

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3073
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2009
MATERNITY LEAVE TO WOMEN ENGAGED IN UNORGANISED SECTOR
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Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has provided maternity leave benefit to women workers engaged in unorganised sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to create a corpus fund and to pay a fix amount to women workers during pregnancy to protect the dignity of motherhood; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) & (b): The Maternity Benefit Act, 1961 is applicable to the women workers in unorganised sector. However, most of the women workers in the unorganised sector are self employed and in other cases, the employer-employee relationship is not established. Hence, these workers are generally deprived of maternity benefits.

(c) & (d): There is no proposal to create a corpus fund to pay a fix amount to women workers during pregnancy. However, the Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana covers maternity package of Rs. 2,500/- for normal delivery and Rs. 4,500/- for caesarean.