

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3831
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.03.2025**

EMPLOYMENT AND SKILL DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

3831. SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR:

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

- (a) whether specific measures are being implemented by the Union Government to ensure effective utilization of funds;**
- (b) whether significant increase in the budget allocation for FY 2025-26 has been observed;**
- (c) whether underutilization was observed in previous years, if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether concrete targets have been set for job creation across various sectors with the doubling of the allocation for the Employment Linked Initiatives Scheme (ELI) to 20,000 crore and the manner in which the impact of these targets be measured;**
- (e) whether a specific timeline has been established for rolling out identity cards, e-Shram registration and healthcare coverage under PM Jan Arogya Yojana for the estimated 1 crore gig workers considering the Government's focus on extending social security benefits to gig workers;**
- (f) whether the Government has discontinued the Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA); and**
- (g) if so, whether alternative programmes are being implemented to address digital literacy gaps in rural India and ensure digital inclusion for underserved populations and if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

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

(a): Yes, Government has implemented various measures through Treasury Single Account (TSA), Central Nodal Agency (CNA)/ State Nodal Agency (SNA) through which real time monitoring is possible with help of various reports generated. Additionally,

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instructions have been issued from time to time to the concerned division of the Ministry of Labour & Employment to ensure realistic estimation of Budget, full utilization of funds allocated to them by fixing monthly and quarterly targets. The expenditure under all schemes is monitored regularly.

(b): For the financial year 2025-26, the Ministry of Finance has allocated Rs. 32,646.19 crore for the Ministry of Labour & Employment, representing an increase of Rs. 10,114.72 crore (44.89%) compared to the previous year's Budget Estimate. This increase in allocation is mainly under the Employment Linked Incentive (ELI) Scheme, for which the budgetary allocation has been doubled from ₹10,000 crore to ₹20,000 crore.

(c): The Budget estimates (BE), Revised Estimate (RE) and Actual Expenditure (AE) figures for the Ministry during the last three fiscal are as follows:

(Rs. in Crores)

S. No.	Year	BE	RE	AE	Shortfall/Excess Expenditure w.r.t. RE
1	2021-22	13306.50	14248.72	24036.32	9787.60(+)*
2	2022-23	16893.68	16117.65	14800.61	1317.04(-)
3	2023-24	13221.73	12521.06	11539.62	981.44(-)

* Supplementary grant of Rs. 11211.97 crore was provided.

(d): In Union Budget 2024-25, the Government has announced Employment Linked Incentive Scheme as part of "Prime Minister's Package on Employment and Skilling" for more than 2 crore beneficiaries with a total outlay of Rs. 1,07,000/- Cr to stimulate employment generation, enhance employability and ensure social security for the workforce. The Scheme incentivizes employers and employees and focuses on First-Time employees in the formal sector. As per the Budget announcement, the period of enrollment under the proposed Scheme is two years. The First-Timers/ Rejoiners with salary up to Rs. One lakh per month will be eligible based on their enrolment in EPFO.

A number of stakeholder consultations have been held at the national and regional level to seek suggestions on the scheme design. An effective outreach strategy has been drawn up.

(e): Necessary approvals and operational preparations for rolling out the scheme are being finalized. No specific date has been fixed for the launch of the scheme.

(f) & (g): The Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA) was initiated to reach digital literacy in 6 crore rural households (one person per household) nationwide. As against 6 crore, 6.39 crore individuals were trained across the country.

The National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) conducted the 'Comprehensive Annual Modular Survey' (CAMS) in its 79th round (July, 2022 to June, 2023). As per the survey, among the persons aged 15-24 years, around 78.4 percent reported execution of skill of 'sending messages (e.g., e-mail, messaging service, SMS) with attached files (e.g., documents, pictures, video)'. Further, about 94.2 percent of rural households and about 97.1 percent of urban households possess telephone and/or mobile phone. From the said report, given the significant rise in smart-phone usage, internet penetration, and digital engagement in rural areas, the objectives of the scheme were successfully achieved. The training & certification under the scheme was officially concluded on March 31st, 2024.
