

## **Reproducing precariousness of labour: Post-lockdown 'reorganisation' of building construction in India**

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Covid19 pandemic impacted the lives of migrant labourers working in the cities and towns of India who were deprived of their incomes and left suffering with no food. The exodus to their villages in India's lockdown, in this scenario, brought the building construction industry, among others, to a standstill. The crisis of labour affected the construction industry in all major cities of India, in particular, large-scale building construction which accommodates labourers 'on-site' which works through big construction capital. However, this segment of building construction bounced back or 'recovered' from the losses incurred in the pandemic. How did the events of the pandemic tilt the balance of labour-capital relation towards capital instead of labour? What did such a turn of events mean for labour precarity? The report aims to answer these questions.

Drawing from field findings in the doctoral research and focussing on archival material comprising of field accounts of labour sub-contractors, migrant labourers in 'on-site' accommodated construction sites, newspaper/magazine articles etc. generated during the pandemic, the report examines the negotiation of labour-capital relationship in the recovery of the construction sector amidst the pandemic, including the role of the state governments in these negotiations.