

**Bill No. XLVIII of 2022**

THE BHAGAT SINGH NATIONAL URBAN EMPLOYMENT  
GUARANTEE BILL, 2022

A

BILL

*to provide for the enhancement of livelihood security of the households in urban areas of the country by formulation of the Bhagat Singh National Urban Employment Guarantee Scheme aimed at providing at least two hundred days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled, semi-skilled and skilled work and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.*

BE it enacted by the Parliament in the Seventy-third Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

CHAPTER I

PRELIMINARY

5 **1.** (1) This Act may be called the Bhagat Singh National Urban Employment Guarantee Act, 2022.

Short title,  
extent and  
commencement.

(2) It extends to the whole of India.

(3) It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.

Definitions.

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—

(a) "adult" means a person who has completed eighteenth year of age;

(b) "applicant" means the head of a household or any of its other adult members who has applied for employment under the scheme;

(c) "appropriate Government" means—

(i) in the case of a State, the Government of that State;

(ii) in the case of an Union Territory having its own legislature, the Government of that Union Territory; and

(iii) in other cases, the Central Government;

(d) "household" means the members of a family related to each other by blood, marriage or adoption and normally residing together and sharing meals or holding a common ration card;

(e) "minimum wage" means the minimum wage fixed by the appropriate Government under section 6 of the Code on Wages, 2019 for categories of unskilled/semi-skilled/skilled labourers as applicable in that area;

(f) "municipality" means an institution of self-Government constituted under article 243Q of the Constitution;

(g) "prescribed" means prescribed by the rules made under this Act;

(h) "notification" means a notification published in the Official Gazette;

(i) "scheme" means The Bhagat Singh Urban Employment Guarantee Scheme notified by the Central Government under sub-section (1) of Section 4;

(j) "semi skilled work" means work declared to be semi-skilled work by the appropriate Government;

(k) "skilled work" means any work which any adult person is capable of doing only with any skill or special training;

(l) "unskilled work" means any work which any adult person is capable of doing without any skill or special training;

(m) "urban area" means such area as provided under article 243Q of the Constitution regarding Constitution of Municipalities;

(n) "urban local body" means the principal authority responsible for administering this programme;

(o) "wage rate" means the wage rate referred to in section 6;

(p) "ward" means territorial constituencies in the municipal area; and

(q) "ward sabha" means a demarcated territorial constituency of all persons registered as voters in the electoral rolls.

## CHAPTER II

### GUARANTEE OF EMPLOYMENT IN URBAN AREAS

Guarantee of urban employment to households.

3. (1) Save as otherwise provided, the appropriate Government shall, in such urban area as may be notified by it, provide to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled, semi-skilled and skilled work not less than two hundred days of such work in a financial year in accordance with the scheme made under this Act.

(2) The Existing schemes of the appropriate Government in this respect shall be modified to be in consonance with the provisions laid down by or under this Act and in the scheme.

(3) Every person who has done the work given to him under the scheme shall be entitled to receive wages at the wage rate for each day of work commensurate to their skills, qualifications and nature of work undertaken.

(4) Save as otherwise provided in this Act, the disbursement of daily wages shall be made directly to the beneficiary on a weekly basis or in any case not later than a fortnight after the date on which such work was done.

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## CHAPTER III

## EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE SCHEMES AND UNEMPLOYMENT ALLOWANCE

4. (1) For the purposes of giving effect to the provisions of section 3, The Central Government shall, within six months from the date of commencement of this Act, by notification, formulate a scheme, namely the Bhagat Singh Urban Employment Guarantee Scheme, for providing not less than two hundred days of guaranteed employment in a financial year to every household in the urban areas covered under the scheme and whose adult members, by application, volunteer to do unskilled, semi- skilled and skilled work subject to the conditions laid down by or under this Act and in the Scheme.

Employment  
Guarantee  
Schemes for  
urban areas.

(2) The appropriate Government shall publish a summary of the scheme in at least two local newspapers, one of which shall be in a vernacular language circulating in the area or areas to which such scheme shall apply.

(3) The scheme made under sub-section (1) shall provide for the minimum features specified in the Schedule I.

(4) The appropriate Government may, within the limits of its economic capacity and development, make provisions for securing work to every adult member of a household under a scheme for any period beyond the period guaranteed, as may be expedited.

5. (1) The appropriate Government may, without prejudice to the conditions specified in the Schedule II, specify in the scheme the conditions for providing guaranteed employment under this Act.

