GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2855 TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.08.2023

RATION CARD TO MIGRANT LABOURERS

2855. SHRI THIRUNAVUKKARASAR SU.:

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

- (a)the number of labourers registered on the e-Shram portal and those who do not have ration cards;
- (b)whether the Supreme Court has directed the States and UTs to provide ration cards to migrant labourers within three months;
- (c)if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the States/UTs on the apex court's directive;
- (d)if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e)the steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure the compliance of apex court's directive by the States and UTs?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e): As on 31st July 2023, over 28.99 crore unorganised workers have registered on eShram portal.

Ministry of Labour & Employment carried out matching of the eShram beneficiaries' data with the Ration Card data (National Food Security Act (NFSA)) available with the Department of Food and Public Distribution (DFPD). On matching of the two data sets, it was observed that as on 22nd February 2023, out of total 28.59 crore eShram registrants, about 20.63 crore eShram registrants are registered in NFSA database of DFPD and about 7.96 crore eShram registrants are not registered under NFSA database.

The Hon'ble Supreme Court vide order dated 20th April, 2023 gave three months' time to the concerned States/ UTs to undertake the exercise to issue ration cards to the left-out registrants on eShram portal.

Ministry of Labour & Employment is sharing eShram data with all States/ UTs' Labour departments through Data Sharing Portal (DSP) and/or Application Programming Interface (API). Further, Ministry has requested all States/UTs to provide benefits of various welfare schemes to the eligible leftout eShram registrants in a targeted manner including Ration Card. All the States/ UTs have on - boarded the Data Sharing portal and access to eShram database has been provided to them.