



**Research Unit**  
**Press Information Bureau**  
**Ministry of Information and Broadcasting**  
**Government of India**



## G20 Series #14

### India's G20 Presidency

#### *First Employment Working Group Meeting (Jodhpur, Rajasthan – February 2-4, 2023)*

(Ministry of Information & Broadcasting)

February 14, 2023

*“G20 Summit is not just a diplomatic event, but it is an opportunity to showcase India’s potential to the world.”*

[-PM Shri Narendra Modi](#)

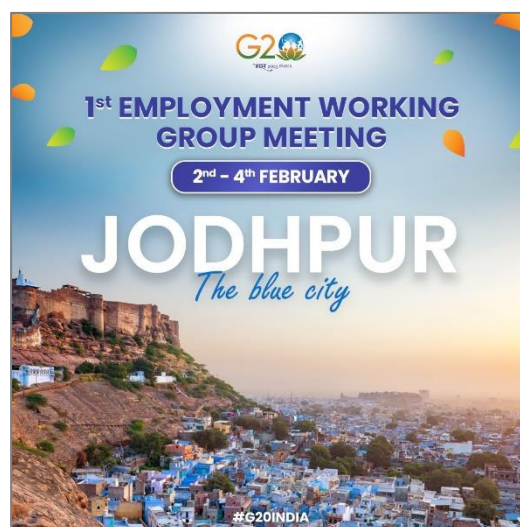
The Employment Working Group (EWG) started as the G20 Taskforce on Employment – set up in 2011 under the French Presidency – which was raised to the Working Group level following the Leaders’ Declaration under the Australian Presidency in 2014. The first meeting of EWG took place under the Turkish Presidency in 2015. The EWG discusses labour, employment and social issues to further develop strong, sustainable, balanced, inclusive and job-rich growth.<sup>1</sup>

### **First Employment Working Group Meeting**

The 1st G20 Employment Working Group meeting was held in Jodhpur, Rajasthan from Feb 02-04,2023. It concluded with all G20 countries showing interest and commitment in constructively working towards the objective of the three priority areas:<sup>2</sup>

- Addressing Global Skills Gaps
- Gig & Platform Economy and Social Protection
- Sustainable Financing of Social Security set by the Indian Presidency

To know further about priority areas, [click here](#).



<sup>1</sup> <https://www.g20.org/en/workstreams/sherpa-track/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.g20.org/en/media-resources/press-releases/february-23/ewg/>

India hosted over 73 delegates from 19 countries, European Union and nine guest countries and nine Regional and International organisations. The three-day meeting, led by the Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India had the mandate of addressing priorities of labour, employment and social issues for strong, sustainable, balanced, and job-rich growth for all.

International organisations like ILO, OECD and ISA, and Indian institutions like NITI Aayog and MSDE, EPFO also shared their views in the discussions. The member countries from G20 also shared their interventions in the key areas.<sup>3</sup>



## Day 1

The EWG meeting kick-started with a special event that included a panel discussion on **‘Exploring strategies for Global Skills and Qualifications Harmonisation and Developing a Framework for Common Skill Taxonomies’**.<sup>4</sup>



## Day 2

The second day of the meeting commenced with a ministerial address by the Minister of Jal Shakti, Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat. He extended a warm welcome to all the delegates and called upon the members to strive together to make meaningful progress in creating more opportunities for decent work and inclusive growth for all people. The Ministerial address was followed by remarks from Co-Chairs from Indonesia & Brazil on India’s G20 EWG priorities.

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.g20.org/en/media-resources/press-releases/january-2023/umle/>

<sup>4</sup> [https://www.g20.org/content/dam/gtwenty/gtwenty\\_new/sherapa\\_track/Minute%20Program.pdf](https://www.g20.org/content/dam/gtwenty/gtwenty_new/sherapa_track/Minute%20Program.pdf)



The Agenda for the second day of the EWG meeting was as follows:

**Session 1:** Overview of the Agenda during the Indian Presidency of G20 in 2023

- Presentation on EWG Priority Areas and work program by EWG Chair

**Session 2:** Addressing Global Skills Gaps

- Presentation by the International Labour Organization (ILO) and Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), where they highlighted various types of imbalances between skills and qualifications in the labour market
- Presentation by Indian delegates on various Skill and development activities & initiatives being taken up in India that have been bought forth by industry & government bodies to achieve the set goals.
- Interventions from Australia, EU, USA, Saudi Arabia and Singapore

**Session 3:** Gig & Platform Economy and Social Protection

- Presentation by ILO, OECD and International Sports Sciences Association (ISSA)
- Presentation by NITI Aayog (India)
- Intervention by Canada, China, Indonesia, Italy, Mexico, Nigeria (Guest) and Spain (Guest)

**Sessions 4 and 5** delved into the topic of ‘Gig and Platform Economy’ discussion in the global and Indian context.

The sessions on this productive day concluded with the closing remarks by EWG Chair and Co-Chairs.