Conditions for  
providing  
guaranteed  
employment.

(2) The persons employed under any scheme made under this Act shall be entitled to such facilities not less than the minimum facilities specified in the Schedule II.

29 of 2019.

6. (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in the Code on Wages, 2019, the appropriate Government may, by notification, specify the wage rate for the purposes of this Act:

Wage rate.

Provided that different rates of wages may be specified for different areas:

Provided further that the wage rate specified from time to time under any such notification shall not be less than rupees three hundred per day.

7. (1) If an eligible applicant for employment under the scheme is not provided such employment within fifteen days of receipt of his application seeking employment or from the date on which the employment has been sought in the case of an advance application, whichever is later, he shall be entitled to a daily unemployment allowance in accordance with this section.

Payment of  
unemployment  
allowance.

(2) Subject to such terms and conditions of eligibility as may be prescribed by the appropriate Government and subject to the provisions of this Act and the Scheme and the economic capacity of the appropriate Government, the unemployment allowance payable under sub-section (1) shall be paid to the applicants of a household subject to the entitlement of the household at such rate as may be specified by the appropriate Government.

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**(3) Every payment of unemployment allowance under sub-section (1) shall be made or offered not later than fifteen days from the date on which it became due for payment.**

**(4) The appropriate Government may prescribe the procedure for payment of unemployment allowance under this Act.**

Non-entitlement to receive unemployment allowance in certain circumstances.

**8.** An applicant who—

(a) does not accept the employment provided to his household under a scheme;

(b) does not report for work, or communicate the reason thereof, within fifteen days of being notified by the implementing agency to report for the work; or

(c) continuously remains absent from work, without obtaining a permission from the concerned implementing agency for a period of more than one week or remains absent for a total period of more than one week in any month,

shall not be eligible to claim the unemployment allowance payable under this Act for a period of three months but shall be eligible to seek employment under the scheme at any time.

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#### CHAPTER IV

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##### IMPLEMENTING AND MONITORING AUTHORITIES

Annual Action Plan by Urban Local Body.

**9.** (1) The relevant Urban Local Body, such as the Nagar Panchayat, Municipal Council, or Municipal Corporation, shall prepare an Annual Action Plan for a financial year in such manner as may be prescribed.

(2) While preparing the Annual Action Plan, the Urban Local Body shall ensure that it includes the following:

(a) the list of works that are relevant to the development of the area with break-up of labour and material component;

(b) the assessment of labour demand and details of individual works; and

(c) the detailed plan of action to provide employment in accordance with the labour demand including training.

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Urban Local Body Level Committee.

**10.** (1) There shall be a Urban Local Body Level Committee to discuss and finalise the Annual Action Plan received from each Ward:

Provided that while finalising the Annual Action Plan, the concerned field level official of the respective body may be consulted by the committee.

(2) The respective Urban Local Body Level Committee shall undertake the following:

(a) planning of activities;

(b) receiving, verifying and registering the application for employment registration;

(c) receipt of job application and receipt of date;

(d) disposing of application within fifteen days of receipt;

(e) ensuring timely administrative and technical clearance of projects;

(f) work execution;

(g) maintaining of records;

(h) organising ward councils for social audit;

(i) planning, direction control and evaluation; and

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(j) grievance redressal.

(3) The Urban Local Body Level Committee shall be constituted with the following members:

- 5 (a) The respective Additional Secretary in each Corporation or the Secretary in the Municipality as the Executing Officer of the Scheme;
- (b) An officer as an assistant to assist the Executing Officer, appointed by the municipality;
- (c) City Engineer or Municipal Engineer as the case may be;
- (d) Health Officer;
- 10 (e) Child Development Project Officer;
- (f) Nodal Community Organiser;
- (g) City Mission Management Unit Manager; and
- (h) such other officials as may be decided by the Executing Officer.

15 **11. (1)** The Annual Action Plans of the Urban Local Bodies as well as an Annual Report of all activities undertaken in each Urban Local Body shall be further submitted to the respective District Level Review and Monitoring Committee for vetting and approval. District Level Review and Monitoring Committee.

(2) A District Level Review and Monitoring Committee under the chairmanship of the Assistant Collector shall be constituted, consisting of such other officers as may be prescribed, which shall perform following functions:—

- 20 (a) approve the Annual Report on the implementation of the scheme;
- (b) ensure that all Urban Local Bodies in the district are implementing transparently and socially the scheme;
- (c) distribute necessary funds for the implementation of the scheme to the Urban Local Bodies; and
- 25 (d) ensure complete functioning of the project.

