

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4020
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.03.2022**

ASSISTANCE TO UNEMPLOYED DURING COVID-19

**†4020. SHRIMATI BHAVANA PUNDALIKRAO GAWALI:
SHRIMATI JYOTSNA CHARANDAS MAHANT:
SHRI KRUPAL BALAJI TUMANE:**

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

- (a) whether a large number of people have become unemployed during the COVID-19 pandemic in the country and if so, the details thereof, State-wise;**
- (b) whether the Government has any mechanism to monitor the loss of employment to the private and public sector employees in the country and if so, the details thereof and the details of the areas affected by the epidemic;**
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any study to deal with the trend of job loss in private and Government sectors during such a situation and if so, the details thereof along with the outcome thereof;**
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to provide assistance to the unemployed people during the period of the first and second wave of COVID-19;**
- (e) whether the Government has taken certain steps like promotion of existing employment projects and increase in public expenditure, if so, the details thereof and the State-wise details of the schemes under which the Government took steps to create the employment opportunities after the lockdown in different States including Chhattisgarh?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): Labour Bureau has been entrusted with the task of conducting the Quarterly Employment Survey (QES) as a component of All India Quarterly Establishment based Employment Survey (AQEES). QES report as on 1st April, 2021 was also designed to collect the information on the Covid-19 pandemic impact on the operational status and employment status of the establishments in the selected 9 sectors. The impact on male & female employees during lockdown period is given at Annexure.

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As per the Annual Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) conducted by National Statistical Office (NSO), the estimates of Unemployment rate (UR) (in percent) in usual status (ps+ss) for persons of 15 years and above has decreased from 5.8% in PLFS (2018-19) to 4.8% in PLFS (2019-20).

(d) & (e): Employment generation coupled with improving employability is the priority of the Government. Government has taken various steps for generating employment in the country like encouraging various projects involving substantial investment and increasing public expenditure on schemes like Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) and Deendayal Antodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM) run by Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises, Ministry of Rural Development and Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs, respectively.

Government is providing fiscal stimulus of more than Rs. Twenty seven lakh crore as part of the Aatmanirbhar Bharat financial Package comprising of various long term schemes/ programmes/ policies for making the country self-reliant and to create employment opportunities.

Aatmanirbhar Bharat Rojgar Yojana (ABRY) was launched with effect from 1st October, 2020 as part of Atmanirbhar Bharat package 3.0 to incentivize employers for creation of new employment along with social security benefits and restoration of loss of employment during Covid-19 pandemic. This scheme being implemented through Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO), seeks to reduce the financial burden of the employers and encourages them to hire more workers. The terminal date for registration of beneficiaries has been extended from 30.06.2021 to 31.03.2022.

Prime Minister Street Vendor's Atma Nirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) Scheme was launched on June 01, 2020 to provide working capital loan to Street Vendors, vending in urban areas, to resume their businesses.

Under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY), Government of India has contributed both 12% employer's share and 12% employee's share under Employees Provident Fund (EPF), totalling 24% of the wage for the wage month from March to August, 2020 for the establishments having up to 100 employees with 90% of such employees earning less than Rs. 15000/-.

Government had launched the Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan (GKRA) of 125 days on 20th June, 2020 to boost employment and livelihood opportunities for returnee migrant workers and similarly affected persons including youth in rural areas, in 116 selected districts across 6 States of Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

The unemployment benefit under the Atal Beemit Vyakti Kalyan Yojana being implemented by the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) has been enhanced to 50% from 25% of the average wage, payable upto 90 days, along with relaxation of eligibility conditions to claim the benefit.

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.

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

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) to (c) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4020 for 28.03.2022 raised by Shrimati Bhavana Pundalikrao Gawali and others.

Sector-wise Impact on Number of Employees during Lockdown Period (25th March, 2020 to 30th June, 2020)

Sl. No.	Sectors	Number of Employees (in Lakhs)			
		Prior to Lockdown (before 25 th March, 2020)		As on 1 st July, 2020	
		Male	Female	Male	Female
1.	Manufacturing	98.7	26.7	87.9	23.3
2.	Construction	5.8	1.8	5.1	1.5
3.	Trade	16.1	4.5	14.8	4
4.	Transport	11.3	1.9	11.1	1.9
5.	Education	38.2	29.5	36.8	28.1
6.	Health	15	10.6	14.8	10.1
7.	Accommodation & Restaurants	7	1.9	6.2	1.7
8.	IT/BPOs	13.6	6.3	12.8	6.1
9.	Financial Services	11.5	5.9	11.3	5.7
Total		217.8	90.0	201.5	83.3

Note: "The number in the 'Total' row also take into account the 66 establishments found during the survey which belong to the sectors other than the nine selected sectors".
