

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4769
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20TH MARCH, 2026**

HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR GIG WORKERS

4769. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of **HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has announced the inclusion of over 1 crore gig workers under the Ayushman Bharat health insurance scheme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the implementation framework;
- (c) the eligibility criteria being used for the identification of gig workers under the scheme;
- (d) the estimated timeline for the implementation of the scheme for gig workers; and
- (e) the number of assessed and identified beneficiaries under this initiative in the country; State-wise?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)**

(a) to (e): Ministry of Labour and Employment (MoLE) has informed that 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 and as per the Budget Announcement for financial year 2025-26, Government has announced several key measures for the welfare of Gig workers of online platforms (platform workers) viz. their registration on the e-Shram portal, issuance of identity cards, and extension of healthcare benefits under Ayushman Bharat - Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY).

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

The MoLE launched e-Shram portal on 26.08.2021 for creation of a comprehensive National Database of Unorganised Workers including platform workers, migrant workers etc. The e-Shram portal is meant to register and support the unorganised workers by providing them a Universal Account Number on a self-declaration basis. This is envisaged to enable unorganised workers registered on e-Shram to access social security schemes and see benefits availed by them.

To maximise registration of platform workers on this portal, three nationwide special registration drives were held during the months of April, May and August-September, 2025 in collaboration with States and Union Territories. As on 12.03.2026, over 8.84 lakh platform workers are registered on e-Shram portal.