**12. (1)** The Annual Action Plans of the Urban Local Bodies as well as the Annual Report of all activities undertaken in the respective district shall be further submitted to the respective State Level Review and Monitoring Committee by the District Level Review and Monitoring Committee for review, design and inspection. State Level Review and Monitoring Committee.

30 (2) A State Level Review and Monitoring Committee under the chairmanship of the Additional Chief Secretary of the concerned State Government shall be constituted, consisting of such other officers, as may be prescribed, which shall perform following functions:—

- 35 (a) quarterly review of the scheme implementation for appropriate interventions to improve the implementation of the scheme and make policy decisions;
- (b) decide on new types of activities that can be taken up under the scheme;
- (c) provide necessary funds for the implementation of the project to the Urban Local Bodies;
- 40 (d) establish a network of professional agencies to provide technical assistance and ensure project execution quality; and
- (e) ensure complete functioning of the scheme.

(3) The State Level Review Committee shall submit the reports to the appropriate Government for audit.

## CHAPTER V

### WORK EXECUTION

- Muster Roll. **13.** (1) Muster Roll shall be assigned for the work before each action is initiated which shall be signed by the Scheme Executing Officer. 5
- (2) Each Muster Roll shall have a unique identification number.
- (3) Separate Muster Rolls shall be used for each week which includes six days.
- (4) Muster Rolls shall be available on the workplace and attendance shall be recorded in real time. 10
- (5) The Muster Rolls shall be kept by the Executing Officer as part of the municipal expenditure records and work file.
- (6) The details of the Muster Rolls to be issued shall be kept in the register of the Urban Local Body.
- (7) It shall be the responsibility of the concerned engineer or the person who oversees the work that only the work card holder shall be entitled to perform the work: 15
- Provided that no person below the age of eighteen and any other person without Work Card shall be allowed to work.
- Mate. **14.** (1) A Mate shall be designated from among the workers who shall be trained and assigned by each Urban Local body to oversee the activities, record the attendance and organise the work. 20
- (2) Each Urban Local Body shall ensure that adequate Mates are identified and trained in each municipality so that they may be assigned work in rotation and the supervision of the training shall be done by the respective Executing Officers of the scheme in each Urban Local Body. 25
- (3) No Mate shall be allowed to work for more than a month continuously to avoid any issue at a later stage.
- (4) The ratio of Mate and workers of the work place shall be 1:40:
- Provided that if a work place has fewer than forty workers, one worker from them shall be assigned to perform the duty of Mate. 30
- (5) The records of the Muster Roll, without any corrections, shall be maintained by the Mate.
- (6) The minimum educational qualification for the Mate shall be eighth standard passed: 35
- Provided that persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and widows, abandoned women and disabled women shall be given priority for designation as Mate.
- (7) The general duties of the Mate shall be, but not limited to, the following:—
- (a) divide the workers into cohesive groups of 5-10 people for easy execution of work and proper calculation of wages;
- (b) prepare and maintain the Muster Roll, ensuring the integrity of the information of the Muster Roll and the quality of the work; 40
- (c) ensure workplace amenities; and

(d) public supervision of work.

(8) The Mates are entitled to receive the full wages at the daily wage rate notified for the purpose of the scheme.

(9) If it is found that there has been any mismanagement on the part of the Mate, the Executing Officer shall immediately take action to remove such person after giving reasonable opportunity of being heard and if required, to appoint another Mate.

**15.** The following activities shall be undertaken before each work under the Scheme is commenced:

Work  
Commencement.

(a) every work shall consist of an estimate report to be prepared by the Executing Officer or the person who oversees the work in the vernacular language including each work item, cost of preparation for the workplace, primary care kit, health and hygiene facilities, etc.

(b) The estimate report shall include the following:

- (i) human labour days and wages created for Unskilled workers;
- (ii) human labour days and wages for semi-skilled workers;
- (iii) human labour days and wages created for skilled workers; and
- (iv) quantity and cost of goods and its storage.

(c) A project initiation meeting shall be held with all the workers on the site to explain about the details of the work, the quantum of work to be carried out, notified wage rate, the system of payment of wages, etc.

(d) It shall be ensured that all workers have a bank or post office account.

(e) The Executing Officer or the person who oversees the work shall make the required tools available and calculate the rental cost of the equipment and record it in the bill.

