

**Press Information Bureau
Government of India**

MHA to States: Ensure Migrant Workers do not have to walk back home, and perform the journey only in buses & 'Shramik' Special Trains being run by the Government specifically for this purpose

New Delhi, May 15, 2020

Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), on 11.05.2020, wrote to all States/UTs to facilitate faster movement of stranded migrant workers to their native places, through buses and 'Shramik' special trains being run by the Government specifically for this purpose.

The communication highlighted the situation wherein migrant workers are walking on the roads and on railway tracks. All States/UTs were advised that in case they are found in such condition, they should be appropriately counselled, taken to nearby shelters and provided with food, water, etc. till they are facilitated to board the 'Shramik' special trains or buses to their native places.

However, instances of migrant workers walking on roads, railway tracks and travelling in trucks are still being reported from different parts of the country. In view of this, MHA has again written to all States/UTs to ensure that these migrant workers do not have to walk back home.

The communication states that Ministry of Railways is running more than 100 'Shramik' special trains per day and is ready to arrange additional trains, as per requirement. People need to be made aware about these arrangements and counselled by State/UT governments to not travel on foot, when they can travel in buses/trains being specially run by the government to facilitate their journey.

To see the Official Communication to the States/UTs↓

VG/SNC/VM

AJAY BHALLA, IAS



गृह सचिव
Home Secretary
भारत सरकार
Government of India
North Block,
New Delhi

D.O. 40-10/2020-DM-I(A)

15th May, 2020

Dear Chief Secretary,

Kindly refer to my D.O. letter of even number dated 11.05.2020 regarding faster movement of stranded migrant workers through buses and 'Shramik' special trains.

2. In the letter, the situation of migrant workers walking on the roads and on railway tracks was highlighted and it was advised that in case they are found in such condition, they should be appropriately counseled, taken to nearby shelters and provided with food, water, etc. till such time they are facilitated to board the 'Shramik' special trains or buses to their native places. However, movement of migrant workers walking on roads, railway tracks and travelling in trucks is still being noticed in different parts of the country.

3. As you are aware, Government has allowed the movement of migrant workers by buses and 'Shramik' special trains to enable them to travel to their native places. It is now the responsibility of all States and Union Territories to ensure that movement of stranded migrant workers who are willing to go to their home States is facilitated. States/UTs should widely disseminate the arrangements for travel in special buses/'Shramik' special trains amongst the migrant workers and persuade/counsel them that they should not be walking when they can travel in buses/trains.

4. With the cooperation of States/UTs, Ministry of Railways is running more than 100 'Shramik' special trains per day and is ready to arrange additional trains as per their requirement. Therefore, I urge you to ensure that there is no movement of migrant workers walking on roads and railway tracks and the same is facilitated through special buses or 'Shramik' special trains.

With regards,

Yours sincerely


(Ajay Bhalla)

To

The Chief Secretaries of all States