GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1166 TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.12.2025

PENSION BENEFIT TO GIG WORKERS

1166. SHRI RAJA A:

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

- (a)whether the Government has decided to introduce pension benefit to gig workers through Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) as part of social security;
- (b)if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the number of estimated gig workers in the country and the contribution being made by the Government for this pension scheme, apart from aggregators;
- (d)whether the Government has a plan to provide other social security benefits like PF, Gratuity, annual leave, maternity leave to gig workers and the workers in the informal sector; and
- (e)if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e): For the first time, the definition of 'gig workers' and 'platform workers' and provisions related to the same have been provided in the Code on Social Security, 2020 which has come into force on 21.11.2025.

The Code 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 has provisions for framing of suitable welfare schemes for unorganised workers on matters relating to life and disability cover, health and maternity benefits, old age protection, education, etc. The Code provides for setting up a Social Security Fund to finance these welfare schemes.

As per an estimation by NITI Aayog vide its report titled "India's Booming Gig and Platform Economy" published in June 2022, the number of gig workers and platform workers in the country was 7.7 million in 2020-21, which is expected to rise to 23.5 million by 2029-30.
