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Defence	National Defence Workers Union, Ammunition Factory Workers Union, All India Defence Federation, Ordnance Employees Union, Ambernath, Naval Armanent Depot Civil Employees Union, COD Mazdoor Union, Ordnance Factory Karamchari Union	The average absenteeism observed due to the general Strike was 15%
Port Trust	Cochin Port Staff Association	
Power Sector	Power Grid Employees Union (WR-2)	
Medicine and Pharmaceutical	Uttar Pradesh Uttarakhand Medical and Sales representative Association	

#### **Data regarding employment/unemployment**

2830. SHRI RAJMANI PATEL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted/is considering to conduct a big survey to collect correct data regarding employment/unemployment from across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the actual job opportunities created since 2014 and the basis on which the said survey is likely to be conducted and the persons likely to be covered under it;

(c) whether as per Government data growth rate is lowest during the last five years; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken or proposed to be taken by Government to tackle the said challenge?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) National Statistical

Office (NSO) under Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation has launched a new regular and household based 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 NSO. The PLFS was launched with an objective of measuring quarterly changes of various labour market statistical indicators in urban areas as well as generating the annual estimates of these indicators for rural and urban areas.

Outcome of PLFS *Inter-alia* gives Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) *i.e.* percentage of persons who were either 'working' or 'seeking or available for work', which is 36.9%.

(c) The annual GDP Growth Rate during the last five years at constant (2011-12) prices, is given below:—

Year	GDP Growth Rate (in %)
2014-15	7.4
2015-16	8.0
2016-17	8.3
2017-18	7.0
2018-19 (FRE)	6.1

FRE – First Revised Estimates.

(d) Government has been undertaking various measures to boost GDP growth. Introduction of Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) in 2016 is a significant step towards strengthening the financial system of the country. Implementation of Goods and Services Tax in 2017 stands out as an important measure for improving ease of doing business in the country. Make-in-India programme is a major initiative towards increasing the indigenous capacity to produce world class goods and services. Continuous liberalization has led to an increase in inflows of foreign direct investment into the country. More recently, Government has cut corporate tax rate from 30 per cent to 22 per cent to boost investment activity. In particular, the corporate tax rate had been cut to 15 per cent for new domestic manufacturing companies, which is

amongst the lowest in the world. This complements a cut in the repo rate to incentivize exporters, fully automated electronic refund for Input Tax Credits in GST and revised priority sector lending norms for exports credit.

In addition, the Union budget 2020-21 proposes to invest ` 100 lakh crore on infrastructure development over the next five years for enhanced connectivity and employment generation. To encourage start-ups, the limit for tax-exemption has been proposed to be increased from ` 25 crore to ` 100 crore. Moreover, to incentivize business as well as foreign investors, the Distribution Tax on companies is proposed to be done away with.

#### **Upgradation of ESI hospitals**

2831. SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to make upgradation of Employees' State Insurance (ESI) hospitals in the country;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering to establish more new dispensaries;
- (c) whether Government is also considering to empanel more hospitals under ESI; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) has taken following steps to upgrade ESI hospitals in the country:—

- (i) Enhancement of the bed strength in ESIC/Employees' State Insurance Scheme (ESIS) Hospitals by 50%, if bed occupancy is more than 70% during last three consecutive years. Accordingly, medical manpower strength and provision of additional equipment stands revised as per ESIC norms.
- (ii) Encouraging adoption of certain minimum parameters in ESIS Hospitals by the States for medical manpower, equipment and drugs availability.