

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †1529

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 8TH DECEMBER, 2015/AGRAHAYANA 17, 1937 (SAKA)

REHABILITATION OF KASHMIRI PANDITS

†1529. SHRI KAPIL MORESHWAR PATIL:
SHRI GANESH SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the programmes prepared for ensuring employment and rehabilitation of the Kashmiri Pandits from Kashmir valley;

(b) the details of the funds spent on the said programmes during the year 2014-15; and

(c) the number of families rehabilitated in the valley during the said period along with the details of the assistance provided to them by the Government?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI HARIBHAI PARATHIBHAI CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (c) There are about 62,000 registered Kashmiri migrant families in the country, who migrated from the Kashmir Valley due to the onset of militancy/terrorism in the State of Jammu and Kashmir in the early 1990s. About 40,000 registered Kashmiri migrant families are living in Jammu, about 20,000 in Delhi/NCR and about 2000 families are settled in other parts of the country. The Government from time to time has taken various measures for the relief and rehabilitation of the Kashmiri Migrants.

Under Prime Minister's Package 2004, 5242 two room tenements have been constructed in Jammu at four locations (Purkhoo, Muthi, Nagrota and Jagti) and have been allotted to the migrants. Further, 200 flats have been constructed at Sheikhpora in Budgam district (Kashmir Valley) and have been allotted to the migrants on sharing basis, who have joined the State Government service under employment component of Prime Minister's Package 2008. Out of these 200 flats, 31 flats have also been allotted to the local migrants who migrated from their native places to other places within the Kashmir Valley.

A Comprehensive Package amounting to Rs.1618.40 crore was announced by the Government in 2008 for return and rehabilitation of Kashmiri Migrants, which provided for many comprehensive facilities for the migrants e.g. provision of 3000 state government jobs, financial assistance for purchase/ construction of houses, construction of transit accommodations, continuation of cash relief to migrants, scholarship to students, assistance for self-employment, assistance to the agriculturists and the horticulturist, waiver of interest on unpaid loan, etc. The Package is being implemented by the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir. So far state government jobs have been offered to 1963 migrant youths, out of which 1597 have joined. 469 Transit accommodations have been constructed in the Kashmir Valley and allotted to the newly appointed migrant employees under the Package and one family has availed the benefit of Rs.7.5 Lakh for construction of house in the Kashmir Valley.

Besides, the Government of India has approved another package, on 18th November 2015, involving an estimated expenditure of Rs.2000 Crore for providing additional 3000 state government jobs to the Kashmiri migrants and construction of transit accommodations in the Kashmir Valley for the Kashmiri migrants to whom state government jobs have been provided/ will be provided.

The Government is providing cash relief at the rate of Rs.2500/- per head per month (maximum Rs.10000/- per family per month) plus dry ration (9 Kg. Rice, 2 Kg. Atta per person per month and 1 Kg. Sugar per family per month) to eligible 18,250 Kashmiri migrant families living in Jammu. The Government of NCT of Delhi is also providing cash relief of Rs.2500/- per head per month (maximum Rs.10000/- per family per month) to eligible 3,385 Kashmiri migrant families living in Delhi/NCR. Other States are providing relief as per scales fixed by them from their own budget.

Expenditure incurred by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir on the relief and rehabilitation of the Kashmiri migrants is being reimbursed by Ministry of Home Affairs under Security Related Expenditure (Relief & Rehabilitation) - SRE (R&R). A part of the expenditure incurred by the Government of NCT of Delhi in respect of the cash relief paid to the Kashmiri migrants is also being reimbursed by Ministry of Home Affairs under SRE (R&R). The Government of India has incurred a total expenditure of Rs.1663.92 Crore under SRE (R&R) till September 2015 in respect of the relief and rehabilitation of the Kashmiri migrants since 1989-90, out of which Rs.155.03 Crore has been incurred during 2014-15 and Rs.181.75 Crore has been incurred during 2015-16 till September 2015.