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Impact of Covid 19 Pandemic on Footloose Migrant Construction Workers in India

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Impact of Covid 19 Pandemic on Footloose Migrant Construction Workers in India

Abstract:

The construction industry India that employs around 57.5 million people had experienced unprecedented challenges during the Covid 19 pandemic when the footloose migrant construction workers walked for more than 100 Kilometres when they lost their employment. This qualitative research paper based on the interview of 88 respondents and 129 photographs explores the experience of these migrant labour during and after Covid 19 pandemic. The thematic analysis conducted by using NVIVO establishes the increased precariousness among these migrant construction workers. The paper has examined the role of various stakeholders such as trade unions, contractors, employers and government bodies against their expected role. Being once such rare work on the life of footloose migrant workers during the COVID-19 pandemic, this paper would have policy implications for employers and the government.

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