

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
LABOUR  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:195  
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2001  
WELFARE OF BEEDI WORKERS  
ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL;RAMSHETH THAKUR

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

- (a) the name of centrally sponsored welfare schemes being implemented at present in Maharashtra for the welfare of Beedi workers;
- (b) the funds allocated under these schemes during each of the last three years and current year;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to issue identity cards to the Beedi workers;
- (d) if so, the number of identity cards issued so far; and
- (e) the time by which the remaining workers are likely to get their identity cards?

**Answer**

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

- (a): Various welfare schemes being implemented in the country including Maharashtra are in the fields of health care, housing, education, social security and recreation under the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund Act, 1976 for the benefit of beedi workers and their dependants.
- (b): The allocation of funds to Maharashtra under Beedi Workers Welfare Fund was Rs.3.41 crore in 1998-99, Rs.3.52 crore in 1999-2000 and Rs.5.73 crore in 2000-2001. For the current year the allocation is Rs.7.41 crore.
- (c) to (e): In Maharashtra, identity cards to 2,04,407 beedi workers have been issued out of the estimated 2,56,000 beedi workers in the State. The issue of identity cards/ identification of beedi workers is a continuous process.