GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 102 TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.09.2020

LIVELIHOOD CRISIS OF MIGRANT LABOURERS

102. SHRI TALARI RANGAIAH:

SHRI N. REDDEPPA:

DR. BEESETTI VENKATA SATYAVATHI:

SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY:

SHRI K. NAVASKANI:

SHRI POCHA BRAHMANANDA REDDY:

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

- (a)whether the Government has taken any steps to solve the livelihood crisis of migrant workers in the country due to lack of jobs and loss of jobs as a result of COVID-19 pandemic; if so, the details thereof;
- (b)whether the Government has taken any concrete steps to increase or generate rural employment to kick start the rural economy;
- (c)if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d)Whether the Government proposes to provide jobs to migrant workers in their home States;
- (e)if so, the details thereof, scheme and State-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a): Government of India has announced Rs.1.70 Lakh Crore relief package under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY) for the poor to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 pandemic. Measures are intended at reaching out to the poorest of the poor, with food and money in hands, so that they do not face difficulties in buying essential supplies and meeting essential needs. The salient features of the relief package are:

- (i) Insurance cover of Rs.50 Lakh per health worker fighting Covid-19 provided under the insurance scheme.
- (ii) 80 crore people are being provided additional 5 kg wheat or rice and 1 kg of preferred pulses, free of cost every month till November, 2020 to all the beneficiaries under provisions of National Food Security Act.
- (iii) 20.65 crores women Jan Dhan account holder has been given cash assistance of Rs.500/- per month per person for three months. Rs.10,325 Crores, Rs.10,315 Crores and Rs.10,312 Crores have been credited in three installments to the women Jan Dhan account holders.
- (iv) 8 crore poor families registered under the scheme of Ujjwala will get 1 gas cylinder, per family per month free of cost for the next three months.
- (v) MNREGA wage has been increased Rs.202/- a day from Rs.182/-, which will benefit 13.62 crore families.
- (vi) An ex-gratia financial assistance of Rs.1000/- per person will be given to 3 crore poor senior citizen, poor widows and poor disabled. Rs.2814.5 Crores disbursed to about 2.81 crores old age persons, widows and disabled persons in two installments.
- (vii) Rs.17,891 Crore front loaded towards payment of the first installment of PM-KISAN Yojana to 8.94 crore beneficiaries.
- (viii) Wage-earners earning below Rs.15000/- per month in establishment having less than 100 workers, would be given 24% of their monthly wages into their PF accounts, per person, per month for next three months.
- (ix) 2.03 crores Building and Other Construction workers have been given cash assistance of Rs.5000 crores (approx.) from the cess fund.
- (x) 30 lakh BOC workers have been given food packages relief also from cess fund.
- (b) to (e): To boost employment and livelihood opportunities for migrant workers returning to villages, in the wake of COVID-19 outbreak, Government of India has launched Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan on 20th June 2020. The Abhiyaan focuses on durable rural infrastructure and providing modern facilities like internet in the villages. Skill Mapping of the rural migrant labour is being done to help them work closer home. The Abhiyaan involves intensified and

focused implementation of 25 target driven works to provide employment and create infrastructure in the rural areas of 116 districts of 6 States with a resource envelope of Rs 50,000 crore. Apart from this, the Ministry of Women and Child Development has launched various schemes for migrant workers who have returned to their native places. One of the schemes is Anganwadi services which has been extended to children of migrant workers.

Ministry of Food Processing Industries have sanctioned 700 food processing/preservation and infrastructure projects in which migrant labourers will get employment.

To provide employment to the migrant workers Ministry of Transport and Highways has identified the ongoing works/new works for the road construction. Ministry of Steel assisted migrant workers and their families with food packets and face mask, milk powder etc.

The Department of Bio Technology has set up 30 Biotech – Kisan hubs in the country covering all Agroclimatic zones, 150 Districts including 101 aspirational districts which will help migrant workers to earn their livelihood through farming and expose them to the innovative methods of farming of high value crops.
