

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3223

ANSWERED ON:10.08.2015

Insurance to Mine Workers

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Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government proposes to bear the health costs of mine workers in view the health hazards associated with their work;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government also proposes to provide an accidental insurance to cover mine workers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the extent to which it is likely to help the mining workers?

Answer

(a) and (b): Under the Mines Rules, 1955 provisions framed under Mines Act 1952, for medical facilities in the form of first aid stations and first aid rooms for the benefit of persons employed in mines are statutorily mandated. Provisions for facilities to conduct elaborate initial medical examination prior to employment and thereafter periodical medical examination once in every five years irrespective of working status/position of the employee are also available in most of the mines.

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

(c) to (e): 'Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana' (RSBY) was launched on 1st October, 2007 to provide smart card based cashless health insurance cover of Rs. 30,000/- per annum to Below Poverty Line (BPL) families (a unit of five) in the unorganized sector. The scheme became operational from 01.04.2008.

It is the endeavour of the Government to extend RSBY to all unorganised workers in a phased manner. During the course of implementation, apart from BPL families, RSBY coverage has been extended to various categories of unorganised workers including Mine Workers.
