

## LABOUR

### Summary of Questions Asked

Various issues pertaining to labour laws, ESIS hospitals, Provident fund have been raised.

1. ***Provident Fund Adalat :***

Issues regarding delay in reforms of Employees Provident Fund, interest on Provident Fund, Provident Fund Adalats in Mumbai highlighted.

2. ***Insurance Medical Practitioners Association :***

Issues raised regarding raising medical professionals' fees, facilities for the patients of ESIS was successfully taken up.

3. **Better medical facilities**, Hepatitis-B vaccinations, availability of medicines in ESIS hospitals of Mumbai brought to the notice of the Government of India.

**LOK SABHA**

**QUESTION NO 4086**

ANSWERED ON 16.12.2002

**ESIC PENSIONERS ASSOCIATION**

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government have received any representation from 'Employees State Insurance Corporation Pensioners' Association regarding medical allowance to pensioners in Mumbai; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

**ANSWER**

(a) & (b): The Employees State Insurance Corporation(ESIC) has received representation from ESIC Pensioner's Association, Mumbai, regarding payment of medical allowance in Mumbai.

The Pensioner's Association, Mumbai has requested for payment of fixed medical allowance of Rs.100/- per month in lieu of OPD treatment. The ESI Corporation has adopted the scheme of Government of India for drawal of fixed medical allowance @ Rs.100/- per month in lieu of OPD treatment in areas not covered by CGHS Dispensaries, in respect of ESIC Pensioners. Necessary instructions with regard to payment of fixed medical allowance @ Rs.100/- per month have been issued. These instructions are applicable to those ESI Corporation pensioners who are residing in an area where no ESI Dispensaries/ESI Hospitals are available. Since, ESI Dispensaries/Hospitals are set up and functioning from Mumbai, the scheme of payment of fixed medical allowance of Rs.100/- per month in lieu of OPD treatment is not applicable to the ESIC pensioners residing in Mumbai. Further, indoor facilities are also available to ESI Corporation Pensioners through ESI Hospitals.

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**LOK SABHA**

**QUESTION NO 4810**

ANSWERED ON 20.12.2000

**ESIS BOARD**

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether any proposal is under consideration of the ESIS Board Hepatitis 'B' vaccination drive in their medical treatment;
- (b) whether universal vaccination programme is available to the member, labour under ESIS scheme;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the details of present system of ESIS regarding universal vaccination; and
- (e) whether ESIS hospitals have amenities, facilities and system to admit and treat patients suffering from hepatitis 'B' and AIDS disease?

**ANSWER**

- (a) to (d) : Under the ESI Scheme Hepatitis B Vaccination is being provided to the ESI beneficiaries including their children as and when required and recommended by the physicians. Based on the recommendation of the physicians, it is also being provided to the persons who are at higher risk of getting Hepatitis B. However, Hepatitis B immunization is not included in the list of vaccinations prescribed for infants/children under National Immunization Programme. Under the ESI Scheme, universal vaccination schedule includes BCG, DPT, OPV, MMR, DT, Measles, and TT.
- (e) : Yes, Sir.

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**LOK SABHA**

**QUESTION NO 4363**

ANSWERED ON 16.04.2001

**GROWTH RATE OF EMPLOYMENT**

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the growth rate of employment during 1997-2002 was estimated at 2.82% per annum on the basis of assessment of labour forces for the year 2002;
- (b) if so, whether the employment opportunities have been created as envisaged in the Ninth Plan period;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps being taken by the Government to achieve the target by the year 2002?

**ANSWER**

(a) to (d) As per the projections in the Ninth Plan document by the Planning Commission the labour force growth is expected to be at its peak in the Ninth Plan period. It is estimated that full employment by 2007 is contingent upon acceleration in growth of employment in post 9th Plan period to 2.8 per cent compared to a realised growth of 2.36 per cent (1978 to 1994) and projected at 2.44 per cent in the 9th Plan. This objective is proposed to be achieved through the policies formulated and to be formulated during 9th and 10th Five Year plans. Approach to the Ninth Plan envisages priority to agriculture and rural development with a view to generating adequate productive employment and eradication of poverty. Greater productive employment will be generated in the growth process itself by concentrating on sectors, sub-sectors and technologies which are labour intensive, in regions characterised by higher rates of unemployment and underemployment.

