

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5132
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2012
CRIME AGAINST MIGRANT LABOURERS
Singh Shri Jagada Nand

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether violent incidents against migrant labourers, particularly Hindi speaking labourers have been reported in various parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether instructions have been issued by the Union Government to the State Governments to check such incidents;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether notices have been issued by the National Human Rights Commission to the States in this regard; and
- (f) if so, the reaction of the States in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH)

- (a) & (b): Specific data on violent incidents against migrant labourers, particularly Hindi speaking labourers are not maintained.
- (c) & (d): 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and, therefore, the State Governments are primarily responsible for prevention, detection, registration and investigation of crime and for prosecuting the criminals through the machinery of their law enforcement agencies and also for protecting the life and property of the citizens including labourers.
- (e) to (f): Yes Madam. The details of notices issued by National Human Rights Commission is attached at Annexure.

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The National Human Rights Commission has received some complaints alleging violent incidents against migrant labour in various part of the country as given below:-

- (i) The Commission received a complaint about ethnic violence in upper Assam during January 2007 in which migrant Bihar Labourers were targeted. Many children were orphaned. The complaint was registered as Case No. 27/3/0/07-08. The National Foundation of National Harmony had launched a scheme under the name of "Project Assist" to provide financial help to the orphan children. The Commission has sought compliance report in respect of payment made to the eligible children under the project.
- (ii) The Commission received a complaint about exploitation of Adivasis migrant labourers from Waynad, Kerala in Coorg District of Tamil Nadu. The complainant was registered as Case No. 374/10/8/09-10.
- (iii) The Commission received a complaint in respect of atrocities by Sikh youth upon the migrant labourers and police in action in Ludhiana, Punjab during December 2009. The complaint was registered as Case No. 40/19/10/2010.
- (iv) The Commission received a complaint about atrocities on tribals of Kerala working in the ginger fields of Karnataka. The complaints were registered as Case No. 171/10/12/2011. The allegations made in the complaint were not proved during the enquiry.