Labour 20 Report
Summit 2023

JUNE 21, 22 & 23
Patna, Bihar
Prepared By - L20 Secretariat, India
Labour 20 Summit
Patna, June 21st- 23rd 2023

Background

The Group of Twenty (G20) is an intergovernmental forum comprising 19 countries (Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, United Kingdom and United States) and the European Union. The G20 members represent around 85% of the global GDP, over 75% of the global trade, and about two-thirds of the world population. The G20 was founded in 1999 after the Asian financial crisis as a forum for the Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors to discuss global economic and financial issues. It was upgraded to the level of Heads of State/Government in the wake of the global economic and financial crisis of 2007, and, in 2009, was designated the “premier forum for international economic cooperation”. The G20 Summit is held annually, under the leadership of a rotating Presidency.

India’s G20 Presidency

India assumed G20 presidency on 1st December, 2022 from Indonesia and will be convening the G20 leader’s summit for the first time in the country in September 2023. A nation deeply committed to democracy and multilateralism, India’s G20 Presidency would be a watershed moment in India’s history as it seeks to play an important role by finding pragmatic global solutions for the wellbeing of all, and in doing so, manifest the true spirit of ‘Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam’ or the ‘World is One Family’. Under the Sherpa Track, the track is coordinated by the Sherpas of member countries and 13 Working Groups, 2 Initiatives – Research Innovation Initiative Gathering (RIIG) and G20 Empower, and various Engagement Groups, meet throughout the year and develop their Issue Notes and Outcome Documents in parallel. These substantive discussions then feed consensus-based recommendations to the Sherpa Meetings. The outcome document of the Sherpa-level meetings eventually forms the basis of the Leaders’ Declaration, which will be debated and signed at the final New Delhi Summit in September by the Leaders of all G20 member countries.

India’s G20 priorities include:
• Green Development, Climate Finance & LiFE
• Accelerated, Inclusive & Resilient Growth
• Accelerating progress on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
• Technological Transformation & Digital Public Infrastructure
• Multilateral Institutions for the 21st century
• Women-led development
Labour 20 Engagement Group

The Labour 20 (L20) is a group of unions from G20 countries that aims to ensure that the G20 processes and policies take into account the interests and needs of workers. The L20 engages with the G20 through a series of meetings and consultations, and it presents its recommendations to the G20 leaders for consideration. Since the outbreak of the Global Financial Crisis in 2008, the L20 has actively engaged with the inter governmental processes in and around G-20 in order to ensure a better, more equal, just and sustainable world. Constructive dialogue with governments has been the key element towards achievement of goals desired. Over time the L-20 has tried to connect with other engagement groups, especially the Business-20 of which workers form an essential component.

The L20's key objectives include promoting job creation, strengthening social protections, ensuring the protection of workers' rights, and promoting gender equality in the workplace. The L20 also advocates for fair and decent wages, safe and healthy working conditions, and the elimination of forced labour and child labour. The recommendations of Labour 20 are based on extensive consultation with unions and workers' organizations from across the G20 countries, as well as research and analysis of global labour trends and challenges. In addition to engaging with the G20 leaders, the L20 also works to build alliances with civil society organizations and other stakeholders to promote a more inclusive and equitable global economy. By bringing forward the voice of workers to the G20, the L20 aims to ensure that the G20's policies and actions support the interests and needs of workers across the world.

Under the labour engagement group, India shall be focusing on the following issues:

- International Migrant Labour – International Portability of Social Security Fund
- Addressing Global Skill Gaps
- Gig and Platform Economy and Social Protection
- Sustainable Financing of Social Security
- Wages
- Sustainable and Decent work
- Women and Future of Work
- Protecting Labour Intensive sector

