

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3304
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.08.2025**

**INCLUSION OF GIG WORKERS AS A SEPARATE ENTITY IN THE PLFS
DATA**

3304. SMT. PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that despite gig workers being incorporated into the legal framework through the Code on Social Security, 2020, they are subsumed as 'self-employed', 'own-account workers' or 'casual labour' in the PLFS survey, if so, whether Government intends to separately incorporate gig workers data in the PLFS surveys;**
- (b) the funds released to gig and platform workers till date through the social security fund as mandated by the Code on Social Security; and**
- (c) the extent of social-security interventions Government has made for the Gig and Platform workers till date?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): Since its launch in 2017, Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) conducted by National Statistics Office (NSO), the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) has been the primary source of statistics on labour force, activity participation of the population and structure of employment and unemployment in the country.

Based on the information collected in PLFS, labour force indicators, viz., Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR), Worker Population Ratio (WPR), Unemployment Rate (UR), distribution of workers by status in employment (self-employed, regular wage / salaried, casual labour), by industry (as per National Industrial Classification (NIC)) and occupation (National Classification of Occupation (NCO)) of work etc. are brought out through the PLFS publications.

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No updations in the PLFS schedule has been undertaken with the objective of specifically identifying persons engaged as ‘gig workers. However, all market activities i.e. activities performed for pay or profit which result in production of goods and services for exchange are included under the domain of economic activity considered in PLFS. The activity situation of a person who is found to be working or being engaged in economic activity during a specified reference period is associated with employment in PLFS. Hence, even the persons engaged as ‘gig workers’ for pay & profit are covered in PLFS.

The feasibility of separately identifying gig workers as defined in the Code on Social Security, 2020 in PLFS is presently not under consideration of NSO, MoSPI.

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 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. No funds have been released to gig and platform workers through the Social Security Fund.

Multiple rounds of deliberations have been conducted with Aggregators, Knowledge Partners, and Platform Workers` Unions/Associations and State Governments/UTs for social security framework of gig & platform workers.

The Government in its Budget Announcement for financial year 2025-26 has announced several key measures for the welfare of Gig workers of online platforms (platform workers) viz. their registration on the e-Shram portal, issuance of identity cards, and extension of health care benefits under Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY).
