

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1341  
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2014  
MIGRANT WORKERS  
Giri Shri Maheish

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

- (a) whether the Government is considering to develop a mechanism to register migrant workers at source and destination;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that all existing welfare schemes are accessible to migrant workers who do not have any address proof;
- (d) whether the Government has any proposal to introduce portable documents like ration cards and BPL card so that migrants could access services at their current place of residence without any hassle; and
- (e) if so, the details in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)

(a) & (b): No data base is maintained at central level in respect of the migrant workers. However, in order to strengthen the inter-state co-ordination mechanism for smooth implementation of activities in source and destination areas of migrant workers, the Ministry of Labour & Employment, Government of India and Labour Departments of Odisha, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Andhra Pradesh have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). As per MoU, inter-state co-ordination cell is to be set up which will, inter-alia, maintain database of migrant workers.

(c): The Government has enacted the Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment & Conditions of Service) Act, 1979 to regulate the employment of inter-state migrant workmen and to provide their conditions of service and for matters connected therewith. The Act, inter-alia, provides for payment of minimum wages, journey allowance, displacement allowance, residential accommodation, medical facilities and protective clothing etc. to these workers. The provisions of various labour laws like the Employees Compensation Act, 1923, the Payment of Wages Act, 1936, the Industrial Dispute Act, 1947, the Employees State Insurance Act, 1948, the Employees Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 and Maternity Benefit Act, 1961 are applicable to migrant workers. The Government has also enacted the Unorganized Workers' Social Security Act, 2008 to provide for social security and welfare of unorganized workers including migrant workers.

(d) & (e): The responsibility for identification of eligible Below Poverty Line (BPL) families and issuance of Ration Card to them rests with the concerned State/Union Territory Governments. The Central Government has issued instructions to the State Governments to consider using ration entitlement authority slips for migrant labour/displaced persons or homeless for limited purpose of ration entitlement and not treated as proof of residence, or entitlement for any other benefit. The Rashtriya Swastha Bima Yojana has facility of split card for migrant worker to avail the health services at the place of work.