GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1201 TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.12.2024

SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS

1201. DR. ASHOK KUMAR MITTAL:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons for undue delay in extending social security benefits to gig and platform workers, despite their significant contribution to the economy;
- (b) the steps taken by Government to ensure that the social security measures are robust enough to provide meaningful support to workers, especially during times of financial instability;
- (c) whether Government is introducing new measures while registering workers on the e- Shram portal to address the past challenges in enforcing labour protection within the gig economy, if so, the details of the measures taken; and
- (d) if not, the reasons for the same?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SUSHRI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE)

(a) to (d): Gig workers and platform workers have been defined for the first time in the Code on Social Security, 2020, which has been enacted by the Parliament.

The Code provides for framing of suitable social security measures for gig workers and platform workers on matters relating to life and disability cover, accident insurance, health and maternity benefits, old age protection, etc. The Code also provides for setting up a Social Security Fund to finance the welfare scheme.

A Committee comprising representatives from stakeholders has been constituted to suggest inter alia framework for providing social security and welfare benefits to gig and platform workers.

An advisory has also been issued by the Ministry of Labour and Employment to platform aggregators to register themselves and platform workers engaged with them on the e-Shram portal. This will facilitate the platform workers to get easy access to the social security benefits.