

Rajiv Gandhi University
Centre for Development Studies
Department of Economics
Special Lecture Series 2021-22
Lecture 3: The role of digital labour
platforms in transforming the world
of work

Date: 10 November, 2021 at 10.30 am (online mode)



Organising Committee

Chief Patron

Prof. Saket Kushwaha Vice-Chancellor Rajiv Gandhi University

Organizing Chairman

Prof. Vandana Upadhyay
Head, Department of Economics &
Coordinators Center for Development Studies

Patron

Prof. Amitava Mitra Pro Vice-Chancellor Rajiv Gandhi University

Organizing Secretary

Dr. Prasenjit Bujar Baruah Assistant Professor Department of Economics, RGU

Part – II Special Lecture Series 2021-22: Lecture 3

2.1: Themes: The role of digital labour platforms in transforming the world of work

2.2: Details of the Resource Persons:





Uma Rani is Senior Economist at the Research Department and joined the International Labour Organization (ILO) in 2008. She holds a Ph.D in Development Economics from University of Hyderabad, India. Prior to joining the ILO she worked as an Associate Professor at Gujarat Institute of Development Research, Ahmedabad, India..

She has also held Visiting Fellow positions at Institute of Developing Economies, Japan; ETH-NADEL, Zürich and Institut de Recherche pour le Developpement, Paris to undertake research on informal employment, precarious and non-standard forms of workHer main research interest lies in development economics, the informal sector, minimum wages, social policies and gender. Uma Rani Amara is the lead author of an important new International Labour Organisation report on the gig economy – The Role of Digital Platforms in Transforming the World of Work. The report comprehensively reviews the nature, presence and impact of digital labour platforms around the world and, makes recommendations for global collaboration for their improvement. This well researched report

is of high value to governments, digital labour platforms around the world and, makes recommendations for global collaboration for their improvement. This well researched report is of high value to governments, organisations and workers.

- 2.3: Sponsoring Agency: Centre for Development Studies, Department of Economics, Rajiv Gandhi University
- 2.4: Expenditure Incurred: Rs.11,726/-

Part – III Details Programme:

- **3.1 Welcome Address by** Prof. Vandana Upadhyay, Head, Department of Economics and Coordinators Center for Development Studies
- 3.2 A few words by Prof. Amitava Mitra, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Rajiv Gandhi University
- 3.3 Speech by Prof. Saket Kushwaha, Vice-Chancellor, Rajiv Gandhi University
- 3.3 Lecture delivered by Dr Uma Rani, Senior Economist at the Research Department, the International Labour Organization, Geneva
- 3.4 Discussion and question.
- 3.5 Vote of thanks by Dr. Prasenjit Bujar Baruah, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, RGU

Part – IV Outcome of the Program (Main points of the Lecture)

Thereafter, the lecture was delivered by Dr Uma Rani. She stated that with the technological upgradation and rapid innovation and invention in an unprecedented manner, the working outlook of the world has completely changed. Revolution of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in the early 1990s led to a rapid diffusion and adoption of the internet and this revolution started to transform the working style from physical based to web based. She added that a large number of workers in our society are engaged in digital labour platforms. They are either in the delivery of foods or goods (flip kart, amazon, Zamato etc.) or in taxi services (Ola, Uber or Rapido). Additionally, some of the workers are also engaged in activities like call centres. Most of them are informal workers without job security. It was mentioned that the labour platforms like Ola or Uber adopt customer friendly business policies at the cost of the workers engaged. It deteriorates the income, job security, and social security of the workers in the digital labour platforms.

The lecture was followed by discussion and question answer.

Part – V Annexure

5.1: Brochure:

(Prof. Vandana Upadhyay)



RAJIV GANDHI UNIVERSITY CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT STUDIES DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS Special Lecture Series 2021-2022 (online mode)



Organised by

Centre for Development Studies

Department of Economics, Rajiv Gandhi University

Lecture 3: The role of digital labour platforms in

3: The role of digital labour platforms in transforming the world of work





Prof. Saket Kushwaha Vice-Chancellor Rajiv Gandhi University



SPEAKER
Dr. Uma Rani, Senior Economist,
Research Department
International Labour Organisation
Geneva



Prof. Amitava Mitra
Pro Vice-Chancellor, RGU
and Professor
Department of Economics
Rajiv Gandhi University

Prof. Vandana Upadhyay
Head Department of
comics & Coordinator
Common for Development

Join Zoom Meeting
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pwd=MG10N2VyL1RlaWltdEdZbTFRcElvQT09
Meeting ID: 950 8676 3114
Passcode: 123611

Dr. Prasenjit Bujar Baruah Programme Coordinator

Uma Rani is Senior Economist at the Research Department and joined the International Labour Organization (ILO) in 2008. She holds a Ph.D in Development Economics from University of Hyderabad, India. Prior to joining the ILO she worked as an Associate Professor at Gujarat Institute of Development Research, Ahmedabad, India. She has also held Visiting Fellow positions at Institute of Developing Economies, Japan; ETH-NADEL, Zürich and Institute de Research pour le Development, Paris to undertake research on informal employment, precarious and non-standard forms of work. Her main research interest lies in development economics, the informal sector, minimum wages, social policies and gender. Uma Rani Amara is the lead author of an important new International Labour Organisation report on the gig economy – The Role of Digital Platforms in Transforming the World of Work. The report comprehensively reviews the nature, presence and impact of digital labour platforms around the world and, makes recommendations for global collaboration for their improvement. This well researched report is of high value to governments, digital labour platforms around the world and, makes recommendations for global collaboration for their improvement. This well researched report is of high value to governments, organisations and workers.

Organising Chairperson Prof. Vandana Upadhyay Department of Economics

Programme Coordinator
Dr. Prasenjit Bujar Baruah
Assistant Professor
Department of Economics

PROGRAMME DATE: 10TH NOVEMBER, 2021

10.30 am: Welcome address by Prof. Vandana Upadhyay, Head.

Department of Economics, RGU.

10.35 am: Few words by Prof. Amitava Mitra, Pro Vice-Chancellor,

RGU & Professor, Department of Economics, RGU.

10.40 am: Address by Prof. Saket Kushwaha, Vice-Chancellor, RGU

10.50 am: Special lecture by Dr. Uma Rani, Senior Economist.

11:50 am: Vote of thanks by Dr. Prasenjit Bujar Baruah, Assistant

Professor, Coordinator of the programme.

5.2: Researchers and academicians from different universities and institutions of India participated in the programme. As many as 154 participants joined the programme in online. Out of which 54 per cent were male and rest were female.

(Prof. Vandana Upadhyay)

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