

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1662
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.03.2025**

**INITIATIVES TO IMPROVE LIVELIHOOD OF INFORMAL SECTOR
WORKERS**

†1662. SHRI ANOOP PRADHAN VALMIKI:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken any initiative to improve the livelihood of vulnerable sections of the informal sector like construction workers, gig workers, garbage collectors, care workers, domestic workers and transport workers;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): The Government has taken various initiatives to improve the livelihood of unorganised workers such as construction workers, gig workers, garbage collectors, care workers, domestic workers and transport workers by implementing various schemes. These include (i) Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (ABPMJAY) for health, (ii) Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY) for life and disability, (iii) Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) for accidental insurance, (iv) Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-Dhan (PM-SYM) for old age pension, (v) Labour Welfare Scheme and health care facilities for Beedi/ Cine & Non-coal Mine workers, (vi) Public Distribution System through One-Nation-One-Ration-Card Scheme under National Food Security Act, (vii) PM Awas Yojana – Urban (PMAY-U), (viii) PM Awas Yojana- Gramin (PMAY-G), (ix) Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana for insurance coverage for handloom weavers, (x) Deen Dayal Antyodaya Yojana for upliftment of urban poor, (xi) Prime Minister Street Vendors Atma Nirbhar Nidhi (PM-SVANidhi) for providing loans to Street Vendors, (xii) Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) for guaranteed employment of 100 days in a year.

Contd..2/-

Central Government has enacted the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996 [BoCW (RE&CS) Act, 1996] to regulate the employment and conditions of service of building and other construction workers and to provide for their safety, health and welfare measures and for other matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. This has been subsumed in the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Condition Code, 2020.

Recognizing the contribution of gig workers of online platforms, the Government in its Budget announcement made on 01.02.2025, proposed to arrange for their identity cards and registration of the eShram portal and provide health care under AB-PMJAY health scheme.

Waste Pickers component has been added under National Action for Mechanised Sanitation Ecosystem (NAMASTE) scheme from current F.Y.2024-25 with an objective of recognizing and strengthening the contribution of waste pickers in waste collection, recovery & recycling by integrating them in the Solid Waste Management Value Chain, ensuring their occupational safety and linking them with the various social security benefits.

The key components under the scheme are profiling of waste pickers, providing them Occupational safety and skill up-gradation training, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Kits, Health Insurance coverage under AB-PMJAY and Capital subsidy for Waste Collection Vehicle to Waste picker's Self Help Groups (SHGs).

Also the Government has launched eShram- "One- Stop- Solution" on 21st October 2024 to deliver benefits of various schemes for the vulnerable section of the informal sector. eShram- "One Stop- Solution" entails integration of different Social Security/ Welfare schemes at single portal i.e., eShram. So far, 13 schemes of different Central Ministries / Departments have already been integrated/mapped with the eShram including PMSBY, PMJJBY, AB-PMJAY, PM-SVANidhi, PMAY-U, PMAY-G, MGNREGA.