GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1115 TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.02.2021

GIG WORKERS UNDER ESIC SCHEME

1115. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY:

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

- (a) the number of gig workers who are expected to join ESIC scheme including e-commerce companies;
- (b) the total expected contribution that gig workers are going to make to the ESIC;
- (c)the details of social security cover that ESIC is going to extend to gig workers from 2021-22;
- (d)whether it is a fact that ESIC is going to the extended to 160 more districts from 1st April, 2021; and
- (e)if so, the details thereof, with a particular reference to Andhra Pradesh and Telangana?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a) to (e): It is for the first time the Code on Social Security, 2020 (Act 36 of 2020) provide for definition of gig worker and platform worker in the country. The various provisions of the Code on Social Security, 2020 have not come into force. Therefore, no scheme has come into force and the assessment of number of gig workers joining the scheme cannot be done at this moment.

The Central Government under section 1(3) of the Employees' State Insurance (ESI) Act, 1948 has notified 575 districts across 35 States & Union Territories (except Lakshadweep) where all the provisions of the Act are applicable. The ESI Act, 1948 is extended in all districts of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.