Migrants Resilience Collaborative

To ensure safety, security, and mobility for vulnerable migrant families across India

Strategic Partners

EdelGive Foundation
An Edelweiss Initiative

Global Development Incubator
Jan Sahas means ‘People’s Courage’. We are a 21-year-old community-centric organization, working closely with the most excluded social groups in India. Our core focus lies in safe migration and workers’ protection; and prevention of sexual violence against women and children, further we have developed cross-cutting interventions on livelihood and skill development, legal support, mental health, land and property rights, early childhood care and education and incubation of community-based organizations.

**Vision**

Dignity for all

**Mission**

To ensure safety, security, and mobility for vulnerable migrant families across India

The Migrants Resilience Collaborative (MRC) convened by Jan Sahas along with Global Development Incubator and EdelGive Foundation, is a grassroots-led multi-stakeholder collaborative of non-profit, philanthropic, and private sector actors focused on ensuring safety, security, and mobility for 10 million vulnerable migrant workers and their families across India. India has an estimated 140 million migrant workers. They pre-dominantly belong to excluded groups: 63% Scheduled Caste (SCs), 8% Scheduled Tribe (STs), and 25% Other Backward Class (OBCs).

**Current situation of migrant workers in India**

An estimated 139 million internal migrant workers in India typically belong to the most socially & economically vulnerable population segments. These workers are forced to migrate annually, often along with their families, to work in India's informal sector, predominantly in the construction (55 million) & textile industries (45 million). These are migrants of necessity, not choice, trying to find better opportunities for themselves & their families.
The outbreak of COVID-19 has posed challenges for the textile industry, construction industry and the migrant workers who are the backbone of the industry.

Close to 93% of migrant workers had lost their incomes within three weeks during the April lockdown. As a result, migrant families faced uncertain livelihoods, increased indebtedness, & food insecurity. In addition, 31% of the migrant workers reported having loans, of which more than 79% believed that they would not be able to pay off their debts soon. Further, in the recent study conducted by Jan Sahas, before the second wave, show that workers were 57% less likely to migrate a year later, primarily due to the fear of COVID.

The construction industry in India suffered an unprecedented contraction of over 46% in the second quarter, ended on June 30, 2020, before rebounding in the third and fourth quarter.

The domestic textile industry has shrunk by 28-30% with 60-70% of factories forces to shut down due to cancellation of orders or manpower challenges.

Jan Sahas launched the MRC to ensure safety, security, and mobility for vulnerable migrant families

Social security: To ensure government safety nets reach workers and their families to provide protection against socio-economic shocks and prevent people from falling back into poverty.

Worker protection: To ensure workers have supports to access their basic rights related to minimum wages, safe working and living conditions.

Responsible recruitment: Partner and advocate with industry to improve business policy, compliance of worker support regulations
Operating migration resource centres across 98 districts across 13 states of India

- Social Registry
  - Built an operational database of >1.5 million migrant households.
  - Developed an in-house tech-enabled social registry mobile application to help governments, industry and field teams to match social security schemes to eligible migrants.
  - Developing government integrated social registry.

- Social Security
  - 1.5 million scheme applications filed, with ~1.1 million individual benefits already received by workers across schemes such as MGNREGA, BOCW, Ration, Ayushman Bharat, and 11 other social security schemes.
    - 450K received monetary benefits under MGNREGS, PM Awas Yojana, and social security pensions
    - 240K received benefits under Health and Life Insurance
    - ~22K BOCW cards & ~100K eShram cards received by workers
Stories of change

Mumtaz is a migrant worker from West Bengal. She migrated to Delhi in 2018, where she sought work from labour chowks. Last year when the lockdown was announced, she and her family were not able to return back to their home town. The Jan Sahas team facilitated her application for a BOCW Card, and benefits once she received the card. You can hear directly from Mumtaz [click here].

Putul Devi migrated from Jharkhand to work in Mumbai. Due to the lockdown, she and her husband lost their jobs and were forced to return to their hometown. A Jan Saathi helped them gain access to local employment under the MGNREGA scheme, along with other state government schemes. Listen directly from Putul Devi [click here].

Sanjo Bai and her husband migrated from Madhya Pradesh to Haryana. Due to the lockdown, they had to return back home. The field team in Madhya Pradesh helped her with emergency relief support. As she was pregnant, the team also facilitated application for Prasuti Sahayata Yojan. She received financial support and now is also covered under Ayushman Bharat Yojana. You can hear directly from Sanjo Bai [click here].

Worker Protection
- Established a 24x7 National Worker Helpline, which has fielded ~20k calls.
- Supporting >16.5k workers across >2.8k cases registered; includes 565 workers rescued from forced/bonded labour situations.

Responsible Recruitment
- Conducted worker welfare / legal compliance assessments for real-estate companies at multiple construction sites, including with contractors; recommendations are being implemented by the companies to improve practices across their supply chain.
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Rati Forbes  
Forbes Marshall Limited

Anu Aga  
Former  
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Lalita Vadia  
Former migrant worker

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