Labour 20 Inception Meeting

Amritsar Trade union delegates, experts and labour leaders from 20 countries, besides trade union leaders and labour experts from India, arrived in Amritsar, Punjab for the Inception Meeting of Labour20 (L20) on March 19 and 20, 2023.
Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS), India’s largest labour organisation, hosted the Labour20 engagement group. BMS national President, Mr. Hiranmay Pandya, was the chair of L20 and presided over the Inception meeting in the city. Many other leading trade unions in India also joined the event. The event was held in Hotel Radisson Blu, Amritsar, India. The Inception meeting discussed key sustainable livelihood and employment related subjects, including Universalization of Social Security; International Migration of Labour: Portability of Social Security Funds; Social Protection for Informal Workers; and Skill Training and Skill Upgradation. Two statements on Women and Future of Work and Universal Social Security were unanimously adopted by the delegates.

The data and country representation of the delegates in Amritsar is as follows:
Delegate representation

International trade unions participated
18

International experts participated
10

Indian trade unions participated
14

Indian experts participated
18

Special invitees which included research scholars, think tanks, academia and national and state labour institutions.
8

persons representing the Ministry of Labour and Employment
14
Labour 20 Summit, Patna

Trade union delegates, experts and labour leaders from 29 countries, besides trade union leaders and labour experts from India, arrived in Patna, Bihar for the Summit of Labour20 (L20) from June 21, 22 and 23, 2023. Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS), India’s largest labour organisation, hosted the Labour20 engagement group Summit. BMS national President, Mr. Hiranmay Pandya, was the chair of L20 and he presided over the Summit meeting in the city. Many other leading trade unions namely, Indian Trade Union Congress (INTUC), Trade Union Coordination Centre (TUCC), National Front of Indian Trade Unions (NFITU) in India also joined the event. The event was held in Gyan Bhawan, Patna, Bihar. The Summit meeting witnessed the presentation of Task Forces reports and deliberations on those reports. The topics covered by different Task Forces are as follows:

Task Force 1 – Universal Social Security
Task Force 2 – Women and Future of Work
Task Force 3 – International migration: Portability of Social Security Funds
Task Force 4 – Changing World of Work: New Employment Opportunities in G20 Countries
Task Force 5 – Skill Development: Roles and Responsibilities of Stakeholders

Further, the drafting committee on the joint statement of Labour20 and Business20 met on the side-lines of the Summit to finalise the joint statement.

The data and country representation of the delegates in Patna is as follows:
Delegate Representation

- 38 International trade unions participated
- 18 International experts participated
- 43 Indian trade unions participated
- 14 Indian experts participated
- 17 Special Invitees
- 18 Persons representing the Ministry of Labour and Employment
Inaugural Session

The Inaugural session was convened by Mr. S. Mallesham, Trustee, Central Board of Trustees, EPFO. The session began with the lighting of the lamp ceremony by country representatives joining the ceremony. The welcome address was delivered by Shri Surendra Kumar Pandey, Deputy General Secretary BMS and coordinator L20. The presidential address was delivered by Shri Hiranmay Pandya, the Chair of the L20 meeting. He presented the roadmap for the discussion to be held in the coming days. He informed that L20 aspired for collaborative efforts by all the delegates to provide recommendations that shall ensure sustainable and inclusive development for the countries and support the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals 2030. Ms. Ruth Coelho Monteiro (Brazil) and Mr. Hermento Ahmad (Indonesia) delivered their address on behalf of the Troika. His Excellency Shri Rajendra Arlekar Ji, Hon. Governor of Bihar was the Chief Guest for the Inaugural meeting. He recognised the historical and knowledge history of Bihar. He emphasized the need for discussing issues of women security and societal challenges affecting marginalised communities which are indirectly linked to the themes of the Labour20 by adopting a human centric approach to the deliberations. Mr. Saji Narayanan, former President BMS briefed the delegates of the schedule for the meeting and the format of the discussion. He urged the delegates to actively participate in the discussion for the development of the statement as the outcome of the meeting.

Release of Task Force Reports

The task force reports were released by the respective Chairs of the Task force. The country representatives received the first copy of the reports. The following was the release schedule:

Task Force 1: Universal Social Security – Chair, Mr. Santosh Mehrotra (India) presented the report to Kenya.

