

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1118
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10TH FEBRUARY, 2025**

EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF RESERVED CATEGORIES

1118. SHRI DEVESH SHAKYA:

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

- (a) whether there is a huge increase in the number of urban and rural unemployed persons in the country during the last ten years and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) the details of numerical ratio of unemployment among the Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), Other Backward Classes (OBCs) and the Economically Weaker Sections (EWSs) in the State of Uttar Pradesh during the last ten years;**
- (c) the details of steps taken by the Government to eliminate unemployment given the said ratio;**
- (d) the measures being undertaken by the Government to expedite the process of recruitment given the inequality in the avenues of employment; and**
- (e) whether there exists any policy in the Government departments to deal with the issue of unemployment, if so, the details thereof and if not, the time by which it is likely to be introduced?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e): The data on Employment and Unemployment is collected through Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) which is conducted by the 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 persons of age 15 years and above has declined from 5.3% to 2.5% in rural area and from 7.7% to 5.1% in urban areas during the years 2017-18 to 2023-24.

As per latest PLFS report, Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR), Worker Population Ratio (WPR) indicating employment and Unemployment Rate (UR) on usual status including in the State of Uttar Pradesh for different social groups i.e. Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs) and Other Backward Classes (OBCs), are as follows:

in (%)

Social Group	Survey Period					
	2017-18			2023-24		
	LFPR	WPR	UR	LFPR	WPR	UR
SC	37.6	35.2	6.3	45.1	43.6	3.3
ST	41.8	40.0	4.3	53.0	52.0	1.9
OBC	36.2	34.1	6.0	44.4	43.0	3.1

Above table indicates that for different social groups LFPR and WPR has increased during the years 2017-18 to 2023-24, while UR has decreased during the same period.

In so far as the employment opportunities in the Central Government is concerned, reservation is provided to Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), Other Backward Classes (OBCs) and Economically Weaker Sections EWS @ 15%, 7.5%, 27% and 10% respectively in civil posts and services to be filled by direct recruitment on all India basis by open competition. As regards the vacant posts in the Government, it is stated that occurrence and filling up of vacant posts, including reserved category vacancies in various Ministries/ Departments is a continuous process.

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.

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India is striving to uplift and empower disadvantaged and marginalized sections of the society, particularly the SC and OBC Community. A first of its kind, Venture Capital Fund for Scheduled Castes (VCF-SC) was launched by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, in 2014-2015. A similar scheme for backward classes (VCF-BC) was launched in 2017-2018. Financial support from Rs 10 lakh to Rs 15 Crores is provided under VCF-SC and VCF-BC at coupon rate of 4% and 6% respectively. The scheme is applicable PAN India.

The schemes inter-alia, aim to provide concessional finance to Schedule Caste and Backward Classes entrepreneurs, who will create wealth and value for society and at the same time will promote their profitable businesses, which also enhances direct and indirect employment generation for these communities.

Ministry of Labour and Employment is also implementing the “Welfare of SC/ST jobseekers Scheme” through the network of 25 National Career Service Centres for SC/ST (NCSC-SC/STs) across the country to enhance the employability of SC/ST jobseekers through pre recruitment training, vocational guidance, career counselling and computer training etc. with a view to prepare them to meet the demands of the labour market.

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 Textile, 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), Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY), Rural Self Employment and Training Institutes (RSETIs), Deen Dayal Antodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM), Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY), etc. including increase in capital expenditure 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
