GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1277 TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.12.2025

DISCRIMINATION OF MIGRANT LABOUR

1277. SHRI ABHISHEK BANERJEE: SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE:

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

- (a) the details of the number of migrant labourers recorded during the year from 2021 to 2025 across the country, State-wise;
- (b)whether it is a fact that migrant workers from West Bengal have been detained or discriminated on linguistic grounds in various States, if so, the details thereof, case-wise; and
- (c) the details of the measures taken by the Government to ensure protection against discrimination of migrant labourers, particularly on the basis of language or place of origin and castes?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SUSHRI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE)

(a) to (c): The Ministry of Labour & Employment launched eShram portal, a National Database of the Unorganised Workers on 26th August, 2021. It has also been made available to the States/UTs for registration of unorganised workers including migrant workers. It allows an unorganised worker to register himself or herself on the portal on a self- declaration basis. The main objective of the eShram portal is to create a national database of unorganised workers seeded with Aadhaar. As on 03.12.2025, over 31.39 crore unorganized workers including migrant workers have registered on eShram portal. State-wise number of unorganized workers including migrant workers registered on eShram portal is annexed.

In order to safeguard the interest of the Migrant workers, Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Services) Act,1979 provides for registration of certain establishments employing Inter-State Migrant Workers and licensing Contd...2/-

of contractors. Workers employed with such establishment are to be provided payment of minimum wages, journey allowance, displacement allowance, residential accommodation, medical facilities and protective clothing etc.

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, grievances redressal mechanisms, toll free helpline, protection from abuse and exploitation and social security to all category of organized and unorganized workers including migrant workers. With expanded social security, stronger protections and nationwide portability of entitlements, the codes place workers, especially migrant workers firmly at the centre of labour governance. The Code will be applicable to every establishment in which ten or more interstate migrant workers are employed or were employed on any day in the preceding twelve months.

'Labour', being a subject under the Concurrent List, is regulated by both the State Government and the Central Government within their respective jurisdictions. The enforcement authorities under Central Industrial Relations Machinery (CIRM) conduct regular inspections of the registered establishments and licensed contractors in the Central Sphere. The State Governments are mandated to enforce the Act, in the State Sphere.

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ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1277 FOR 08.12.2025 REGARDING "DISCRIMINATION OF MIGRANT LABOUR" RAISED BY SHRI ABHISHEK BANERJEE & SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE.

State-wise number of unorganised workers registered on eShram portal, as on 03.12.2025

| S. | States | Registration on eShram Portal as |
|-----|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| N. | | on 03.12.2025 |
| 1. | ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS | 34,995 |
| 2. | ANDHRA PRADESH | 87,65,525 |
| 3. | ARUNACHAL PRADESH | 2,12,610 |
| 4. | ASSAM | 77,81,955 |
| 5. | BIHAR | 3,20,88,940 |
| 6. | CHANDIGARH | 1,89,688 |
| 7. | CHHATTISGARH | 86,29,306 |
| 8. | DELHI | 36,02,726 |
| 9. | GOA | 87,413 |
| 10. | GUJARAT | 1,22,74,240 |
| 11. | HARYANA | 54,13,464 |
| 12. | HIMACHAL PRADESH | 20,11,538 |
| 13. | JAMMU AND KASHMIR | 36,11,958 |
| 14. | JHARKHAND | 97,90,502 |
| 15. | KARNATAKA | 1,09,84,695 |
| 16. | KERALA | 60,93,770 |
| 17. | LADAKH | 35,110 |
| 18. | LAKSHADWEEP | 2,858 |
| 19. | MADHYA PRADESH | 1,91,32,083 |
| 20. | MAHARASHTRA | 1,81,99,029 |
| 21. | MANIPUR | 4,69,441 |
| 22. | MEGHALAYA | 3,58,615 |
| 23. | MIZORAM | 72,663 |
| 24. | NAGALAND | 2,42,170 |
| 25. | ODISHA | 1,36,65,326 |
| 26. | PUDUCHERRY | 1,97,398 |
| 27. | PUNJAB | 59,07,395 |
| 28. | RAJASTHAN | 1,51,21,791 |
| 29. | SIKKIM | 50,347 |
| 30. | TAMIL NADU | 94,89,987 |
| 31. | TELANGANA | 46,06,527 |
| 32. | THE DADRA AND NAGAR HAVELI AND | |
| | DAMAN AND DIU | 75,645 |
| 33. | TRIPURA | 9,00,206 |
| 34. | UTTAR PRADESH | 8,41,60,051 |
| 35. | UTTARAKHAND | 31,00,938 |
| 36. | WEST BENGAL | 2,65,36,224 |
| | Total | 31,38,97,129 |
