

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
LABOUR  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4824  
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2000  
RECOGNITION TO ENTERPRISES  
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**Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the International Labour Organisation (ILO) has asked India to give statutory recognition to enterprises in the urban informal sector;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto;
- (c) whether workers in the informal sector are likely to get ESIC benefits; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT ( SHRI MUNI LALL )

(a) to (d): In the National Workshop on 'Strategic approach to job creation in the informal sector', jointly organised by the International Labour Organisation (ILO), Institute of Labour Development (ILD) and the Ministry of Labour from 17th to 19th Feb. 2000, a statement was made by the ILO that the problems faced by the informal sector workers and producers would not be overcome merely by stimulating economic growth or through more favourable climate for employment creation. It was further observed that specific measures are required to help the informal sector improve its productive capacity, break out of its marginalised, vulnerable and semi-legal position in society and overcome the obstacles to ultimate integration into the rest of the economy. At this stage it is not feasible to say as to whether all workers in the informal sector would be covered for ESI benefits or not. The recommendations made by the National Workshop would be pursued by the ILO for implementation after involving the Ministry of Labour and other concerned partners.