

- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to create more jobs in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) To assess the effect of economic slowdown on employment in India since January, 2009, Labour Bureau, Ministry of Labour and Employment, has been conducting Quarterly Quick Employment surveys in the selected labour-intensive and export-oriented sectors namely textiles including apparels, metals, gems and jewellery, automobiles, transport, IT/BPO, leather and handloom/powerloom. So far nineteen such surveys have been conducted by Labour Bureau and reports released. According to the survey results, overall estimated employment in all selected sectors has experienced a net addition of 37.46 lakh jobs starting from the first survey (October, 2008 to December, 2014) till the 24th Survey (October, 2014 to December, 2014).

Government has taken various steps for generating employment in the country like encouraging private sector of economy, fast tracking various projects involving substantial investment and increasing public expenditure on schemes like Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) run by Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGA), Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) scheme run by Ministry of Rural Development and National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM) run by Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation.

For skilling to provide employment, a new Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship has been established to coordinate the skill activities across Ministries. In order to improve the employability of youth, around 20 Ministries run skill development schemes across 70 sectors. According to the data compiled by National Skill Development Agency (NSDA), about 51.50 lakh persons were given skill development training in the year 2014-15 (upto Feb., 2015) under these schemes.

FDI in e-commerce retail

165. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the definition of e-commerce retail according to the Ministry;
- (b) whether Government plans to introduce Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in e-commerce retail;

(c) if so, the details of proposed plans; and

(d) whether the introduction of FDI will lead to re-structuring of the current tax slabs for e-commerce retailers and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) The term 'e-commerce retail' has not been defined in the extant Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Policy. However, as per extant FDI policy, e-commerce activities refer to the activity of buying and selling by a company through the e-commerce platform.

(b) and (c) No such proposal is under the consideration of the Government.

(d) Does not arise.

Area earmarked to ITPO exhibitions

166. SHRI R.K. SINHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of area in square meters earmarked/provided to India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO) for the exhibition in Delhi;

(b) the tenure and frequency of organizing trade exhibitions/fairs by ITPO in a year;

(c) the percentage of utilised and unutilised area annually; and

(d) the steps taken to augment the capacity and fully utilise the installed capacity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) Area of Pragati Maidan is about 4,99,827 square meters. The details of the covered exhibition space available with India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) in Pragati Maidan are as under:-

(i) AC Exhibition space: 40,000 square meters.

(ii) Non-AC Exhibition space: 25,000 square meters.

(b) During 2014-15, ITPO organised 12 fairs in India including seven in Delhi. All are annual fairs. The details are as under:-

(i) India International Leather Fair, July 3-5, 2014, New Delhi.

(ii) Aahar – The Food and Hospitality Fair, August 14-16, 2014, Chennai.