

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:210

ANSWERED ON:21.07.2003

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO DEPENDANTS OF BEEDI WORKERS FOR MAJOR SURGERIES

T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to provide financial assistance to the dependants of the beedi workers for major surgeries such as kidney transplantation, heart surgery, cancer and tuberculosis;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have also decided to enhance the maternity benefits for women beedi workers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR)

(a) & (b): Under the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund, there is a scheme for reimbursement of treatment of expenses for kidney transplantation and coronary by-pass surgery for beedi worker. For treatment of cancer, the reimbursement of expenses is allowed for treatment of a beedi worker as well as his dependents. In its meeting held on 25th June, 2003 the Central Advisory Committee (CAC) on Beedi Workers Welfare Fund has recommended that the dependants of the beedi workers may also be covered for reimbursement of expenditure incurred on kidney transplantation, by-pass surgery and tuberculosis.

(c) & (d): At present there is a provision for maternity benefit for women beedi workers up to Rs.500/-. In the above mentioned meeting the CAC also recommended to increase the maternity benefit to Rs.1000/-.