

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3712

ANSWERED ON:23.08.2004

SUBSIDY TO BEEDI WORKERS FOR HOUSE

Kumar Shri Shailendra;Murmu Shri Rupchand;Singh Shri Ganesh;Yadav Shri Parasnath

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

- (a) the number of beedi workers in the country at present and the number of shelterless workers out of them, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has doubled the housing subsidy for the beedi workers;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (d) the number of beedi workers who were given subsidy for housing, treatment and scholarships for their children out of the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund, State-wise and location-wise;
- (e) the number of applications pending for such subsidy as on date;
- (f) whether the Government propose to take any steps to improve the standard of living of these workers; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SIS RAM OLA)

- (a): There are approximately 45, 34, 250 workers engaged in beedi-making in the country. Regarding number of shelter-less workers, the data is not maintained.
- (b): Yes Sir.
- (c): The financial assistance available to beedi workers under the Integrated Housing Scheme has been enhanced from Rs.20000/- to Rs.40000/- for construction of a house by the beedi worker or 50% of the cost of construction, whichever is less w.e.f. 1st July, 2004.
- (d) & (e):The State-wise details of number of Beedi Workers; beneficiaries who were granted financial assistance for housing; scholarships; number of persons who were given medical treatment and information about pending applications are given in the Annexure.
- (f) & (g):The Ministry of Labour and Employment under BWWF is implementing several schemes in the fields of housing, education, medical and recreation for improving standard of living of these workers.