GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1215 TO BE ANSWERED ON 19^{TH} SEPTEMBER, 2020

EMPLOYMENT CRISIS

1215. SHRI ARUN SAO: SHRI NISITH PRAMANIK:

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

- (a) the steps taken by the Government to provide employment to youths and workers in view of employment crisis due to impact of Corona pandemic in the country;
- (b) the steps taken by the Government to provide employment to migrant workers who have come back to their home states including Cooch Behar Constituency of West Bengal;
- (c) the details of status of programmes like Aatm Nirbhar Bharat and Make in India;
- (d) whether needy people are getting employment under the above programmes; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the reformative measures being taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e): The global spread of the corona virus (COVID-19) followed by lockdowns has affected economies across the globe, including India. Covid-19 has resulted in large number of migrant workers going back to their native places. Government has taken initiatives for creating jobs at local levels & supporting migrant workers including workers of Cooch Behar Constituency of West Bengal through Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY), Aatmanirbhar Bharat & Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Rozgar Abhayan (PMGKRA). Aatmanirbhar Bharat is based on Economy, Infrastructure, System, Vibrant Demography and Demand to create jobs for the youth. It encompasses an economic package of Rs. 20 Lakh crore inter-alia, for facilitating creation of employment opportunities in the country.

Under PMGKY, Government of India is contributing both 12% employer's share and 12% employee's share under Employees Provident Fund (EPF), totalling 24% of the wage for the wage month from March to August, 2020 for all the establishments having upto 100 employees with 90% of such employees earning less than Rs. 15000/-.

Statutory PF contribution of both employer and employee has been reduced to 10% each from existing 12% each for all establishments covered by EPFO for three months.

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 to be implemented in a mission mode campaign in 125 days.

As per the information available, total employment generated (in days) under the Abhiyaan is 26,34,23,281 mandays with expenditure of Rs. 22761 crore as on 08.09.2020.

Government has also taken steps to strengthen Infrastructure Logistics, Capacity Building, Governance and Administrative Reforms for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Processing Sectors. These include Rs. 1 lakh crore Agri Infrastructure Fund for farm-gate infrastructure for farmers; Rs. 10,000 crore scheme for formalisation of Micro Food Enterprises; Rs. 20,000 crore for Fishermen through Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana; National Animal Disease Control Programme; Setting up of Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund of Rs. 15,000 crore; Promotion of Herbal Cultivation with an outlay of Rs. 4,000 crore; Beekeeping initiatives worth Rs. 500 crore; Measures for Governance and Administrative Reforms for Agriculture Sector; Amendments to Essential Commodities Act to enable better price realisation for farmers; Agriculture Marketing Reforms to provide marketing choices to farmers; Agriculture Produce Price and Quality Assurance.

RBI and Government of India have introduced following measures to infuse liquidity in the economy to sustain the market economy.

- i. Moratorium up to 31st August, 2020 on repayment of installments of term loans/cash credit/over draft
- ii. Scheme of Rs. 1,500 crore to provide Interest Subvention of 2% for prompt payees for a period of 12 months to MUDRA Shishu loanees, who have loans below Rs. 50,000.
- iii. Reducing the Cash Reserve Ratio and Repo rate
- iv. Special refinance facility of Rs.15,000 crore to SIDBI for onlending/refinancing
- v. Special liquidity scheme for Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs), Housing Finance Companies (HFCs) and Micro Financial Institutions (MFIs) worth ₹30,000 crore
- vi. Emergency Credit Guarantee Line of Rs. 3 lakh crore for Standard accounts and stressed accounts (Special Mention Accounts-0 and Special Mention Accounts-1)
- vii. Rs. 45,000 crore Partial Credit Guarantee Scheme 2.0 for providing portfolio guarantee of 20% first loss to Public Sector Banks for purchase of Bonds or Commercial Papers with a rating of AA and below
- viii. Ban on Global Tender for procurement up to Rs. 200 crore.
- ix. Credit Guarantee Scheme for Subordinate Debt for SMA-2 and NPA accounts for infusing Rs. 20,000 crore in MSME Sector
- x. Credit Guarantee scheme for Street Vendors (PM SVAnidhi) which also involves interest subsidy
- xi. Partial credit guarantee scheme for the liabilities of NBFCs and MFIs, etc.