

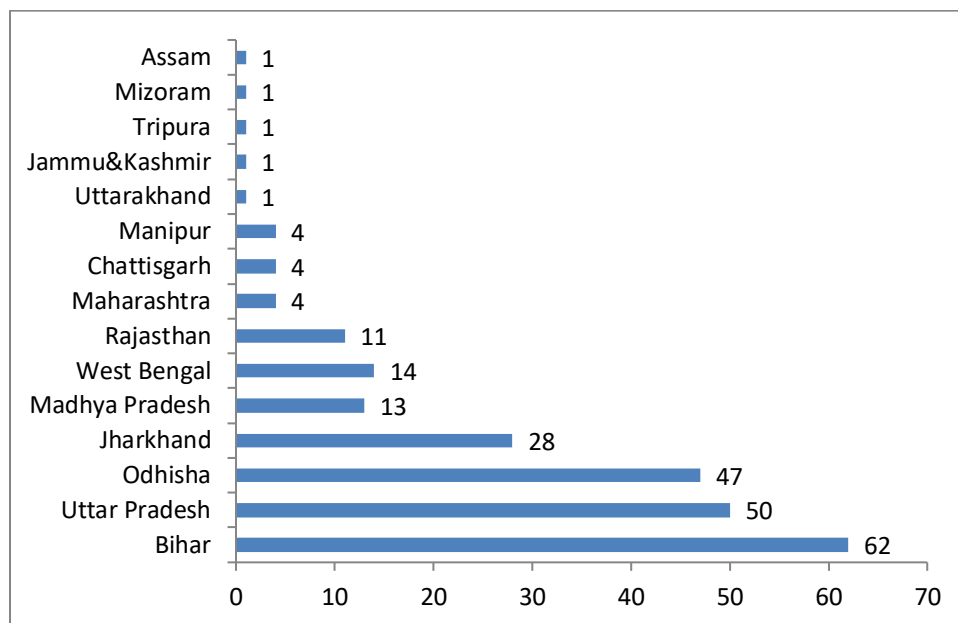
## Ferrying Migrant Labourers - Shramik Specials of South Central Railway

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Indian Railways has decided to operate Shramik Special trains from 01<sup>st</sup> May 2020 on the advice of Ministry of Home Affairs to ferry migrant workers stranded at different places to their home towns by special trains.

South Central Railway (SCR) with its headquarters in Secunderabad is the first Zone on Indian Railwaysto start Shramik Special train by running between Lingampalli in Telangana State and Hatia in Jharkhand on 1<sup>st</sup> May, 2020.SCR, since then, operated 242 Shramik Special Trains till 28 June, 2020 and carried 313504 migrant labourers to their home towns. These trains moved to various states like Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Odisha, Maharashtra, Chattisgarh, Manipur, West Bengal, Uttarakhand, Jammu and Kashmir, Tripura, Mizoram and Assam. It is worth mentioning that the train from Bibinagar in Telangana to Jiribam in Manipur is the farthest travelled train covering a distance of 2871 km among the 242 specials.

Figure 1: Trains carrying migrant labour from SCR to different States (number)



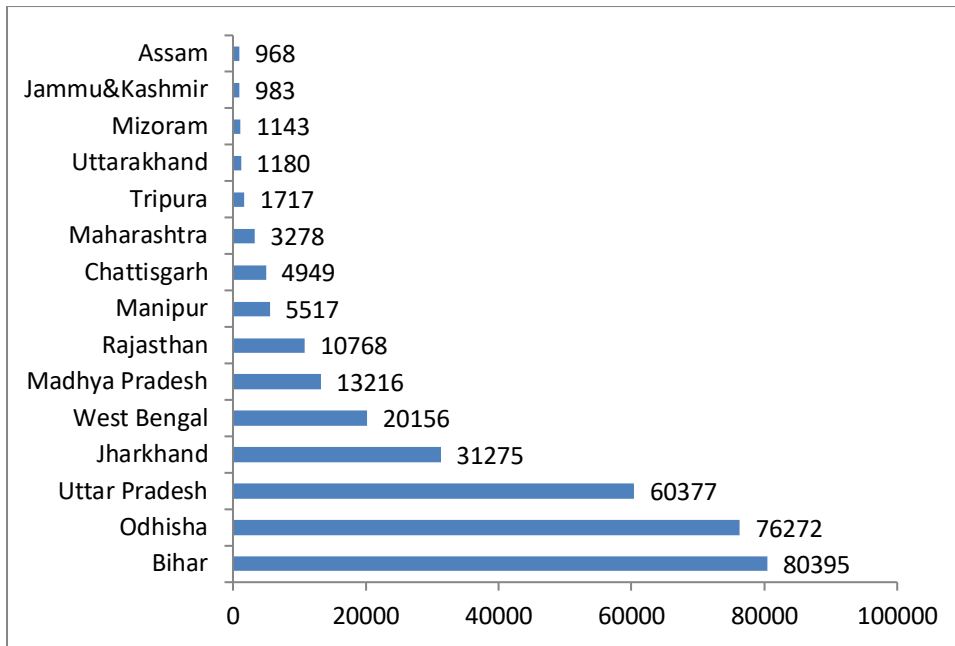
Source: Own calculations from the data drawn from SCR

SCR ran highest number of trains to Bihar followed by Uttar Pradesh and Odhisha transporting nearly 80000, 76000 and 60000 migrant labourers respectively (Figures 1 and 2).

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Figure 2: Migrant labour transported by Sharmik Special Trains



Source: Own calculations from the data drawn from SCR

According to the data available, the highest amount of money Rs 693 lakhs was paid by Bihar government as fares to SCR to ferry the migrant labourers back to their home state. Around Rs520 lakhs was paid by Uttar Pradesh government while Odhisha government paid nearly Rs425 lakhs. The total revenue earned by the SCR to transport the migrant labourers back to their home states was around Rs2430 lakhs (table 1).

Table 1: Revenue earned by SCR through transport of migrant labourers

State	Earnings (Rs.lakh)
Bihar	692.89
Uttar Pradesh	520.73
Odhisha	424.63
Jharkhand	264.69
West Bengal	158.97
Rajasthan	110.39
Madhya Pradesh	87.17
Manipur	59.25
Maharashtra	18.74
Tripura	16.74
Mizoram	13.68
Assam	13.1
Jammu&Kashmir	11.14
Uttarakhand	10.15

Source: Own calculations from the data drawn from SCR

The effort put in by the South Central Railway helped 313504 migrant labourers reach their home towns during the pandemic lockdown.