

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *269
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19TH DECEMBER, 2024

NATIONAL URBAN YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMME

***269. SHRI G.C. CHANDRASHEKHAR:**

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of unemployed individuals recorded in the country over the last three years, State-wise and year-wise;**
- (b) whether Government has implemented any National Urban Youth Employment Programme aimed at promoting job opportunities in both rural and urban areas;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons for its absence;**
- (d) the number of new jobs recorded by Government over the last three years;**
- (e) whether Government has plans to boost employment by encouraging the private sector to create job opportunities; and**
- (f) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons for not pursuing this approach?**

ANSWER
MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)

(a) to (f): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *269 DUE FOR REPLY ON 19.12.2024 BY Shri G.C. CHANDRASHEKHAR REGARDING “NATIONAL URBAN YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMME”

(a) to (f): The official data on Employment and Unemployment is collected through Annual Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS), which is conducted by Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) since 2017-18. The survey period is July to June every year.

As per the data available in latest Annual PLFS Reports, the estimated Unemployment Rate (UR) on usual status for persons of age 15 years and above has decreased from 4.1 % during 2021-22 to 3.2% in 2023-24. The detailed year-wise, State-wise information is available in the PLFS reports which may be seen at the website of MoSPI at https://www.mospi.gov.in/download-reports?main_cat=ODU5&cat>All&sub_category>All.

As per the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) latest KLEMS (K: Capital, L: Labour, E: Energy, M: Materials and S: Services) data, employment in economic activities in the country, increased to 64.33 crore in year 2023-24 compared to 57.75 crore in 2021-22. Further, more than 7 crore net subscribers have joined Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) between September 2017 and September 2024 indicating increase in formalization of the job market. Also, more than 3.92 crore net subscribers have joined EPFO during the year 2021-22 to 2023-24.

Employment generation coupled with improving employability is a priority of Government and is a multi-stakeholder initiative. The various Ministries/ Departments of Government of India like Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Ministry of Rural Development, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Textile etc. are implementing different employment generation schemes/ programmes for all including youth in both rural and urban areas. The details of these schemes/ programmes may be seen at https://dge.gov.in/dge/schemes_programmes.

As a part of legislative reforms, the existing 29 Acts in the central sphere have been subsumed in the four Codes. All Codes have been passed by the Parliament and notified, viz, the Code on Wages, 2019, the Industrial Relations Code, 2020, the Code on Social Security, 2020 and the Occupational Safety, Health & Working Conditions Code, 2020. These Codes aim to catalyze creation of employment opportunities while ensuring safety, health and social security of every worker inter-alia by promoting ease of doing business through simplification, rationalization and reduction in compliance burden; raising thresholds for factory license; contract labour license; prior permission for retrenchment; lay-off and closure and certification of standing orders.

Further, Government has announced in Budget 2024-25, Prime Minister's package of 5 schemes and initiatives to facilitate employment, skilling and other opportunities for 4.1 crore youth over a 5-year period with a central outlay of Rs.2 lakh crores. It includes, the Employment Linked Incentive (ELI) scheme announced in Budget 2024-25, with an outlay of Rs 1,07,000 Crores, which aims at job creation and formalization of work force by providing Social Security through EPFO, enhancing employability and incentivizing additional employment generation through incentives to employees and employers.