Task Force 2: Women and Future of Work – Chair, Ms. Rimah Saleh A. Alyahya (Saudi Arabia) presented the report to Bulgaria.

Task Force 3: International Migration: Portability of Social Security Funds – Chair, Mr. Irudaya Rajan (India) presented the report to Ghana.

Task Force 4: Changing World of Work: New Employment Opportunities in G20 Countries – Chair, Mr. Arun Maira (India) presented the report to Puerto Rico.

Task Force 5: Skill Development: Roles and Responsibilities of Stakeholders – Mr. Samuel Salaz Paez (Brazil) presented the report to Maldives.
Plenary Session – Women and Future of Work

The members of the Task Force included Ms. Rimah Saleh Alyahya (Saudi Arabia), Ms. Bilge Coban (Turkey), Vassil Kirov (Bulgaria), Ms. Natalia Klimova (Russia), Ms. Bright D. Elizabeth (Nigeria), Meenal Sharma Jagtap (Geneva). The session was chaired by Ms Rimah Saleh Alyahya and the panel included Mr. Arun Maira (India) and Mr Zheng Jiaheng (China). Ms. Arti Ahuja, Secretary of Ministry of Labour and Employment (Government of India, GoI) presented the interventions of the government on social security and social protection. She informed of the three pillars supporting social protection of workers in India. The speakers informed that number of initiatives have been launched to encourage private companies to hire more women. There has been encouragement to increase the number of women in leadership roles around the globe, to uplift gender equality in successful democracies. Further, the government has introduced policies for women to promote flexibility in the workplace, which includes remote working arrangements and flexible working hours which could benefit women in balancing work and family responsibilities. The panel opined that women should enter the workforce and therefore interventions including training and development programs are required to ensure that they join diverse fields. Entrepreneurship and mentoring avenues should be explored to better support women. Subsidized child healthcare can be promoted for underprivileged women. Ms. Rimah Saleh A. Alyahya while presenting the initiatives of the Saudi Arabian government informed that as a good practice in Saudi Arabia maternity leaves for up to 3 years are granted to promote the induction of more women into the workforce. Implementing policies that prevent gender bias and inequality in corporate workforce, with spreading awareness and offering training to hiring managers, on how to conduct gender sensitive interviews. Allowing free networking for women in workforce to decrease the domination of men in the long drawn institutional economical workforce. Also, women can explore gig economy opportunities and segments such as caregiving, pet care, and education. Lastly, women can take advantage of social media to showcase their skills 12 and build a strong presence online. The panel also discusses the new opportunities available for women in the changing world of work. The panel highlighted the need for gender responsive interventions to ensure that women have access to new opportunities and the relevant skills required for these opportunities. Further, the panel focused on the importance of women led development as a measure for ensuring economic growth and realization of the sustainable development agenda.
Plenary Session - Universal Social Security

