

28th May 2020

To
The Chief Secretary
Government of Telangana
Hyderabad

Sub: Return of Bengali workers to West Bengal reg.
Ref: SC SUO MOTU WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) No(s). 6/2020 and TS HC WP (PIL) No.94 OF 2020

Sir,

We wish to bring to your notice the dire situation of the Bengali workers and their families who have been stuck in Hyderabad but who want to go to West Bengal. The Covid Advocacy Lockdown Group found that, among those who called the helpline for rations, there are 501 people who are already registered with the police to leave. Many of them were hoping to board the trains on 23rd April that got cancelled due to the super cyclone in Bengal. In addition, there are 388 people who could not register with the police but want to leave due to the loss of wages and pressure from the landlords to pay rent. There are many pregnant women among these people who cannot even travel by bus. Many of them are also anxious to go as they need to help the families that have been ravaged by the cyclone. (Details gathered by the helpline can be found here <https://airtable.com/shrWHMPF8qSPdpFoB/tblfhoDKWjEzkJHS7>)

Our helpline catered to small portion of the stranded workers in the city. There would be many many more who might be in a similar condition, anxious to visit their distraught families.

We request you, in the light of this situation, to urgently arrange for trains to West Bengal. We also request you to share the information with the police stations in advance so that the people can register and board the trains.

Sincerely,

A.Suneetha, Sarath Davala, Sujatha Surepally, Harsha, Indus Martin, Naveen and others

On behalf of

The Advocacy COVID 19 Lockdown Collective