

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1796
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2013
MIGRANT WORKERS
Biswal Shri Hemanand

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

- (a) the number of migrant workers in the country at present, State-wise;
- (b) the estimated number of children displaced by migrating families along with the efforts taken by the Government to help children of such families;
- (c) the total number of children who are migrant workers at present;
- (d) whether the Government is taking any action against factories and brick kilns that employ child migrant workers;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the efforts being made by the Government to check migration rates in the country especially in Odisha?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH)

(a): A statement is annexed.

(b) & (c): The data regarding number of children displaced by migrating families is not kept by the Ministry of Labour and Employment. To help children including those of migrant worker families, the Government has been implementing the National Child Labour Project Scheme since 1988. Children are rescued/withdrawn from hazardous occupations and processes and are enrolled in the special schools where they are provided with bridge education, vocational training, nutrition, stipend, health care etc. There is no separate data on children who are working as migrant workers.

(d) to (f): The State Governments launch prosecutions against the employers, whenever any incidence of child labour is detected in brick-kiln and factories. The Government has enacted Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 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 kilometres of the village where the applicant resides at the time of applying. In case 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.

The Government of Odisha and Andhra Pradesh have signed an MoU in June, 2012 to facilitate strengthening of inter-state coordination mechanism for smooth implementation of the activities in source and destination areas of migrant workers.