

pay the 3.67% EPF contribution of employers in addition. Government has announced a booster package of ₹ 6000 crores for the textile sector which is an employment intensive sector.

Government has also implemented the National Career Service having a portal ([www.ncs.gov.in](http://www.ncs.gov.in)) for online registration and posting of jobs for job-seekers and provide other employment related services.

#### **Investment of EPFO Funds in ETFs**

2030. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) proposes to raise investment limit in Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) to 15 per cent;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to have an exit policy for liquidating investments in ETFs, securities and State loans to maximize returns before raising the proportion of equity linked investments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) The investment limit in Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) has been recommended to be raised from 10 per cent to 15 per cent by the Central Board of Trustees (CBT), Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) in its 218th meeting held on 27.05.2017.

(c) The policy for accounting investments in ETFs was placed before the CBT, EPF in its 218th meeting held on 27.05.2017 and no final recommendation has been made by the CBT.

#### **Increase of unemployment rate**

2031. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that unemployment rate has steadily increased from 2014 to 2016;

(b) the month-wise unemployment rate from January 2017 to June 2017 and the corresponding figures from 2014-15 and 2015-16;

(c) the amount disbursed under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana in the last three years; and