the EPF scheme to widen the coverage of the scheme; and**
- (c) the steps taken by Government for digitisation of contribution, returns and settlement of claims?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

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

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 184 TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.08.2017 BY SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA REGARDING INTEREST RATE OF EPF.**

**(a) The rate of interest on Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) is determined on the basis of estimated interest income for the concerned financial year on the total investment corpus in the EPF.**

**(b) The salary limit under the Employees' Provident Funds (EPF) Scheme, 1952 is revised from time to time to widen the coverage of the Scheme and it was raised from Rs. 6,500 per month to Rs. 15,000 per month w.e.f. 01.09.2014, after a gap of 13 years.**

**(c) The following steps have been taken by Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) for digitisation of contribution, returns and settlement of claims:**

**(i) The contributions are received only through 'Online mode' from all the employers from December, 2016.**

**(ii) Returns are received every month also through online mode integrated with the payment and known as Electronic Challan Cum Return.**

**(iii) Online submission of claims has been enabled for all types of claims based upon linking and verification of Aadhaar of the member to member's Universal Account Number.**

**\*\*\*\*\***

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS  
(DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING)

**RAJYA SABHA**

**STARRED QUESTION NO. 257**  
(TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.08.2017)

**NON-IMPLEMENTATION OF HIGH COURTS/ CAT ORDERS**

\*257. SARDAR BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that several Ministries have not been implementing the judicial orders of High Courts/Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) for the last more than five years, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (b) whether Government has received any representations against non-implementation of CAT orders by any Ministry and if so, the details in this regard and the action proposed to be taken on non-implementation of Court/CAT orders?

**ANSWER**

Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions and Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office. (DR. JITENDRA SINGH)

(a) & (b): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 257 BY **SARDAR BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER** FOR REPLY ON 10/08/2017 REGARDING NON-IMPLEMENTATION OF HIGH COURTS / CAT ORDERS

(a) & (b): No Sir. No such case of deliberate non-implementation of the orders of Hon'ble High Courts or Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) has come to notice. Government holds the High Courts/Central Administrative Tribunals in highest esteem, and has the greatest regard for their orders. Government is also well aware of the fact that non-implementation of orders constitutes contempt of Court which may lead to penal consequences for all the officials concerned. The only event in which the orders may not be implemented is when a judicial review of the Court orders before a higher judicial forum is sought and decision thereon is pending.

The responsibility for implementation of the orders of the Hon'ble Courts/CAT is of the Ministries/Departments concerned and no centralised data is maintained regarding implementation or otherwise of the Court orders received.

However, the Department of Personnel & Training *vide OM* no. 28027/1/2016-Estt.A-III dated 16.3.2016 (Copy annexed) has issued guidelines / instructions to all Ministries / Departments to treat the orders received from Court with proper care and to ensure that timely action is taken at each stage of a court case. Litigation should not be allowed to prolong to the extent that it results in contempt proceedings.

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

**RAJYA SABHA**

**STARRED QUESTION NO. 33  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.07.2017**

**CONTRIBUTION TO EMPLOYEES' PROVIDENT FUND**

**\*33. SHRI SANJAY SETH:**

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

- (a) whether Government has proposed to reduce employees' as well as employers' contribution to Employees' Provident Fund from 12 per cent to 10 per cent;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the objective behind the move;**
- (c) whether the representatives of employees unions, employers unions and the State Governments strongly opposed the proposal;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof;**
- (e) the Union Government's response to the opposition to the proposal; and**
- (f) the other steps taken by Government to bring EPFO contributions at par with other savings instruments like the National Pension Scheme?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

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

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 33 TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.07.2017 BY SHRI SANJAY SETH REGARDING CONTRIBUTION TO EMPLOYEES' PROVIDENT FUND.**

**(a) to (f) With a view to bring contribution under Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions (EPF & MP) Act, 1952 to be paid by employer and employee at par with other savings instruments like the National Pension System, Contributory Provident Fund, etc., an agenda item for lowering the rate of contribution from the present 12 per cent to 10 per cent was deliberated in the 218<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Central Board of Trustees (CBT), Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) held on 27.05.2017. All employees' and employers' representatives and State Government representatives were against reducing the rate of contribution from 12 per cent to 10 per cent. The Government has not taken any further action on reduction of rate of contribution from 12 per cent to 10 per cent.**

**\*\*\*\*\***

**Sub:- Reply of Matter raised under Rule 39 of Rajya Sabha Question Dy. No. 6677 by Shri V. Vijaysai Reddy, Hon'ble MP to be answered (Oral Answer ) on 04.04.2018 regarding " Pension Scheme for higher income group".**

| Question  | Reply  |
|---|--|
| (a) whether it is a fact that high income group do not have any pension scheme ;                        | <p>(a) From 16.11.1995 upto 31.08.2014 every employee who became a member of the Employees' Provident Fund Scheme, 1952 was also entitled to become a member of the Employees Pension Scheme, 1995 and contribute upto the statutory salary ceiling irrespective of the salary of the employee concerned.</p> <p>However, with effect from 01.09.2014, new employees who become members of Employees' Provident Fund Scheme, 1952 and whose pay is less than or equal to 15,000/- rupees per month are only entitled to become member of the Employees' Pension Scheme,1995.</p> |
| (b) if so, why cannot the Ministry think of having one which will held in creating a pensioned society; | <p>(b) to (f)</p> <p>A High-Empowered Monitoring Committee has been constituted vide MOL&amp;E order no. H-11016/44/2015-SS-II dated 04.01.2018 for complete evaluation and review of the Employees Pension Scheme 1995. A copy of the order dated 04.01.2018 is <b>enclosed</b>.</p>  |
| (c) whether any preliminary work has been done by the Ministry in this regard;                          |  |
| (d) if so, the details thereon;   |  |
| (e) whether any consultations have been held with Finance Ministry in this regard; and                  |  |
| (f) If yes, the details thereon?  |  |