

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2911
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2003
ESI ACT
RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) the salient features and objectives of the ESI Act;
- (b) the extent to which the said Act has been implemented during the last two years alongwith the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether the said Act is not being properly enforced; and
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

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

(a):- The Employees` State Insurance Act, 1948 was enacted to provide cash and medical benefits to employees in the contingencies of sickness, maternity, employment injury and to make provisions for certain other matters in relation thereto.

The salient features of the ESI Act, 1948 are -

Provision of medical care and cash benefits to insured beneficiaries in the contingencies of sickness, maternity, employment injury and death due to employment injury.

Compulsory and contributory scheme for provision of benefits.

Setting-up of a body corporate by the name of Employees` State Insurance Corporation having perpetual succession to administer the scheme of benefit.

Administration of medical benefit scheme by the State Governments except in NCT of Delhi and NOIDA/Greater NOIDA area of UI and certain Model Hospitals in the country.

Penal provisions and revenue recovery machinery to ensure timely remittance of ESI dues.

Grievance redressal mechanism in the form of EI Courts and Medical Appellate Tribunals.

(b):- The provisions of ESI Act are being implemented fully in respect of covered establishments/factories and have been extended to new areas. A statement indicating new areas brought under implementation of the ESI Act during the last two years i.e. 2001-02 and 2002-03 is enclosed.

(c)&(d):- The provisions of the Act are being enforced strictly. There is a regular inspection machinery as well as a regular drill for identifying defaulters and taking recovery action. Provisions of ESI Act and IPC are also invoked for taking penal action as and when the need arises.