



L20 India Secretariat



Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh

L20



INDIA 2023

Labour 20 Summit Overview

JUNE 21, 22 & 23

Patna, Bihar

Prepared By - L20 Secretariat, India



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ONE EARTH • ONE FAMILY • ONE FUTURE

LABOUR-20 SUMMIT (21ST - 23RD June 2023)

“Let harmony be the mantra of human development”

-By Labour-20 Secretariat

India's G20 Presidency has allowed the country to present itself as a global leader concerning key issues of sustainability and development. In the context of the G20 Employment Working Group and the Labour-20,

India is making important contributions in the domain of employment and labour. The 'Labour20' Summit held on the soil of Patna, Bihar on June 21st-23rd, 2023, resolved for a multilateral mechanism among G20 member states and other associated countries on the portability of social security benefits and Future of work. The Summit noted that most countries currently allow portability under bilateral agreements between sending and recipient countries while discussing in detail the task force report on 'International Migration: Portability of Social Security Funds', 'Universal Social Security' and 'Women and Future of Work'. Hon.

Chair of Labour-20 and All India President of Bhartiya Mazdoor Sangh Sri Hiranmay Pandya addressed the press on 21st June 2023 at 1700 hrs at Gyan Bhawan, Patna informed the media, that on the basis of vivid deliberations that took place at different stages and levels, these priority issues were discussed extensively in the inception meeting of L20 held in Amritsar on March 18th-20th, 2023, resulting in the formation of 5 task forces related to crucial issues in the world of work, namely:

- 1) Universal Social Security,
- 2) Women and Future of Work,
- 3) International Migration: Portability of Social Security Benefits,
- 4) Changing World of Work: New Employment Opportunities and Challenges in G20 Countries, and
- 5) Skill Development: Roles and Responsibilities of Stakeholders.

Under the banner of G-20, the delegates from various G-20 Countries and Invited Countries discussed various aspects in a congenial environment. Shri Hiranmay Pandya also informed that under the purview the Bhartiya Mazdoor Sangh various discussions with national and international organizations, trade unions regarding these issues had been carried. Detailed discussions were also held with the representatives of other Engagement Groups of prestigious G-20 namely Business-20, Civil-20, Youth-20, Urban-20 and Women-20.

Wide-ranging discussions were held in 11 cities across the country in which the dignitaries from the Central Government and State Labor Department, experts from the National and International labour organisations participated. Along with this, seminars were conducted with local trade unions at district and industrial level at more than 450 places.

On June 22, the Summit of L-20 was inaugurated by lighting the lamp by His Excellency Sri Rajendra Arlekar Ji, Hon. Governor of Bihar in the auditorium of Gyan Bhawan, Patna. Union Labor Minister, Shri Bhupendra Yadav and Labour Minister of Bihar Government, Shri Surendra Ram attended the Summit. Union Labor Secretary, Aarti Ahuja participated in the inauguration ceremony as well.

Two hundred participants from 29 countries including India participated in this conference. Apart from G-20 countries, India has invited additional eight countries namely Bangladesh, Egypt, Mauritius, Netherlands, Nigeria, Oman, Nepal and United Arab Emirates for G-20 under its historic presidency this year. Along with this, International Solar Alliance, Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure and Asian Development Bank, International Organisation for Migrants, UNESCO have also been invited this time.

The summit proposed a comprehensive discussion leading to a multilateral agreement significant for both migrant-receiving and migrant-sending countries warrant generalization and export opportunities, thus providing social security benefits for migrant workers. However, concerns were expressed about delays due to negotiations in the manifestation of the agreements. In a fastmoving world, the world of work is facing unforeseen and significant changes. The Summit acknowledged the critical influence and rapid changes in the labour and employment sector due to technological development, digital transformation and green transition. This also brings new employment opportunities and new avenues of livelihoods. In the current digital era, when new forms of employment opportunities are emerging, it brings mixed impacts on workers. Labour intensive sectors like plantation, fisheries and others, especially those with more concentration of women workers, should be protected from the onslaughts of indiscriminate imports and new technology.

The summit recognized the significant impact and rapid changes in labour supply and employment industry due to the technological advancements, digital transformation and green transition. This brings new business opportunities and new avenues for employment. In today's digital age, as new types of job opportunities emerge, they have mixed effects on workers. Labor-intensive industries such as agriculture, fishing, and others are witnessing difficulties to cope up with present scenario.

The Summit also acknowledged Working Group report on "Changing the World of Work: New Business Opportunities at the G20" and proposed road map to address the hurdles in this matter. The task force recommends that the Trade Unions must prioritize the issues being faced by workers in new forms of employment. Skilled workers must take advantage of emerging opportunities, growth is essential and must be prioritized to enable individuals to take advantage of emerging opportunities in the industry and further suggested a dedicated labour sector policy which deals with legal obstacles preventing the workers from re-entering the workforce.

The Summit discussed the task force report on ‘Women and Future of Work’ and proposed to increase female workers participation which must be appreciated by enabling them to balance their personal and professional responsibilities.

Furthermore, The Summit unanimously expressed its commitment towards universalising social security during the deliberations on the task force report on ‘Universal Social Security’. The Summit identified three important issues related to the implementation of social security, viz., universalisation, financing and portability. Many a time, the policy-making process confuses the terms social security, social insurance, social assistance and social protection. Governments must move from mere social protection and social assistance towards social security and social insurance. The task force recorded that the global workforce faces significant challenges in accessing social security, with 61% of workers in the informal sector lacking such coverage. Most governments have provisions for social assistance for their citizens and social protection for the poorer section. But mainly, the informal workers are without social insurance; they especially lack old age pensions, death/disability insurance and maternity benefits.

The changing forms of work demand new skills and skill upgradation. The workers should be able to easily access training and skill development, especially for the youth and adults. The task force report on ‘Skill Development: Roles and Responsibilities of Stakeholders’ strongly recommended creating a comprehensive global skills data management information system. It will enable well-informed and evidence-based policy formulation and strengthen international collaboration on different initiatives and projects across G20 countries, including monitoring skills supply and demand using existing data sets on skills and country-level generation of data. The report enumerated multiple pathways of addressing the skill gap via a partnership with multiple stakeholders such as trade unions, industry and industry associations, government, education and training providers, development partners and the natural environment. Identifying current and future skills needs (e.g., green skills, innovation and entrepreneurship skills) is important to establish enabling policies and practices to bridge the skills gap and mismatch and prepare the youth and adults for the rapid changes in the world of work.

The jobs created should be green jobs that maintains compatibility with nature. “Let harmony be the mantra of human development”. Working together and sharing best practices can help create a fair and just environment people who work in the global economy. Implementation of comprehensive social security law for workers around the globe, including gig and platform workers, are covered by certain laws tailored to their unique needs. Summit also suggests to create a three-way representative council government, aggregator companies and trade unions can help make effective decisions to frame policies that promote a fairer and more inclusive work environment.

The deliberations instilled a new vision and hope to move collectively towards the goal of achieving one earth, one family, one future and a spirit of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam.