

Rising entrepreneurship trends

2031. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether several international researches says that entrepreneurship trend rises due to lack of employment opportunities as they have open shop and micro level business to run their livelihood and doing business not for providing jobs but for their survival; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) No such specific research categorically confirming the relationship between 'increasing entrepreneurship and lack of employment opportunities' has been received in Ministry of Labour and Employment.

Employment generation coupled with improving employability is the priority of the Government. 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).

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.

Contribution to EPFO

2032. SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state the Government's statutory contribution to the Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) in the financial years, 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20 and how much total money does it owe to the EPFO?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): The details of funds released to the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) towards Government of India's statutory contribution of 1.16 per cent under Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 are as follows:—

Year	Funds released (Rupees in Crores)
2014-15	2,299.80
2015-16	3,030.20
2016-17	3,525.00
2017-18	4,040.18
2018-19	3,900.00
2019-20	3,600.00 (As on date)

There is a cumulative arrear of ₹10,663.66 crores (Provisional) as on date.

Job loss due to automation

2033. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that approximately 12 million women will lose their jobs due to automation in 2030;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to ensure and promote employment of women?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) As per National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM), Indian IT/ITeS industry employs 41.38 lakhs persons as of FY 2018-19(E), adding around 1.7 lakhs employees (including women) from previous year. The technology automation has not replaced workers, but improved productivity and provided workers the time to focus on other tasks involving complex decision making and social interactions. Rather, the adoption of new technology creates jobs, increases productivity, and increases the demand for skilled labour. The Indian IT-ITES industry continues to be a net hirer and provides on the job training.

As per the results of Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) conducted by National Sample Survey Office, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation during 2017-18, the estimated Women Worker Population Ratio (WPR) on usual status (principal status+subsidiary status) basis for the persons of age 15 years and above in the country is 22%.