GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 181 TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.07.2024

CHALLENGES OF GIG WORKERS

181. SHRI HIBI EDEN:

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

- (a)whether the Government is aware of the recent challenges faced by gig workers in India, particularly concerning job security, wages, and working conditions;
- (b)if so, the details thereof, including any studies or reports commissioned by the Government to understand these challenges;
- (c)whether the Government has taken or plans to take any measures to address these challenges, and if so, the details of such measures;
- (d)whether there are any plans to include gig workers under existing labour laws or create new regulations to protect their rights, and if so, the timeline for such inclusion or creation of regulations; and
- (e)the steps being taken by the Government to engage with gig economy companies and worker representatives to ensure fair treatment and protection of gig workers?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): The definition of gig workers and platform workers and provisions related to it have been given in the Code on Social Security, 2020 for the first time.

NITI Aayog in its report titled "India's Booming Gig and Platform Economy" published in June 2022 sheds light on the various social protection approaches taken around the world for gig workers and platform workers and how they can pave the way for social protection measures for gig workers and platform workers in India.

- (d): 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. The Code also provides for setting up a Social Security Fund to finance the welfare scheme.
- (e): Various stake holder consultations have taken place including meeting with the representatives from Aggregators and gig and platform workers. Meeting with organizations like NCAER, NITI Aayog and other knowledge partners have also taken place and issues of gig and platform workers deliberated.