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**LOK SABHA**

**QUESTION NO 5084**

ANSWERED ON 27.08.2001

**HEPATITIS - B VACCINATION BY ESI HOSPITALS**

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether Hepatitis 'B' vaccinations are provided/supplied in Hospitals and Dispensaries;
- (b) whether ESI Corporation has finalized some rate contract of Hepatitis 'B' supply;
- (c) if so, the details thereof during the last three years;
- (d) whether ESI Corporation propose to make awareness among labour class patients regarding Hepatitis 'B' disease; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

- (a) Yes, Sir. The Hepatitis 'B' Vaccinations are being provided in ESI hospitals.
- (b) to (e): During the period 1998-99 and 1999-2000, the Hepatitis 'B' vaccine was approved for purchase at a cost of Rs.2843.40 and Rs.1150 respectively per 10 ml. vial ( 20 child doses ). AT present, the Hepatitis 'B' vaccine has been approved in the current ESI Rate Contract valid till 31.3.2002 for procurement at the rate of Rs.500 per 10 ml. vial ( 20 child doses ). The ESI Corporation is conducting health awareness programmes including health talks and health camps, where the patient are made aware of the dangers of the Hepatitis 'B' disease ad the measures for prevention.

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**LOK SABHA**

**QUESTION NO 2777**

ANSWERED ON 09.08.2000

**INVESTMENT OF PF AND PENSION FUNDS**

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Government to invest PF and pension funds in capital market;
- (b) if so, the Government have taken into consideration the view point of the Labour Union and various political parties in this regard;
- (c) whether various labour unions have opposed the said move; and
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

**ANSWER**

- (a) No Sir.
- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) Yes Sir.
- (d) The Central Board of Trustees, EPF has decided not to make investment of PF and Pension Funds in the Capital Market.

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**LOK SABHA**

**QUESTION NO 563**

ANSWERED ON 26.07.2000

**CAPITATION FEES**

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Labour Ministry has received any representation from Federation of Insurance Medical Practitioners' Associations, Maharashtra to increase their capitation fees;
- (b) whether the State Government of Maharashtra has also recommended to the Union Government to increase the capitation fees of ESIS doctors; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

- (a) & (b): Yes, Sir.
- (c) The representation about Insurance Medical Practitioners relates to enhancement in capitation fee from Rs. 60/- to Rs.120/- per insured person Family Unit per annum.

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**LOK SABHA**

**QUESTION NO 2204**

ANSWERED ON 06.08.2001

**LABOUR STANDARDS**

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government to meet the WTO norms set for labour standards in India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government are under pressure from the MNCs in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken to protect the interests of Indian labourers?

**ANSWER**

(a) to (d) There are no WTO norms set for labour standards. However, the linkage between trade and labour standards was proposed by some developed countries in the First Ministerial Conference of the WTO held in Singapore in 1996 as well as in the Third Ministerial Conference in Seattle in 1999. The developing countries, including India, had been successful in opposing the inclusion of linkage between trade and labour standards in WTO in both the Conferences. However, some of the foreign importers including some MNCs in some developed countries, apparently due to the pressure from the consumers, have started demanding proof from their exporters that the goods to be exported to them have been produced by adhering to labour standards. While resisting the linkage between trade & labour standards India is fully committed to the implementation of labour laws for the welfare of workers.

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**LOK SABHA**

**QUESTION NO 1547**

ANSWERED ON 02.08.2000

**PROVIDENT FUND ADALAT**

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government propose to start PF Adalat, Open House at Provident Fund Offices in the States particularly in Maharashtra;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government have received complaints regarding delay in payment of Provident Fund particularly by Mumbai Provident Fund Office;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to improve the efficiency of Provident Fund Offices?

