

**Norms for opening of office of EPFO**

125. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the prescribed norms for opening and operating Zonal, Regional and subregional office in Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO), particularly in cities like Delhi;

(b) whether these norms are being strictly followed;

(c) if so, the details of cases where the norms have not been followed along with the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether there is any plan to open small offices of EPFO to make services accessible to industrial workers as well as to improve administrative efficiency?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) Zonal offices and Regional Offices are opened as per the administrative requirement with the approval of Central Board of Trustees, EPF. Norms for opening Sub-Regional Offices and Service centres were devised by National Productivity Council and approved by Executive Committee of Central Board of Trustees, EPF, in its 29th meeting held on 04.12.98. These norms for opening sub-Regional Office and Service Centre are for all over India except Jammu and Kashmir as Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 is not applicable in the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

(b) and (c) Proposals for opening offices is examined as per norms. In some of the cases norms are relaxed by the Competent Authority keeping in view the interest of the subscribers.

Details of such cases for the last 5 to 6 years are:- Sub-Regional Offices at Yelahanka, Tumkur, Bharuch, Allahabad, Nagercoil, Mysore Road, Udupi, Karimnagar, Siddipet, Sagar, Shimoga, Keonjhar and Belgaum.

(d) Keeping in view the ongoing as well as proposed computerization which envisages "any time-anywhere" service to workers, norms for opening of Sub-Regional Office, Service Center and District Office are being revisited by National Productivity Council.

**Employment exchange**

126. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Employment Exchanges functioning across the country, State and Union Territory-wise;

- (b) the number of registration of the job seekers in the last five years;
- (c) whether there is rise or decline in the registration process in the last five years;
- (d) whether Government reviews/evaluates the functioning of these Employment Exchanges; and
- (e) whether Government proposes to develop a virtual job market which will link all employment exchanges at a common portal?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) As per the latest information available with Directorate General of Employment and Training, Ministry of Labour and Employment, there were 966 Employment Exchanges as on 31-12-2011 in the country. State and Union Territory-wise number of Employment Exchanges is given in Statement (*See below*).

(b) and (c) Number of job seekers registered with the employment exchanges in the country during the last five years is given below:

Year	Number of Registration made (in thousand)
2007	5434.2
2008	5315.7
2009	5693.7
2010	6186.0
2011	6206.3

(d) Working Group on the National Employment Service chaired by Director General of Employment and Training in the Ministry of Labour and Employment with the State Governments meets regularly to evolve, formulate and review policies and procedures. Periodical evaluation of employment exchanges is also conducted by senior officers of Directorate General of Employment and Training, Ministry of Labour and Employment, and State Governments jointly.

(e) Upgradation and modernization of Employment Exchanges have been taken up as a Mission Mode Project under National e-Governance Plan of Government of India. Under the project, a national web portal will be developed which will work like a virtual job market and help youth get placed and enable industry to procure required skills on real time basis.

**Statement**

*State and Union Territory-wise number of employment exchanges functioning in the country as on 31-12-2011*

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Sl.No.	State/UT	Number of Employment Exchanges
1.	Andhra Pradesh	31
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	11
3.	Assam	52
4.	Bihar	37
5.	Chhattisgarh	18
6.	Delhi	14
7.	Goa	1
8.	Gujarat	41
9.	Haryana	56
10.	Himachal Pradesh	15
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	17
12.	Jharkhand	41
13.	Karnataka	40
14.	Kerala	89
15.	Madhya Pradesh	58
16.	Maharashtra	47
17.	Manipur	11
18.	Meghalaya	12
19.	Mizoram	3
20.	Nagaland	8
21.	Odisha	40
22.	Punjab	46
23.	Rajasthan	38
24.	Sikkim *	
25.	Tamil Nadu	34

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Sl.No.	State/UT	Number of Employment Exchanges
26.	Tripura	5
27.	Uttaranchal	24
28.	Uttar Pradesh	92
29.	West Bengal	77
<b>(B) Union Territory</b>		
30.	Andman and Nicobar Islands	1
31.	Chandigarh	2
32.	Dadar and Nagar Haveli	1
33.	Daman and Diu	2
34.	Lakshadweep	1
35.	Puducherry	1
Total		966

\* No employment exchange is functioning in this State.

#### **Eradication of unemployment**

127. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) the reasons for Government's decision to take unemployment rate on current daily status basis and not on usual status basis;
- (b) what are the figures of unemployment based on both basis since 2006;
- (c) the action programme of Government to eradicate unemployment and provide employment to all; and
- (d) the relief announced for unemployed youth?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) In the Eleventh Plan Document, Current Daily Status (CDS) measure has been used for analysis of trends in the workforce, in keeping with the practice followed in the Tenth Five Year Plan. The CDS gives average level of unemployment on a day during the survey year. It is the most inclusive rate of unemployment