**16.** (1) Each Urban Local Body shall be responsible for the provision of work and facilities which may include first-aid kit, clean drinking water, shade and creche, if more than five children under six years of age arrive at the workplace.

Work place  
Facilities.

(2) In the case of a creche facility, a registered woman may be charged to look after the children and receive the same wage as the unskilled labourer and such costs may be calculated separately and made into part of the work expenditure.

(3) A redressal mechanism to expedite the grievances shall be set up in each Urban Local Body, in such manner as may be prescribed.

**17.** (1) The details of each work shall be recorded in a work register.

Project  
Completion  
Report.

(2) Upon completion of the work, the work completion report shall be prepared and kept in the work register and verified.

(3) The Executing Officer or the person who oversees the work shall be responsible for preparing and completing the work report:

Provided that photographs of each activity at the beginning, middle of the work and after completion shall be recorded in the work completion report.

(4) The Central Government may, in consultation with the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, prescribe appropriate arrangements for audits of the accounts of the schemes at all levels.

## CHAPTER VI

## FUNDS

Central  
Government  
to provide  
funds.

**18. (1) The Central Government shall, after due appropriation made by Parliament by law on this behalf, provide adequate funds for carrying out the purpose of this Act.**

## CHAPTER VII

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## POWER TO MAKE RULES

Rule making  
Powers of  
Central  
Government  
and State  
Governments.

**19. (1) The Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, make rules for carrying out the purposes of this Act.**

(2) Each State and Union Territory Government may, by notification, and subject to the conditions of previous publication, and consistent with this Act and the rules made by the Central Government, make rules to carry out the provisions of this Act. 10

(3) Every rule made by the Central Government under this section shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of Parliament while it is in session for a total period of thirty days which may be comprised in one session or in two or more successive sessions, and if, before the expiry of the session immediately following the session or the successive sessions aforesaid, both Houses agree in making any modification in the rule or both Houses agree that the rule should not be made, the rule shall thereafter have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect, as the case may be; so, however, that any such modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that rule. 15 20

(4) Every rule made by the State or Union Territory Government under this section shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of the State Legislature where it consists of two Houses, or where such Legislature

## THE SCHEDULE I

[See section 4(3)]

### MINIMUM FEATURES OF AN URBAN EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE SCHEME

1. It is scheme of the Central Government to provide employment opportunities to vulnerable families in urban areas where there is no employment or otherwise.
2. Ensure the social rights of urban poor.
3. Every family member registered in the Urban Local Body shall be given a job card within fifteen days.
4. After receiving the job card, each member whose name in the card may apply for employment in the municipality.
5. Women shall be given priority in providing employment as part of the scheme and fifty per cent. of the total employment opportunities will be for women.
6. Women and men are entitled to equal work and equal pay for homogeneous work in the scheme.
7. If the worker is injured or falls ill on the work place, such worker shall get free medical treatment.
8. In the case of hospitalisation due to a work accident, the worker shall be entitled to get a daily wage of not less than half the allowable wages under the scheme.
9. If a worker is permanently disabled or dies as part of this employment at the workplace, his or her legal heir shall be paid as *ex gratia* of rupees two lakh for accidental death or total disability and rupees one lakh for partial disability.
10. The children accompanied with workers shall be provided with a creche facility.
11. A grievance redressal mechanism shall be established to ensure accountability.
12. All documents and figures that are part of the project shall be public records.
13. Efficient implementation of the project shall be carried out with the help of Online Management information System.

## THE SCHEDULE II

(See section 5)

### CONDITIONS FOR GUARANTEED URBAN EMPLOYMENT UNDER THE SCHEME AND MINIMUM ENTITLEMENT OF LABOURERS

- 1.** The adult members of every household who—
  - (a) reside in any urban areas; and
  - (b) are willing to do unskilled, semi-skilled and skilled work,may submit their names, age and the address of the household to the Ward in the jurisdiction of which they reside for registration of their household for issuance of a job card.
- 2.** It shall be the duty of the Ward to register the household, after making such enquiry as it deems fit and issue a job card containing such details of adult members of the household affixing their photographs, as may be specified by the State Government in the scheme.
- 3.** The registration made under paragraph 2 shall be for such a period as may be laid in the Scheme, but in any case not less than five years, and may be renewed from time to time.
- 4.** The adult members of a registered household whose name appears in the job card shall be entitled to apply for skilled/semi-skilled/unskilled work under the Scheme.
- 5.** The registered persons belonging to a household shall be entitled to employment in accordance with the Scheme made under the provisions of this Act, for as many days as each applicant may request, subject to a maximum of two hundred and fifty days per household in a given financial year.
- 6.** The Executing Officer shall ensure that every applicant shall be provided work in accordance with the provisions of the Scheme within fifteen days of receipt of an application or from the date he seeks work in case of advance application, whichever is later:

