

Loss of employment due to economic recession

518. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted to assess the loss of employment in various sectors due to economic recession; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) In a sample survey conducted by Labour Bureau covering 2581 units in 20 centres across 11 States/UT relating to important sectors like mining, textiles, metals, gems & jewellery, automobile, transport and IT/BPO, it was observed that about half a million workers have lost their jobs during the quarter October-December, 2008. The major impact of the slowdown was observed in the export oriented units. The overall decline in employment was observed in gems & jewellery, transport and automobiles by 8.58%, 4.03% and 2.42% respectively.

In a similar survey conducted by Labour Bureau covering 3192 units in 21 centres across 11 States/UT relating to sectors like textiles and apparel, handloom powerloom, leather, metals, gems and Jewellery, automobile, transport and IT / BPO, it was observed that the employment in selected sectors has increased by a quarter million during the January-March, 2009 period. The sectors registering increase in employment during January-March, 2009 period are gems & jewellery (3.08%), textiles (0.96%), IT-BPO (0.82%), handloom/powerloom (0.28%) and automobiles (0.10%). However, the decline in employment during January-March, 2009 has been observed in leather (2.76%), metals (0.56%) and transport (0.36%).

The action taken by the Government to mitigate the adverse impact of economic slowdown includes three stimulus packages, various measures announced by the Reserve Bank of India, Implementation of the 'Rajiv Gandhi Shramik Kalyan Yojana' wherein the insured worker and his family are entitled to about 50% of wages upto a period of one year and medical benefits in the case of loss of job, schemes such as Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana, Aam Admi Bima Yojana, and Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme, skill upgradation/training programmes, National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme etc.

Amendment in labour law

†519. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to change the labour laws in consultation with labour organization and trade and industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has prepared any draft for the amendment in labour laws;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi