GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 158 TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.07.2016

CASUAL WORKERS IN ESI ACT

158. DR. P. VENUGOPAL:

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

- (a)whether the Government proposes to cover casual workers under the Employees State Insurance Act;
- (b if so, the details thereof;
- (c)whether the Government also proposes to expand the facilities at ESI hospitals in view of increase in the number of beneficiaries reaching the ESI hospitals every day; and
- (d)if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)

- (a): The Employees' State Insurance (ESI) Act, 1948 does not differentiate between regular and casual workers. Casual workers employed in a covered factory/establishment are eligible for all the benefits under the ESI Act, 1948.
- (b): Does not arise, in view of reply to part (a) of the question above.
- (c) & (d): Under its Agenda-ESIC 2.0, ESI Corporation has taken a number of measures for accommodating the new entrants in the system by expanding the hospital facilities in the country which, interalia includes following:-

- To enhance the hospital bed strength by 50% where bed occupancy is more than 70% during last 3 consecutive years and increasing sanctioned staff strength of ESIC hospitals accordingly.
- Setting up of ESI one doctor dispensary.
- Tie up with Insured Medical Practitioner and Govt./Private Hospitals and Nursing homes for primary and secondary medical care
- To make available electronic health record of patients.
- Evening OPD for senior Citizen & differently abled patients.
- Cancer detection/treatment facilities.
- Cardiology treatment facilities.
- Dialysis facilities.
- Complete immunization facilities.
- Telemedicine facilities.
- Ayush facilities.
