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Title: Need to augment the health services at ESI hospitals in Tenkasi, Tamil Nadu.

SHRI M. APPADURAI (TENKASI): Mukkudal is a renowned Beedi Industry town in my Tenkasi Lok Sabha Constituency. Nearby towns like SURANDAL, ALADDULAM are also having many Beedi Manufacturing Units with thousands of Beedi workers. About 10 lakhs Beedi workers are there in and around the place. As these people are under-paid, they involve their school going children as part time labour in Beedi manufacturing. Since this occupation is hazardous to health, Mukkudal has got a big hospital and nearby towns have dispensaries for the benefit of Beedi workers. But the ESI Hospitals do not have adequate number of doctors and there is short supply of medicines. Thus running these hospitals with inadequate facility is a wasteful expenditure.

Hence, I urge upon the Union Health Ministry and the Labour Ministry to evolve a co-ordinated revamp plan to augment the health facilities in these hospitals and dispensaries appointing adequate number of health personnel like Doctors, Nurses and Medical Attendants while ensuring proper medical facilities like equipment and medicines.