



Third Employment Working Group Meet

For Prelims: [Indian G20 Presidency](#), [Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development](#), [Gig and platform economy](#), [United Nations](#).

For Mains: [International Labour Organization](#).

Why in News?

The [Indian G20 Presidency](#) is organising the **third Employment Working Group (EWG)** meeting at the [International Labour Organization \(ILO\)](#) headquarters in **Geneva, Switzerland**.

- This meeting, which aligns with the ILO's annual **International Labour Conference**, brings together **delegates from G20 member countries, guest countries, and international organizations including International Labour Organization (ILO), [Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development \(OECD\)](#), International Social Security Association (ISSA), [World Bank \(WB\)](#)**.

What are the Major Highlights of the Meet?

- **Priority Areas:**
 - The Indian Presidency has identified three priority areas for the EWG in 2023:
 - **Addressing Global Skill Gaps:** This area focuses on developing strategies to bridge the **skill gaps prevalent in the global workforce** and enhance employability.
 - **Gig and Platform Economy and Social Protection:** Discussions centre around ensuring **social protection for workers in the gig and platform economy**, considering the evolving nature of work.
 - The [gig and platform economy](#) refers to a modern work arrangement where individuals perform **short-term, freelance, or on-demand tasks or services through digital platforms or apps**.
 - It is characterised by the **temporary and flexible nature of work, facilitated by online platforms that connect service providers (often referred to as gig workers) with customers or clients**.
 - **Sustainable Financing of Social Protection:** This area emphasises the importance of **sustainable financing models to support social protection initiatives** and provide safety nets for workers.
- **Phases of the Meet:**
 - The EWG meeting is organised in four different phases in different cities in India.
 - The first phase was held in **Jodhpur, Rajasthan, in February 2023**.
 - The second phase was held in **Guwahati, Assam, in April 2023**.
 - The third phase is being held in **Geneva from 31st May to 2nd June 2023**.
 - The fourth and final phase will be held in **Indore, Madhya Pradesh in July 2023**.

What is an Employment Working Group?

▪ **About:**

- The **Employment Working Group (EWG)** is a **forum established within the G20 framework** to address issues related to **employment, labour markets, and social policies**.
- It serves as a platform for G20 member countries and relevant international organisations to engage in discussions, share experiences, and develop policy recommendations on employment-related matters.

▪ **Purpose:**

- The main purpose of the EWG is to **promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth by fostering job creation, improving labour market outcomes**, and ensuring social protection for workers.

What is the International Labour Organization?

▪ **About:**

- The **ILO is one of the international knowledge partners of the Ministry of Labour and Employment** that provides technical expertise to the EWG.
- The ILO is a [United Nations](#) agency whose mandate is to **advance social and economic justice by setting international labour standards**.
- Founded in **October 1919 (Treaty of Versailles)** under the League of Nations, it is the **first and oldest specialised agency of the UN**.

▪ **Members:**

- The ILO has a **tripartite structure** that brings together representatives of governments, employers and workers from its **187 member states**.
 - India is a **founder member of the International Labour Organization**.

▪ **International Labour Conference:**

- The ILO also hosts an annual **International Labour Conference in Geneva** that sets the International labour standards and the broad policies of the ILO.
 - It is often referred to as an **International Parliament of Labour**.

▪ **Means of Action:**

- The principal means of action in the ILO is the setting up of the **International Labour Standards in the form of Conventions and Recommendations**.
 - Conventions are international treaties and are instruments, **which create legally binding obligations** on the countries that ratify them.
 - Recommendations are **non-binding and set out guidelines orienting national policies and actions**.

▪ **Achievements:**

- Received the **Nobel Peace Prize in 1969**.
 - For improving peace among classes
 - Pursuing decent work and justice for workers
 - Providing technical assistance to other developing nation

▪ **Major Reports Released by ILO:**

- [World Employment and Social Outlook](#)
- [World Social Protection Report](#)
- [Global Wage Report](#)

UPSC Previous Year Questions:

Q. International Labour Organization's Conventions 138 and 182 are related to (2018)

- (a) Child Labour
- (b) Adaptation of agricultural practices to global climate change
- (c) Regulation of food prices and food security
- (d) Gender parity at the workplace

Ans: a

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