GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 649 TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.02.2023

ESI HOSPITALS/DISPENSARIES IN WEST BENGAL

649. MS. NUSSRAT JAHAN:

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

- (a)the number of districts in West Bengal that do not have any ESI dispensaries or ESIC hospitals;
- (b)the total number of workers engaged in unorganized sector in West Bengal who are provided health facilities by ESI dispensaries and ESIC hospitals since last three years;
- (c)whether Government proposes to set up more ESIC hospitals in West Bengal; and
- (d)if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): At present, one district, namely Jhargram in the state of West Bengal does not have any Employees' State Insurance (ESI) hospital or dispensary.

The Employees' State Insurance (ESI) Act, 1948 is applicable to the factories and establishments having ten or more employees, drawing wages up to Rs.21000/- (Rs. 25,000/- for persons with disabilities). As such, the Act does not apply to the unorganised sector. As on 31.03.2022, there were a total of 71,21,003 ESI beneficiaries including 18,35,310 insured persons in the state of West Bengal.

The ESI Corporation has given in-principle approval for setting up of 100 bedded ESI hospitals at the following locations in the state of West Bengal:

- 1. Siliquri
- 2. Haldia
- 3. Garshyamnagar
- 4. Kharagpur
