GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *271 TO BE ANSWERED ON 15TH MARCH, 2021

JOBS/ASSISTANCE TO UNEMPLOYED

*271. SHRI RAMSHIROMANI VERMA: SHRIMATI SANGEETA AZAD:

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

- (a) the number of workers/ labourers/ educated youth who have lost their jobs due to COVID-19 pandemic in the organized and unorganized sectors in the country, State-wise including Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) whether the Government has formulated any plan for providing employment to all these unemployed people and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of persons, out of them, who have been provided employment, State-wise and district-wise; and
- (d) whether the Government proposes to provide any financial assistance to the persons rendered jobless?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *271 DUE FOR REPLY ON 15-03-2021 BY SHRI RAMSHIROMANI VERMA, SHRIMATI SANGEETA AZAD REGARDING "JOBS/ASSISTANCE TO UNEMPLOYED"

(a) to (d):The Corona Virus (COVID-19) pandemic followed by lockdowns has affected economies across the globe including India. Government of India has taken several initiatives to address the challenges and threats posed by Covid-19.

The Government is providing fiscal stimulus of more than rupees twenty seven lakh crore as part of the Aatmanirbhar financial Package. Aatmanirbhar Bharat package comprises of various long term schemes/programmes/policies for making the country self-reliant and to create employment opportunities for organised and unorganised sectors.

Aatmanirbhar Bharat Rozgar Yojna (ABRY) Scheme has been launched to incentivize employers for creation of new employment along with social security benefits and restoration of loss of employment during COVID-19 pandemic. This scheme being implemented through the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) reduces the financial burden of the employers of various sectors/industries and encourages them to hire more workers. Under ABRY, the Government of India is bearing for a period of two years, both the employees' share (12% of wages) and employers' share (12% of wages) of contribution payable or only the employees' share, depending on employment strength of the EPFO registered establishments. The status of registration of beneficiaries as on 28.02.2021 is given below

No. of establishments	No.of new employees	Amount of benefit
registered	registered	
1.83 lakh	15.30 Lakh	Rs. 186.34 Crore

Under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY), Government has contributed both 12% employer's share and 12% employee's share under Employees Provident Fund (EPF), totaling 24% of the wage for the wage month from March to August, 2020 for the establishments having upto 100 employees with 90% of such employees earning less than Rs. 15000/-. Under the PMGKY scheme Rs 2567.66 crore was credited in EPF accounts of 38.82 lakh eligible employees.

The unemployment benefit under the Atal Beemit Vyakti Kalyan Yojana being implemented by the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) has been enhanced to 50% from 25% of the average wage, payable upto 90 days, alongwith relaxation of eligibility conditions to claim the benefit.

To boost employment and livelihood opportunities for migrant workers returning to villages, in the wake of COVID-19 outbreak, Government had launched Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan (GKRA) on 20th June 2020 for six states. 50,78,68,671persondays employment has been generated in six states under the GKRA.

Government has earmarked an additional Rs. 40,000 crore under MGNREGS to generate nearly 300 crore person days in total addressing need for more work including returning migrant workers. MGNREGA wage has been increased to Rs. 202 a day from Rs. 182 to benefit 13.62 crore families.

PM-SVANidhi Scheme has facilitated collateral free working capital loan upto Rs.10,000/- for one-year tenure to street vendors, to resume their businesses.
