GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 248 TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.02.2022

STATE OF GIG WORKERS

248. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN:

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

- (a)Government's plans to extend social protection to nearly 7 Lakh gig and platform workers considering a recent study that found that 95.3 per cent of them do not have access to any health insurance;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c)Government plan to formulate labour welfare and protection schemes for gig workers in the light of research that suggests that 'take home' earnings of gig workers declined in 2021 despite spending 16-20 hours on the job; and
- (d)if so, details of the schemes thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): For the first time, the definition of 'gig worker' and 'platform worker' has been provided in the Code on Social Security, 2020. The Code provides for social security including life and disability, accident insurance, health and maternity benefits, old age protection, crèche and any other benefits as may be determined by the Central Government through formulation of schemes for gig and platform workers. A Social Security Fund has also been provided for under the Code 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. However, no scheme has been finalized as the provisions under the Code relating to gig and platform worker have not come into force.

Earnings of gig workers depend upon the agreement entered into by a worker and related conditions for performing such works.
