### GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

#### **LOK SABHA**

### UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1125 TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.07.2021

#### **MIGRATION AND REVERSE MIGRATION**

#### 1125. SHRI THIRUMAAVALAVAN THOL:

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

- (a)whether the Government is aware of the Labourers' Migration and Reverse Migration, moving within India and moving back from foreign countries;
- (b)if so, the details thereof;
- (c)whether the Government has observed any adverse impact on the financial condition of the Labourers due to such Reverse Migration; and
- (d)if so, the measures taken by the Government to prevent such destabilization in the life of such labourers?

#### **ANSWER**

## MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAMESWAR TELI)

(a) to (d): Migration of workers in search of work from one place to another is a normal phenomenon. The global spread of the corona virus followed by lockdowns has affected economies across the globe. The details of the remedial measures taken by the Government to provide assistance to the affected workers are enclosed at the Annexure.

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Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) to (d) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1125 for 26.07.2021 regarding Migration and Reverse Migration.

# Measures taken by the Government to protect livelihood during Covid-19 Pandemic.

#### Measures taken by the Ministry of Labour and Employment:

- a.) Aatmanirbhar Bharat Rozgar Yojna (ABRY) Scheme has been launched with effect from 1st October, 2020 to incentivize employers for creation of new employment along with social security benefits and restoration of loss of employment during COVID-19 pandemic.
- b.) Under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY), Govt. contributed both 12% employers' share and 12% employees' share under Employees Provident Fund (EPF) for the wage month from March to August, 2020 for establishments having up to 100 employees with 90% of such employees earning less than Rs. 15000.
- c.) Statutory PF contribution of both employer and employee was reduced to 10% each from existing 12% each for all establishments covered by EPFO for three months.
- d) Employees' Provident Fund Regulations was amended to include Pandemic as the reason to allow non-refundable advance of 75 percent of the amount or three months of the wages, whichever is lower, from their accounts.
- e.) States/UTs were advised to frame a scheme under Building and other Construction workers (BOCW) Act, 1996 for transfer of funds in the bank account of BOC workers. In response, during first wave of Covid-19, Rs. 5618 crores were disbursed to 1.83 crore BOCW workers and during second wave, Rs. 1795 crores have been disbursed to 1.23 crore workers.
- f.) Unemployment benefit under the Atal Beemit Vyakti Kalyan Yojana (ABVKY) being implemented by the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) has been enhanced to 50% from 25% of the average earning, payable upto 90 days, along with relaxation of eligibility conditions for insured workers who have lost employment due to COVID-19 pandemic.

- g.) To support the families of insured persons (IP) under the ESIC scheme, it has been decided that, all dependent family member of IP's who have been registered under the online portal of ESIC prior to their diagnosis of Covid-19 disease and subsequent death due to disease, will be entitled to dependent pension equivalent to 90% of average daily wage drawn by the worker subject to certain eligibility conditions.
- h.) Under the EPFO's Employees' Deposit linked Insurance scheme, all surviving dependent family members are eligible to avail benefits of EDL in case of death in harness of the member and amount of maximum benefit has been increased from Rs.6 Lakh to Rs.7 Lakh to the family members of deceased employee.
- i.) Under the Chief Labour Commissioner (Central)/ CLC(C), MoLE, Govt. of India 20 Control Rooms were set up on pan India basis on 11.04.2021 to resolve the grievances of workers, mainly wage related and migrant labour issues.

#### Measures taken by the other ministries:

- a.) Under MGNREGA, wage has been increased to Rs. 202 a day from Rs. 182 w.e.f. 01.04.2020 to benefit nearly 13.62 crore families.
- b.) Government under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyan (PMGKRA), has taken various initiatives to boost rural infrastructure and rural economy to provide local employment opportunities particularly to the migrant returnees. PMGKRA covered 116 districts of 6 States in a mission mode campaign of 125 days.
- c.) PM-SVANidhi Scheme has been launched to facilitate collateral free working capital loan upto Rs.10,000/- for one-year tenure to street vendors, to help them resume their businesses, which were adversely affected due to Covid-19 pandemic.
- d.) Insurance scheme for health workers fighting COVID-19 in Government Hospitals and Health Care Centres was launched w.e.f. 30.03.2020 to provide comprehensive personal accident cover of Rs. 50 lakh to around 22.12 lakh public healthcare providers.
- e.) PM Garib Kalyan Ann Yojana- Additional allocation of food grain @ 5 kg per person per month free of cost was provided to all beneficiaries

- covered under the targeted public distribution system. The scheme has been extended for the period April 2021 to November 2021.
- f.) The first instalment of Rs 2,000 due in 2020-21 was front-loaded and paid in April 2020 itself under the PM KISAN Yojana, covering about 8.7 crore farmers.
- g.) A total of 20.40 crores (approx.) women account-holders under Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) were given ex-gratia of Rs 500 per month for three months.
- h.) An amount of Rs.1000/- each to around 3 crore aged widows and people in Divyang category was provided.
- i.) Self-Help groups: Limit of collateral free lending was increased from Rs 10 to Rs 20 lakhs for women organized through 63 lakhs Self Help Groups (SHGs), who support 6.85 crore households.

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