The members of the Task Force included Mr. Santosh Mehrotra (India), Wu Chuanhua (China), Mr. Nicolas Langridge (UK), S. P. Tiwari (India), Mr. Ajit Jha (India). The session was chaired by Mr. Santosh Mehrotra and the panel included Mr. Virjesh Upadhyay, Evgeny Makarov (Russia), Mr. Tampan Thomas (India), Mr. Wu Chuanhua, Ms. Indira Saxena (India) and Philip Karkari Sarpong (Ghana). Chair Mr. Santosh Mehrotra informed that 61% of the global workforce is in the informal sector without access to social security. Therefore, a third model beyond contributory and non-contributory models of social security needs to be envisioned which could be an amalgamation of both the models. He informed that barriers to social security include exclusion by legal framework, non-prioritization of social security by the workers, engagement in unregistered Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) due to high operational costs. He opined that within the fiscal space measures that can be undertaken include: increasing contributory revenues, increasing tax revenues, elimination of illicit financial flows, reallocation of public expenditure, managing sovereign debt and a more accommodative macro-economic framework. He presented lessons from US and Europe wherein increasing the ratio of public expenditure to GDP was undertaken in health education and social transfer. Mr. Virjesh Upadhyay informed that involvement of society should be considered as a manner to increase social security through donated pensions. Further the terms of formality and informality should be revisited and contextualized to the regions and countries. Mr. Tampan Thomas opined that Artificial Intelligence, technology and digitization have captured the mode of production making workers more marginalized. Hence approach to social security needs to be human centric. Mr. Evgeny Makarov informed that low wages affect the amount of contributions or the amount of budget resources allocated on social security because of the low amount of taxes paid. An explicit reference to an 13 increase in wages for employees as a condition for reducing their dependence on social benefits as well as to an active state policy in the field of improving the quality of jobs through direct investments or measures to stimulate employers. The panelists agreed that social insurance and welfare system should not leave any groups of workers without protection. It is pertinent that we identify and eliminate new loopholes in legislation, contractual and insurance practices through a system of tripartism and social partnership. Further, lack of social protection coverage weakens social justice and undermines inclusive growth and the realization of human rights. Lastly, social security coverage should be devoid of gender discrimination. The experts highlighted three major challenges under social security namely implementation of social security benefits, financing of social security benefits and portability of social security benefits across countries.
Parallel Session – International Migration of Labor: Portability of Social Security

Funds The panel was chaired by Mr. Irudaya Rajan (India) & other members of the panel included Mr. Idris Palar (Indonesia), Mr. Jane Hwang (USA), Mr. Mike Rogan (South Africa), Ms. Alejandra Soifer (Argentina) and Ms. Shikha Gautam (India). Mr. Sanjay Awasthi (IOM), Mr. Manual Gorini (Argentina). Mr. Irudaya Ranjan informed that only 29% of the world’s population has access to comprehensive Social Security systems that provide benefits for families and retirees, according to the International Labour Organization (ILO). According to him in order to successfully govern migration trends and solve associated problems between two countries, bilateral agreements have often been used. He mentioned several of these agreements became irrelevant following the worldwide economic downturn of the 1970s. According to him at present, the Bilateral Social Security Agreements (BSSA) is the most typical international mobility arrangement. Although BSSAs may cover a broad variety of transferable social benefits in theory they tend to concentrate on health care and other long-term benefits like retirement disability and survivor’s pensions. He opined that benefits for society may be shared across numerous countries via Multilateral Agreements (MAs) and advantages may cover all possible or select advantages. Further he informed that business system security architectures are supplemental and detailed blueprints that often back up these exhaustive guidelines mutual agreements have been in place for quite some time between the nations of Latin America. In this light he stated that there is a need for increased Social Security coordination between nations, and ILO for a global framework allowing for portability of social security funds. He talked about a challenge, by putting forward data compiled by the United Nations department of economic and social affairs in 2020, the global population of migrants increased by 83.4% between 1990 and 2020 year. This growth was even more dramatic among the G20 countries where it reached 99 percent or 89.6 million people. He recommended enhance social safety programming for migrants which could be achieved through increased knowledge regarding migrants, their susceptibilities and their requirements. He put forward the recommendation about taking the initiative to set up procedures to facilitate mobility on a unilateral bilateral, or multilateral basis. According to him engaging private, global companies may be a useful strategy for implementing portability through 3rd party service providers. Given that private health insurance is not readily transferable within the nations and is far less likely to be movable across the countries, a significant portion of funds is lost when people move. Mr Sanjay Awasthi discussed how a Social Security benefit is exportable if the payment of the benefit is allowed outside the borders of a country. The payment of the benefit may be allowed either in countries that are parties to an agreement or in third countries. He also examined the role of portability of social security benefits.
According to him, the Social Security framework has many components, for example-medical care, sickness benefit, unemployment benefit, old age benefit, employment injury benefit, family benefit, maternity benefit, invalidity benefit, and survivor’s benefit. He defined totalization which refers to adding up the contribution employment or residence of a migrant worker in different jurisdictions for the purpose of fulfilling the qualification criteria for the payment of long-term benefits.