Provided that priority shall be given to women in such a way that at least one-half of the beneficiaries shall be women who have registered and requested for work under this Act.
- 7.** Applications for work shall be for at least fourteen days of continuous work.
- 8.** There shall be a limit of two hundred and fifty days of employment for which a person may apply, or on the number of days of employment actually provided to him subject to the aggregate entitlement of the household.
- 9.** Applications for work may be submitted in writing either to the Executing Officer, as may be specified in the Scheme.
- 10.** The Executing Officer, as the case may be, shall be bound to accept valid applications and to issue a dated receipt to the applicant. Group applications may also be submitted.
- 11.** Applicants who are provided with work shall be so intimated in writing, by means of a letter sent to him at the address given in the job card and by a public notice displayed at the office of the respective Urban Local Bodies.
- 12.** As far as possible, employment shall be provided within a radius of five kilometers of the Urban Local Body where the applicant resides at the time of applying.
- 13.** A new work under the Scheme shall be commenced, only if at least ten labourers become available for such work.
- 14.** In cases the employment is provided outside such radius, it must be provided within the Ward, and the labourers shall be paid ten per cent. of the wage rate as extra wages to meet additional transportation and living expenses.

**15.** A period of employment shall ordinarily be at least fourteen days continuously with not more than six days in a week.

**16.** In all cases where unemployment allowance is paid, or due to be paid, the Executing Officer shall inform the District Level Committee in writing the reasons why it was not possible for him to provide employment or cause to provide employment to the applicants.

**17.** The District Committee shall, in its Annual Report to the State Level Committee, explain as to why employment could not be provided in cases where payment of unemployment allowance is involved.

**18.** Provision shall be made in the Scheme for advance applications, that is, applications which may be submitted in advance of the date from which employment is sought.

**19.** Provision shall be made in the Scheme for submission of multiple applications by the same person provided that the corresponding periods for which employment is sought do not overlap.

**20.** Each Ward shall prepare and maintain or cause to be prepared and maintained such registers, vouchers and other documents in such form and in such manner as may be specified in the Scheme containing particulars of job cards and passbooks issued, name, age and address of the head of the household and the adult members of the household registered with the Ward.

**21.** Each Ward shall send such a list or lists of the names and addresses of households and their adult members registered with it and supply such other information to the concerned Executing Officer at such periods and in such form as may be specified in the Scheme.

**22.** A list of persons who are provided with the work shall be displayed on the notice board of the Ward and at the office of the Executing Officer and at such other places as the Executing Officer may deem necessary and the list shall be open for inspection by the State Government and any person interested.

**23.** If the Ward is satisfied at any time that a person has registered with it by furnishing false information, it may direct the Programme Officer to direct his name to be struck off from the register and direct the applicant to return the job card:

Provided that no such action under this paragraph shall be directed unless the applicant has been given an opportunity of being heard in the presence of two independent persons.

**24.** If any personal injury is caused to any person employed under the Scheme by accident arising out of and in the course of his employment, he shall be entitled to, free of charge, such medical treatment as is admissible under the Scheme.

**25.** Where hospitalisation of the injured worker is necessary, the State Government shall arrange for such hospitalisation including accommodation, treatment, medicines and payment of daily allowance not less than half of the wage rate required to be paid had the injured been engaged in the work.

**26.** If a person employed under a Scheme dies or becomes permanently disabled by accident arising out of and in the course of employment, he shall be paid by the implementing agency an *ex gratia* payment at the rate of rupees two lakh for accidental death or total disability and rupees one lakh for partial disability or such amount as may be notified by the Central Government, and the amount shall be paid to the legal heirs of the deceased or the disabled, as the case may be.

**27.** The facilities of safe drinking water, shade for children and periods of rest, first-aid box with adequate material for emergency treatment for minor injuries and other health hazards connected with the work being performed shall be provided at the work site.

**28.** In case the number of children below the age of six years accompanying the women working at any site are five or more, provisions shall be made to depute one of such women workers to look after such children.

**29.** The person deputed under paragraph 28 shall be paid wage rate.

**30.** In case the payment of wages is not made within the period specified under the Scheme, the labourers shall be entitled to receive payment of compensation as per the provisions of the Code on Wages, 2019 (29 of 2019).

