GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1210 TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.12.2024

SAFEGUARDING INTERESTS OF UNORGANISED LABOURERS

1210. SHRI G.C. CHANDRASHEKHAR:

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

- (a) whether Government has implemented any new measures in the last three years to safeguard the interests of unorganised labourers in the country; and
- (b) if so, the details of the measures taken and their implementation?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): The Unorganised Workers' Social Security Act (UWSS), 2008 provides for, inter-alia, formulating welfare schemes for unorganised workers on the matters relating to life and disability cover, health and maternity benefits, old age protection etc. by the Central Government.

The details of the social security schemes available for unorganised sector workers include following:

- (i) Life and disability cover is provided through Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY) and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY).
- (ii) The health and maternity benefits are insured through Ayushman Bharat- Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) under deprivation and occupation criteria. The Government of India recently approved the expansion of the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY), offering comprehensive health insurance to senior citizens aged 70 and above.

(iii) In order to provide old age protection to unorganised sector workers, the Government of India had launched a pension scheme in 2019 namely Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan Yojana (PM-SYM) to provide a monthly pension of Rs. 3000/- after attaining the age of 60 years to unorganized workers. Under the scheme, 50% monthly contribution is payable by the beneficiary and equal matching contribution is paid by the Central Government.

Apart from above, other schemes such as Public Distribution System through One Nation One Ration Card scheme under National Food Security Act, Mahatama Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, Deen Dayal Upadhyay Gramin Kausal Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana, Deen Dayal Antyodaya Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana etc. are also available for the unorganized sector workers depending upon their eligibility criteria.

Ministry of Labour and Employment has launched the eShram- "One- Stop-Solution" on 21st October 2024. eShram- "One Stop- Solution" entails integration of different Social Security/ Welfare schemes at single portal i.e., eShram. So far, 12 schemes of different Central Ministries / Departments have already been integrated/mapped with the eShram including Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY), Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), Ayushman Bharat – Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana, Prime Minister Street Vendors AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM-SVANidhi), PM Awas Yojana – Urban (PMAY-U), PM Awas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA).

The Social Security code, 2020 provides for framing of suitable social security schemes for unorganised workers on matters such as (i) life and disability cover; (ii) accident insurance; (iii) health and maternity benefits; (iv) old age protection; (v) crèche.
