

(c) The new series of WPI has the following salient features and improvements over the old series:—

- The revised basket of WPI and its weighting structure conform to the structure of economy in 2011-12.
- The number of items in the basket has increased from 676 to 697 and the number of price quotations has increased from 5482 to 8331.
- New series of WPI does not include indirect taxes in order to remove the impact of fiscal policy. This is in consonance with international practices and will make the new WPI conceptually closer to Producer Price Index.
- A new "Food Index" is compiled to capture the inflation in food items.
- Seasonality of fruits and vegetables has been updated to account for more months as they are now available for longer duration.
- Item level aggregates for new WPI are compiled using Geometric Mean (GM) instead of Arithmetic Mean.
- A Technical Review Committee has been set up to review and recommend appropriate methodological intervention to continuously improve coverage, quality and relevance of the WPI.

(d) The Government has modernized the data collection methods by adopting international norms and global best practices such as submission of data online through web portals, use of computer assisted personal interviewing methods etc.

ESI hospital at Gulbarga in Karnataka

1223. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) details of actual capacity of building of ESI hospital, Gulbarga, Karnataka for the service of labourers for their treatment;
- (b) what is the actual utilization of the campuses;
- (c) details of permanent and ad-hoc staff thereof, post-wise; and

(d) whether there are any grievances of employees when the hospital works with full capacity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) The Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) Medical College and Hospital, Gulbarga, Karnataka has a capacity of 470 beds.

(b) The details of the actual utilization of the campuses are as under:—

- Medical College building
- Hospital building
- Dental College building
- Boys Hostel
- Girls Hostel
- Community Centre
- Auditorium.

(c) The details of permanent and ad-hoc staff thereof, post-wise are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(d) The hospital is already functional with full capacity of 470 beds. There are few grievances like promotions of faculty staff.

Statement

Post-wise details of permanent and ad-hoc staff

(A)

Sl. No	Faculty	Permanent	Contractual	Total
1.	Professor	11	6	17
2.	Associate Professor	15	11	26
3.	Assistant Professor	39	12	51
4.	Senior Resident	—	24	24
5.	Junior Resident/Tutor	—	54	54
TOTAL				172

(B)

Sl. No	Faculty	Permanent	Contractual	Total
1.	Staff Nurse	20	106	126
2.	Paramedical	9	61	70
3.	Office Staff	16	-	16
TOTAL				212

Abolition of child labour

†1224. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is seriously considering total abolition of child labour;

(b) if so, whether Government has taken any action in this regard, so far; and

(c) if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) Government is following a multi pronged strategy for elimination of child labour comprising of statutory and legislative measures, rehabilitation and universal elementary education along with conveyance with other schemes for socio-economic development. Government has amended the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 and enacted the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2016 which came into force w.e.f. 1.9.2016. The amended Act *inter alia* provides for complete prohibition on employment or work of children below 14 years of age in any occupation or process and prohibition of employment or work of adolescents (14-18 years) in the hazardous occupations and processes. Subsequent to the amendment in the Act, a State Action Plan has been circulated to all State Governments/UTs for effective enforcement of the provisions of the Act. Further, Government has framed the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Amendment Rules, 2017 on 2.6.2017 which provides for District Modal Officer and Task Force at district level, under chairpersonship of District Magistrate, to ensure that the provisions of this Act are properly enforced.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.