He further, explored about the rule on how most countries require reciprocal agreements as a condition for allowing the export of benefits period. Thus, sentence of a bilateral reciprocal agreement providing for export of benefits leaves a gap in Social Security benefit. He mentioned, if the beneficiaries have worked in two or more countries, they run the risk of losing the entitlements unless there are bilateral or multilateral agreements between migrant receiving and migrant -sending countries. He discussed on how allowing portability would also be in the interest of migrant receiving 15 countries. Migrant workers are needed in these countries to fill up critical gaps in the labour market. Mentioning about the adequate levels of Social Security, particularly long-term benefits, will serve to improve the productivity of the migrant workers who fill these gaps. According to him portability enables migrant workers to benefit from the contribution made by them and is an incentive to formalization. He believes if the migrant receiving countries have an economic interest in maintaining and renewing the flow of migrant workers, they should provide for portability of long-term benefits. Mr. Mike Rogan stated that he will be talking about the Southern African Development Community (SADC) perspective on the portability of Social Security benefits to migrant workers. He talked about the need for binding bilateral and multilateral agreements (currently only 70/120 countries have appropriate legislation for equal treatment of nationals and non-nationals). He mentioned the large amounts in unclaimed benefits (example from the South African mining sector) and the risk of poverty among farmer migrant workers and their households. He mentioned the two key strategies required: Universal social protection and greater international cooperation/coordination. Mr Manual Gorini stated how Argentina on a larger scale needs to tackle the international migration and portability of Social Security funds challenges for the informal workers in their nation. He agreed on the common agenda of fund allocation to the migrant and informal workers stating that Argentina holds one of the largest informal worker populations in South America. Mr Dewan Quedou (Mauritius) opined about the inward and outward migration in Mauritius. He shared how skilled labour from Mauritius are going abroad for better opportunities and influx of untrained informal works for better quality of life are migrating to their nation. He while addressing the session informed about how the different tradition & culture of Mauritius is not healthily accepted by the international immigrants, creating a situation of ingroup & outgroup mentality across the nation.
He also discussed that how immigrants willing to stay in their nation are getting married to Mauritian individuals that sacrifices the integrity of Mauritian culture and acceptability of international migration. He recommended that Mauritius needs skilled workers in order to support their major industries for example hotel, tourism, agriculture etc. Miss Jane Hwang (United States of America) said, that the current challenges for most of the international migrants are that they are not being provided with minimum wages. She stated that this is to be tackled before exploring the social security avenues globally. She discussed the idea of equal human rights and 16 decency which shall be incorporated in the society towards the informal workers coming from various cultures before addressing portability of social security funds.

**Parallel Session - Skill Development: Role and Responsibilities of Stakeholders**

The Members of the Task Force included Ms. Ruth Coelho Monteiro (Brazil), Ms. Margarita Pavlova (Australia), Mr Shahadat H. Khan (Bangladesh), Dr. Naimane Hadj Haamou (UAE), Mr. Abhishek (India), & Mr. Hiromichi Katayama (UNESCO). The panel included Mr. Samuel Alves Da Silva (Brazil), Ms. Hadj Hamou Narimane, Mr. Shahadat Hossain Khan (Bangladesh), Ms. Margarita Pavlova, Mr. Abhishek and Mr. Hiromichi Katayama. The panel informed that definition and recognition of stakeholders and all the stakeholders should aim to be in sync globally. There is dire need for increased participation of trade unions. Focus should be shifted to sustainable development in relation to green skills and climate change and interventions to ensure better adaptability to technological changes. The panel recommended that there should be a holistic approach for skilling, upskilling and reskilling. The panel in this light expressed that there is need to bridge the gap between labour market and education to facilitate smooth education to work transition. The panel highlighted the need for the creation of a common qualification framework which shall facilitate the acceptability of skills across borders. Further, a Skill Management Information System (MIS) should be developed. In consonance with the discussion in the women and future of work session, the panel informed that measures need to be undertaken to increase participation of women in the formal workforce. Lastly, the panel recommended that focus on RPL (Recognition of prior learning) should be increased. The panel identified two major challenges namely- (1) The problem of generating a universal solution or skill development program since every region has a specific context and own set of standards and (2) The difference in definitions of skill set and skill gap in countries that are in different phases of economic development.
Parallel Session – Changing World of Work: New Employment Opportunities In G-20 Countries

