

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Request to upgrade the ESI Branch office in Tamil Nadu by improving the amenities like water treatment plant, additional wards and filling up of vacant posts.

SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR (TIRUCHIRAPPALLI):

Thank you very much, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to raise a matter of urgent public importance.

In Tamil Nadu, there are only four sub-regional offices of ESIC. They are functioning at Salem, Coimbatore, Madurai and Tirunelveli. This has resulted in severe hardships to the beneficiaries. Tiruchirappalli is the fourth largest and centrally located District in Tamil Nadu.

Here there are a number of Central and State Government offices, Railway divisions, educational institutions, major industries like BHEL, gun factory, coach factory and medium and small scale industries functioning properly. A large number of serving and retired employees are settled with their families in and around Tiruchirappalli. To cope with increasing demand, the existing ESI hospital in Periyamilaguparai is not sufficient. This has also served as a referral centre. There is an urgent need to increase the bed strength from 50 to 100. A large number of requests from various quarters is pouring in for its upgradation. ... (*Interruptions*). Give me one more minute. The top priorities are improvement of amenities like water treatment plant, additional wards, and filling up of vacant posts.

Hence, I request the hon. Minister of Labour and Employment to upgrade the ESI Branch office, Trichy into a sub-regional office

urgently.