

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2333
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20TH MARCH, 2025**

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT AND SKILL DEVELOPMENT

2333. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA:

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

- (a) the current status of unemployment rates in the country and the key reasons, if any, behind the rise in youth unemployment;**
- (b) the specific measures Government has taken to create job opportunities, particularly in rural areas and tier-2 cities; and**
- (c) the outcome of the Skill India and Startup India initiatives in terms of employment generated since 2020?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): The official data source on Employment and Unemployment is Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) which is 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 latest available Annual PLFS reports, the estimated Unemployment Rate (UR) on usual status for persons of age 15 years and above has decreased from 6.0% in 2017-18 to 3.2% in 2023-24. Further, the estimated Unemployment Rate on usual status for youth of age 15-29 years and above has decreased from 17.8% in 2017-18 to 10.2% in 2023-24.

Employment generation coupled with improving employability of all including rural areas and tier-2 cities is a priority of Government and is a multi-stakeholder initiative. The various Ministries/ Departments of Government of India like Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises, Ministry of Rural Development, Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Textiles, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology etc. are implementing different employment generation schemes/ programmes like Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY), Rural Self Employment and Training Institutes (RSETIs), Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National

Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM), Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM), Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY), National Handicrafts Development Programme etc., which, along with increase in capital expenditure, seeks to boost employment creation. The details of various employment generation schemes/programmes being implemented by the Government of India may be seen at https://dge.gov.in/dge/schemes_programmes.

Under the Government of India’s Skill India Mission (SIM), the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) delivers skill, re-skill and up-skill training through an extensive network of skill development centres/ institutes etc. under various schemes, viz. Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS), National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) and Craftsman Training Scheme (CTS) through Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) across the country including rural areas and tier-2 cities. The SIM aims at enabling youth of India to get future ready, equipped with industry relevant skills. The number of candidates trained under the schemes of MSDE during the last five years, year-wise is as under:

Scheme	Candidates Trained			
	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
PMKVY	19,60,776	6,16,040	2,11,170	5,39,422
JSS	3,59,796	4,61,996	7,26,284	5,07,337
NAPS	2,96,253	5,90,185	7,37,144	9,31,406
CTS (ITIs)	12,19,446	12,25,851	12,50,679	14,46,247

The Government, with an intent to build a strong ecosystem for nurturing innovation, startups and encouraging investments in the startup ecosystem of the country launched the Startup India initiative on 16th January 2016. The number of entities which have been recognised as startups by DPIIT over the last five years viz 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024 are 14852, 20282, 26596, 34842 and 34294 respectively:

Further, Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India, is running the National Career Service (NCS) Portal which is a one-stop solution for providing career related services including jobs from private and government sectors, 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]. As on 28.02.2025, more than 4.7 crore vacancies have been mobilised on NCS Portal.
