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Title: Regarding enhancement of wage ceiling from Rs. 15,000/- to Rs. 25000/- for joining the ESI scheme.

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKKARA): I would like to invite the attention of the hon. Government, through you, Madam, to the tremendous demand from trade unions and social organizations for implementing a decision taken during the UPA Government. During the UPA Government, the ESIC Board had decided to enhance the wage ceiling from Rs.15,000 to Rs.25,000 for joining the ESI scheme

If the decision is implemented, it is estimated that around 25 lakh new employees will come under the purview of ESIC and thereby, they will get social security cover. While we are talking in terms of giving medical insurance cover to more employees, the salary ceiling enhancement will be a great boon to the employees, workers and their families. It will benefit them not only in terms of medical insurance but also in terms of other social security cover.

But the Ministry has not notified the decision even after one year. This is due to the delay of the Ministry. Madam, 25 lakh workers are not coming under the ESI scheme because the Ministry has not issued the Notification. Thousands of journalists also will come under the ESI scheme because of the enhancement of the wage ceiling.

I would like to request the hon. Labour Minister and the Government to issue this Notification and implement it at the earliest. Thank you, Madam.