

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2670

ANSWERED ON:26.08.2013

MEDICAL FACILITIES FOR UNORGANISED LABOURERS

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

(a)whether the Government is considering to provide housing as well as medical facility to the labourers in the unorganised sector including cashew workers;

(b)if so, the details thereof;

(c)the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and

(d)the estimated number of labourers in the unorganised sector likely to be benefited from the said schemes every year?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH)

(a) to (d):Government has already taken various initiatives to provide medical facilities as well as housing to the unorganised workers/labourers and persons living below the poverty line. Some of these initiatives are listed as under:

Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY): This scheme provides for smart card based cashless health insurance cover of Rs.30,000/- per annum on family floater basis to BPL families (a unit of five) since 01.04.2008. Apart from BPL families, the RSBY has been extended to other categories of unorganised workers, viz building & other construction workers, street vendors, MGNREGA workers who have worked for more than 15 days in preceding financial year, beedi workers, domestic workers, sanitation workers, mine workers, rickshaw pullers, rag pickers and auto/taxi drivers. As on 31.07.2013 more than 3.56 crore families are covered under RSBY.

Indira Awas Yojana: This scheme provides financial assistance to houseless poor families including unorganised workers and those living in dilapidated and kutcha houses. This scheme has a component for providing house sites to the landless poor as well.

Ministry of Labour & Employment is administering five Welfare Funds for beedi, cine and certain categories of non-coal mine workers. The Funds are used to provide financial assistance to these workers for medial treatment and construction of houses.