

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2672  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2025**

**JOB SECURITY IN KERALA**

**2672. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:**

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

- (a) the current status of unemployment rates in Kerala and the steps taken by the Government to address job scarcity, particularly among the youth and educated workforce;**
- (b) the details of pending ESI and EPF claims in Kerala, including the number of unresolved cases and the reasons for delays in processing;**
- (c) whether the Government has any plans to upgrade Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) hospitals in Kerala into super-specialty hospitals or medical colleges to provide better healthcare for workers, if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) the details of the total number of migrant workers in Kerala and the measures taken to ensure their social security, working conditions, insurance and wage protection; and**
- (e) whether the Government has taken any initiatives to revive traditional industries such as coir, cashew and handloom, which are major employment providers in Kerala and if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

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

**(a) to (e): The official 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 data available in latest Annual PLFS report, the estimated Unemployment Rate (UR) on usual status for persons of age 15 years and above in Kerala has decreased from 11.4% in 2017-18 to 7.2% in 2023-24.**

**Employment generation coupled with improving employability of all including youth and educated workforce is a priority of Government and is a multi-stakeholder initiative. 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 Textiles, 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), Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY), Rural Self Employment and Training Institutes (RSETIs), Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM), Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY), Stand-Up India, Startup India, National Handicrafts Development Programme etc., which, along with increase in capital expenditure, seeks 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](https://dge.gov.in/dge/schemes_programmes).**

**Under the Government of India's Skill India Mission (SIM), the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) delivers skill, re-skill and up-skill training through an extensive network of skill development centres/ institutes etc. under various schemes across the country including the State of Kerala. The SIM aims at enabling youth of India to get future ready, equipped with industry relevant skills.**

**Further, Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India, is running the National Career Service (NCS) Portal which is a one-stop solution for providing career related services including jobs from private and government sectors, information on online & offline job fairs, job search & matching, career counselling, vocational guidance, information on skill development courses, skill/training programmes etc. through a digital platform [[www.ncs.gov.in](http://www.ncs.gov.in)].**

**The receipt of the ESIC claims and their settlement is a continuous process. During the year 2023-24, 2,96,535 number of Cash Benefit Payments have been disbursed in the State of Kerala. However, only 2550 number of benefit claims are to be settled as on 28.02.2025 in the State of Kerala because of non-availability of certain documents viz. non - submission of claims or Life Certificate or Bank Account details by the Insured Persons, non-submission of Returns of Contribution by Employers, etc.**

**During Financial Year 2024-25, a total of 14,48,174 EPF claims have been received by the 6 Regional Offices in Kerala Zone, out of which 16,487 claims are pending as on 12.03.2025, constituting 1.14% of total claims. Further, out of these, only 1,792 EPF claims are pending for more than 20 days due lack of required documents.**

**Setting up and upgradation of bed strength of ESI Hospital is an ongoing process.**

**ESI Corporation has accorded 'in-principle' approval for setting up of two new 100 bedded ESI hospitals i.e. one each at Perambavoor (District: Ernakulam) and at Kattappana (District: Idukki) based on the request received from State Government of Kerala in order to improve delivery of medical services to ESI beneficiaries. ESI Corporation has given approval for upgradation of ESIC Hospital, Udyogmandal, Dist. Ernakulam from 100 to 150 beds.**

**Further, super speciality services like Urology, Cardiology, Nephrology, Oncology, Paediatric Surgery, Gastroenterology, Endocrinology, Rheumatology, Neurology etc. are provided by ESIC hospitals in Kerala viz Asramam, Udyogmandal and Ezhukone. Services which are not available in-house are provided through tie-up hospitals.**

**In order to safeguard the interests of the migrant workers the Central Government had enacted the Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979. This Act has now been subsumed in the Occupational Safety, Health and the Working Conditions (OSH) Code. The OSH Code provides for decent working conditions, minimum wages, grievance redressal mechanisms, protection from abuse and exploitation, enhancement of skills and social security to all categories of workers including migrant workers.**

**Ministry of Labour & Employment has launched on 26<sup>th</sup> August, 2021 the e-Shram portal which is a National Database of the Unorganised Workers, including migrant workers, seeded with Aadhaar. The portal has been made available to the States/UTs for registration of various categories of unorganized workers on e-Shram portal. As on 04.03.2025, over 30.68 crore unorganized workers, including migrant workers, are registered on e-Shram.**

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