

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.418
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06th FEBRUARY, 2025
UNEMPLOYMENT OF YOUTHS AGING 18 TO 35**

418. DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that more than 30 crore youth population between ages 18 and 35 are still unemployed or under employed, if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether Government has chalked out any comprehensive employment generation programme to solve the unemployment problem and job loss in the country, if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether Government had devised any new employment guarantee scheme to mitigate the unemployment problem in the country especially to leather and textile sectors; and**
- (d) the affirmative action taken by Government in this regard?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): 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 latest available Annual PLFS reports, the estimated Unemployment Rate (UR) on usual status for youth of age 15-29 years in the country has decreased from 17.8% in 2017-18 to 10.2% in 2023-24.

The KLEMS (K: Capital, L: Labour, E: Energy, M: Materials and S: Services) database published by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) provides employment estimates, including manufacturing sector, at all India level. As per the latest data of the database, employment in the manufacturing sector (including leather and textile sector) increased to 6.31 crore in year 2022-23 compared to 5.47 crore in 2017-18. Total increase in employment during 2017-18 to 2022-23 is about 84.78 lakh in the manufacturing sector.

Employment generation coupled with improving employability is the priority of the Government. Accordingly, the Government of India has taken various steps for generating employment in the country including leather and textile sector.

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), 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.

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.

One part of ELI scheme specially focuses on incentivizing employers engaged in manufacturing sector for formalization/creation of jobs. Union Budget 2025-26 also prioritizes employment-led development, with multiple initiatives announced across various sectors.