With women and future of work being one of the critical themes of the Labour 20 summit, the changing world of work holds special importance in this regard. It seeks to look into relevant issues of new types of opportunities that have emerged or are emerging due to the constantly changing world of work. The members of the Task Force members include Mr. Arun Maira (India), Mr Mario Biggeri (Italy), Zheng Jiaheng (China), Mr. Kim Young saing (South Korea), Mr. Carlos Salas (Mexico) and the panellists included Mr. Shaikh Sallaudin (India), Ms, Aishat Azibola (Nigeria), and Mr. Stephano Adriani (Italy). The major and critical points discussed were as follows: The structural dynamics and powers at work, are creating ‘good’ decent jobs only for a limited number of high-skilled people producing increasingly unequal societies. Therefore, initiatives to establish efficient supranational regulation are required to guarantee fundamental human rights at work globally. Multilevel governance needs to play a central role vertically and horizontally. The progressive marginalisation of entire social strata is resulting in deep socioeconomic asymmetries. There is a need to reduce systematically the fiscal pressure on labour targeting both to sustainable and just transition. Universalisation of Social Security was reiterated as a vital component for the global workforce. Countries should coordinate on the Portability of Social Security as a part of this process of universalisation to mitigate the strong inequalities. Therefore, the international community should aim to increase the tax on capital in a targeted way considering its impact on the environment and labour output based and process based. There is a need to change the vision of development understanding the distinction from means to ultimate goals that is human beings and nature. A call for human-centric development was reiterated. It was emphasized that negotiations between trade unions and employers’ organisations provide a level playing field for fair competition. Maximum wage ceiling will help in rethinking how people relate with each other and with the planet. In this light case study of the Europe regarding policies for sustainable and just transition- The New European Green Deal and next-generation Europe are good examples of European Politicians’ was presented. It was suggested specifically that for gig and platform worker’s Social Security Code India should be implemented at the earliest, complimented by a specific law on gig and platform workers. Creation and establishment of a tripartite board where the government, aggregator companies and trade unions should participate. At every transition there should be levy which should be seen as contributions to social security board which will facilitate the designing of specific as chosen by the beneficiary. Further, the state must encourage actions aimed at supporting care activities. The state needs to participate as a job guarantor of last resort. This policy would pay an income for people in exchange of their work in the activities of the Purple Economy. Lastly trade unions and associations should also invest in people to re-skill them to ensure just transitions.
Sharing Engagement Group Perspectives

The Labour20 summit witnessed the participation of other G20 engagement groups to ensure a holistic approach is adopted in the discussions. The session was Presided by L20 Chair, Mr. Hiranmay Pandya and panel included Mr. Lohit Bhatiya (B20), Ms. Srividya Sheshadri (C20), Ms. Akanksha Warade (S20) and Mr. M. Kamal (Y20). They each presented the deliberations that have been undertaken in their engagement groups relevant to the themes of the Labour20 engagement group.

