

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1360
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.07.2025**

EXTEND THE BENEFIT OF ESI

1360. SHRI N K PREMACHANDRAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to extend the benefit of Employees State Insurance to workers such as Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA), Anganawadi, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee (MGNREGP), Auto Riksha, Taxi, Tailors etc., in the unauthorized sector;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Government proposes to increase the existing ceiling of income for providing ESI benefit to deserving class of workers;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof;**
- (e) whether the Government proposes to introduce an efficient mechanism to ascertain the actual number of Insured Persons (IPs) in Kollam Lok Sabha Constituency;**
- (f) if so, the action taken to rectify the disparity in the number of IPs as per the records and register kept in ESI dispensaries under IMS and IP strength maintained by the Employees' State Insurance Corporation, Sub-Regional Office;**
- (g) whether the Government proposes to increase the ESIC share of IPs in ESIC dispensaries under the control of IMS in Kerala; and**
- (h) if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SUSHRI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE)**

(a) to (d): The Employees' State Insurance (ESI) Act, 1948 is applicable to all factories and establishments having ten or more employees, drawing wages up to Rs 21,000/- (Rs. 25,000/- for Persons with disability). As such, the Act does not apply to the unorganized sector.

Contd..2/-

The revision of wage ceiling is undertaken periodically from time to time. The last revision in the wage ceiling for coverage under ESI Act, 1948 was done w.e.f. 01.01.2017, wherein the wage limit was raised from Rs. 15,000/- per month to Rs. 21,000/- per month.

(e) & (f): The existing IT-enabled system of ESI Corporation verifies eligibility criteria and maintains a live and dynamic list of Insured Persons (IPs) for providing the benefits under the ESI Act. This list is regularly updated based on employer submission, contribution detail and other eligibility parameters. The IP strength at regional and sub-regional offices is derived from this live system and all ESIC dispensaries rely solely on the centrally maintained online data.

(g) & (h): Currently, no such proposal is under consideration of the Central Government.

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