GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1202 TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.12.2024

WELFARE OF DIGITAL PLATFORM WORKERS / GIG WORKERS

1202. MS. SWATI MALIWAL:

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

- (a) the number of digital platform workers or gig workers currently working in the country;
- (b) whether Government is working towards recognizing these workers as regular employees by securing them benefits outlined in the Social Security Code, 2020; and
- (c) whether Government is considering the introduction of a legislation to protect the rights and entitlements of digital platform workers or gig workers, including regulation of their working conditions, and ensuring them social security and other welfare measures?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): As per an estimation by NITI Aayog vide its report titled "India's Booming Gig and Platform Economy" published in June 2022, the number of gig workers and platform workers in the country was 7.7 million in 2020-21, which is expected to rise to 23.5 million by 2029-30.

For the first time, the definition of 'gig workers' and 'platform workers' and provisions related to the same have been provided in the Code on Social Security, 2020, which has been enacted by the Parliament.

The Code on Social Security, 2020 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.
