

Labor Codes: Is It An Illusion?

- P Tamil Nadu Food and Allied Products Delivery Workers Union protested against Swiggy in Chennai, citing that the company pays them only ₹5 per km, insufficient to cover petrol costs.
- Their demands **also** included pay parity among staff, new uniforms and new delivery bags at set intervals.

Source: TheHindu

- On May 17, in a rush to deliver more orders, a Swiggy delivery rider made the decision to work extra hours until around 1:30 am. During his last delivery around 1:15 am, he was assaulted by criminals in the Chattarpur area of South Delhi.
- Aayush Rathi, research lead at The Centre for Internet and Society (CIS), says, one in three people who go to work fear being robbed or facing physical assault.

Source: BoomLive

- Telangana Gig and Platform Workers Union (TGPWU) started a campaign against cab aggregators such as Uber and Ola in Hyderabad and stopped taxis to and from the airport.
- Citing that the fares are unacceptable as per today's cost of living, the cab drivers demanded a base remuneration of ₹1200 for a 25-30 km trip and ₹1700 for a 45-50 km trip. At that moment, they said, a trip to anywhere in the city from the airport costs about Rs 600.

Source: TheIndianExpress

- In 2020, the Indian government passed the labor codes, which included social security for gig workers, but it hasn't been implemented.
- · Looking at above incidents, the companies are struggling to provide basic remuneration, safety, and insurance.
- Once implemented, will the companies be able to provide a better life to their 'Partners'?

Source: RestofWorld

Initiatives by Companies

The Shelter Project

- A new Zomato resting point was set up at Bengaluru's Vega city mall. It can be used by other platforms' delivery partners too.
- High-speed internet, first aid, phone charging ports, washrooms, and drinking water, etc. are some facilities available.

Source: HindustanTimes

Nari Shakti

- Flipkart partnered with Deepalaya, a leading NGO supporting underprivileged women, youth, and children, to launch the program to empower girls and women from marginalized communities.
- It will provide essential vocational skills to over 600 young girls and women that will help foster the seed for being financially self-dependent, thereby paving the way for sustainable livelihoods.

Source: Indian Education Diary

MMU

- Zomato collaborated with Dial4242 to provide ambulance services and medical support through mobile medical units (MMUs) to delivery partners.
- With this, the delivery partner of **Zomato** can get their free health checkups and eye testing done at convenient locations.

Source: BusinessStandard

Government-backed ONDC also debuted, and there is hardly any sign that ensures its edge over existing players, but gradually it can pace just like the UPI. Source: ForbesIndia

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