GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5230 TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.04.2022

SURPLUS LABOUR FORCE

5230. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN:

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

- (a)whether the Government has taken steps/ proposes to address the issues of labour in India and if so, the details thereof;
- (b)whether the Government proposes to use surplus labour force available in different regions and if so, the details of the action taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c)whether the Government proposes for labour reforms and if so, the details of the action taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (d)whether the Government also proposes to start separate recruitment for absorption of skilled labour in various Public Undertakings and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a): Yes, Sir. The Government is committed to address the issues of labour work force in India, protect and safeguard the interest of the workers with due regard to create a healthy work environment for higher production and productivity. The Government has enacted several labour laws to provide social security, to create healthy working conditions, to ensure occupational safety and minimum wages for the workers.

(b): Migration of surplus labour force from one place to another place is a continuous process and migrant workers keep moving in search of better livelihood options. Such workforce also keeps shifting from one sector to another depending upon the opportunities (such as better wages, duration and continuity of work). In order to safeguard the interest of the migrant workers, the Central Government had enacted the Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Services) Act, 1979 which, inter alia, provides for payment of minimum wages, journey allowance, displacement allowance, residential accommodation, medical facilities and protective clothing. However, the Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Services) Act, 1979 has now been subsumed in the Code on Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions, 2020.

(c): The Government has notified four Labour Codes, namely the Code on Wages, 2019; the Industrial Relation Code 2020; the Code on Social Security 2020 and the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code 2020 after simplification, amalgamation and rationalization of 29 Central labour Laws, with an objective to strengthen the protection available to workers, including unorganised workers, in terms of statutory minimum wage, social security protection and healthcare of workers.

(d): Recruitment to fill up the vacancies in Public Sector Undertaking is an on going process and is done in accordance with the relevant Recruitment Rules and guidelines issued by particular PSUs from time to time.
