

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1471
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2008
SPECIAL PACKAGE FOR CREATION OF EMPLOYMENT
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Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of schemes/programmes being run by the Government for the welfare and upliftment of labourers engaged in different sectors;
- (b) the funds allocated, released and utilized under such schemes/programmes during each of the last three years and thereafter till date, scheme/programme-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has brought out any special package to solve the problem of unemployment among the labourers of the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the fund allocated for the purpose during the Eleventh Plan Period?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Following legislations have been enacted by the Parliament to set up welfare funds to be administered by the Ministry of Labour & Employment to provide health care, education, housing and recreational facilities to the beedi, cine and certain non-coal mine workers in the unorganized sector.:

1. The Mica Mine Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1946;
2. The Limestone and Dolomite Mines Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1972;
3. The Iron Ore Mines, Manganese Ore Mines and Chrome Ore Mines Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1976;
4. The Beedi Workers Welfare Fund Act, 1976; and
5. The Cine Workers Welfare Fund Act, 1981

Basic Health Care is extended to these workers through 9 hospitals and 264 dispensaries all over the country. In addition, liberal reimbursement of medical expenditure for treatment of serious diseases like heart ailment- up to Rs. 1.30 lakh, kidney transplantation- up to Rs. 2 lakh; treatment of cancer – actual expenditure; and minor operations like hernia, prostate, appendectomy, gynaec operation, etc.- up to Rs. 30,000/- is allowed. Women workers are entitled for maternity benefit amounting to Rs. 1000/- for each delivery upto two deliveries; Widow/Widower workers are granted Rs. 5000/- each for conducting marriage of their two daughters, financial assistance of Rs. 1500/- as funeral expenses, purchase of spectacles Rs. 300/- and family welfare operation Rs. 500/-, etc. The Beedi workers and the Cine Workers are covered under the Group Insurance Scheme wherein Rs. 10,000/- for natural death and Rs. 25,000/- on accidental death is paid by L.I.C.

Under the education scheme, scholarships are paid from Rs. 250/- to Rs. 8000/- to the wards of the worker who are studying in Class-I to Professional Courses per child per annum.

Under the revised Integrated Housing Scheme, a uniform subsidy of Rs. 40,000/- is provided to a worker having his own land. In this scheme, worker has to contribute Rs. 5000/- after the administrative approval is issued by the Ministry, which is returned to worker at the time of the release of 2nd installment.

Mine managements are provided with 75% of the actual cost incurred for the arrangement of drinking water facilities.

Funds allocated/released and utilized during the years 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 (Up to January, 2008) are given in Annex-I.

(c) & (d): Central Government has been implementing various employment generation and poverty alleviation schemes/programmes such as Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojana (PMRY); Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY); Swarnjayanti Gram Swarajgar Yojana (SGSY); Sampurna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY); Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) and National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 (NREGA) for creation of employment opportunities. Physical and financial progress of the above schemes/programmes of during the last three years is given in Annex-II.