

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2893
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.08.2025**

UNEMPLOYMENT IN THE COUNTRY

2893. SHRI RAJEEV RAI:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of persons in the labour force both rural and urban areas during the last three years, year wise;**
- (b) the number of persons unemployed, willing to work and active job seekers enrolled with employment exchanges since 2016 for rural and urban areas, year-wise;**
- (c) the number of persons unemployed, willing to work but inactive in seeking jobs in rural and urban areas for the last three years, year-wise;**
- (d) the number of underemployed, marginally attached and discouraged workers in rural and urban areas for last three years therein, year-wise; and**
- (e) the number of persons employed, full-time, part-time, separately for the last three years for rural and urban areas, year-wise?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION; MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE [RAO INDERJIT SINGH]

(a) to (e): National Statistics Office (NSO) under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) has been conducting Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) since 2017 to estimate various indicators related to employment and unemployment situation in the country. PLFS gives estimates of key employment and

unemployment indicators such as Labour Force Participation Rates (LFPR), Worker Population Ratio (WPR), Unemployment Rate (UR), etc.

From the PLFS conducted during the periods July 2021- June 2022 to July 2023 - June 2024, the estimates of LFPR in usual status (ps+ss) for both rural and urban areas are given in Table below:

Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) (in per cent) according to usual status (ps+ss) in rural and urban areas from PLFS 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24		
All-India		
survey (year)	LFPR (in percent) according to usual status (ps+ss) in	
	Rural areas	Urban areas
PLFS, 2021-22	42.2	39.0
PLFS, 2022-23	43.4	39.8
PLFS, 2023-24	46.8	41.0
<i>Source: Annual Report, PLFS, 2023-24</i>		
<i>Note: 2023-24 refers to the period July 2023 – June 2024 likewise for 2022-23 and 2021-22</i>		

From the PLFS conducted during the periods July 2017- June 2018 to July 2023 - June 2024, the estimates of UR in usual status (ps+ss) for both rural and urban areas are given in Table below:

Unemployment Rate (UR) (in per cent) according to usual status (ps+ss) in rural and urban areas from PLFS		
All-India		
survey (year)	UR (in per cent) according to usual status (ps+ss) in	
	Rural areas	Urban areas
PLFS, 2017-18	5.3	7.8
PLFS, 2018-19	5.0	7.7
PLFS, 2019-20	4.0	7.0
PLFS, 2020-21	3.3	6.7
PLFS, 2021-22	3.3	6.3
PLFS, 2022-23	2.4	5.4
PLFS, 2023-24	2.5	5.1
<i>Source: Annual Report, PLFS, 2023-24</i>		
<i>Note: 2023-24 refers to the period July 2023 – June 2024 likewise for 2022-23, 2021-22, 2020-21, 2019-20, 2018-19 and 2017-18</i>		

From the PLFS conducted during the periods July 2021- June 2022 to July 2023 - June 2024, the estimates of WPR in usual status (ps+ss)

for both rural and urban areas and Percentage distribution of workers in usual status (ps+ss) by status in employment in both rural and urban areas are given in Tables below:

Worker Population Ratio (WPR) (in per cent) according to usual status (ps+ss) in rural and urban areas from PLFS 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24		
All-India		
survey (year)	WPR (in percent) according to usual status (ps+ss) in	
	Rural areas	Urban areas
PLFS, 2021-22	40.8	36.6
PLFS, 2022-23	42.3	37.7
PLFS, 2023-24	45.6	38.9
Source: Annual Report, PLFS, 2023-24		
Note: 2023-24 refers to the period July 2023 – June 2024 likewise for 2022-23 and 2021-22		

Percentage distribution of workers in usual status (ps+ss) by status in employment in both rural and urban areas from PLFS 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24			
All-India			
survey (year)	Percentage distribution of workers in usual status (ps+ss) among rural areas in		
	Self employed	Regular wage / salary	Casual Labour
PLFS, 2021-22	61.5	12.5	25.9
PLFS, 2022-23	63.0	12.2	24.8
PLFS, 2023-24	64.7	12.7	22.5
survey (year)	Percentage distribution of workers in usual status (ps+ss) among urban areas in		
	Self employed	Regular wage / salary	Casual Labour
PLFS, 2021-22	39.5	47.1	13.4
PLFS, 2022-23	39.6	48.0	12.4
PLFS, 2023-24	40.4	47.5	12.1
Source: Annual Report, PLFS, 2023-24			
Note: 2023-24 refers to the period July 2023 – June 2024 likewise for 2022-23 and 2021-22			
