GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2808
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19TH DECEMBER, 2024

FALL IN GROWTH OF JOB AVAILABILITY DUE TO AUTOMATION AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

2808.   SHRI A.D. SINGH :

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

(a)   whether the job growth is lagging in the country due to automation and artificial intelligence;

(b)   if so, the extent to which the job growth is hampered by automation and artificial intelligence; and

(c)   the efforts being made by Government to create job-oriented infrastructure?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SUSHRI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE)

(a) to (c): The official data source of Employment/ Unemployment indicator in India is the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) conducted by the 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 Worker Population Ratio (WPR) i.e. indicating employment on usual status for persons of age 15 years and above has increased from 46.8% in 2017-18 to 58.2% in 2023-24.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) may result in automating some routine jobs but will also result in job creation in various data science, data curation, etc. This will require reskilling and upskilling, for which Government especially Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has initiated 'FutureSkills PRIME' a programme for Re-skilling/Up-skilling of IT Manpower for Employability in 10 new/emerging technologies including Artificial Intelligence. Under this programme so far, 18.56 Lakh+ candidates have signed-up on the Future Skills PRIME Portal, out of which, 3.37 Lakhs+ candidates have completed their course.

In addition, under the Scheme of Centers of Excellence for Artificial Intelligence implemented by MeitY in partnership with NASSCOM, Startups are supported for developing AI based tools and applications that are of use for manufacturing companies. Several such solutions have been deployed by companies in manufacturing sector. Besides, National e-Governance Division (NeGD), MeitY in collaboration with its partners, has implemented 'YUVAi: Youth for Unnati and Vikas with AI'- A National Programme for School Students with the objective of enabling school students from classes 8th to 12th with AI tech and social skills in an inclusive manner. The programme will provide a platform for youth to learn and apply AI skills in 8 thematic areas- Krishi, Aarogya, Shiksha, Paryavaran, Parivahan, Grameen Vikas, Smart Cities and Vidhi aur Nyaay.

The Ministry of Labour and Employment is running the National Career Service (NCS) Portal which is a one-stop solution for providing career related services. The portal also gives information on online & offline job fairs, job search & matching, career counselling, vocational guidance, information on skill development courses, skill/training programmes etc. through a digital platform [www.ncs.gov.in].

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