

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1535
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14TH MARCH, 2023**

WELFARE OF PLANTATION LABOURERS IN THE COUNTRY

1535 SHRI JOSE K. MANI:

Will the Minister of **HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any plan/proposals to improve the health and wellness conditions of the plantation labourers in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has undertaken any health related projects for plantation laborers in the last two years; and
- (d) if so, the details of action taken thereof, State-wise?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)**

(a) to (d); As informed by Ministry of Labour & Employment, the Plantations Labour Act, 1951 regulates the conditions of plantation labour including Tea plantation labour. The Act requires the employers to make provisions for supply of wholesome drinking water, separate conservancy for males and females, latrines and urinals to be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition, and readily available medical facilities for the workers as prescribed by the State Government. The Act empowers the inspector, if he thinks necessary so to do, cause any young person employed in a plantation to be examined by a certifying surgeon. The Plantation Labour Act is implemented through the concerned State Governments.

The Plantation Labour Act has been subsumed in the Labour Code on Occupational, Safety, Health and Working Conditions, 2020 and Social Security Code, 2020. The Code on Social Security 2020 envisages giving option to plantation owners to enroll its workers as member of ESIC (Employees State Insurance Corporation). The ESIC

provides multiple benefits like sickness benefits, maternity benefit etc. besides medical benefits to its members.

As on 28.02.2023, More than 1.57 lakh Sub- Health Centres (SHC), Primary Health Centres (PHC) and Urban Primary Health Centres (UPHC) have been transformed into Ayushman Bharat- Health and Wellness Centres (AB-HWCs) to deliver twelve packages of Comprehensive Primary Health Care (CPHC) that includes preventive, promotive, curative, palliative and rehabilitative services which is universal, free and close to the community which can also be used by plantation labour.

Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri - Jan Arogya Yojana (ABPM-JAY) is the largest publicly funded health assurance scheme in the world which provides health cover of Rs. 5 lakhs per family per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization to 12 Crore poor & vulnerable families.
