

statistics compiled by the Labour Bureau, Ministry of Labour and Employment, during the last three years is as follows:

Year	No. of strikes
2009	167 (Provisional)
2010	262 (Provisional)
2011	175 (Provisional)
2012 (January-June)	126 (Provisional)

As is evident, no clear trend of increase in the number of industrial and corporate strikes could be established for the last three years. In the Central sphere, no violent incident has been reported. Data relating to violent incidents in the State Sphere is not maintained Centrally.

(c) and (d) The main reasons for strikes and disputes are on issues such as wages and allowances, bonus, personnel matters,, retrenchment, leave and hours of work, indiscipline and violence etc. The Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, provides a framework for maintaining harmonious industrial relations. The Act facilitates intervention, mediation and conciliation by the Industrial Machinery of the appropriate Government for resolution of industrial disputes. The conciliation officers of the Central Government and State Governments take steps in their respective jurisdictions, to intervene, mediate and resolve Industrial disputes. In the event of receipt of Failure of conciliation, the appropriate Government concerned takes a view on referring the dispute for adjudication; in a few important matters, the Government may also intervene at an appropriate level to resolve the conflict.

Employment/Unemployment situation in the country

1964. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the overall employment and unemployment situation in the country for the last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that the number of unemployed persons is increasing every year;

(c) whether Government has any statistics regarding the educational unemployment rate and caste-wise rate of unemployment in the country; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that while number of unemployed persons is going up, millions of existing vacancies in Central Government, various departments, Railways, Banks, Insurance, Information and Broadcasting, and other Central Government corporations are lying vacant?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) and (b) Reliable estimates of employment and unemployment are obtained through quinquennial labour force surveys conducted by National Sample Survey office. Last such survey was conducted during 2009-10. As per the result of the last three surveys, details of estimated employed and unemployed persons on usual status basis in the country during 1999-2000, 2004-05 and 2009-10 are given below:

Period	Employed persons (in million)	Unemployed persons (in million)
1999-2000	397.0	9.04
2004-2005	459.1	10.84
2009-2010	465.5	9.50

(c) Statistics regarding the educational unemployment rate are collected through quinquennial labour force surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Office. Figures for unemployment rates for social groups such as scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and other backward classes are also collected.

(d) Unemployment rate on usual status basis has rather marginally declined from 2.3 per cent in 2004-05 to 2.0 per cent in 2009-10. As per the latest information available, the estimated number of vacant posts of regular Central Government Civilian employees as on 1st March 2010 is 5,33,936.

Minimum wages for domestic workers

1965. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any minimum wages fixed for domestic workers and whether they are also covered under Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) and Provident Fund like Social Security Scheme; and