

Vidhan Sabha Question

Name of Department: Horticulture

Assembly Question Starred: 4980

Date of Reply: 09-03-2022

Subject: Employees engaged through HP Horticulture Division Society

Asked by: Sh. Vikramaditya Singh
(Shimla Rural)

Concerned Minister: Jal Shakti Minister

Question	Reply
(a) how many persons have been engaged in Horticulture Department/Dr. YS Parmar Horticulture University and other components of Horticulture Department through HP Horticulture Development Society;	(a, b & c) Information has been laid on the table of the House.
(b) whether it is true that their EPF and ESIC are not being deducted by the Department; if yes, reason thereof; and	
(c) whether the Government will consider to frame a policy for these workers; details be given?	

Starred Assembly Question No. 4980 asked by Shri Vikramaditya Singh (Shimla Rural) regarding Employees engaged through HP Horticulture Division Society – Reply thereof:

- (a) 541 persons have been engaged in Horticulture Department/Dr. YS Parmar Horticulture University and other components of Horticulture Department through HP Horticulture Development Society. Details of employees is enclosed at Annexure–A.
- (b) The deduction of EPF and ESI of outsourced staff is being paid to the Agency hired for outsourcing the staff by Himachal Pradesh Horticulture Development Project and the same is being deposited by the outsourcing/ Manpower Agency with the EPFO and ESIC in accordance with terms and conditions of the tender document. The entire staff engaged on outsource basis, due to the level of their remuneration, falls under the ambit of EPF & ESIC.

Entire staff of Himachal Pradesh Horticulture Development Society, engaged on direct recruitment basis except 9 employees due to level of their remuneration, do not fall under the ambit of EPF & ESIC. The project vide its HR Policy has offered all the employees to get accidental insurance of their own, the cost of which will be reimbursed to them. As such this option given to the employees is available to these 9 employees too. The relevant portion of HR Policy is as below:-

“1(e) All the Contractual Resources/staff hired by HPHDS shall be mandatorily required to obtain a Personal Accident Insurance (paid by the HPHDS as a part of the CTP) for the period of assignment, as HPHD shall not take any responsibility in this regard. This aspect shall be included in the agreement with the consultants/contractual resources/staff.”

- (c) No, Sir.

Annexure –A

Sr. No	Description	Direct Recruitment Under HPHDS	Recruitment through Outsourcing Manpower Agencies	Total
1	Project Coordinating Unit	30	12	42
2	Project Implementing Unit -Directorate of Horticulture (DOH)	196	-	196
3	Project Implementing Unit- H.P. State Agricultural Marketing Board(HPSAMB)	15	6	21
4	Project Implementing Unit -HP Horticulture Produce Marketing & Processing Corporation (HPMC)	18	4	22
5	Project Implementing Unit- Dr.Y.S.Parmar University of Horticulture & Forestry–Nauni, Solan, HP.	28	-	28
6	Special Purpose Vehicle-Nursery Management Society (NMS)	-	232	232
	Total	287	254	541