

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2856

ANSWERED ON:12.12.2011

BEEDI WORKERS

Siddeswara Shri Gowdar Mallikarjunappa; Vishwanath Shri katti Ramesh

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

- (a) whether the Beedi Industry is reeling under acute financial crunch and is on the verge of being declared sick thereby adversely affecting the workers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to provide special packages for Beedi Industries;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (e) the measures taken by the Government for addressing the problems of Beedi Workers in this regard;
- (f) the details of the minimum wages declared by the Government for the Beedi Workers, State-wise in comparison to the minimum wages of other sector workers in the country; and
- (g) the steps taken by the Government to ensure Beedi Workers get the minimum wages as declared?

Answer

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE)

- (a) & (b): No such case has been reported.
- (c) & (d): At present, there is no proposal to provide special packages for Beedi Industries.
- (e): Various welfare schemes are being implemented by the Government for welfare of beedi workers in the field of health, education, housing, recreation and social security etc. Recently, Government has sanctioned 4 new hospitals and 40 dispensaries for beedi workers. Government has also extended Rashtriya Swasthaya Bima Yojana (RSBY) to beedi workers.
- (f) & (g): The details of minimum wages declared by the various State Governments for beedi workers are at Annexure-I. The State Governments are the appropriate authority to ensure the minimum wages to beedi workers as declared.