

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2167
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.12.2023**

STEPS TO PROTECT RIGHTS OF MIGRANT WORKERS

2167. SHRI JAGGESH:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government proposes to make a unique identifier mandatory for all building and construction workers across the country to ensure that migrant workers' rights are protected;**
- (b) whether the proposed unique identity will ensure that the migrant workers get all their dues from Government, irrespective of their location;**
- (c) whether Government also plans to implement measures ensuring adequate shelter, sanitation, and awareness of entitlements at these locations; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): The Ministry of Labour & Employment has launched e-SHRAM 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 on e-SHRAM portal. It also allows an unorganised worker to register himself or herself on the portal on self-declaration basis. The main objective of the e-SHRAM portal is to create a national database of unorganised workers seeded with Aadhaar. It is also to facilitate delivery of Social Security and welfare Schemes to such workers. As on 15.12.2023, more than 29.23 Crore unorganized workers have been registered on this portal.

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The Ministry had advised all States/UTs for onboarding of details of Building and Other Construction (BOC) Workers on eShram Portal so that a BOC Workers should have eShram Universal Account Number (UAN).

The Ministry of Labour & Employment had also advised all States/UTs that their State Welfare Boards should open facilitation centers for registration of workers as beneficiaries, creating awareness about various schemes of the Board, welfare schemes run by Central Government and State Government for the benefits of BOC Workers. These centers should also create awareness of the workers' right under various Labour Laws. For this purpose, States Welfare Board may collaborate with Dattopant Thengadi National Board for Workers Education and Development (DTNBWED). The State Welfare Boards should also ensure availability of various amenities at Labour Chowks/Nakas such as temporary sheds, drinking water, washrooms , creches in addition to regular holding of registration campaign and enrolment in welfare schemes of the Government/Board.

Under the provision of Building and Other Construction Act, 1996, the State Building and other Construction Welfare Boards also provide various welfare facilities to Construction Worker including migrant construction workers viz. immediate assistance to a beneficiary in case of accident, financial assistance for education of children of the beneficiary etc.

Further, in order to safeguard the interest of the Migrant workers, the Parliament has enacted the Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Services) Act, 1979 which, inter alia, provides for registration of certain establishments employing Inter State Migrant Workers, licensing of contractors, etc. Workers employed with such establishments are to be provided payment of minimum wages, journey allowance, displacement allowance, residential accommodation, medical facilities and protective clothing etc.
