GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 578 TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.07.2022

SUSTAINABLE EMPLOYMENT FOR GIG WORKERS

578. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

- (a)whether Government plans to take any steps to ensure sustainable employment for gig workers in light of NITI Aayog's recent findings that the gig economy is characterized by lack of job security and irregularity of wages;
- (b)if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c)whether Government plans to hold a formal survey to understand the number of such workers and the nature of challenges faced by them, in this fiscal year in light of NITI Aayog's recommendation; and
- (d)if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI RAMESWAR TELI)

(a) & (b): The Code on Social Security, 2020, for the first time, defines gig workers and envisages social security benefits through formulation of schemes. There is a provision in the said Code to set up a Social Security Fund for welfare of gig workers and platform workers and one of the sources of fund, is contribution from aggregator between 1 to 2% of annual turnover of an aggregator subject to the limit of 5% of the amount paid or payable by an aggregator to such workers. Findings of NITI Aayog on gig and platform workers and their welfare measures are envisaged in the Code on Social Security, 2020 and provides for framing of suitable social security schemes for them on matters relating to life and disability cover, accident insurance, health and maternity benefits, old age protection, etc.

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(c) & (d): The Government has launched e-Shram portal on 26.08.2021 for registration and creation of a Comprehensive National Database of Unorganized Workers including gig workers and platform workers. It allows a person to register himself or herself on the portal on self-declaration basis, which is spread across around 400 occupations.

Further, a Committee has been constituted by the Government for framing policies, schemes, etc. for gig and platform workers. The Committee, inter-alia, has asked the platform owners to share the data regarding number of gig workers or platform workers with them.
