

Need to address health issues of Beedi workers in Tirunelveli Parliamentary Constituency and enhance their pension ? Laid

SHRI ROBERT BRUCE C. (TIRUNELVELI): There are more than 6 lakh beedi workers in Palayamkottai, Melapalayam, Mukkudal, Alangulam, Ambasamudram, Koodankulam and Tenkasi Districts of Tirunelveli Parliamentary Constituency. The people in the villages of Tirunelveli and Tenkasi Districts are involved in rolling beedies and therefore they suffer from occupation related health issues continuously. Now they are provided with only Rs.800/- per month as pension. It is very low and a family cannot live with a meagre sum of Rs. 800/-. The pension has to be increased to Rs.6000/- per month so that they can live their life smoothly. Also, the Hospital for Beedi Workers in Mukkudal, Tirunelveli previously used to function for 24 hours, but now functioning only for Out Patients which is causing huge inconveniences to the people. I call upon the Government to take cognizance of the same and make arrangements to rectify the issues at the Beedi Workers Hospital and appoint new Nurses through the Union Public Service Commission for 24 hours operation of the hospital and to increase the pension of beedi workers from Rs.800/- to Rs.6000/- per month so as to live their life peacefully and smoothly.