GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1187 TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.09.2020

UNORGANISED WORKERS

†1187. SHRI DILIP SAIKIA: SHRI RAMESH CHANDER KAUSHIK:

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

- (a) the steps taken by the Government to benefit the workers of unorganized sector in order to tackle the situation arising due to the pandemic at present;
- (b)whether the Government proposes to provide relief package to the workers of unorganized sector in north-eastern states including Assam;
- (c)whether the Government proposes to provide relief package to the workers of unorganized sector in all the States including Haryana; and
- (d)if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): In order to mitigate the impact on the unorganised workers and protect them against the economic disruptions due to the outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic and related lockdown the Central Government has taken numerous measures to provide them financial assistance, food packages, ration and other benefits. In order to ensure relief measures for the poor people including migrant workers and also their families/dependents in a sustainable manner, the Central Government announced Rs.1.70 Lakh Crore relief package under

Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY). To boost employment and livelihood opportunites 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 Abhiyan 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. Government has also announced a Special economic comprehensive package of Rs20 lakh crore on 12th May 2020 based on five pillars of Atmanirbhar Bharat - Economy, Infrastructure, System, Vibrant Demography and Demand. For the Building and Other Construction Workers, the Ministry issued advisory on 24.03.2020 under section-60 of the Building and Other Construction Workers Act, 1996 to all the States/UTs to provide financial assistance to building and other construction workers from the cess funds collected by the States/UTs including north eastern States and Assam. In response, the State Welfare Boards have cumulatively disbursed around Rs.5000 Crores, to approx. 1.83 Crores BOCW Workers during lockdown and thereafter. Government of India has also launched SVANidhi Scheme for the benefit of 50 lakh street vendors to provide them collateral free working capital loan upto Rs.10,000/- to resume their livelihood. In addition to the above, the Central Government has issued comprehensive **Advisory Guidelines on** 27.07.2020 to all the States/UTs for the welfare of the migrant workers including unorganised workers returning to the destination states for work.
