

Q. For e-Shram to become a watershed there is a need to include certain features associated with it. Enamine.

Ans. - The Centre recently launched the e-Shram portal to create a national Aadhaar-linked database of unorganised workers.

Some of the features associated with it are as follows:-

- (i) The portal is expected to create a unified database for unorganised workers to help them access various benefits of central and state government welfare schemes.
- (ii) The aim is to register 88 crore un-organised workers.
- (iii) It will cover:-
 - (a) construction workers
 - (b) migrant workers
 - (c) gig & platform workers
 - (d) street vendors
 - (e) domestic workers
 - (f) agriculture workers
 - (g) other unorganised workers
- (iv) worker can register on the portal with the help of Aadhaar and bank account details.

(vi) Registered workers will be eligible for Rs 2-Lakh on death or permanent disability and Rs 1-Lakh on partial disability.

(vii) It will help like pension, provident fund deposit linked insurance, maternity and accident benefits as spelt out in the social security code 2020.

(viii) Under the Unorganised workers' social security Act, 2008, a similar attempt was made. But it resulted in the registration of just 120 million workers.

(ix) Events such as COVID-19 require reaching out to the unprotected workforce.

(x) Clearly, an electronic registration system that can be accessed anywhere is the need of the hour.

(xi) Out of the 80 million workforce of construction workers, at least 15 million are not registered.

Therefore in the end government should decentralised registration process with participation of municipalities, panchayats and civil society groups.