3409. SHRI NAMA NAGESWARA RAO:

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

(a) whether the estimated unemployment rate has shot up to a 12 month high of 11.90 per cent in May, 2021 as revealed by Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy database on ‘Unemployment Rate in India’;
(b) if so, the details thereof along with the facts in this regard;
(c) whether the number of unemployed people in rural areas and urban areas has increased significantly in the past few years and if so, the details thereof;
(d) whether there has been a dip in the estimated labour participation rate also; and
(e) if so, the details thereof along with the corrective measures proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e): The data on employment/ unemployment is being collected through Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) conducted by National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) since 2017-18. As per the results of PLFS conducted during 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20, the unemployment rate for persons of 15 years and above on usual status in the country was as under:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLFS</th>
<th>Unemployment Rate (in %)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rural</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Year)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017-18</td>
<td>5.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018-19</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019-20</td>
<td>3.9</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
As per the results of PLFS conducted during 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20, the Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) for persons of 15 years and above on usual status in the country was 49.8%, 50.02% and 53.5% respectively.

Government of India has taken a number of initiatives for promoting employment generation in the country. Aatmanirbhar Bharat Rojgar Yojana (ABRY) has been launched w.e.f. 1st October, 2020 to incentivize employers for creation of new employment along with social security benefits and restoration of employment. The terminal date for registration of beneficiary under the scheme has been extended from 30th June, 2021 to 31st March, 2022.

PM- SVANidhi Scheme has facilitated collateral free working capital loan upto Rs.10,000/- for one-year tenure to street vendors, to help them resume their businesses during the post Covid period.

Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) is being implemented by the Government inter alia, 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.

In addition, to enhance the employment generation, Government is encouraging various projects involving substantial investment and through 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), DeendayalAntodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM) and Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) run by Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises, Ministry of Rural Development, Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs and Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE), respectively.

Besides these initiatives, flagship programmes of the Government such as Make in India, Digital India, Swachh Bharat Mission, Smart City Mission, Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation, Housing for All, Infrastructure development and Industrial corridors and Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme have the potential to generate productive employment opportunities.

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