

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 294**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 15<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2020/BHADRAPADA 24, 1942 (SAKA)**

**FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO MIGRANTS**

**294. SHRI KUMBAKUDI SUDHAKARAN:**

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

**(a) whether the Government had monitored the distress migration of people on foot from Delhi to other States during COVID-19 lockdown and if so, the details thereof;**

**(b) whether the Government has any data on the number of persons who died on road while trying to reach their home States during COVID-19 lockdown;**

**(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;**

**(d) whether the Government has provided financial assistance to migrants who lost their income source during COVID-19 lockdown; and**

**(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS  
(SHRI NITYANAND RAI)**

**(a): Central Government was fully conscious that during the period of an inevitable lockdown, people should not be deprived of essential supplies. The situation was closely monitored 24\*7 through Control Rooms at national level. With a view to provide food, health care and shelter to homeless people including migrant workers, Central Government on 28.03.2020, allowed the State Governments to use State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) for this purpose.**

**Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) also issued regular advisories to States/Union Territories (UTs) to take all necessary measures to provide shelters, food, water, health facilities and also proper counseling to migrant workers.**

**MHA on 19<sup>th</sup> April, 2020 allowed movement of migrant workers within the States/UTs so that these workers could be engaged in industrial, farming, construction, manufacturing and MNREGA works as additional new activities were permitted outside containment zones with effect from 20.04.2020. MHA vide orders dated 29<sup>th</sup> April and 1<sup>st</sup> May 2020, further allowed movement of migrants workers to their native places by buses and Shramik special trains respectively.**

**(b) and (c): Data on the number of persons who died on road while trying to reach their home State during COVID-19 lockdown is not centrally maintained. However, all necessary steps were taken by Central Government to facilitate the movement of migrant workers.**

**(d) and (e): The Central Government, on 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2020 announced a relief package under the “Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana”, totaling Rs.1.70 lakh crore for the poor to help them fight the battle against Corona Virus. Around 42 crore poor people have received financial assistance of Rs. 68, 820 crore under this scheme. Further the Central Government have launched the “Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan” on 20<sup>th</sup> June, 2020 to boost employment and livelihood opportunities for migrant workers returning to villages, in the wake of COVID-19 outbreak.**