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Start-up India is a flagship initiative of the Government of India, intended to build a strong ecosystem that is conducive for the growth of start-up businesses, to drive sustainable economic growth and generate large scale employment opportunities.

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.

NSSO report on unemployment

1377. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received a recent report of National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) on the unemployment issue of the country;
- (b) whether it is a fact that during the last five years joblessness stood at a 45 year high therefor;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government has failed to create any job during their last tenure thereof; and
- (d) if so, proposal and line of action to generate employment and jobs in the country within next three years therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) To assess the employment and

unemployment situation in the country, an annual Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) was conducted by National Sample Survey Office (NSSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation during 2017-18. This survey report has recently been released by the Government. As per the results of the survey, the estimated unemployment rate on usual status (principal status+subsidiary status) basis for persons of all ages in the country is given below:—

Unemployment Rates (In %)

Survey year	Rural		Urban	
	Male	Female	Male	female
2017-18* (PLFS)	5.8	3.8	7.1	10.8
2011-12 (NSS 68th round)	1.7	1.7	3.0	5.2
2009-10 (NSS 66th round)	1.6	1.6	2.8	5.7

(Note: *For comparability, the results of the PLFS with earlier rounds of NSS surveys need to be understood in the context with which the survey methodology and sample selection has been designed)

(c) and (d) Employment generation coupled with improving employability is the priority of the Government. 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 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). Details of the employment generated through these schemes/programmes are given below:—

Employment Generated

Schemes/Year	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Estimated employment generated under PMEGP (in lakh)	3.23	4.08	3.87	5.87 (till 31.03.2019)
Persondays Generated under MGNREGS (in crore)	235.14	235.64	233.74	267.9 (till May, 2019)
Candidates placed under DDU-GKY (in lakh)	1.09	1.48	0.76	1.36 (till May, 2019)
Placement under DAY-NULM (in lakh)	0.34	1.52	1.15	1.63 (till 18.06.219)

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. Till 31.05.2019, the scheme has covered 1,51,579 establishments and 1.21 crore beneficiaries.

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. Upto 31st March, 2019, 18.26 crore loans were sanctioned under the scheme.

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Unemployment rate amongst different age groups

1378. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) job survey for 2017-18 confirming a surge in the unemployment rate to 6.1 per cent, a 45-year high;

(b) if so, the details and the breakup of unemployment rate amongst different age groups and rural and urban men and women; and