

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

RAJYA SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2167
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.12.2021**

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IN THE COUNTRY

2167. SHRI K.T.S. TULSI:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

- (a) present unemployment rate in the country in major industry sectors during the last three quarters; and**
- (b) steps taken by Government to boost employment in the aforesaid sectors, particularly on account of loss of jobs due to COVID-19 pandemic and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SHRI RAMESWAR TELI)**

(a): As per the latest Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) quarterly data available till January-March, 2021, the unemployment rate in the urban areas on current weekly status for persons of age 15 years and above is 13.2% (July-September 2020), 10.3%(October- December 2020) and 9.3% (January-March 2021). PLFS does not release quarterly data on rural unemployment rate. However taking into account of both urban and rural unemployment rate for persons aged 15 years and above, the unemployment rate stands at 4.8% as per PLFS 2019-20.

Further, Labour Bureau, under the Ministry of Labour & Employment, has been entrusted with the task of conducting the Quarterly Employment Survey (QES) as a component of All India Quarterly Establishment based Employment Survey (AQEES). Quarterly

Contd..2/-

Employment Survey conducted during the first quarter (April-May-June, 2021) was also designed to collect the information on the Covid-19 pandemic impact on the operational status and employment status of the establishments in the selected 9 sectors. The impact on male & female employees during lockdown period is Annexed.

(b): Government is providing fiscal stimulus of more than Rs. Twenty seven lakh crore as part of the Aatmanirbhar Bharat financial Package. Aatmanirbhar Bharat package comprises various long term schemes/ programmes/ policies for making the country self-reliant and to create employment opportunities in the country. Aatmanirbhar Bharat Rojgar Yojana (ABRY) was launched with effect from 1st October, 2020 as part of Atmanirbhar Bharat package 3.0 to incentivize employers for creation of new employment along with social security benefits and restoration of loss of employment during Covid-19 pandemic. This scheme being implemented through Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO), seeks to reduce the financial burden of the employers and encourages them to hire more workers. The terminal date for registration of beneficiaries has been extended from 30.06.2021 to 31.03.2022. As on 20.11.2021, benefit has been provided to 39.43 lakh beneficiaries through 1.15 lakh establishments.

Under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY), Government of India has contributed both 12% employer's share and 12% employee's share under Employees Provident Fund (EPF), totaling 24% of the wage for the wage month from March to August, 2020 for the establishments having upto 100 employees with 90% of such employees earning less than Rs. 15000/-. This has helped in protecting employment in EPFO registered establishments during post Covid period.

In order to focus on urban areas, Prime Minister Street Vendor's Atma Nirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) Scheme was launched on June 01, 2020 to provide working capital loan of Rs. 10,000/- to street vendors, vending in urban areas, to resume their businesses, which were hurt adversely due to COVID-19 induced lockdown.

Contd..3/-

Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) is being implemented by the Government for facilitating self-employment. Under PMMY collateral free loans upto Rs. 10 lakh are extended to micro/small business enterprises and to individuals to enable them to setup or expand their business activities.

The Production Linked Investment scheme of Rs 10,683/- crore over a five-year period covering Man-made Fibre (MMF) and Technical Textiles sector has been announced which envisages to create global champions in exports and domestic production in textile sector which would help boost employment.

National Technical Textiles Mission launched in February 2020 with an outlay of Rs.1,480 crore for the period 2020-24 envisages to generate a large number of employment in the textile sector.

Besides these initiatives, the flagship programmes of the Government such as Make in India, Digital India, Smart City Mission, Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation, Housing for All, Infrastructure development and Industrial Corridors, and Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme are also oriented to generate productive employment opportunities.

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF RAJYA SABHA UN-STARRED QUESTION NO. 2167, FOR 16.12.2021, BY SHRI K.T.S. TULSI REGARDING “UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IN THE COUNTRY.

Sector-wise Impact on Number of Employees during Lockdown Period (25th March, 2020 to 30th June, 2020)

Sl. No.	Sectors	Number of Employees (in Lakhs)			
		Prior to Lockdown (before 25 th March, 2020)		As on 1 st July, 2020	
		Male	Female	Male	Female
1.	Manufacturing	98.7	26.7	87.9	23.3
2.	Construction	5.8	1.8	5.1	1.5
3.	Trade	16.1	4.5	14.8	4
4.	Transport	11.3	1.9	11.1	1.9
5.	Education	38.2	29.5	36.8	28.1
6.	Health	15	10.6	14.8	10.1
7.	Accommodation & Restaurants	7	1.9	6.2	1.7
8.	IT/BPOs	13.6	6.3	12.8	6.1
9.	Financial Services	11.5	5.9	11.3	5.7
Total		217.8	90.0	201.5	83.3

Note: " The number in the 'Total' row also take into account the 66 establishments found during the survey which belong to the sectors other than the nine selected sectors".