**ANSWER**

- (a) &(b): All regional Employees Provident Fund Offices including offices in Maharashtra are required to hold Lok Adalats on 10th of every month for resolving grievances and disputes of complex nature.
- (c) Yes, Sir.
- (d) During the current financial year there were 2649 complaints out of which 2527 have since been resolved.
- (e) In order to provide prompt service to the subscribers, a massive computerization programme has been launched in the EPF Organisation. A Central Action Plan has also been formulated for regular monitoring of settlement of PF claims. The grievance redressal machinery in the EPF Organisation has been strengthened and activated so as to ensure early settlement of PF claims. A statutory time limit of 30 days has been fixed for settlement of EPF claims complete in all respects. Facilitation centers have also been set-up in EPF offices to provide, inter-alia, to subscribers information in respect of their pending claims/complaints.

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## HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

### Summary of Questions Asked

Issues regarding donation, additional facilities for Engineering and Medical Colleges in Mumbai, Vocational, IIT education were raised.

1. *Professional Courses :*

Issues regarding getting recognition for Medical, Engineering, Part-time B.Ed. courses were raised.

2. *IIT Mumbai :*

Various issues regarding activities of IIT, more support and finance for IIT, Powai were brought to the notice of the Ministry.

**LOK SABHA**

**QUESTION NO 4706**

ANSWERED ON 19.12.2000

**IIT EDUCATION**

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:-

- (A) whether the Government have finalised the details about introducing and updating various engineering, IIT colleges for IT courses;
- (b) if so, the details thereof. State-wise;
- (c) whether IIT, Mumbai has requested to support IT course, syllabus in their campus; and
- (d) if so, the action in this regard and to encourage to introduce IT courses in educational institutions to introduce?

**ANSWER**

- (a) Government is encouraging introduction of new IT programmes and increasing intake in existing IT programmes in Engineering Colleges. During the current year itself, seats in degree level IT programmes has increased by 30,001, in diploma programmes by 11,169 and MCA by 5217.
- (b) State-wise increase in intake/introduction of new courses in IT programmes is given in the Statement given in Annexure.
- (c) No sir.
- (d) Question does not arise.

**ANNEXURE**

ANNEXURE TO LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4706 FOR 19TH DEC. 2000 BY SHRI KIRIT SOMAIYA REGARDING IIT EDUCATION

**TOTAL INCREASE IN INTAKE/ADDITIONAL INTAKE GIVEN IN 2000-2001.**

STATE	DEGREE	DIPLOMA	MCA		
ADDITIONAL INTAKE	INCREASE	ADDITIONAL INTAKE	INCREASE	INCREASE	
INTAKE	INTAKE	INTAKE	INTAKE	INTAKE	
Tamilnadu	1720	5696	00	1490	1850
Andhra Pradesh	1270	3730	00	280	1255
Pondicherry	60	60	00	00	30
Haryana	240	1080	00	120	150
Rajasthan	280	180	60	00	20
Punjab	290	260	180	100	60
Chandigarh	30	00	00	00	00
Jammu & Kashmir	00	00	150	85	00
Himachal Pradesh	00	00	60	00	00
Delhi	00	140	00	00	50

..... *Mumbai In Loksabha* .....

Madhya Pradesh	1010	795	715	270	330
Orissa	400	240	270	30	150
West Bengal	670	360	30	30	00
Skkim	00	60	00	00	00
Assam	00	00	30	00	00
Karnataka	1200	1595	1360	1144	342
Kerala	100	260	00	240	00
Maharashtra	2770	2170	1950	580	280
Gujrat	360	405	830	300	90
Goa	00	70	00	10	00
Uttar	450	1545	30	00	550
Pradesh Bihar	355	150	450	365	560
	11205	18796	6115	5044	5217

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**LOK SABHA**

**QUESTION NO 2265**

ANSWERED ON 30.07.2002

**INCREASING INTAKE CAPACITY IN  
ENGINEERING COLLEGES IN MUMBAI**

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:-

- whether the AICTE is considering the request to increase the intake capacity of various engineering colleges of Mumbai;
- if so, the details in this regard;
- whether the Member of Parliament and Government of Maharashtra have already recommended the proposal for new courses and increase in intake capacity for the year 2002- 2003;
- if so, the details thereof; and
- the view point of the Government and plan of action in this regard?

**ANSWER**

- (a) to (e) : As per the information furnished by All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), for the year 2002- 2003, they have accorded approval for increase in intake of 450 seats in 12 Engineering Colleges located at Mumbai and a total of 2836 seats in 58 Technical Institutes in the State of Maharashtra. Proposals received by AICTE are processed through its Regional Committees where the Director of Technical Education of the concerned State Government is also a member. AICTE accords approval based on fulfilment of availability of infrastructural facilities as per its Norms and Standards.

