

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2006  
ANSWERED ON:27.08.2007  
HOSPITALS FOR BEEDI WORKERS  
Ponnuswamy Shri Mohan

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

- (a) the number of hospitals constructed and operated by Beedi Workers Welfare Board (BWWB) at present, particularly in Tirunelveli District State-wise;
- (b) whether there is any shortage of medical and para medical staff in these hospitals;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, hospital-wise;
- (d) the steps taken by the Union Government and BWWB to fill up the vacant posts of medical and para medical staff in these hospitals;
- (e) whether essential drugs are adequately available in these hospitals; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the remedial steps taken by the BWWB and Union Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES)

(a) : There is no hospital constructed and operated by Beedi Workers Welfare Board. However, five hospitals, one each in West Bengal, Karnataka, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh have been constructed and are functional. Two hospitals, one each in Tamilnadu and Bihar, are under construction. In Tirunelveli District (Tamilnadu), a 30-bedded hospital is being set up at Mukkudal for beedi workers in which OPD services are in operation and the indoor facilities shall commence shortly.

(b) to (d): There is by and large no shortage of staff in these hospitals. Some vacant posts of Medical Officers have been filled up by engaging the Doctors on contract. The issue relating to engagement of regular Doctors is being pursued with the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

(e) : Yes, Sir.

(f) : Does not arise.