

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1970

ANSWERED ON:26.03.2012

BEEDI WORKERS

Karwariya Shri Kapil Muni;Rajendran Shri C.;Singh Shri Bhupendra

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

(a) the State-wise total number of male and female beedi workers in the country as on date;

(b) whether inspite of various welfare schemes being implemented for them, they continue to face certain problems specially with regard to health and medical facilities;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to redress their grievances;

(d) whether the Government is considering to open some more hospitals in the districts dominated by beedi workers including Beena city of Madhya Pradesh;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government has carried out any assessment regarding the number of beedi workers who lost their jobs during each of the past three years and the current year; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to rehabilitate them and providing them jobs again?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF LABOUR & EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE)

(a): The details are at Annexure-I.

(b)&(c): Improvement in health care facilities is an ongoing process. A decision has also been taken to cover Beedi Workers under Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana.

(d)&(e): No such proposal is under consideration for Beena city in Madhya Pradesh. However recently, Government has sanctioned 4 Hospitals and 40 dispensaries for Beedi Workers in such places where there is concentration of beedi workers.

(f)&(g): No such assessment has been carried out. However, the Government has initiated action for providing vocational training to Beedi Workers to provide them an opportunities for alternative source of employment.