

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2973  
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2011  
SMART CARDS TO ESIC BENEFICIARIES  
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**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) the number of labourers covered under the Employees State Insurance (ESI) Scheme in the Country including Rajasthan;
- (b) whether the Government has any proposal to issue smart cards to the ESIC beneficiaries on the lines of Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS);
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the time by which all the ESIC beneficiaries are likely to be issued/provided such cards; and
- (e) the estimated expenditure likely to be incurred in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE)

- (a): The number of labourers covered under the Employees' State Insurance (ESI) Scheme in India as on 31st March, 2011 is 1,55,30,049 which includes labourers in Rajasthan. The total number of labourers covered in Rajasthan as on 31st March, 2011 is 5,06,126.
- (b): Yes, Madam. The Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) is issuing a set of two Smart Cards called "Pehchan Cards", one for the Insured Person (IP) and another for his dependant family.
- (c): Issuing a set of Smart Cards to Insured Persons (IPs) under Module Pehchan relates to issue of identification, authentication and verification of Insured Persons and beneficiaries for providing medical treatment anytime, anywhere in India.
- (d): Issuing of cards to ESI beneficiaries is a continuous process as new members continuously keep entering the scheme through employment. Nearly 80 lakh beneficiaries have been enrolled upto 30.11.2011. The process of issuing of Smart Cards to remaining Insured Persons is on.
- (e): For Pehchan Card, there is no separate cost estimate as this is a sub-component of Project Panchdeep.