

Sl. No.	State/UT	No of Establishments	No of Employees
26.	Uttarakhand	3153	53248
27.	West Bengal @@	25601	421091
TOTAL		279217	4442613

** The data for Assam includes figures for the states of Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Meghalaya, Tripura & Mizoram.

@@ The data for WB is inclusive of Sikkim.

Rising unemployment rate due to economic slowdown

1241. SHRIMATI PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that country's unemployment rate has risen to more than 8.5 per cent due to economic slowdown and contraction of industrial output;
- (b) the number of employable men and women in urban and rural areas presently categorised as unemployed;
- (c) the labour participation rate of male and female workers in the economy; and
- (d) what steps Government proposes to revive job creation and employment for youth?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) As per Periodic Labour Force Survey Annual Report 2018-19 released in June 2020, the Unemployment rate according to usual status was 5.8 per cent, at all India level.

(b) As per Periodic Labour Force Survey Annual Report 2018-19, the Unemployment rate according to usual status among rural men and women was 5.6% and 3.5% respectively whereas for urban men and women, it was 7.1% and 9.9% respectively.

(c) As per Periodic Labour Force Survey Annual Report 2018-19, the Labour Force Participation Rate according to usual status for persons of all ages was 37.5 percent at all India level.

(d) Employment generation coupled with improving employability of the youth is the priority concern 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 Deendayal Antodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM).

Government has also implemented the National Career Service (NCS) Project as a Mission Mode Project for transformation of the National Employment Service to provide a variety of employment related services like job matching, career counselling, vocational guidance, information on skill development courses, apprenticeship, internships, etc.

Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojana (PMRPY) was launched in 2016 with the objective to incentivise employers for creation of new employment with social security benefits. Under the scheme, Government of India is paying Employer's full contribution *i.e.* 12% towards EPF and EPS both (as admissible from time to time) for a period of three years to the new employees through EPFO w.e.f. 01.04.2018. The terminal date for registration of beneficiary through establishment was 31st March, 2019. The beneficiaries registered upto 31st March, 2019 will continue to receive the benefits for 3 years from the date of registration under the scheme. As on 31st August, 2020, 1.21 crore beneficiaries have been benefitted through 1.52 lakh establishments.

Ministry of Labour and Employment is also implementing PMGKY through EPFO. Under PMGKY, Government of India is contributing both 12% employers' share and 12% share under Employees Provident Fund (EPF), totalling 24% for the wage month from March – August, 2020 for all the establishments having upto 100 employees with 90% of such employees earning less than ₹ 15,000/-.

Social security and welfare benefits to casual workers

1242. SHRIMATI PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is implementing various Acts and schemes to provide social security and welfare benefits to casual workers both in the organised and unorganised sector;