

### Home Guards

5989. SHRI AMAN KUMAR NAGRA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Home Guards are providing a very useful job in maintaining law and order throughout the country;

(b) if so, whether the Home Guards are not put on regular duties and have not yet been made regular force like Police and other Para-military forces;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Home Guards are not only less paid but also being exploited by not paying them regularly but are put to work on daily wages;

(e) the steps taken to regularize them at par with the Police and Para-military forces;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (g) Home Guards serve as an auxiliary to the police and assist in maintaining internal security.

Keeping in view its voluntary character, there is no plan to make the Home Guards a regular force.

No specific instance of under/irregular payment to the Home Guards has been brought to the notice of the Central Government.

### Beedi Workers

5990. SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the amount collected from the Beedi rolling business and deposited with the Central Government is not spent in the respective areas of Andhra Pradesh for welfare activities for the beedi workers;

(b) if so, the details of the amount collected and spent in the Andhra Pradesh, District-wise; and

(c) if not, the steps taken by the Government to spend the money collected in the respective areas of Andhra Pradesh for the welfare activities of workers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) The Labour Welfare Organisation is extending benefits to beedi workers under various welfare

schemes in the fields of health, education, housing and recreation. The expenditure on various schemes during 97-98 in Andhra Pradesh is as below :

	(Rs. in lakhs)
Health	172
Education	364
Housing	25
Grand Total	561

[Translation]

### Health Workers

5991. SHRI CHANDRAMANI TRIPATHI :  
SHRI MOHAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of health workers working in the country at present alongwith their pay-scales;

(b) whether the Government propose to increase their pay scales and the medical items provided to them; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) Following Health Workers are working in the country as on 31.12.1997.

Category	No. in position
i. Auxiliary Nurse Mid-wife/ Multi Purpose Health Worker (Female)	134112
ii. Multi Purpose Health Worker (Male)	71886

(b) and (c) The pay scale of above mentioned health workers are fixed by State Governments and these vary from State to State. The Fifth Central Pay Commission has revised the pay scale of ANM/Multi Purpose Health Worker (Female) from Rs. 975-1540 to Rs. 4000-6000.

To improve the delivery services, Drug Kit 'A', Drug Kit 'B' Midwifery Kit and Sub-centre equipment kit will continue to be supplied at Sub-centre level. In addition to that, one IUD kit will be provided to the ANMs under the RCH Programme.