

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) Data about women job-seekers is already being maintained by the Employment Exchanges. Modernisation and computerization of employment exchanges provides online facilities for registration, etc. which eliminates the need for separate cells in employment exchanges for girls. However, some State Governments have opened such cells keeping in view the local needs.

(b) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Central Government.

(c) Some State Governments like Maharashtra, Gujarat, UP, etc. have made provisions for horizontal reservation in government jobs for women.

Workers moving to metropolitan cities for employment

3208. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of workers shift from their native States to the neighbouring metropolitan cities every year in search of employment;

(b) whether any survey has been made by Government to assess migrant labourers moving to the major metropolitan cities;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) to (d) Every citizen has a right to migrate to any part of the country. However, Government's effort has been to prevent distress migration. The Government has not conducted any survey regarding the migrant labourers moving to major metropolitan cities. As per census 2001, 314.54 million persons moved for various reasons within the country. Out of these, 29.90 million migrated for reasons of employment. In order to safeguard the interests of the migrant workers, the Government has enacted Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979 which, *inter-alia*, provides for payment of minimum wages, journey allowance, displacement allowance, residential accommodation, medical facilities and protective clothing etc.