

Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions respectively, by simplifying, amalgamating and rationalizing the relevant provisions of the existing Central Labour Laws. The 4 Labour Codes contain provisions relating to wage, social security, safety, health and grievance redressal mechanism for workers. These initiatives are expected to provide wage security, social security, occupational safety and working conditions to the workers.

#### **Steps to create more employment opportunities**

1365. SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the NITI Aayog has admitted rise in unemployment in the country;
- (b) whether the employment growth rate slipped during last two years;
- (c) whether the incidence of unemployment among youths in 15-29 age group is also rising and if so, to what extent; and
- (d) what steps/programmes Government are likely to take/launch to create more employment opportunities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) The labour force surveys on employment –unemployment are conducted by Labour Bureau, Ministry of Labour and Employment, last such survey was conducted during 2015-16. Moreover, National Sample Survey Office (NSSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation also conducted annual Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) which was conducted during 2017-18. As per the results of the survey, the estimated unemployment rate and worker population ratio on usual status (principal Status + subsidiary status) basis in the country is given below:–

Surveys*	2017-18 (PLFS)	Employment-Unemployment survey by Labour Bureau (2015-16)
1	2	3
Unemployment Rate (aged 15 years and above)	6%	3.7%
Unemployment Rate (age 15-29 years)	17.8%	10.2% (age 18-29 years)

1	2	3
Worker Population Ratio (aged 15 years and above)	46.8%	50.5%
Worker Population Ratio (age 15-29 years)	31.4%	42.4% (age 18-29 years)

\*Survey methodology and sample selection are different in PLFS and Labour Bureau survey

(d) Employment generation coupled with Improving employability is the priority of the Government, Government has taken various steps towards generating employment in the country like encouraging private sector of economy, fast-tracking various projects involving substantial investment and increasing public expenditure on schemes such as Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) and Deendyal Antodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM).

Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojana (PMRPY) has been launched by the Ministry of Labour and Employment for incentivising employers for promoting employment generation. Under this scheme, Government is paying entire employer's contribution (12% or as admissible) towards EPF and EPS for all eligible new employees for all sectors for 3 years.

Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) has been initiated by Government *inter alia* for facilitating self-employment. Under PMMY collateral free loans upto ₹ 10 lakh, are extended to micro/small business enterprises and to individuals to enable them to setup or expand their business activities.

Government has implemented the National Career Service (NCS) Project which comprises a digital portal that provides a nation-wide online platform for the job seekers and employers for job-matching in a dynamic, efficient and responsive manner and has a repository of career content to Job seekers.

Besides these initiatives, flagship programmes of the Government such as Make in India, Digital India, Swachh Bharat Mission, Smart City Mission, Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation, Housing for All, Infrastructure development and Industrial corridors have the potential to generate productive employment opportunities. Ministries/Departments/States run skill development schemes across various sectors to improve the employability of youth and also facilitate placements.

Schemes such as the National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) wherein Government reimburses 25 percent of the stipend payable to apprentices also enhances employability of the youth to access employment.

**Formulating employment guarantee scheme for  
the unorganised sector workers**

†1366. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to formulate an employment guarantee scheme for the workers of the unorganised sector in cities on lines of employment guarantee scheme for the rural areas ‘ MGNREGA’ , if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether unorganised workers are not getting benefits of various Government schemes, if so, the State-wise details of the beneficiaries along with those who remain deprived of such benefits; and

(c) whether a large number of unorganised workers are engaged in such industries where labour law does not apply, if so, whether Government proposes to make special law for the same, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) No, Sir, there is no such proposal. Whereas, Ministry of Labour and Employment implements ‘ Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojana’ to incentivise employers for generation of new employment, where Central Government will be paying the full employer’s contribution towards Employees’ Provident Fund and Employees’ Pension Scheme both for the new employment. This scheme has a dual benefit, where, on the one hand, the employer is incentivised for Increasing the employment base of workers in the establishment, and on the other hand, a large number of workers will find jobs in such establishments.

(b) and (c) In order to provide social security benefits to the workers in the unorganised sector including all industries which are not covered under the Employees Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 and the Employees State Insurance Act, 1948, the Government has enacted the Unorganised Workers’ Social Security Act, 2008. This 2008 Act stipulates formulation of suitable welfare schemes for unorganised workers on matters relating to: (i) life and disability cover, (ii) health and maternity benefits, (iii) old age protection and (iv) any other benefit as may be determined by the Central Government.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.