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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

**MALLIKARJUN KHARGE CONFERS THE V.V. GIRI MEMORIAL AWARD 2010 TO
DR. PANCHMAL DINANATH SHENOY .**

**New Delhi: 19 Shrawana, 1933
10 August, 2011**

Union Minister of Labour & Employment Shri Mallikarjun Kharge today conferred the V.V.Giri Memorial Award 2010 to Dr. Panchmal Dinanath Shenoy as a recognition of outstanding contributions towards the understanding of the emerging labour issues.

Paying tribute to Late Shri V.V.Giri, the former President of India on the occasion Shri Kharge said V.V.Giri was an outstanding social activist and a renowned and acclaimed labour leader and he made exceptional contributions towards designing and evolving labour policy in India. The minister said late V.V.Giri firmly believed that evolving harmonious industrial relations must be a collective responsibility of all concerned. I am a firm believer that labour administration should always promote positive thinking and constructive action for furthering unity and goodwill among the different social partners. It should always consider upliftment of the economically and socially deprived section of the workforce as its most important priority, the minister added.

The Minister said the Government has attempted to make labour policy in general and labour administration in particular attuned to providing decent working conditions, improving the quality of life for workers and enhancing employability through employment services and skill development. To address the needs of the unorganised sector various measures a scheme, the Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojna (RSBY), a pioneer Social Security Scheme , which provides smart card based cashless health insurance cover up to Rs. 30,000/- annually to workers below the poverty line in any empanelled hospitals in the country has been launched by the Government. This scheme is being implemented in 25 States and covering 370 districts have now 2.33 crore families enrolled, extending health insurance to about 10 crore persons.

Shri Kharge said the Government has also enacted the Unorganised Workers Social Security Act 2008 and subsequently framed the rules in order to address the social security requirements of the unorganised workers. The National Social Security Fund for unorganised workers with an allocation of Rs. 1000 crore has been set up to provide necessary social security benefits.

He expressed the hope that social scientist like Dr. Shenoy will continue to contribute to this endeavour by undertaking more and more rigorous and analytical work addressing the requirements of the unorganized sector workers.

Dr.Shenoy, an eminent civil servant and scholar, has rendered invaluable contributions to Indian labour policy in general and issues related to labour administration and industrial relations in particular. During his illustrious career as a civil servant, Dr. Shenoy has held numerous distinguished positions, including those of Labour Commissioner and Labour Secretary in the state of Karnataka, as well as Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) and Union Labour Secretary. His scholarly works focus

markedly on the promotion of a rights based perspective in fulfilling the aspirations, especially of the workers engaged in the unorganised sector.

The key speakers addressing the function included Shri P.C. Chaturvedi, Secretary Labour & Employment, Dr. P.D. Shenoy, the recipient of V.V.Giri Memorial Award,2010 Dr. V. Mohini Giri, Former Chairperson, National Commission for Women, Shri Ravi Mathur, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Labour & Employment and Shri V.P. Yajurvedi, Director General, NLI,

The V.V. Giri Memorial Award was instituted in 2008 by V.V.Giri National Labour Institute, Ministry of Labour & Employment to commemorate the birth anniversary (10th August) of former President of India late Shri V.V.Giri for outstanding research contributions in the area of labour studies. The award carries an amount of Rs.1 lakh and a citation.

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