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**LOK SABHA**

**QUESTION NO 3508**

ANSWERED ON 20.03.2001

**LEGISLATION FOR REGULATING ENGINEERING PROFESSION**

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government propose to introduce a new legislation to regulating engineering profession;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which the legislation in this regard is likely to be introduced?

**ANSWER**

(a) to (c): The areas covered in engineering education are very vast and it requires wide consultations with various agencies and segments of the society to arrive at a consensus before taking any final decision for regulating engineering profession.

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**LOK SABHA**

**QUESTION NO 3412**

ANSWERED ON 11.12.2001

**DECLINING TREND OF SCIENCE EDUCATION**

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the interest of students in science is declining day by day;
- (b) if so, the factual position in this regard;
- (c) if so, the outcome thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government in this direction?

**ANSWER**

(a) to (d) : There is no reported decline in the interest of students in science courses at Senior Secondary stage. However, to encourage students to continue their education in basic sciences at higher education level, a scheme called Kishore Vaigyanik Prothshahan Yojana (KVPY) has been launched during 1999-2000 by Department of Science and Technology which targets the young science students at the school and college level. It aims to encourage the students of basic sciences, engineering and medicine to take up research career in these areas.

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**LOK SABHA**

**QUESTION NO 2380**

ANSWERED ON 07.08.2001

**MIGRATION OF PROFESSIONAL**

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether it has been reported in the recently published UN Human Development Report that India is loosing two billion dollars every year due to migration of professionals from Indian Universities;
- (b) If so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action the Government propose to take to stop this loss to Indian exchequer?

**ANSWER**

- (a) to (c): As per Human Development Report 2001 of the UNDP, it has been estimated that migration of professionals costs India \$2 billion financial loss per annum. These are very simplistic estimates and do not take into consideration a number of related factors like remittances from abroad, return of professionals with better know how, greater role of Indian professionals in growing global knowledge economy. In India, a substantial portion of growth in export of software services is attributed to this mobility of Indian software professionals.

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**LOK SABHA**

**QUESTION NO 3563**

ANSWERED ON 14.08.2001

**NATIONAL EDUCATION FUND**

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government propose to set up a National Educational Fund to generate additional resources for the implementation of education schemes;
- (b) whether there is any proposal to levy education cess on MNCs and big corporate houses;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the time by which the said proposals are likely to be implemented?

**ANSWER**

- (a) Government propose to set up 'Bharat Shiksha Kosh' to receive donations/ contributions/ endowments from individuals and corporates including Non-Resident Indians, Persons of Indian Origin with a view to mobilising extra-budgetary resources for educational development in the country.
- (b) No, Sir.
- (c) & (d): Do not arise.

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**LOK SABHA**

**QUESTION NO 2464**

ANSWERED ON 13.03.2001

**NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SECONDARY EDUCATION**

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration organized a national Conference on Secondary education recently;
- (b) if so, the details of the discussions held and the suggestions given by the participants;
- (c) whether the Government have set a new target for universal secondary education by 2015 instead of 2020;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to achieve the target;
- (e) whether the State Governments have also been consulted in this regard; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

- (a) & (b): Yes Sir. The Conference deliberated on a number of issues including perspective of development of secondary education till 2020, capacity building of educational administrators in secondary education, management of quality in secondary education, financing of secondary education and administrative reforms for improving systems efficiency and school based management and made several suggestions across these areas.
- (c) to (f): The Government is presently assessing the likely impact of consequent to the Universalisation of Elementary Education on the secondary education sector in terms of additional enrolment, physical facilities etc. Plans for Universalisation of Secondary Education will depend on the outcome of the assessment.

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**LOK SABHA**

**QUESTION NO 925**

ANSWERED ON 27.02.2001

**NORAD SCHEME**

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the women are imparted training in new skills under the Training-cum-Employment-cum-Production Centres with the assistance of Norwegian Agency for International Development (NORAD);
- (b) if so, the number of women benefited therefrom in various States, particularly in Maharashtra during each of the last three years, State-wise; and
- (c) the further steps being taken by the Government to implement this scheme more effectively and to bring more women under this scheme, particularly in Maharashtra?

