

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PLANNING

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2515
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.03.2023

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EMPLOYMENT GENERATION

2515. SHRIMATI SAJDA AHMED:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the policy recommendations given by NITI Aayog for improving the employment generation during the last three years;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to revamp the present policy on employment generation through MNREGA;
- (c) whether the Government has formulated a policy on the social security of platform-based gig workers; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION; MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS

(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

- (a) Since employment generation is cross-sectoral dynamic phenomenon, all schemes and programs of the Government emphasize upon harnessing potential employment generation through backward and forward linkages in the economy. NITI Aayog has not given policy recommendation specific to Employment Generation. However, suggestions/inputs provided by NITI Aayog on all relevant schemes/programmes involves strategic deliberations on employment generation.
- (b) No, The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (Mahatma Gandhi NREGA) Act 2005 is an Act to provide for enhancement of livelihood security of the households in rural areas of the country by providing at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work.

(c) to (d) For the first time, the definition of 'gig worker' and 'platform worker' has been provided in the Code on Social Security, 2020. The Code on Social Security, 2020 provides for framing of suitable social security schemes 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 and one of the sources of fund, is contribution from aggregator between 1, to 2% of annual turnover of an aggregator subject to the limit of 5% of the amount paid or payable by an aggregator to such workers. However, the Code has not yet come into force. Further, the Government has launched e-Shram portal on 26.08.2021 for registration and creation of a Comprehensive National Database of Unorganized Workers including gig workers and platform workers. It allows a person to register himself or herself on the portal on self-declaration basis, which is spread across around 400 occupations. The revised module for gig workers and platform workers was made live on e-Shram portal in September, 2022 and over 38,000 platform workers have been registered /updated their profile on e-Shram portal as platform workers.
