GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 902 TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.02.2023

ESI HEALTH INSURANCE SCHEME IN DISTRICTS

902. MS. SUSHMITA DEV:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

- (a)whether ESIC has expanded the ESI Health Insurance Scheme to all the 702 districts of the country;
- (b)if not, the reasons therefor and by when Government intends to expand the Scheme to all the districts; and
- (c)whether Government plans to increase the wage limit for coverage in light of the pandemic and inflation?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAMESWAR TELI)

(a) & (b): As on 01.02.2023, the Employees' State Insurance (ESI) scheme is notified in all the states and union territories, except in the union territory of Lakshadweep. Out of the 744 districts of the country, the ESI scheme is extended in 609 districts, which include 481 fully covered and 128 partially covered districts under the scheme.

As the necessary arrangement for medical services in the form of primary and secondary care is made by the respective state government, the ESI Corporation (ESIC) supplements medical care with the consent of the state in order to extend ESI coverage in districts including in the non-covered areas/ districts.

(c): At present, there is no proposal to enhance the existing wage ceiling for coverage to avail benefits under the Employees' State Insurance (ESI) scheme.