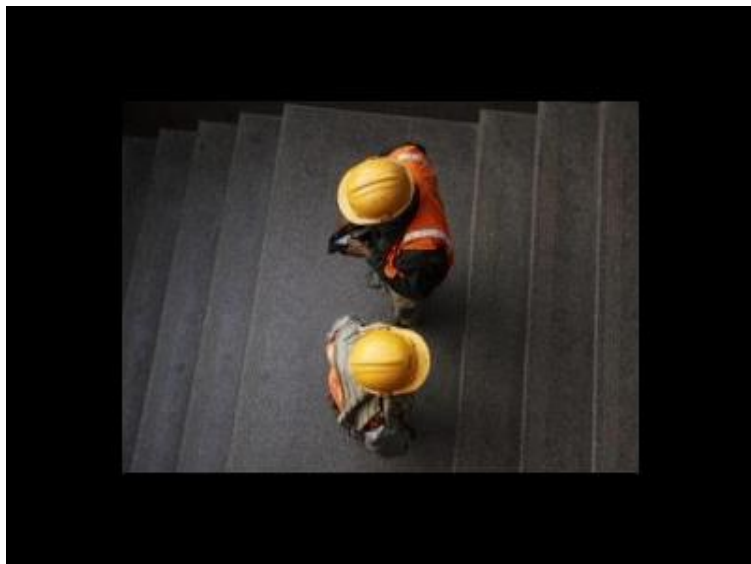


State workers in Maha, Gujarat returning home

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AJMER: Large number of people who had gone to work in real estate sector of Gujarat and Maharashtra are returning home due to lack of work and money, thanks to ban on high denomination currencies.

Every year, many people from rural parts of Ajmer, Rajsamand, Pali and Nagaur go to Gujarat and Maharashtra and return after six months with good money. This year too people had gone to these two states after Diwali and planned to return before Holi.

"We were working on a multi-storey building in Baroda but the company had stopped work and asked us to leave. There are hundreds of workers in Baroda from Rajasthan. They are left with no money as the contractors have paid them old notes," said Ram Meghwal of old Beawer town.

"We work in mines or go to Gujarat, particularly Ahmedabad, for employment in real estate sector. But after note ban, most of the work has been stopped in Gujarat. I came back so that I can help my father in his field for Rabi crop," added Banwari of Tabiji village.

These people are hoping that things will improve in coming months and then they will again go to these places."But till then, we will remain in our villages," said another local of Ajmer.

A bus operator Rajneesh Sharma said, "Over 100 private buses run between Rajasthan and Gujarat. There are long route buses from Churu, Sikar to Surat. These buses run on cheap fares and therefore, villagers prefer these buses. But with demonetization, return of people from Gujarat has already started. On Saturday , many packed buses returned to Rajasthan," he added.