

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:404

ANSWERED ON:22.12.2014

ESI BENEFITS

Mullappally Shri Ramachandran;Singh Shri Ravneet

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

- (a) the number of workers having access to Employees' State Insurance (ESI) in the country and the percentage share of such employees to the total workforce in the country;
- (b) the number and the details of hospitals/dispensaries under the ESI scheme, State/UT-wise at present;
- (c) whether the decision to increase the salary limit for availing of the ESI benefits has not yet been implemented and if so, the reasons therefor along with the present status thereof;
- (d) whether the Union Government has received proposals from some State Governments including Kerala for extension of ESI medical facilities to States/districts not presently covered; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE(IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 404 FOR 22.12.2014 BY SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN AND SHRI RAVNEET SINGH REGARDING ESI BENEFITS.

(a) As on 31.3.2014 there were 1.74 crore employees enrolled under Employees' State Insurance (ESI) Act, 1948. The estimated size of work force in the organized sector based on National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) figure of 68th round (2011-12) is 2.89 crore and percentage share of ESI enrolled employees to total work force in the organized sector in the country comes to 60.2 per cent.

(b) The State/UT-wise number of ESI hospitals and dispensaries is at Annex-I. The State/UT-wise details of ESIC/ESIS hospitals is at Annex-II.

(c) Though the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) has taken a number of decisions to improve the medical services to be provided under the Employees' State Insurance Scheme (ESIS), the Government has decided to consider the proposal for increase in wage ceiling for availing ESIC benefits under the ESI Act after further improvement of medical services by the ESIC.

(d) & (e) Yes, Madam. During the year 2014-15 (upto November, 2014) a total of 56 proposals from State Governments, including 28 from Kerala, were received for implementation of ESI Scheme in new areas and all the 56 areas have been brought under coverage of the ESI Scheme by issuance of the appropriate notifications.