

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3585

ANSWERED ON:03.09.2012

CONDITIONS OF ESI HOSPITALS

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the pathetic condition of Employees State Insurance (ESI) hospitals across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is slackness in proper utilisation of ESI income;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and whether the ESI money is being diverted for other purposes and the benefits thus, do not reach to the working class;
- (e) whether there are also complaints about shortage of doctors, nurses and technical staffs in most of the ESI hospitals;
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (g) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to streamline the functioning of the ESI hospitals throughout the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MA. LIKARJUN KHARGE)

- (a) & (b): The condition of Employees' State Insurance (ESI) hospitals varies from State to State and location to location.
- (c) & (d): No reports about diversion of ESI money for other purposes have been received at ESI Corporation.
- (e) & (f): There are some vacancies of doctors/nurses and paramedical staff in ESI Hospitals across the country. Details of vacancies are annexed.
- g): Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) has taken following steps for streamlining the functioning of the ESI hospitals in the country:
 - 1. A decision has been taken to reimburse the administrative expenditure incurred by the State Government on actual basis without ceiling subject to fulfilment of certain conditions. This will ensure that the posting of the medical and paramedical staff in ESI Hospitals and dispensaries by the State Government as per norms and standards of ESI Corporation. It will help in providing proper medical care facilities to ESI beneficiaries. Further, the ceiling on medical care reimbursement to the States has been increased from Rs. 1200/- to Rs.1500/- w.e.f. 01.04.2012.
 - 2. Hospital Development Committees have been constituted in all ESI Hospitals. They have also been given adequate administrative and financial powers for taking decisions for improvement in medical care facilities.
 - 3. Initiatives have been taken to modernize & up-grade ESI hospitals by providing modern equipments for diagnostic and clinical services. To facilitate early sanction of equipments for hospitals, Senior State Medical Commissioners/State Medical Commissioners of ESIC at State level have been delegated powers to sanction equipments up to Rs.25 lakh per unit.
 - 4. Norms and standards have been formulated for staff and equipments for smooth functioning of hospitals and dispensaries.
 - 5. ESI Corporation is incurring entire expenditure on construction / repair and maintenance of hospital buildings and sharing expenditure on equipments costing above Rs.25000/- per unit outside the ceiling.
 - 6. For ensuring regular supply of medicines, rate contracts for allopathic and Ayurvedic drugs are formulated and sent to all the State Governments for procurement of medicines.
 - 7. A decision has been taken to set up one hospital in each State as Model Hospital. At present, ESIC has set up Model Hospital in 18 States. The expenditure on Model Hospitals is fully borne by ESI Corporation.
 - 8. The expenditure on super specialty treatment is borne by ESI Corporation outside the ceiling since 01.08.2008 and ESIC has

entered into tie up arrangement with reputed Govt./private hospitals for super speciality services and is providing cashless and hassle free services to the ESI beneficiaries. State ESI Hospitals can refer the patient for super speciality treatment directly to tie-up hospitals and bills are paid by ESIC.

9. It has been decided that henceforth all new hospitals under construction and those proposed will be run directly by ESI Corporation and total expenditure on these will be borne by ESI Corporation.