

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

RAJYA SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3318
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.03.2021**

REHABILITATION OF UNEMPLOYED LABOURERS

3318 # SHRI VINAY DINU TENDULKAR:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Government schemes for the rehabilitation of unemployed labourers, who used to work in closed industries and construction works before the COVID-19 lockdown period in the country;**
- (b) the State/UT-wise number of these unemployed labourers;**
- (c) the proportion in which States and Union Territories have suffered losses due to the closure of construction works during COVID-19 lockdown period; and**
- (d) the details thereof?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)**

(a) to (d): The Central Government has taken several steps for rehabilitation of the affected workers/labourers. The details are enclosed at Annexure-I. As reported by the States/UTs, a total of 1,14,30,968 Inter-State Migrant Workers returned to their Home States during COVID-19 lockdown. State-wise breakup is enclosed at Annexure-II. However, most of them have gone back to their original or other workplaces and engaged themselves in productive employment.

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) to (d) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3318 for 24.03.2021 regarding Rehabilitation Of Unemployed Labourers.

1. In order to resolve the grievances of workers in central sphere, including migrant workers during lockdown, Ministry of Labour and Employment set up 20 Control Rooms all over the country. During lockdown, more than 15000 complaints of the workers were resolved through these Control Rooms and due to the intervention of Ministry more than two lakh workers were paid their due wages amounting to about Rs. 295 crores.
2. Approximately 80 crore beneficiaries have been provided additional 5 kg wheat or rice and 1 kg of preferred pulses, free of cost every month till November, 2020 under provisions of National Food Security Act.
3. In response to the Government of India's directions, the State Welfare Boards have cumulatively disbursed around Rs.5618 crore, to approx. 1.83 crore Building and Other Construction (BOC) Workers during lockdown and thereafter. In addition to this, around 30 lakh BOC workers were also provided food relief packages.
4. In rural areas, wages under MGNREGA have been enhanced from Rs.182 to Rs.202 per day for the benefit of rural workers including returning migrant workers.
5. Various initiatives have been taken by the Ministry of Labour and Employment as part of Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana(PMGKY) and Atmanirbhar Bharat which, inter-alia, include (i) payment of 12% employers' share and 12% employees' share under Employees' Provident Fund (EPF), totalling 24% by the Government of India for six wage months from March to August, 2020 for all the establishments having up to 100 employees with 90% of such employees earning less than Rs.15,000 monthly wage; (ii) reduction in PF contribution from 12% to 10% of wages for the wage months of May, June and July, 2020; (iii) non-refundable Covid advance from the PF by amending the EPF Scheme, 1952; (iv) extension in the date of filing of returns; (v) issuing advisory to promptly attend to distress calls of workers/employees and also guide them in temporary shelters; and (vi) for taking preventive measures to contain the spread of Covid – 19.
6. Further, in order to boost employment and livelihood opportunities for migrant workers, returning to villages, in the wake of COVID-19 outbreak, Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India launched Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan on 20th June 2020. The Abhiyaan focussed on durable rural infrastructure and providing modern facilities like internet in the villages. Skill Mapping of the rural migrant labour was also done to enhance their employability on the basis of the skills, they possess, to enable them work closer to their homes. The Abhiyaan 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. The Abhiyaan has already generated 50,78,68,671 man-days.
7. For the benefit of 50 lakh street vendors, Government of India has also launched SVANidhi Scheme to provide them collateral free working capital loan upto Rs.10,000/- to resume their lost livelihood due to Covid and lock-down.
8. Financial package of Rupees Twenty Seven lakh crore (aprox) under "Aatm Nirbhar Bharat" has been launched specifically to inter-alia create employment opportunities, for migrant workers, workers of unorganized sector, strengthening of MSME Sector and promoting rural economy. It includes several initiatives for all these sectors.
9. Ministry of Labour & Employment has taken the decision to extend the scheme of Atal Beemit Kalyan Yojna for another one year i.e. from 1st July, 2020 to 30th June, 2021. It has also been decided to enhance the rate of unemployment relief under the scheme to 50% of wages from earlier rate of 25% along with relaxation of eligibility conditions for insured workers who have lost their employment due to COVID-19 pandemic and related lockdown.
10. Ministry of Food Processing Industries have sanctioned 700 food processing/preservation and infrastructure projects in which migrant labourers can be employed.

Annexure-II

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) to (d) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3318 for 24.03.2021 regarding Rehabilitation Of Unemployed Labourers.

SL No	Name of the State	No. of Migrant workers belonging to this State who have returned to their home State *
1	Andhra Pradesh	32,571
2	Andaman and Nicobar	4,960
3	Arunachal Pradesh	2,871
4	Assam	4,26,441
5	Bihar	15,00,612
6	Chandigarh	39,230
7	Chhattisgarh	5,26,900
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	43,747
9	Delhi	2,047
10	Goa	85,620
11	Gujarat	0
12	Haryana	1,289
13	Himachal Pradesh	18,652
14	Jammu & Kashmir	48,780
15	Jharkhand	5,30,047
16	Karnataka	1,34,438
17	Kerala	3,11,124
18	Ladakh	50
19	Lakshadweep	456
20	Madhya Pradesh	7,53,581
21	Maharashtra	1,82,990
22	Manipur	12,338
23	Meghalaya	4,266
24	Mizoram	8,446
25	Nagaland	11,750
26	Odisha	8,53,777
27	Puducherry	1,694
28	Punjab	5,15,642
29	Rajasthan	13,08,130
30	Sikkim	33,015
31	Tamil Nadu	72,145
32	Telangana	37,050
33	Tripura	34,247
34	Uttar Pradesh	32,49,638
35	Uttarakhand	1,97,128
36	West Bengal	13,84,693
	Total	1,14,30,968

*** As per the data received from the States/UTs till date**