

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:380
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2010
MEDICAL CARE OF BEEDI WORKERS
Dastidar Kakli Ghosh;Rani Killi Krupa

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

- (a) the number of medical care centres which exist for the beedi workers in the country, State-wise, particularly, in West Bengal;
- (b) whether any survey has been conducted to ascertain the health condition of the beedi workers in the country, particularly, the women workers;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether any study has been conducted to find out the harmful impact of this profession on the workers' health; and
- (e) if so, the steps taken to safeguard the health of these workers and their rehabilitation?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT(SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.380 FOR 06.12.2010 BY Dr. KAKOLI GHOSH DASTIDAR; Dr. KRUPARANI KILLI:

(a): There are 7 hospitals and 204 dispensaries throughout the country for the welfare of Beedi Workers. These hospitals are located as under:-

- (i) 65 bedded hospital at Dhuliyān, (West Bengal),
- (ii) 50 bedded T.B. hospital at Kodarma (Jharkhand),
- (iii) 50 bedded hospital at Mysore (Karnataka).
- (iv) 30 bedded hospital at Sagar (M.P.)
- (v) 10 bedded hospital at Gursahaiganj (U.P.),
- (vi) 30 bedded hospital at Mukkadal (Tamilnadu).
- (vii) 30 bedded hospital at Bihar Sharif (Bihar) A 15 bedded hospital at Jhalda (W.B.) is under construction. The dispensaries are located as under:-

Sl.No. Name of the Region No. of Dispensaries

- 1. Ajmer 16
- 2. Allahabad 18
- 3. Bangalore 34
- 4. Bhubaneswar 15
- 5. Hyderabad 38
- 6. Jabalpur 27

7 Karma 21

8. Kolkata 18

9. Nagpur 17

TOTAL: 204

(b) to (d): The following studies have been conducted.

(i) A study on "A National Study on Beedi Workers- An Economic Approach" was conducted by Industrial Economics Division of Director General Factory Advice Services and Labour Institute, Mumbai.

(ii) Another study named "Occupational Health Hazards in women Beedi rollers in Bihar (2010)".

(e): The following health care facilities are provided to Beedi Workers to safeguard the health of these workers and their rehabilitation:-

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE FOR BEEDI WORKERS

PURPOSE NATURE OF ASSISTANCE

Ophthalmic Problems Financial assistance of Rs.300/- for purchase of spectacles

Tuberculosis Reservation of beds in T. B. Hospitals and domiciliary treatment for workers. Subsistence allowance Rs.750/- p.m. to Rs.1000/- is paid to workers.

Heart Diseases Reimbursement of expenditure up to Rs.1,30,000/- to workers.

Kidney Transplantation Reimbursement of expenditure up to Rs.2,00,000/- to workers.

Cancer Reimbursement of actual expenditure on treatment, medicines, and diet charges incurred by workers, or their dependants.

Minor surgery like Hernia, Reimbursement of expenditure upto Rs.30,000/- Appendectomy ulcer, to workers and their dependants.
Gynaeco-logical diseases and prostrate diseases.

Mental Diseases Financial assistance for treatment of mental diseases, diet, railway fare and subsistence allowance to workers.

Leprosy Financial assistance for Rs.30/- per patient per day for indoor treatment and Rs.6/- per patient per day for outdoor treatment to workers. Subsistence allowance of Rs.300/- per month with dependants and Rs.200/- per month without dependants for workers.

Maternity Benefits Grant of Rs.1000/- per delivery to a female worker (for first two deliveries).

Family Welfare Monetary incentive @ Rs.500/- per head to the workers

for undergoing sterilization.

In addition to above, Ministry of Labour and Employment has initiated action for rehabilitation of the beedi workers to provide them alternate source of employment for viable alternative sources of livelihood according to local market requirements.