

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2971  
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2011  
COCONUT PLUCKERS  
Raghavan Shri M. K.

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

- (a) the number of coconut/arecanut pluckers working at present in the country;
- (b) the number of such pluckers injured/died due to accidents at workplace;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to provide health insurance, disability pension and other welfare facilities to such pluckers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government is also considering to set up Coconut Pluckers Welfare Board to look after their grievances and welfare for them; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE)

(a) & (b): The data relating to the number of coconut/arecanut pluckers working at present in the country and the number of such pluckers injured/ died due to accidents at workplace is not centrally maintained.

(c) & (d) With a view to providing social security to unorganised workers, including, coconut/ arecanut pluckers, the Government has enacted the Unorganised Workers' Social Security Act 2008. The Act provides for constitution of National Social Security Board at the Central level and State Social Security Boards at the State level which shall recommend formulation of social security schemes for unorganised workers.

The Government launched the Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY) to provide smart card based cashless health insurance cover of Rs. 30000 to BPL families (a unit of five) in the unorganized sector. More than 2.31 crore BPL families (a unit of five) have been covered as on 28.02.2010. This would include such coconut/arecanut pluckers who belong to BPL category.

(e) & (f): There is no proposal to set Coconut Pluckers Welfare Board by the Central Government.