THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) The number of Insured Persons (IPs) covered under the ESI Scheme as on 31.03.2005 was 3,59,850 and as on 31.03.2009, the same was 5,97,540. The number of ESI Hospitals in Kerala is 13, out of which, 2 hospitals namely-ESI Model Hospital, Asramam and ESI Hospital, Udyogmandal are run by the ESI Corporation directly.

- (b) Notifications for implementing the scheme are issued by the Government, centrewise, depending upon arrangements made by the State Government for providing medical care to coverable employees of the centre.
- (c) and (d) The ESI Corporation is upgrading the existing 100-bedded hospital at Peripally, Kollam, Kerala to 300 bedded Hospital and it is also planned to start a Medical College at that place after which the hospital bed capacity would be further extended to 500 beds.

Free treatment to workers in unorganized sector

- †702. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is making arrangements for the free of cost treatment of workers working in unorganized sector;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
 - (c) whether any scheme is being run by Government for this purpose;
 - (d) if so, the current status of the scheme;
- (e) whether Government has been successful in achieving the targets fixed for the scheme so far; and
 - (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (d) The 'Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana' was launched on 01.10.2007 to provide smart card based cashless health insurance cover of Rs.30,000 per annum on a family floater basis to BPL families (a unit of five) in the unorganized sector. The scheme became operational w.e.f. 01.4.2008. The scheme is presently being implemented in 22 States/UTs. More than 1.23 crore smart cards have since been issued the scheme.

(e) and (f) It was estimated to cover 1.2 crore BPL families by the end of current financial year. However, more than 1.2 crore BPL families have since been covered and smart card issued. It is estimated to cover about 1.8 crore BPL families by the end of the next financial year and all BPL families in the next four years.

ESI hospitals and dispensaries in Himachal Pradesh

703. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

[†]Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.