



WEBINAR ON

Responding to the Emerging Issues & Challenges on Migration crisis and Exploring Opportunities for Livelihood & Social Security

BACKGROUND NOTE

The Covid-19 lockdowns led to the reverse migration of millions of inter-state migrant workers from big cities and industrial hubs back to their native villages. Unable to secure income, food or a safe place to stay during the ongoing pandemic and the ensuing nationwide lockdown, and with public transport completely shut across the country, millions of migrant workers were left with little choice but to walk hundreds of kilometers in the unforgiving heat. This story became a burning topic, as many workers on their way back home were crushed by trucks on the road or hit by trains on railway track. What we witnessed was heart wrenching stories of these already impoverished. After the government showed some interest and started running the *Shramik Special Trains* lacs of migrant workers came back to their home state. But the predicaments continued. The struggle for income and food continued.

After the Unlock started in the country, many migrant workers wanted to return to the cities and work. However, there is now an atmosphere of fear and apprehension amongst these workers. They are concerned about the rising number of Covid-19 cases in the cities. Even those who have jobs waiting for them in the cities are unwilling to return thereof, without adequate assurances from their employers about accommodation, wage security, healthcare, and arrangements for travel to return home in case of another lockdown. The mass movement of migrants back to the cities may now create some huge problems for them, So there personal interest and health has to be safeguarded on priority.

Session 1 : National Overview :

Lead Presentation	Sri Sandeep Chachra Country Executive Director, ActionAid Association, Co-Chair-World Urban Campaign of UN-HABITAT
Guest Speaker	Sri Gopal Misra Sr. Journalist and Foreign Affairs Expert, New Delhi Ms. Shaonli Chakraborty COVID Action Collaborative, Bengaluru, Director - Wellbeing for Workforces and Gender
Expert View	Dr Niranjan Sahoo Senior Fellow, Observer - Research Foundation, Country's Leading THINKTANK Sri Pratyush Kumar Panda Head CSR - ACC Limited

Session 2: Opportunities & Challenges in Rebuilding Livelihoods' for Migrant Workers

Speakers	Dr. Aurobindo Behera Retd IAS, Former Member - Board of Revenue, Odisha Ms. Abha Mishra State Office Head, UNDP -Odisha Sri Santosh Ku Mishra President - Mahashakti Foundation Sri Md N. Amin President, ADHIKAR
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Session3: Reaching out Migrants in Distress

Speakers	Sri Wiliam Stanley Social Activist, Visaskhapatnam Sri Biswajit Kanungo UTKAL ASSOCIATION MADRAS, Chennai
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Moderator	Sri Sudarshan Chhotaray Sr. Journalist, Convenor-Migration Watch India & Focus Odisha Foundation
Background Note	Sri Jugal Kishore Patnaik CEO - Mahashakti Foundation
Host	Sushrita Rath Strategic Team - Mahashakti Foundation



Mr. Sandeep Chachra

Mr. Sandeep Chachra is the Executive Director of ActionAid Association and is a social anthropologist by training. He is the Managing Editor of a leading global political economy journal on the Agrarian and work questions, called Agrarian South. Mr. Chachra also Co-Chairs the World Urban Campaign of UN-HABITAT.



Mr. Gopal Mishra

Mr. Mishra is a New Delhi-based Distinguished Journalist, Columnist on Foreign Affairs at Tehelka, is an author, media teacher and has been delivering lectures on political and current affairs within India and abroad. The newspapers he served include, Times of India, Gulf News and edited the television edition of the Wall Street Journal bulletins on the Indian television.



Dr. Niranjana Sahoo

Dr. Niranjana Sahoo is a Senior Fellow at Observer Research Foundation, a leading think tank in New Delhi. A recipient of Ford Asia Fellowship (2009) and Sir Ratan Tata Fellow (2010), Dr Sahoo currently serves a member for the Carnegie Rising Democracies Network, Washington, D.C. His forthcoming book is on Funding India's Democracy by Routledge, London.



Mr. Pratyush Panda

Mr. Panda heads the CSR department of ACC Limited, its subsidiary companies and ACC TRUST. His role is instrumental in creating long term CSR and Sustainability strategy for the Group Company, Establishing M&E tools and process for effective measurement of CSR outcomes and impacts. He is closely working with SDGs, UCN, GRI, UNGC to adopt globally accredited CSR & sustainability processes.



Dr. Aurobindo Behera

Dr Behera, a Retired IAS officer has served the state of Odisha in various capacities as District Collector, Revenue Divisional Commissioner, and Secretary to Chief Minister. He has also worked for the Departments of Forest and Environment, ST and SC Development, Rural Development, Public Works Department, Water Resources Department etc. He was also Managing Director, Odisha State Disaster Management, Additional CMD, Industrial Development Corporation of Odisha and Member, Board of



Ms. Abha Mishra

Ms. Mishra is working as Stead Head in UNDP Odisha Office. She's engaged in action-based research and implementation experience in Community Development projects like Forest Management, Disaster Risk Reduction, Livelihood, Social Protection and Tribal Studies for the last 28 years and has worked with different NGOs & international Universities.



Ms. Shaloni Chakroborty

Ms. Chakroborty has over 17 years of experience in gender, environment and public health in India & 11 other countries. She has led an international program on women's workforce empowerment initiative in factories and rural communities. Currently, she's working as the Director of *Wellbeing for Workforces & Gender*. As a part of the COVID action collaborative, she is working on migrant collaborative actions and apparel industry response.



Mr. Santosh Kumar Mishra

Mr. Mishra, a retired OAS(1) is the President of the leading livelihood development organisation of Odisha - Mahashakti Foundation. He has more than 40 years of experience in the field of general administration rural development & SHG Bank linkage program. He severed with Govt Of Odisha for a long time under Panchayatiraj Department.



Mr. Md. Amin

Mr. Amin is the Founder & CEO of Adhikaar Microfinance. In addition, he also is a veteran in the social development sector with an experience over three decades. He is one of the early votaries of microfinance movement in Odisha & holds certificates on credit delivery & recovery mechanism from Grameen Bank, Bangladesh and Havard Business School, Boston, USA.



Mr. William Stanley

Mr. Stanley is a Vishakapatnam based social activist who has devoted his career in career in community rights and community development work. Mr. Stanley has worked on issues poverty eradication, health, education, leadership, PRI, Skill building, environment, science & Technology, Climate Change, disaster preparedness and response, Covid-19 Response and Migrant Workers.



Mr. Sudarshan Chhotray

Mr. Chhotray is a Journalist since 1993 who has worked with leading Media houses in the Country. He Started his career with BLITZ Mumbai. And has worked for HUMANSCAPE, INDIA TODAY, TEHELKA, INDIA INSIGHT, OUTLOOK and of recently his by-lines are there in Firstpost.com, The Wire, News18 Network & International Publications like The New Humanitarian etc.

As a first Generation TV Journalist he has worked in Ajira Odisha, Aankhon Dekhi, AAJ TAK and ETC NEWS.



Mr. Jugal Kishore Pattnayak

Mr. Pattnayak is the co-founder of Odisha's leading livelihood development institution, Mahashakti Foundation. He's a pioneer in rural livelihoods development and creating employment opportunities for rural poor. He has an expertise in livelihood & cluster development, Promoting Farm and off farm producer Companies, SHG promotion, linkages & federation building, managing institutional development and relationships.

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