

Loss of jobs due to demonetisation

716. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware about the job loss due to demonetisation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) what steps have been taken to create employment opportunities in lieu of loss of jobs due to demonetisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) to (c) Reliable estimates of employment and unemployment are obtained through labour force surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Office (NSSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. As per survey results, the estimated worker population ratio was 39.2% and 38.6% during 2009-10 and 2011-12 respectively and unemployment rate during these period was 2.0% and 2.2%.

In addition, Labour Bureau, Ministry of Labour and Employment also conducts employment and unemployment surveys. As per the result of these surveys the estimated Worker Population Ratio for persons aged 15 years and above on usual status basis was 53.7% during 2013-14 and 50.7% during 2015-16 and unemployment rate was 3.4% and 3.7% during these periods.

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/power loom. So far twenty eight 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 38.81 lakh jobs starting from the First Survey (October, 2008 to December, 2008) till the 28th Survey (September, 2015 to December, 2015). During January-December 2015, the net addition in employment in these sectors was 1.57 lakh.

The coverage of the Quarterly Quick Employment Survey has also been enhanced during 2016 with more industries/sectors and as per the results of the survey during 2016, the net addition of jobs during the quarter ending September, 2016 over the quarter ending June, 2016 was 0.77 lakh workers.

The Government has taken several steps for enhancing financial inclusion and reinforcing minimum wages to workers along with associated social security benefits.

It has organised several camps for opening of bank accounts of labourers for payment of wages. The number of camps organised by the Ministry is around 1.46 lakhs and over 44.8 lakh bank accounts of labourers have been opened.

Labour market reforms

717. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning to push for labour market reforms;
- (b) if so, details thereof and reasons therefor;
- (c) whether major part of manufacturing output in country comes from enterprises in formal sector while similar proportion of manufacturing employment is generated by enterprises in informal sector;
- (d) if so, details thereof and response of Government thereto;
- (e) whether this has created a labour aristocracy that seeks to protect its privileges but in effect keeps the majority of industrial workers trapped in informal enterprises; and
- (f) if so, details thereof along with steps taken/being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) Reforms in labour laws are an ongoing process to update legislative system to address the need of the hour including labour market and to make them more effective and contemporary to the emerging economic and industrial scenario. The process of Legislative reforms includes consultation with stakeholders including Central Trade Unions, Employers' Association and State Governments in the form of tripartite consultation.

(c) to (f) As per the survey carried out by the NSSO in 2011-12, the percentage distribution of workers in formal and informal sector in industry was about 7.6% and 92.4% respectively. However, corresponding estimates of manufacturing output are not available. Rationalization of labour laws and reducing the complexity of compliance will lead to better and effective enforcement of labour laws, thus enhancing job security, wage security and social security and improving the conditions of informal sector workers.

Implementation of NCLP

718. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Visakhapatnam has been identified to implement National Child Labour Project (NCLP) in view of high concentration of child labour there;