GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 220 TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.07.2022

SOCIAL SECURITY OF UNORGANIZED/PLATFORM WORKERS

†220. SHRI KRUPAL BALAJI TUMANE: SHRIMATI DELKAR KALABEN MOHANBHAI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a)whether any law/guidelines/rules/regulations exist for the protection and social security of the unorganized/ platform workers;
- (b)if so, the details of the provisions thereof;
- (c)whether the Government proposes to include platform/unorganized workers under the Industrial Disputes Code and if so, the details of the draft provisions and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d)the steps taken by the Government to formulate scheme in respect of security rights for gig/unorganized/platform workers under the Social Security Code, 2020?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAMESWAR TELI)

(a) & (b): As per the Unorganised Workers' Social Security (UWSS) Act, 2008, the Government is mandated to provide social security to all the workers of the unorganised sector by formulating suitable welfare schemes on the matters relating to: (i) life and disability cover; (ii) health and maternity benefits; (iii) old age protection; and (iv) any other benefit as may be determined by the Central Government.

In order to provide old age protection to the workers of unorganised sector including gig and platform workers, a pension scheme namely Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-dhan (PM-SYM) was launched in March, 2019. Under the Scheme, any worker including self-employed can become member. It provides a monthly minimum

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assured pension of Rs.3000/- after attaining the age of 60 years. This is a voluntary and contributory pension scheme shared between the beneficiary and the Central Government on 50:50 basis. The workers in the age group of 18-40 years whose monthly income is Rs.15000/- or less and not a member of Employees' Provident Fund Organisation/Employees' State Insurance Corporation/National Pension System (Government Funded) can join the scheme.

(c) & (d): The Code on Social Security, 2020, provides for formulation of social security schemes for unorganised sector workers as well as for gig and platform workers. These provisions under the Code on Social Security, 2020 have not come into force. The Government has launched e-Shram portal on 26.08.2021 for registration and creation of a Comprehensive National Database of Unorganized Workers. It allows a person to register himself or herself on the portal on self-declaration basis, which is spread across 400 occupations.
