

(UDAY). Other measures include comprehensive reforms in the foreign direct investment policy and special package for textile industry. The introduction of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) is intended to improve growth momentum by reducing barriers to trade, business and related economic activities. The Government has special focus on building physical and social infrastructure. National Highway Programme is proposed to be restructured to ensure a National Highway Grid, using a financeable model. Emphasis is being given to MSMEs, Start-ups, defence manufacturing, automobiles, electronics and medical devices under Make in India. The Government through Minimum Support Price (MSPs) is providing boost to the farmers' income. In 2019-20, Government launched the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana (PM-Kisan) with the objective to supplement the financial needs of the small and marginal farmers in procuring various inputs to ensure proper crop health and appropriate yields, commensurate with the anticipated farm income.

Launching of National Business Register Platform

2957. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to launch the National Business Register Platform (NBRP) to facilitate creation of a repository of information on economic activity from the formal and informal sectors on various socio-economic parameters including employment;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof and by when it would be launched; and

(c) whether Government would collate the data from various registration authorities to create NBRP and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) The Ministry has planned for a National Statistical Business Register as an electronic register of establishments containing selected parameters like ownership type, economic activity and employment. In this direction, the Government has also launched the 7th Economic Census in 2019 in consultation with stakeholders including concerned Central and State Government departments.

Delay in release of report on unemployment

2958. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:

SHRI JOSE K. MANI:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recently released Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) has recorded the unemployment rate at 45-year high of 6.1 per cent in 2017-18;

(b) whether the National Statistical Commission had approved this report in last December and if so, the reasons for delay in releasing it after six months;

(c) whether the report shows that the unemployment rate among youths between 16 and 29 years of age rose sharply in 2017-18;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action Government taken to revive the economy so as to ensure that the youth of country gets sufficient job opportunities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) This Ministry has launched a new regular Employment-Unemployment survey, namely, Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) during 2017-18 with certain changes in survey methodology, data collection mechanism and sampling design *vis-à-vis* the earlier quinquennial (once in every five years) Employment and Unemployment surveys of NSSO. Besides, the PLFS was launched with an objective of measuring quarterly changes of various labour market statistical indicators in urban areas and generating the annual estimates of these indicators for both rural and urban areas. These differences in methodology put certain limitations in respect of the comparability of results of PLFS with the results of the earlier quinquennial surveys on Employment – Unemployment conducted by NSS.

Based on the first estimates, available from the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS), released on 31st May 2019, unemployment rate in usual status is 6.1 per cent.

(b) The responsibility to oversee the finalization and dissemination of labour force statistics, emanating from various surveys of the Government including PLFS, is with the Standing Committee on Labour Force Statistics (SCLFS). The SCLFS in its various meetings discussed the issues related to the comparability, sampling designs, sample size for the purpose of the Annual Report (July, 2017-June, 2018) of PLFS, etc. The SCLFS recommended that a note on changes in the sampling design adopted in PLFS *vis-a-vis* that adopted in NSS 68th Round (July, 2011-June, 2012) survey on Employment and Unemployment and also on the use of Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) in PLFS, etc., be prepared and attached in the Annual Report (July, 2017-June, 2018) of the PLFS. After incorporating the recommendations of the SCLFS, the Annual Report (July, 2017-June, 2018) of PLFS was released on 31st May, 2019.

(c) and (d) Based on the Annual Report (July, 2017-June, 2018) of PLFS, the unemployment rate (in per cent) among the youth (15 to 29 years) in usual status [principal and subsidiary status (ps+ss)] are given below:—

(All India)

Category of persons	PLFS (2017-18)
Rural Male	17.4
Rural Female	13.6
Urban Male	18.7
Urban Female	27.2

As mentioned above, the differences in methodology put certain limitations in respect of the comparability of results of PLFS with the results of the earlier quinquennial surveys on Employment–Unemployment conducted by NSS.

(e) 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 (DDU-GKY) and Rural Self Employment and Training Institutes (RSETIs) schemes run by Ministry of Rural Development and Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM) run by Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs. The Government has also recently constituted Cabinet Committee on Employment and Skill Development to generate more jobs.

Delay in high value infrastructure projects

2959. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE:

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether high value infrastructure projects/monitored projects are facing issues of delays;

(b) if so, the details thereof, particularly with regard to projects in NER alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of the estimated cost overruns due to delays; and