

‘Labour legislation regime in UP soon’

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Lucknow: Cabinet minister for labour Anil Rajbhar on Tuesday said that Uttar Pradesh is set to adopt Union government’s new labour legislation regime. “The moment government of India enacts the new law, UP government will adopt and implement it in the state within 24 hours. The state government has already done all the ground work for it,” Rajbhar said while speaking at a programme on empowering migrant workers, organised jointly by the International Organisation on Migration (IOM) (also known as the UN Migration agency) and Manav Sewa Sansthan.

The central government has decided to merge all the 44 laws related to migration and come up with a single law that would weed out all the existing gaps.

Rajbhar said that UP’s commitment towards the welfare of migrant workers needs no introduction and the world saw it during the pandemic. “When everyone else was closing their doors on migrant workers, the Yogi Adityanath government in UP embraced them back with full responsibility,” the minister said. A Migrant Resource Centre for migrant workers was also inaugurated on the occasion.

Head of IOM’s India office, Sanjay Awasthi, said: “Based at Gorakhpur, MRC is an evolved common service centre (CSC) which would provide solution to all kinds of queries of migrant workers from eastern part of UP.” He said about 70% of the migrations from India go to Gulf countries and many people from eastern UP districts head to these places for work. He said UP was home to over a lakh CSCs and important ones could be developed into MRCs as well.

Former MLA Jata Shankar Tripathi and director, Manav Sewa Sansthan, Rajesh Mani informed the audience about the kinds of challenges that migrant workers face when they leave their homeland. They said that besides the language barrier, eating habits and communication brought by the change of place, the workers were mostly unaware about their rights and systems to use in case of crisis.

Migrant service centres would come to their rescue in such a situation, they added.