GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1370 TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.12.2023

DATABASE OF MIGRANT WORKERS

1370. SHRI SAMIRUL ISLAM:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has a complete database of migrant workers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;
- (c) if not, whether Government has any plans to prepare a central database of migrantworkers;
- (d) the number of migrant workers died/killed during the Covid-19-induced lockdown;
- (e) whether Government has any plans to form a Board or Council exclusively for migrantworkers;
- (f) if so, the details thereof;
- (g) If not, Government's plan for the welfare of migrant workers; and
- (h) the details of States which have adopted the best policy for migrant workers?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAMESWAR TELI)

(a) to (h): The Ministry of Labour & Employment has launched e-SHRAM portal, a National Database of the Unorganised Workers on 26th August, 2021. It has been made available to the States/UTs for registration of unorganised workers including migrant workers on e-SHRAM portal. It also allows an unorganised worker to register himself or herself on the portal on self-declaration basis. The main objective of the e-SHRAM portal is to create a national database of unorganised workers seeded with Aadhaar. It is also to facilitate delivery of Social Security and welfare Schemes to such workers. As on 07.12.2023, more than 29.21 crore unorganized workers have been registered on this portal.

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In order to safeguard the interest of the Migrant workers, the Parliament has enacted the Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Services) Act, 1979 which, inter alia, provides for registration of certain establishments employing Inter State Migrant Workers, licensing of contractors etc. Workers employed with such establishment are to be provided payment of minimum wages, journey allowance, displacement allowance, residential accommodation, medical facilities and protective clothing etc. Therefore, adequate legal provisions are in place to protect the interest of the migrant workers.

The enforcement authorities under Central Industrial Relations Machinery (CIRM) conduct regular inspections of the registered establishments and licensed contractors. Besides, the State Governments are mandated to enforce the Act, in the State Sphere.
