GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2458 TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.08.2022

NATIONAL POLICY FOR MIGRANT WORKERS

2458. MS. DEBASREE CHAUDHURI:

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

- (a)whether the Government is contemplating a comprehensive National Policy for migrant workers in the country after their shocking and distressing experiences during the lockdown and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (b) the details of the progress of the relief package announced as part of Garib Kalyan Rozgar Abhiyan including the number of beneficiaries that have been covered at present?

ANSWER

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

(a): Government had enacted the Inter-state Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979 to safeguard the interests of the inter-state migrant workers. This Act has now been subsumed in the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions (OSH) Code, 2020. The OSH Code provides for decent working conditions, minimum wages, grievance redressal mechanism and other benefits to all category of unorganised workers including migrant workers. Special provisions such as widening the definition of Inter-state migrant workers, toll free helpline, journey allowance, etc. for such workers have also been incorporated in the OSH Code, 2020. Further, Ministry of Labour & Employment has launched eSHRAM portal, a National Database of the Unorganised

Workers on 26th August, 2021. It has been made available to the States/UTs for registration of unorganised workers including migrant workers. The main objective of the e-SHRAM portal is to create a national database of unorganised workers seeded with Aadhaar. It shall also facilitate delivery of Social Security and welfare Schemes to such workers. The portal also aims to facilitate portability of benefits of welfare schemes to the migrant workers. As on 27.07.2022, more than 28.02 crore unorganised workers have been registered on this portal.

(b): To boost employment and livelihood opportunities for migrant workers returning to villages in the wake of COVID-19 outbreak, Government of India launched Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyan (GKRA) on 20.06.2020. GKRA involves intensified and focused implementation of 25 target driven works to provide employment and create infrastructure in the rural areas of 116 districts of 6 States with a resource envelope of Rs.50,000 crore. With a total expenditure of Rs. 39,293 crore the Abhiyan has already generated 50,78,68,671 mandays employment.
