

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2453
ANSWERED ON:27.08.2012
WELFARE COMMISSIONER OFFICE
Mandal Shri Mangani Lal

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

- (a) the criteria and norms for opening office of Welfare Commissioner;
- (b) whether of States where the office of welfare commissioner is functioning till date;
- (c) whether the number of beedi workers in Bihar is approximately 13 lakh in which there are approximately more than 2 lakh women labourers and the office of Welfare Commissioner has not been opened in Bihar for their adequate welfare;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the time by which the office of the Welfare Commissioner is likely to be opened in the State?

Answer

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE)

- (a): There are no fix criteria and norms for opening office of Welfare Commissioner.
- (b): The office of Welfare Commissioners are functioning in the States of Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Maharashtra and Jharkhand.
- (c) & (d): About 2,55,876 Beedi Workers are identified in Bihar as on 31.7.2011, out of which 1,52,421 are women labourers. Adequate schemes are in place for welfare of beedi workers of Bihar through office of the Welfare Commissioner, Ranchi.
- (e): At present there is no proposal to open the Office of Welfare Commissioner in the State of Bihar.