

आवश्यकता होती है, जो कि अपेक्षाकृत काफी महंगा है। सरकार को इस सिलसिले में ठोस कदम उठाने की जरूरत है। भारत में यद्यपि प्राकृतिक घटनाएं अधिक घटित होती हैं, तथापि देश में संरचना योजना, प्रबोधन बचाव कार्य, आपदा के पश्चात विकास कार्य और आपदा के पूर्व तैयारी इत्यादि क्षेत्रों में सामान्यतः कमी पाई जाती है। अतः मैं सदन के माध्यम से केंद्र सरकार से यह आग्रह करता हूं कि इन पहलुओं को ध्यान में रखते हुए एक रचनात्मक कार्यक्रम बनाए तथा दोनों राज्य सरकारों को इस स्थिति से निपटने के लिए पर्याप्त धन उपलब्ध कराए। चूंकि पिछली बार हिमाचल में जो विनाश लीला हुई थी, उस पर केंद्र सरकार ने यथोचित धनराशि आज तक नहीं दी है। महोदय, मेरा कहना है कि राजनीतिक आधार पर नहीं, बल्कि क्षति के आधार पर क्षतिपूर्ति की जाए और हिमाचल प्रदेश के लिए एक पैकेज की व्यवस्था की जाए - यह मेरा आपसे आग्रह है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you. The following hon. Members associated themselves with the matter raised by Shri Pramod Tiwari: Shri Haris Beeran (Kerala), Dr. John Brittas (Kerala) and Shri M. Mohamed Abdulla (Tamil Nadu).

Now, Shri Tiruchi Siva. Demand to save gig and online platform workers from exploitative practices.

Demand to safeguard Gig and Online Platform Workers from exploitative practices

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the need to evolve solutions to safeguard the gig and online platform workers from exploitative practices by some private companies. Sir, it is a very important issue.

Gig economy offers flexibility and income opportunities to nearly 80 lakh workers as of now, and, it is expected to rise up to 2.3 crore by 2030 as per the NITI Aayog Report. But these workers are vulnerable to unfair treatment and insufficient protection. The pandemic has revealed a very significant role of the gig workers. They played a role in the economy by virtue of their roles as drivers, delivery persons and agents. Who are gig workers is the question. They comprise of those who are working in Swiggy, Zomato, Dunzo, Ola, Uber, etc. Around 80 lakh such workers are there. They ensured the basic necessity of the people when the whole world was locked inside. They played a very great role at that time. But the recent reports highlight the precarious conditions faced by these workers. For instance, delivery persons failing to meet certain targets have seen their health insurance coverage reduced or even revoked, placing them and their families at significant risk in the event of medical emergencies. This is at odds with global standards. For instance, food delivery platforms around the globe offer accident coverage to gig workers without any gratification. Insecurity of employment is an impediment for these

workers in unionizing and engaging in collective bargaining. Gig workers are frequently classified as independent contractors rather than service sector employees in the organized sector, thereby excluding them from traditional labour protections and benefits. They are often termed as partners or agents instead of workmen. The Supreme Court has also held very well to support this view admitting pleas for extending social security benefits to gig workers including health insurance and maternity benefits. Promising legislative efforts at various State levels have also aimed at addressing these concerns. It is imperative that we take immediate steps to remedy this and ensure that gig workers are as well compensated and protected as any other worker in the organized sector. I urge the Government to establish a national framework for the regulation of the gig economy and ensure uniform standards for all workers across the service sector. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Tiruchi Siva ji. The following hon. Members associated themselves with the matter raised by hon. Member, Shri Tiruchi Siva: Shri M. Mohamed Abdulla (Tamil Nadu), Shri N.R. Elango (Tamil Nadu), Dr. V. Sivadasan (Kerala), Shri Prakash Chik Baraik (West Bengal), Ms. Dola Sen (West Bengal), Shrimati Priyanka Chaturvedi (Maharashtra), Shrimati Sulata Deo (Odisha), Shri Haris Beeran (Kerala), Shri M. Shanmugam (Tamil Nadu), Dr. Kanimozhi NVN Somu (Tamil Nadu), Dr. John Brittas (Kerala), Shrimati Jebi Mather Hisham (Kerala), Dr. Sasmit Patra (Odisha), Dr. Fauzia Khan (Maharashtra), Shri Niranjana Bishi (Odisha), Shri Sujeet Kumar (Odisha), Shri Saket Gokhale (West Bengal), Shri Jawhar Sircar (West Bengal), Shrimati Renuka Chawdhury (Telangana), Shri Pramod Tiwari (Rajasthan), Shrimati Mahua Maji (Jharkhand) and Shri Ramji (Uttar Pradesh).

Now, Shri Kartikeya Sharma; not present. Shrimati Mamata Thakur, regarding representation of India by 117 athletes in Olympic Games.

Representation of India by 117 athletes in the Olympic Games

SHRIMATI MAMATA THAKUR (WEST BENGAL): * "Respected Deputy Chairman Sir, thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak in Zero Hour. Sir, I want to speak in my mother tongue Bengali. The Olympics are still underway in France, where 117 athletes from India have participated, of them, 70 are men and 47 women athletes.

* English translation of the original speech delivered in Bengali.