



Social Security Code provides for linking fine with inflation

Probably for the first time, the Centre will be empowered to align pecuniary penalty with retail inflation for violations by employers under social security laws, according to draft labour code. Besides this, the draft Labour Code on Social Security 2018 provides concept of community service order to reform offenders. At present, violation under social security laws attracts either fines, imprisonment or a combination of both. Once the code is implemented, the government will not have to approach Parliament for increasing fines under the social security legislation. The draft code would subsume 15 social security laws including Unorganised Workers' Social Security Act, 2008; Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948; Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952; Maternity Benefit Act, 1961; Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972 and Building and Other Construction Workers Cess Act, 1996, among others.

Used to hartals, but please build infra: PK Mayan Mohamed

Kannur had virtually come to a standstill for the local industry on May 8 following a hartal called in the wake of two political murders. P.K. Mayan Mohamed, the managing director of The Western India Plywoods in Kannur, was expecting a buyer from Switzerland. "They came up to Coimbatore, and hearing that there was a hartal here they flew back," Mr Mohamed said, during a panel discussion on 'Improving Industrial Climate in Kerala' here on Wednesday as part of Kerala Financial Corporation's relaunch. This was not said as a complaint, but in a matter-of-fact manner, as if talking about the summer rains. In fact, he had stopped worrying about hartals long before. "Industrialists in Kerala have adapted to such political realities. It is part of our eco-system, the least of our worries," Mr Mohamed said.

Delhi govt amends Minimum Wages Act, says stricter punishment will be given to violators

President Ram Nath Kovind has given his assent to the Delhi government's Bill to amend the Minimum Wages Act under which employers violating labour rules in the city will now face fine ranging from Rupees 20,000-50,000 and jail term between one to three years. Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said the amended law will act as a "strong deterrent" against the employers who do not pay full minimum wages. The Department of Law, Justice and Legislative Affairs of the Delhi government has issued a notification, making it mandatory for employers to pay remuneration either electronically or through cheques, except in some special circumstances.

Food Processing industry must be an employment provider: Andhra CM

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Wednesday said the food processing industry must be developed in such a way that it becomes an employment provider too, in addition to contributing towards state's economic growth. "Every department needs to take a holistic approach to prosperity. I am happy that there has been a great development in Food processing but we are growing at only 10% but we need to aim for 25 %," the Chief Minister said on day two of district collectors' conference. "Ideate whether you want a new food park, processing plant, or want to bring out new incentives. Keep working on it and then only It would result in a great value addition. We need to develop a smart ecosystem for this and develop this industry in such a way where food processing industry is not just a growth factor but also an employment provider," he added.

Jobs in Renewable Energy Surpass 10 Million Mark Globally

The renewable energy industry created more than 500,000 new jobs globally in 2017, a 5.3 percent increase from 2016, according to the statistics released by the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA). According to the annual review of Renewable Energy and Jobs, the total number of people employed in the sector now stands at 10.3 million globally, surpassing the 10 million figure for the first time. China, Brazil, the United States, India, Germany and Japan remain the world's largest renewable energy employers, representing more than 70 percent of all industry jobs globally. Sixty percent of all renewable energy jobs are in Asia. Adnan Z. Amin, Director-General of the International Renewable Energy Agency said, "Renewable energy has become a pillar of low-carbon economic growth for governments all over the world, a fact reflected by the growing number of jobs created in the sector."

Now, robots will help construct buildings

Many companies in Japan are concerned over the large exodus of skilled workers, and the pressing issue for the construction industry is how to find labour while raising productivity. Shimizu Corporation, a Japanese construction company, invited local and foreign media to a press tour at its robot laboratory in Tokyo, where they showed several robots designed for construction sites that can weld, bolt and carry to improve working productivity and safety of workers. "Using robots for transportation is evolving in various industries, not only in the construction industry. We also incorporate it into the construction site, but with our robots there is now no need to extend various wires, attach Wi-Fi to the site, or mark the destination with tape. Our robots can understand surroundings by themselves and decide route they must take and the work they have to do," said Masahiro Indo, an official from Shimizu.

Auto sector accelerates hiring activity by 21% in April: Report

Healthy job creation in auto, construction and engineering sectors accelerated the country's hiring activity by 21 per cent in April 2018 in comparison to the corresponding period of last year, a report by job website Naukri.com said on Wednesday. According to the Naukri JobSpeak Index, the 21 per cent rise came on the back of a 11 per cent slump in hiring activity experienced in April 2017 due to the impact of macroeconomic factors on the job market. As per the report, unlike 2018, last year economic reforms led to unpredictable nature of the job market.

