

increasing overtime limit upto 8 hours to boost employment. However, a proposal has been initiated to amend Section 64 and 65 of the Factories Act, 1948 to increase number of hours of overtime from existing 50 hours per quarter to 100 hours (Section 64) and existing 75 hours per quarter to 125 hours (Section 65).

(b) A proposal to reduce threshold limit from 20 to 10 for coverage under the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952, has been included in the proposed comprehensive amendment to the Act.

Employment generated at central level

†2716. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that employment has not been generated at all at the Central level since 2014;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, the number of employment generated during the last two years and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) Employment generation is both a cause and consequence of economic growth and is impacted by demographic shifts and technological transformations. Employment generation has also been one of the most important priorities of the Government.

To assess the effect of economic slowdown on employment in India in selected labour-intensive and export-oriented sectors namely textiles including apparels, metals, gems and jewellery, automobiles, transport, IT/BPO, leather and handloom/power loom, Labour Bureau under Ministry of Labour and Employment is conducting Quick Quarterly Surveys on employment and unemployment in selected labour intensive and export oriented sectors Twenty eight such surveys have been conducted by Labour Bureau so far. According to the survey results, overall estimated employment in these selected sectors has experienced a net addition of 38.81 lakh jobs starting from the first survey (October, 2008 to December, 2008) till the 28th Survey (Oct., 2015 to December, 2015).

As per report of the Quarterly Surveys of Labour Bureau, there has been an estimated increase of 5.56 lakh persons in eight quarters starting from January, 2014 to December, 2015 as given below:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Period	Estimated change in employment (in lakhs)
Jan, 14 to Mar, 14	0.36
April, 14 to June, 14	1.82
July, 14 to Sept, 14	1.58
Oct, 14 to Dec, 14	1.17
Jan, 15 to Mar, 15	0.64
April, 15 to June, 15	-0.43
July, 15 to Sept, 15	1.34
Oct, 15 to Dec, 15	-0.20
TOTAL	5.56

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 (DDUGKY) scheme run by Ministry of Rural Development and National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM) run by Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation. Government has also decided to strategically promote labour intensive manufacturing and expand employment opportunities by promoting tourism and agro-based industries.

A new Scheme Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojana (PMRPY) was announced in the Budget for 2016-17 with the objective of promoting employment generation and an allocation of ₹ 1000 crores has been made. The scheme is being implemented by the Ministry of Labour and Employment and employers would be provided an incentive for enhancing employment, where the Government will be paying the employers contribution of 8.33% towards the Employees Pension Scheme (EPS) in respect of new employment for 3 years.

Rate of unemployment

2717. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise trends in the rate of unemployment over the last two years;