GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4372 ANSWERED ON 27TH MARCH, 2025

SOCIAL SECURITY FOR UNORGANISED ROAD TRANSPORT WORKERS

4372. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the lack of social security provisions, such as Provident Fund (PF) and Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESI) for unorganised road transport workers, including drivers and auto rickshaw workers; and
- (b) if so, the steps that are being taken by the Government to extend the said provisions to ensure their welfare and protection?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) and (b) Currently the provisions of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESI) Act, 1948 are not applicable to the unorganised sector which includes unorganised road transport workers. The Government has formulated the Code on Social Security, 2020 after amalgamating, simplifying and rationalizing the relevant provisions of the existing nine Central Acts. The said code

inter-alia envisages extension of social security benefits to unorganised workers, gig workers and platform workers and the members of their families.

Government has launched eShram portal on 26th August, 2021 for creation of a comprehensive National Database of Unorganised Workers (NDUW) seeded with Aadhaar. e-Shram portal is meant to register and support the unorganised workers by providing them a Universal Account Number (UAN) on a self-declaration basis. eShram is also integrated with Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan (PM-SYM), which is a pension scheme for unorganised workers who are aged between 18-40 years. It provides a monthly pension of Rs. 3000/- after attaining the age of 60 years. Using UAN, any unorganised worker can easily enrol under PM-SYM. In the scheme, 50 percent of the contribution is borne by the Government and the rest is being contributed by the worker. So far, 12 different schemes have already been integrated/ mapped with the eShram.
