

Paucity of funds for Welfare Schemes for Beedi workers

236. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is finding it difficult to run smoothly the welfare schemes for beedi workers due to paucity of funds;

(b) whether about 6 lakh beedi workers have not been issued identity cards depriving them from having access to the welfare fund and welfare schemes;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether it is a fact that the multiple or unauthorised agencies issuing fictitious identity cards will lead to duplicity and fake cards;

(e) if so, whether Government is monitoring the same; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) All Welfare Schemes for Beedi Workers are running smoothly.

(b) and (c) Issue of identity cards is an ongoing process. The remaining beedi workers are being issued identity cards on regular basis after completing due process.

(d) to (f) Medical Officers of the Dispensaries of Labour Welfare Organisation and authorised officials of the State Labour Department issue identity cards to beedi workers. Regular monitoring is being done by the dispensaries under Labour Welfare Organisation and State Government. In case any complaint regarding fictitious cards is received, it is enquired into and appropriate action is taken.

Castration as punishment for rapists

*237. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Delhi Court has recently suggested castration as punishment for rapists to minimize the rapes on girls and women;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government proposes to take on the suggestion of the Court?