Presentation of L-20 Events

The Labour20 conducted various side events across the country to holistically deliberate on the themes of the Labour20 with various stakeholders. The report of the side events was presented in the session. The panel included Mr. Deepak Jaiswal (President, NFITU), Mr. B. Surendran (Organising Secretary, BMS), Mr Dewan Quedou, (Mauritius), Mr. Kanak Kumar Burman (Jatiya Sramik League, Bangladesh) and Mr. Chirag Mansingh Kunwar (Nepal Democratic Federation of Nepalese Trade Unions, Nepal). Mr. B Surendran presented the report of the side events and Jan Bhagidaari events while informing on the deliberations and outcome of the events. He informed 8 Side Events had been successfully concluded in 11 different states of India. Further, more than 450 Jan Bhagidari (People’s Participation Programmes) events were organized by unions and BMS units across the nation which witnessed huge gatherings of Women Employees / Workers on Women Employment & Social Security Coverage for women working in labour intensive & women centric sectors. He informed that the deliberations had supported in building consensus amongst the national and 19 international trade unions while allowing for inputs of relevant experts and stakeholders from across the country.

Valedictory Session

The concluding session was presided by L-20 Chair, Sri Hiranmay Pandya. The session witnessed the presentation of Summit Statement by Sri CK Saji Narayanan. The Labour20 statement and the Joint Statement (L20 and B20) were presented and both the statements were unanimously adopted by the assembly. The Special address was presented by Ministry of External Affairs (GoI), Mr. Abhay Thakur, and Joint Secretary of Ministry of Labour and Employment (GoI), Mr. Rupesh Thakur.

Dinner by Bihar State Government

The Bihar State government hosted the Welcome Dinner on 21st June 2023. Sh. Surendar Ram, Hon’ble Minister of State, Labour Resources was the Chief Guest of the dinner.
He passionately opined the need for support for the workers as a pre-requisite for economic growth of any country and hoped that the delegates would support the protection of the workers in their deliberations. The Bihar Government further hosted the Gala dinner on 22nd June’ 2023 in which the Chief Guest Hon’ble Shri Bhupendra Yadav, Minister, Ministry of Labour and Employment (GoI) shared his thoughts with the delegates.

Hon’ble Shri Bhupendra Yadav, Minister, Ministry of Labour and Employment

The Hon’ble Minister Shri Bhupendra Yadav joined virtually 23rd June 2023. He expressed his delight in Bihar - the state which is a cradle of ancient civilization and has nurtured some of the world’s greatest thinkers and scholars was hosting the L20 summit. He extended his heartfelt gratitude to all representatives of trade unions of G20 countries and guest countries experts on labor, state government and the people of Bihar for participating enthusiastically in the summit and the two days of deliberation. He informed that L20 plays a significant role in the G20 due to its importance in representing worker’s interests and advocating for labor related issues 20 on a global scale. He expressed deep appreciation for the outstanding accomplishments of L20 Engagement team regarding the adoption of two crucial joint statement one on the Universalization on Social Security and the Portability of Social Security benefits and another on empowering women in the future of work and upskilling the women in the inception meeting held in Amritsar. He informed that the adoption of both statements by the L20 was a testament to the social dialogue a changing work environment characterized by technological advancements globalization and evolving labor markets having significant implication for employment and the provision of adequate Social Security. He further added that there was a need for comprehensive and forward-looking social security policies and take into account the evolving nature of work. He advised that governments, employers, trade unions and international organizations must collaborate to ensure that social security system are inclusive adaptable and accessible to all. This may involve expanding the coverage of Social Security to encompass informal and gig platform workers. Implementing portable benefits that follow individuals across the jobs and leveraging technology to announce the efficiency and effectiveness of Social Security. Administration plays a pivotal role in fostering widespread economic prosperity and promoting social justice. He commended the L20 for prioritizing the theme of women and future work in order to fully harness this potential. It is crucial to focus on Skilling, Upskilling and Re-Skilling women and enabling their active participation in science technology engineering and mathematics related fields and technology intensive industries by equipping women with the necessary skill of knowledge. He stated that this shall ensure women’s meaningful engagement in the evolving job market and promoting gender parity. He informed that he sincerely believes that the outcomes of L20 summit will play a pivotal role in realizing the objective of advancing decent work with a particular emphasize on women while ensuring equitable and enduring social protection for all in the times ahead.
G20

India 2023

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India 2023

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