

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
 MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 435
 TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.02.2021

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IN THE COUNTRY

435. SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA:

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

- (a) whether the unemployment growth rate has reached an all time high in the country; and
 (b) the details of unemployment rate at present, and the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING [RAO INDERJIT SINGH]

(a) to (b): 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-a-vis the earlier quinquennial (once in every five years) Employment and Unemployment surveys of NSSO. 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.

Unemployment rate in usual status (principal status + subsidiary status) from past Employment and Unemployment surveys conducted by NSO and from the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) conducted during July 2018-June 2019 and July 2017-June 2018 are given in Table below.

| Table: Unemployment rates (in percent) according to usual status (ps+ss) from 1972-73 to 2018-19 (all-India) | | | | |
|---|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| round | rural | | urban | |
| (year) | male | female | male | female |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| PLFS (2018-19) | 5.6 | 3.5 | 7.1 | 9.9 |
| PLFS (2017-18) | 5.8 | 3.8 | 7.1 | 10.8 |
| 68 th (2011-12) | 1.7 | 1.7 | 3.0 | 5.2 |

| Table: Unemployment rates (in percent) according to usual status (ps+ss) from 1972-73 to 2018-19 (all-India) | | | | |
|---|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| round | rural | | urban | |
| (year) | male | female | male | female |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
| 66 th (2009-10) | 1.6 | 1.6 | 2.8 | 5.7 |
| 61 st (2004-05) | 1.6 | 1.8 | 3.8 | 6.9 |
| 55 th (1999-00) | 1.7 | 1.0 | 4.5 | 5.7 |
| 50 th (1993-94) | 1.4 | 0.9 | 4.1 | 6.1 |
| 43 rd (1987-88) | 1.8 | 2.4 | 5.2 | 6.2 |
| 38 th (1983) | 1.4 | 0.7 | 5.1 | 4.9 |
| 32 nd (1977-78) | 1.3 | 2.0 | 5.4 | 12.4 |
| 27 th (1972-73) | 1.2 | 0.5 | 4.8 | 6.0 |

Source: Annual Report, PLFS: 2017-18 & 2018-19

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