

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4474
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2005
UPLIFTMENT OF SALT WORKERS
Gadhavi Shri Pushpdan Shambhudan

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the schemes introduced by the Government for upliftment of salt workers in Gujarat during last three years and the funds allocated during the said period;
- (b) whether there are certain fixed standards for determining the introduction of these schemes;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the reaction of the Government on the progress of the scheme implemented for the upliftment of the salt workers in Gujarat?

Answer

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO)

(a): As per details furnished by the Government of Gujarat, the following Schemes were under implementation during last three years:

- (i) Scheme of Salt Workers Welfare Centers (45 Centers & 59 Balwadis)
- (ii) Accidental death Group Insurance Scheme for unorganized Salt workers (applicable to all the unorganized sector workers of the State which includes Salt workers)
- (iii) Financial assistance for serious diseases for Salt and unorganized workers of the State.
- (iv) Financial assistance for construction of pucca quarters for Salt workers of the State, the funds allocated during the last three years are as under:-

2002-03	:	34,41,000/-
2003-04	:	21,00,000/-
2004-05	:	93,92,000/-

In addition, Government of India (GOI) has also introduced Namak Mazdoor Awaas Yojna w.e.f. 2003. 3000 houses are proposed to be constructed in Gujarat during the current 5-year plan period. The cost of each house is Rs.50,000/- out of which 90% contribution is to come from the GOI. 2420 salt workers have been identified for the allotment of houses and administrative sanction has been issued in respect of 1864 houses and an amount of Rs.294 lakh approx. released to the Government of Gujarat towards the first installment. Besides, GOI is also providing financial assistance for improving potable water supply, construction of rest-sheds, recreational facilities etc. to the salt workers.

(b): Yes, Sir.

(c) & (d): Scheme-wise standards for the introduction of the scheme in respect of Government of Gujarat are as under:-

- (i) - Salt workers welfare centers (Nos. 45)

- one center in each of the salt producing talukas of the State,
- the children of the Salt workers aged 0 to 6 years are to be enrolled in the Balwadi for providing pre-primary education and providing nutritious break fast. The State Government of Gujarat runs cr ches for the children (upto 6 years) of Salt workers.

- (ii) - All the unorganized Salt workers of the aged 14 to 70 years are insured for the death or partial/permanent disability due to an accident.
- premium to be borne by the State Government,
 - the insurance coverage amount is as under with effect from 26.1.2005, Rs.1,00,000/- for accidental death and permanent disability, Rs.50,000/- for partial disability.

- (iii) - 100% financial assistance of estimated cost of serious diseases.

- (iv) - 75% of the construction cost for the pucca quarters and the upper limit is Rs.30,000/-.
(This scheme is discontinued from 1.1.2005).

In respect of Namak Mazdoor Awaas Yojana of the GOI, working in salt industry for a period of 5 years is essential.