

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2651

ANSWERED ON:11.12.2006

MEDICAL BENEFITS FOR WORKERS OF UNORGANISED SECTOR

Pathak Shri Brajesh;Radhakrishnan Shri Varkala

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

- (a) whether the Government has any plan to introduced medical insurance and medical benefits to the workers of unorganised sector and migrant labourers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (d) the number of workers of the unorganised and migrant sector likely to be benefited annually as a result thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES)

(a) to (d): The Government is considering enactment of a legislation and formulation of Social Security Scheme for workers in the unorganized sector in consultation with all concerned Ministries/Departments and National Commission for Enterprises in the Unorganised Sector (NCEUS) which may include health insurance. In order to regulate employment and conditions of service of migrant labour, the Government have enacted the Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979 which is applicable to every establishment where five or more inter-state migrant workmen are employed. Inter-State migrant workmen covered under the Act are entitled for certain benefits including medical benefits. As per survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) in 1999-2000, the total number of workers in the unorganised sector was 36.9 crores. As per Census 2001, 2.99 crores persons migrated from their native place in the country for reasons of employment.