

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 33
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.07.2022**

PEOPLE ENGAGED IN UNORGANIZED SECTOR

†33. SHRI DHARAMBIR SINGH:

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

- (a) the data of people engaged in unorganized sector available with the Government and the steps being taken by the Government to regulate unorganized labour sector in the country particularly in Haryana;**
- (b) whether any data has been compiled by the Government in order to ascertain the number of persons who lost their jobs during Covid pandemic period from year 2019 to 2021 and whether any steps have been taken for the welfare and rehabilitation of the people who lost their jobs in unorganized sector;**
- (c) whether any policy to review retrenchment laws for labourers and employees has been devised by the Government in view of the pandemic; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

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

(a): The Government has launched e-Shram portal in August, 2021 with an objective to create National Database of unorganised workers and to facilitate delivery of Social Security Schemes/ Welfare Schemes to the unorganised workers. As on 13.07.2022, more than 27.96 crore unorganised workers have been registered on e-Shram Portal. Labour is in the Concurrent List of the Constitution and the Central Government and State Governments as an appropriate Government administer and regulate the labour laws, such as, the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 in their respective sphere.

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(b): The data on Employment and Unemployment is collected through Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) conducted by the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MoSPI) since 2017-18. The survey period of PLFS is July to June. As per the available Annual PLFS Reports, the year-wise estimated Worker Population Ratio (WPR), and Unemployment Rate (UR) on usual status for persons of age 15 years and above during 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 are given below:

(in %)

Years	WPR	UR
2018-19	47.3	5.8
2019-20	50.9	4.8
2020-21	52.6	4.2

Source : PLFS, MoSPI

The data in the above table indicates that Worker Population Ratio increased and on the other hand Unemployment Rate declined during 2018-19 to 2020-21.

The Government 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) has been launched with effect from 1st October, 2020 to incentivize 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. As on 13.07.2022 benefits have been provided to 59.54 lakh beneficiaries out of which 53.23 lakh beneficiaries have joined as new joinees.

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 July 11, 2022, 33.34 lakh loans amounting to ₹3,615 Crore have been disbursed to 30.26 lakh beneficiaries under the scheme.

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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 upto 100 employees with 90% of such employees earning less than Rs. 15000/-. This has helped in providing employment in EPFO registered establishments during post Covid period.

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) was enhanced to 50% from 25% of the average wage, payable upto 90 days, alongwith relaxation of eligibility conditions to claim the benefit.

Further, Budget 2021-22 launched Production Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes, with an outlay of Rs. 1.97 lakh crore, for a period of 5 years starting from 2021-22. The PLI Schemes being implemented by the Government have potential for creating 60 lakh new jobs. The PLI scheme is implemented by the concerned Ministries/Departments within the overall financial limits prescribed. The guidelines/directions of PLI scheme are issued by the respective Ministries/Departments.

Besides these initiatives, various flagship programmes of the Government such as Make in India, Start-up India, Digital India, Smart City Mission, Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation, Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY), Deen Dayal Antodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM) etc. are also oriented towards generating employment opportunities. Further, PM GatiShakti is a transformative approach of Government of India which is powered by Clean Energy and Sabka Prayas leading to huge job and entrepreneurial opportunities for all.

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(c) & (d): All the existing Central Labour Laws including the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 relating to retrenchment have been reviewed and the Industrial Relations Code, 2020, has been passed by the Parliament. The Industrial Relations Code, 2020, inter alia, includes provisions relating to retrenchment, lay-off, closure, severance pay, and notice period and also a new provisions relating to Re-skilling Fund.
