

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3069
ANSWERED ON:10.02.2014
WELFARE OF TOBACCO WORKERS
Rajaram Shri Wakchaure Bhausahb

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

- (a) whether the Government has formulated or proposes to formulate any scheme for the welfare of tobacco workers in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): The Government has not formulated any scheme exclusively for Tobacco Workers. However, the tobacco workers working in organized sector are covered by the schemes under the Acts such as:

- i) The Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948
- ii) The Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952
- iii) The Employees' Compensation Act, 1923
- iv) The Maternity Benefit Act, 1961
- v) The Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972

The Government has also enacted the Unorganized Workers' Social Security Act, 2008 to provide for social security and welfare of all unorganised workers. As part of its implementation, the RSBY launched in 2008 has been extended to beedi workers; in unorganised sector.

The Government also runs various schemes under Beedi Workers Welfare Fund Act, 1976: for the welfare of beedi workers. The schemes include providing health care through hospitals and dispensaries, medical assistance for treatment of various ailments, scholarships to the children, housing subsidy and recreation facilities.