

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:767

ANSWERED ON:28.11.2005

MEDICAL FACILITIES FOR AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS

Patil Smt. Rupatai Diliprao Nilangekar

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

- (a) whether the number of farmers and agricultural labourers is 23.5 crore which comes under unorganized sector;
- (b) if so, the details of medical services available to this community;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to introduce separate medical facilities for them on the pattern of Employees State Insurance (ESI); and
- (d) if not, the steps being taken by the Government to ensure fulfilment of medical need of this community?

**Answer**

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

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): The Ministry of Labour & Employment has not been implementing any scheme for providing medical facilities to the agricultural workers.

(c): No, Sir.

(d): Agricultural labourers alongwith others are availing the facilities of medical and health care infrastructure of both States and that of Central Governments from State level to district and tehsil and sub centers spread all over the country. The redesignated Universal Health Insurance Scheme is available for the families living below poverty line (BPL) which, inter-alia, include agricultural labourers also at subsidized annual premium of Rs. 165, Rs.248 and Rs.330 for individual, for a family of five and for a family of seven respectively. The scheme provides for reimbursement of hospitalization expenses up to Rs.30,000/- on floater basis per family, coverage of death of worker due to accident (Rs.25,000/-) etc. The Government has also recently launched the National Rural Health Mission for providing integrated comprehensive Primary Health care Services, especially to the poor and vulnerable sections of the society including agricultural labourers.