**31.** The wages under a Scheme may be paid either wholly in cash or in cash and kind provided that at least one-fourth of the wages shall be paid in cash only.

**32.** The State Government may prescribe that a portion of the wages in cash may be paid to the labourers on a daily basis during the period of employment.

**33.** If any personal injury is caused by accident to a child accompanying any person who is employed under a Scheme, such person shall be entitled to, free of charge, such medical treatment for the child as may be specified in the Scheme and in case of death or disablement, through an *ex gratia* payment as may be determined by the State Government.

**34.** In case of every employment under the Scheme, there shall be no discrimination solely on the ground of gender and the provisions of the Code on Wages, 2019 (29 of 2019), shall be complied with.

## STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

There is a growing distress among India's urban poor which has remained largely unaddressed. The statistics show that the rate of unemployment has steadily risen over the past few years, which has been exacerbated due to COVID-19 pandemic. The Government's Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) released by the National Statistical Office (NSO) released on March 14, 2022, reveals that India's urban unemployment rate jumped to 12.6 per cent. in the April-June quarter of 2021 from 9.3 per cent in January-March quarter. The number was much higher (20.8 per cent.) during the first wave of COVID-19 pandemic. Urban females suffered more than urban males- unemployment rate among females stood at 14.3 per cent. compared with 12.2 per cent. for males in April-June quarter 2021. In addition to this, urban poor continue to be affected by India's persistently high inflation, prevalence of low-wage, poor quality and informal work.

India has paved the way in the implementation of employment guarantee programmes with the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) that guarantees one hundred days of work to rural households every financial year. And yet, there is no equivalent of MGNREGA for urban areas despite India having a history of urban employment schemes. One of the most prominent central programmes in this regard was the Swarna Jayanti Shahri Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) launched in 1997 which provided employment to the unemployed and underemployed urban poor through self-employment and wage employment. The Urban Wage Employment Programme component of SJSRY covered those living below the poverty line in Urban Local Bodies with less than five lakh population. The SJSRY was replaced by the National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM) in 2013. However, this programme and its subsequent version, laid more emphasis on self-employment and entrepreneurship, and were not employment "guarantee" schemes.

Recently, the demand for an urban job guarantee has been gaining prominence in political and policy debates in India. With each passing year, more and more State Governments have been introducing new urban employment schemes reinforcing the necessity of one of such in the national level. States such as Madhya Pradesh (Mukhyamantri Yuva Swabhiman Yojana), Kerala (Ayyankali Urban Employment Guarantee Scheme), Odisha (Unnati or Urban Wage Employment Initiative), Jharkhand (Mukhyamantri Shramik Yojana), Himachal Pradesh (Mukhya Mantri Shahri Ajeevika Guarantee Yojna), Rajasthan (Indira Gandhi Shahri Rozgar Guarantee Yojana) and Tamil Nadu (Tamil Nadu Urban Employment Scheme) have been running various schemes which guarantee specific number of days of wage-employment to urban households.

Further, the scheme envisages the 'Right to Life' enshrined under Article 21 of the Constitution of India. The Supreme Court of India has held in multiple cases that the 'Right to Life' also includes the 'right to livelihood' and the 'right to live with human dignity.' A national urban employment guarantee scheme has the potential to transform the structure of the economy as well as contribute significantly to an improved quality of life of millions of people.

Hence, this Bill.

BINOY VISWAM

## FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

Clause 3 of the Bill provides guarantee of employment to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled, semi-skilled and skilled work not less than one hundred days of such work in a financial year. Clause 7 of the Bill provides for payment of unemployment allowance to eligible applicant for employment under the scheme if he has not been provided within fifteen days of receipt of application seeking employment. Clause 18 provides that Central Government shall provide funds for carrying out the purposes of the Bill. The Bill, if enacted, would involve expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India and it is very difficult to estimate the expenditure at this juncture. A non-recurring expenditure is also likely to be involved.

MEMORANDUM REGARDING DELEGATED LEGISLATION

Clause 19 of the Bill empowers the Central Government to make rules for carrying out the purposes of this Bill. The rules will relate to matters of details only. The delegation of legislative power is of normal character.

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to provide for the enhancement of livelihood security of the households in urban areas of the country by formulation of the Bhagat Singh National Urban Employment Guarantee Scheme aimed at providing at least two hundred days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled, semi-skilled and skilled work and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

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