

NATIONAL

Jaitley defends PAN-Aadhaar linkage, allays concerns on IT raids

Finance Minister Arun Jaitley defended the amendment in the Finance Bill, cleared by the Lok Sabha, making an Aadhaar number mandatory for the issuance of a PAN card, saying that the biometric security of Aadhaar would prevent individuals from holding multiple PAN cards and evading tax. “In a situation where it has come to light that one citizen has up to five PAN cards, to avoid that, we have linked the PAN to Aadhaar,” Mr. Jaitley said in the Lok Sabha. “So, we have said either give Aadhaar or an application for Aadhaar. About 98% of the adult population is covered by Aadhaar and 108 crore cards have been issued.”

(H.,23/03)

Bill for damages to workers in factory mishap passed

A bill to ensure compensation up to Rs 1 lakh if an injured in an industrial accident and provision for hefty penalty in case of any violation by the employers was passed by Parliament . The Employees Compensation (Amendment) Act 2016, that amends the Employee’s Compensation Act, 1923, was passed by Lok Sabha on August 9 last year. The Bill penalises an employer if he fails to inform his employee of his right to compensation. It was passed by a voice vote in Rajya Sabha after Labour and Employment Minister Bandaru Dattatreya said the government was committed to ensuring protection of jobs, wages, social security and fair wages to the workers.

(I.E.,23/03)

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