

Safety of Inter-State Migrant Workers

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The Ministry of Labour and employment proposes to develop National Database of Unorganised Workers (NDUW), which will be a comprehensive data base of the Unorganised Workers including the Building and other Construction Workers and Migrant workers, seeded with Aadhaar. It will have details of name, occupation, address, occupation type, educational qualification, skill types & family details etc. for optimum realization of their employability and extend the benefits of the social security schemes to them.

The details of schemes/programme implemented by Government for welfare of unskilled and skilled migrant labourers in the country inter-alia include such as; Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyan, Pradhan Mantri SVANIDHI Scheme, Aatm Nirbhar Bharat, Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana, One Nation One Ration Card, financial assistance to Building and Other Construction workers etc.

Labour Bureau, an attached office of the Ministry of Labour& Employment, has been entrusted with the task of conducting the All India Survey on Migrant Workers. An Expert Group has been constituted by the Government of India on 9th September, 2020 to examine and finalize the schedules, sampling design and other technical details of the aforesaid survey being conducted by the Labour Bureau.

‘Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)’ is a universal education programme, Government of India to provide free and compulsory education to the children of 6-14 years age group under Right to Education, which is accessible to the children of inter-state migrant workers as well. In addition, Ministry of Minority Affairs, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Ministry of Labour& Employment, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Department of School Education & Literacy and some other Ministries provide scholarships to different target groups of students including children of Migrant workers. All these scholarships are coordinated through National Scholarship Portal. In order to safeguard the interest of the migrant workers, the Central Government had enacted the Inter-state Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979. This Act has now been subsumed in the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020 and the Code has been notified on 29.09.2020. The above mentioned code commonly known as OSH Code, provides for decent working conditions, minimum wages, grievances redressal mechanisms, protection from abuse and exploitation, enhancement of the skills and social security to all category of organised and unorganised workers including Migrant workers.

This information was given by Minister of State (I/C) for Labour & Employment Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar in a written reply in Rajya Sabha today.

MS/jk

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