

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2483
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH DECEMBER, 2023**

PRODUCTIVE EMPLOYMENT

2483. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN :

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

- (a) whether the Government initiated action to increase the employment opportunities and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Government analysed the reasons for increase of rate of unemployment and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) the reasons for low rate of productive employment;**
- (d) whether the Government proposes to implement programmes for adequate level of skill creation and training and if so, the details thereof;**
- (e) whether the Government conducted any survey for increasing rate of unemployment in the country and if so, the details thereof;**
- (f) the details of unemployment growth in the country during the last ten years, year-wise; and**
- (g) whether the Government initiated action for resolve the disparity in wages of male and female and if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (g): The data on Employment and Unemployment is collected through Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) which is conducted by the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MoSPI) since 2017-18. The survey period is July to June of every year. Prior to PLFS, Employment-Unemployment Survey (EUS) was conducted by the Labour Bureau, Ministry of Labour and Employment for the years 2010-11 to 2016-17. As per the results of these surveys, the Unemployment Rate (UR) and Worker Population Ratio (WPR) on usual status for persons of age 15 years and above in the country during last ten years are as follows:

Year	UR (in %)	WPR (in %)
EUS, Labour Bureau		
2012-13	4.0	51.0
2013-14	3.4	53.7
2015-16	3.7	50.5
2016-17	3.9	50.7
PLFS, MoSPI		
2017-18	6.0	46.8
2018-19	5.8	47.3
2019-20	4.8	50.9
2020-21	4.2	52.6
2021-22	4.1	52.9
2022-23	3.2	56.0

Source: PLFS, MoSPI and Labour Bureau

Results from both surveys viz. PLFS and Labour Bureau are not comparable due to different sampling methodology and coverage. PLFS covers seasonality of labour force as it is conducted during the period July to June (i.e. full year) whereas field work in Labour Bureau survey varied from 7 to 9 months and therefore, complete seasonality was not covered. Further, there are many other methodological differences between these two surveys.

The PLFS data indicates that the unemployment rate in the country has a declining trend and employment has an increasing trend.

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.

Investments in Infrastructure and productive capacity have a large multiplier impact on growth and employment. The budget of 2023-24 proposed to increase capital investment outlay steeply for the third year in a row by 33 per cent to Rs 10 lakh crore, which would be 3.3 per cent of GDP. This substantial increase in recent years is central to the government's efforts to enhance growth potential and job creation.

The Government of India has announced Aatmanirbhar Bharat package to provide stimulus to business and to mitigate the adverse impact of Covid-19. Under this package, the Government is providing fiscal stimulus of more than Rupees Twenty Seven lakh crore. This package comprises of various long term schemes/programmes/policies for making the country self-reliant and to create employment opportunities.

The Aatmanirbhar Bharat Rojgar Yojana (ABRY) was launched with effect from 1st October, 2020 to incentivise employers for creation of new employment and restoration of loss of employment during Covid-19 pandemic. The terminal date for registration of beneficiaries was 31.03.2022. Since inception of the scheme, till 12.11.2023, benefits have been provided to 60.48 lakhs beneficiaries under the scheme.

Government is implementing Prime Minister Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi Scheme) since June 01, 2020 to facilitate collateral free working capital loan to street vendors to restart their businesses, which were adversely impacted during the Covid-19 pandemic. As on 22.11.2023, 78.08 lakh loans have been sanctioned under the scheme.

PM Vishwakarma Scheme was launched on 17th September, 2023 to provide end-to-end support to artisans and crafts people of rural and urban areas across the country. The Scheme aims to strengthen and nurture Guru-Shishya parampara or family-based practice of traditional skills by Vishwakarmas working with their hands and tools. The prime focus of PM Vishwakarma is at improving the quality as well as the reach of products and services of artisans and craftspeople and to ensure that they are integrated with the domestic and global value chains.

Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) was launched by the Government for facilitating self-employment. Under PMMY, collateral free loans upto Rs. 10 lakh, are extended to micro/small business enterprises and to individuals to enable them to setup or expand their business activities. As on 17.11.2023, more than 44.41 crore loans amounting to Rs. 26.08 lakh crore have been sanctioned since launch of the scheme.

The Production Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes is being implemented by the Government with an outlay of Rs. 1.97 lakh crore, for a period of 5 years starting from 2021-22 which have potential for creating 60 lakh new jobs.

PM GatiShakti is a transformative approach for economic growth and sustainable development. The approach is driven by seven engines, namely, Roads, Railways, Airports, Ports, Mass Transport, Waterways and Logistics Infrastructure. This approach is powered by Clean Energy and Sabka Prayas leading to huge job and entrepreneurial opportunities for all.

The Government of India is encouraging various projects involving substantial investment and public expenditure on schemes like Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Pt. DeenDayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY), Rural Self Employment and Training Institutes (RSETIs) and Deen Dayal Antodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM) etc. for employment generation in the country.

There are two skill development programme for rural youth under DAY-NRLM, namely, Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) and Rural Self Employment Training institutes (RSETIs). Both these programmes are aimed at increasing employability of rural youth, either for wage employment or self employment.

Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship is implementing Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) under Skill India Mission for skill based training of the youth across the country (including youth belonging to rural areas under Short Term Training (STT) courses and Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL). Under PMKVY, STT is linked to placement, while RPL does not mandate placements as it recognizes the existing skills of candidate. As on 04.11.2023, 24.38 lakh candidates have been reported placed under the scheme.

Besides these initiatives, various flagship programmes of the Government such as Stand-up India, Digital India, etc. are also oriented towards generating employment opportunities in the country.

All these initiatives are expected to collectively generate employment in the medium to long term through multiplier-effects.

The Code on Wages 2019 has provisions that there shall be no discrimination in an establishment or any unit thereof among employees on the ground of gender in matters relating to wages by the same employer, in respect of the same work or work of similar nature done by any employee. Further, no employer shall make any discrimination on the ground of sex while recruiting any employee for the same work or work of similar nature in the conditions of employment, except where the employment of women in such work is prohibited or restricted by or under any law for the time being in force.
