

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3967
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2011
MIGRATION OF WORKERS
Singh Shri Bholra

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the people migrating due to less income and unemployment which impact agriculture in such a way that in the total revenue of the State and the share of agriculture is decreasing;
- (b) whether the landlords live in the cities and get the agricultural work done by the servants and their relatives as a result of which agricultural production reduces and in this way they earn black money by showing their income as an agricultural income;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government is making any efforts to develop infrastructure in rural areas so as to prevent immigration; and
- (e) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE)

(a) to (e): 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 enacted Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act which aims at enhancing the livelihood security of people in rural areas by guaranteeing hundred days of wage-employment in a financial year to a rural household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. According to the Act, employment shall be provided within a radius of five kilometers of the village where the applicant resides at the time of applying. In cases the employment is provided outside such radius, it must be provided within the Block and the labourers shall be paid 10% extra wages. As such, providing local employment, on demand by the household, mitigates distress migration.