GOVERNMENT OF INDIA LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:912 ANSWERED ON:19.03.2012 UNORGANISED SECTOR LABOURERS Meghwal Shri Arjun Ram ;Patle Kamla Devi

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

- (a) the number of workers engaged in the unorganised sector in the country including Chhattisgarh;
- (b) the number of welfare schemes implemented for the said workers during the last three years alongwith the budget allocation for each schemes during the said years;
- (c) the utilisation of funds as against the Budget allocated for such schemes and the total number of beneficiaries therefrom, Statewise and year-wise; and
- (d) the extent to which the interests of the workers of the unorganised sector are being protected?

Answer

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE)

(a): According to the survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) in 2004-05, the total employment in both the organized and the unorganized sectors in the country was 45.9 crore, of which 43.3 crore (about 94%) were in the unorganized sector. In Chhattisgarh State, the number of unorganised workers was 1.05 crore.

(b)to(d): Recognizing the need to provide social security to unorganised workers, 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 which shall recommend formulation of social security schemes viz life and disability cover, health and maternity benefits, old age protection and any other benefit as may be determined by the Government for unorganized workers. Similar Social Security Boards shall be constituted at the State Level also.

The Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY) was launched on 01.10.2007 to provide smart card based cashless health insurance cover of Rs. 30000 to BPL families (a unit of five) in the unorganized sector.

The Government has launched the Aam Admi Bima Yojana (AABY) to provide insurance against death and disability to landless rural households. Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension scheme (IGNOAPS) was expanded by revising the eligibility criteria. The persons living below poverty line and above the age of 60 year are eligible for old age pension of Rs. 200 per month. For persons above the age of 80 years the amount of pension has been raised to Rs. 500 per month

The States are provided part premium funding by the Central Government on the basis of number of smart cards issued. Hence, there is no State-wise allocation under Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY). Under Aam Admi Bima Yojana (AABY), there is a corpus fund. There is a combined allocation for National Social Assistance Programme of which IGNOAPS is a component. The number of beneficiaries covered under RSBY, AABY and IGNOAP for the last three years are at Annexure-I to III respectively. A Statement showing the central share of premium released under RSBY, State-wise during the last three years is at Annexure-IV.