**ANSWER**

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) The State-wise number of women beneficiaries in the last 3 years under the scheme of NORAD is given in Annexure 'A'.
- (c) The following steps are being taken to improve the implementation of the scheme:
  - i) State Governments/Women Development Corporations/Voluntary Organisations are motivated to send more viable schemes.
  - ii) A syllabus for the training and minimum qualification of training have been prescribed.
  - iii) Implementation of the schemes are being monitored by the State and Central Government and evaluated by independent organizations.

**ANNEXURE 'A'**

**STATE-WISE NUMBER OF WOMEN BENEFITTED UNDER NORAD SCHEME DURING  
LAST THREE YEARS**

Sl.No.	NAME OF STATE	YEAR-WISE NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES		
		1998-99	1999-2000	2000-2001 (As on 23.1.2001)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1950	6980	1920
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-
3.	Assam	260	170	280
4.	Bihar	160	100	50
5.	Chandigarh	60	100	-

Admn.

6. Delhi	3720	-	1550
7. Goa	-	-	-
8. Gujarat	2300	210	300
9. Haryana	590	800	580
10. Himachal Pradesh	120	400	-
11. Jammu & Kashmir	1830	190	170
12. Kerala	400	120	960
13. Karnataka	240	150	1740
14. Maharashtra	280	1060	1510
15. Madhya Pradesh	190	1440	1580
16. Manipur	25	510	1190
17. Meghalaya	-	-	-
18. Nagaland	-	-	150
19. Orissa	1230	1040	1650
20. Punjab	1480	210	2220
21. Rajasthan	350	840	240
22. Tamil Nadu	560	120	190
23. Tripura	-	-	50
24. Uttar Pradesh	2230	3460	2950
25. West Bengal	400	780	855
TOTAL:	18215	18680	20135

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**LOK SABHA**

**QUESTION NO 3575**

ANSWERED ON 16.04.2002

**PART TIME B.ED. COURSE**

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether NCTE has discontinued the part-time B.Ed. course since 1999-2000;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether open universities are allowed to conduct part- time B.Ed. course;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether NCTE did not differentiate between part-time course and vocational course;
- (f) whether the NCTE propose to reconsider its decision; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

- (a) & (b) The National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) has not recognised any B.Ed (Part-time) course nor has it laid down norms and standards for such a course.
- (c) & (d) NCTE has prescribed norms and standards for “B.Ed. programme through Distance Education Mode” for secondary teachers. The course is of a duration of two years and is meant for teachers already in service with at least 2 year’s experience.
- (e) to (g) NCTE has not prescribed any norms either for B.Ed. (Part-time) or B.Ed (Vacation) course. Hence, the question of any differential treatment does not arise. However, the question of introduction of B.Ed (Part- time)/B.Ed (Vacation) course was considered by a Review Committee comprising experts, set up by NCTE which did not favour introduction of such courses in view of academic/professional considerations. The above recommendation has been endorsed by the Council.

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**LOK SABHA**

**QUESTION NO 989**

ANSWERED ON 27.02.2001

**VOCATIONAL EDUCATION**

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether any working group was constituted to assess the current implementation position of vocational education and suggest suitable modifications;
- (b) if so, whether the Union Government have circulated the recommendations of the working group to the State Governments/Union territory Administration for their comments;
- (c) if so, whether comments from States/Union territories have been received by the government;
- (d) if so, the broad view of the state governments in the matter;
- (e) whether the Union Government have issued fresh guidelines with regard to vocational education keeping in view the recommendations of the working group; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

(a) to (f):- A Working Group was constituted under the Chairmanship of Director, National Council of Educational Research & Training on 23-3-1998 to assess the current implementation position of the vocational education and to suggest suitable modification. The recommendations of the Working group were circulated to all the state governments/U.Ts. Majority of the States/U.Ts. who have furnished their comments broadly agree with the recommendations. On the basis of the comments received and other reports/studies, a Strategy Paper was prepared. A committee has been constituted to bring out the revised scheme.

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