GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2176
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.12.2021

INCREASE IN UNEMPLOYMENT

2176. SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE:

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

(a) whether as per data from Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy, unemployment in October, 2021 rose to 7.75 per cent from a three-month low of 6.86 per cent in September, 2021;
(b) whether rural unemployment jumped to 7.91 per cent from 6.06 per cent in the previous month; and
(c) whether the unemployment rate touched a historic 45-year high before COVID-19 hit, and if so, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) to (c): Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) does not release quarterly data on rural unemployment rate. However Annual rural unemployment rate for persons aged 15 years and above on usual status basis has declined from 5.3% (2017-18) to 5 % (2018-19) and further declined to 3.9%(2019-20).

Moreover, taking rural and urban unemployment rate together as per the results of Annual Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) conducted during 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20, the estimated Unemployment rate (UR) for persons aged 15 years and above on usual status basis has decreased from 6% to 5.8% and further decreased to 4.8% respectively.

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