GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 210 TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.09.2020

CHALLENGES OF EMPLOYMENT AND HOUSING

†210. SHRI AJAY KUMAR MISRA TENI:

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

- (a)whether unprecedent challenges of employment and housing have been posed with reverse migration (from work place to home state) of labourers and unavailability of employment at work place and institutions;
- (b)if so, whether the Government has any proposal to formulate any scheme for maintaining records of the registration of migrant labourers, their home States, native place, their work place destination and institutions in order to deal with any such difficult situation in future; and
- (c)if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): India, as a Nation, has responded through the Central Government, State Governments, Local Bodies, Self-help Groups, Resident Welfare Associations, Medical Health Professionals, Sanitation Workers as well as large number of genuine and bonafide non-governmental organizations in the Nation's fight against the unprecedented human crisis due to the outbreak of Covid – 19 and country-wide lockdown.

The Central Government has issued comprehensive Advisory Guidelines on 27.07.2020 to all the States/UTs for the welfare of the migrant workers returning to the destination States in the backdrop of Covid – 19. The States/UTs have been advised to take adequate steps to streamline the migration of the workers to mitigate the hardships of migrant workers returning to the destination States/UTs. The States/UTs have been advised to implement the advisory guidelines by guickly gearing up their labour Law enforcement machinery and ensuring statutory compliance by all the stake-holders which could provide migrant workers much needed help to mitigate the financial crisis and empower them to deal with the pandemic. The States/UTs have also been advised to maintain updated data of the migrant workers to facilitate the administration to extend benefits of the welfare schemes of the Government to the migrant workers. Apart from this Central Government has already enacted the Inter-state Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979 to safeguard the interest of the migrant workers which inter-alia provides for registration of establishments employing Inter-State Migrant workers, Licensing of contractors etc. Migrant workers employed with such establishments are to be provided statutory wages as per the rule in force, journey allowance, displacement allowance, residential accommodation, medical facilities and protective clothing etc.