### Day 3

The third day of the meeting began with opening remarks by G20 EWG Chair and Secretary of the Ministry of Labour & Employment. It was followed by the following sessions:

#### Session 1: Sustainable Financing of Social Security

- Presentation by ILO, OECD and ISSA
- Presentation by World Bank
- Presentation by Employees Provident Fund Organization, Ministry of Labour and Employment
- Interventions from France, Germany, Japan, Russia, South Africa, The UK, Mauritius (Guest) and The Netherlands (Guest)

#### Session 2: Conclusion and Closing of Day 3

- Concluding remarks by EWG Co-Chairs (Indonesia and Brazil), EWG Chair and Secretary of the Ministry of Labour & Employment, Ms Arti Ahuja

In the three-day EWG Meeting, the delegates explored the strategies for sustainable financing for social protection of workers through sharing of best practices, extending international development assistance and policy options like social insurance schemes and tax-financed schemes.

To give the delegates a unique Indian experience, short yoga breaks were also plugged into these sessions conducted over a period of two days.

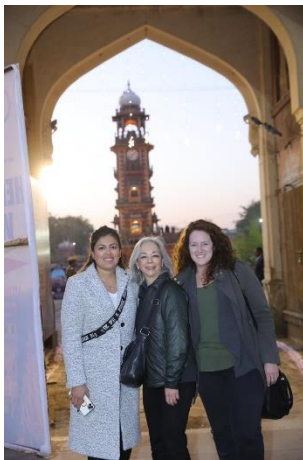


### Delegates experiencing Cultural Heritage of Rajasthan

From a traditional Rajasthani-style welcome at the Jodhpur Airport to a dedicated cultural event showcasing mesmerizing performances with a beautiful backdrop, the G20 delegates witnessed the colours and culture of Rajasthan in its full glory.



The G20 delegates had a unique opportunity to stroll in the lanes of history as they participated in a heritage walk that took them through the beautiful and charming narrow streets of Jodhpur's historic old city.<sup>5</sup>



G20 India Summit also showcased architectural marvels to its delegates in Jodhpur. The delegates experienced Rajasthan's warm hospitality and rich tradition at the awe-inspiring Mehrangarh fort, an epitome of splendour and royalty, Baradari Lawns, Umaid Bhawan Palace, Circuit House Road and the Cantt. Area.<sup>6</sup>



## References

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- <https://twitter.com/g20org/status/1620769336645537798?cxt=HHwWjMDS2fvHkP4sAAAA>
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<sup>5</sup> <https://twitter.com/g20org/status/1621379651590582273>

<sup>6</sup> <https://twitter.com/g20org/status/1621541562323996672>

- [Ministry of Labour on Twitter: "Ministry of Labour & Employment Welcomes G20 EWG Delegates to the Special Event of the 1st Employment Working Group Meeting being held at Hotel Taj Hari Mahal, Jodhpur, Rajasthan on 2 February, 2023 from 2.30 pm onwards. @g20org @mygovindia @PIB\\_India #g20 #g20Indiapresidency https://t.co/Us1nMYoHsh" / Twitter](#)
- [G20 India on Twitter: "1st Employment Working Group Meeting under #G20India to be held in the Blue City, Jodhpur from February 02-04, 2023. Press Release !\[\]\(6302aad5aed157b291fddf37b4870784\_img.jpg\) https://t.co/CYP5UI2AdL @LabourMinistry https://t.co/Af8tlHLkPi" / Twitter](#)
- [G20 India on Twitter: "The magnificent Blue City of Jodhpur is set to host the 1st Employment Working Group Meeting from today. !\[\]\(a9ca2c237943a6d0a9f22252f295b6f3\_img.jpg\) Here are some glimpses of the culture, beauty and royalty of Rajasthan. #G20India @LabourMinistry @my\\_rajasthan https://t.co/z2UTDHz6xm" / Twitter](#)
- [G20 India on Twitter: "1st Employment Working Group Meeting under #G20India in Jodhpur kick-starts with a special session. Delegates deliberate on Exploring strategies for Global Skills and Qualifications harmonisation and developing a framework for common skill taxonomies. https://t.co/9nnywFg8dk" / Twitter](#)
- [Ministry of Labour on Twitter: "Ministry of Labour & Employment Welcomes G20 EWG Delegates to the Special Event of the 1st Employment Working Group Meeting being held at Hotel Taj Hari Mahal, Jodhpur, Rajasthan on 2 February, 2023 from 2.30 pm onwards. @g20org @mygovindia @PIB\\_India #g20 #g20Indiapresidency https://t.co/Us1nMYoHsh" / Twitter](#)
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