

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 122
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01ST DECEMBER, 2025**

RISING UNEMPLOYMENT AND POLICY RESPONSE

122. SHRI ABHISHEK BANERJEE:

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

- (a) whether the Government has any data on unemployment rates in the country during the last five years;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof, rural and urban areas, gender, youth and State-wise and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- (c) whether there has been a significant rise in unemployment rate among women and youth, if so, the reasons identified and supporting details thereof;**
- (d) the details of the immediate employment generation programmes being implemented by the Government to address the surge in female and youth unemployment; and**
- (e) the details of the progress made by the Government under the Schemes such as Skill India Mission, Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) and other vocational training initiatives towards upskilling or reskilling workers along with beneficiary data for the last five years in the country, State/UT-wise?**

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 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 age 15 years and above was 4.8% in 2019-20, 4.2% in 2020-21, 4.1% in 2021-22 and 3.2% in 2022-23 and 2023-24 and for the youth of age 15-29 was 15.0% in 2019-20, 12.9% in 2020-21, 12.4% in 2021-22, 10.0% in 2022-23 and 10.2% in 2023-24.

Further, as per the latest available Annual PLFS Reports, the estimated Unemployment Rate (UR) on usual status for persons of age 15 years and above disaggregated by rural and urban areas and gender-wise during the years 2019-20 to 2023-24 are as follows:

Year	Rural		Urban	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
2019-20	4.5	2.6	6.4	8.9
2020-21	3.8	2.1	6.1	8.6
2021-22	3.8	2.1	5.8	7.9
2022-23	2.7	1.8	4.7	7.5
2023-24	2.7	2.1	4.4	7.1

Source: PLFS, MoSPI

The data indicates that the Unemployment rate (including women and youth), has decreased over the period. The State/UT-wise estimated Unemployment Rate (UR) on usual status are available at https://www.mospi.gov.in/download-reports?main_cat=ODU5&cat=All&sub_category=All

Employment generation coupled with improving employability (including for women and youth), is a priority of the Government. Accordingly, Government is implementing various employment generation schemes/programmes. These inter-alia include Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana- National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM), Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY), Rural Self Employment and Training Institutes (RSETIs), Deen Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY- NULM), PM Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi), Stand-up India Scheme, Start Up India , Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY), etc. The details of various employment generation schemes/programmes being implemented by the Government may be seen at https://dge.gov.in/dge/schemes_programmes.

Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has initiated 'FutureSkills PRIME' a programme for Re-skilling/Up-skilling of IT Manpower for Employability in 10 new/emerging technologies including Artificial Intelligence. Under this programme so far, 18.56 Lakh+ candidates have signed-up on the Future Skills PRIME Portal, out of which, 3.37 Lakhs+ candidates have completed their course.

To enhance the employability of female workers, the Government is providing training to them through a network of Women Industrial Training Institutes, National Vocational Training Institutes and Regional Vocational Training Institutes.

AICTE also offers meritorious women engineering students' scholarships such as PRAGATI and Saraswati, thereby fostering a supportive environment for women in these disciplines.

In addition to the above, Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE) has also launched AI Career for Women Initiative in April 2025 where over a period of two years, training and enabling economic opportunities for girls would be the focus of the programme.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing 'Palna' component under Mission Shakti for all States/UTs, under which providing day care facilities and protection of children is the main focus area. Under Palna, Ministry has extended free services of childcare through Anganwadi cum Creches (AWCC).

Government has also launched "NAVYA' (Nurturing Aspirations through Vocational Training for Young Adolescent Girls) with an aim to equip adolescent girls aged 16 to 18 years with vocational training mainly in non-traditional and emerging job roles.

In addition, the Government is implementing Employment Linked Incentive (ELI) Scheme named as the Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana to support employment generation, enhance employability and social security across all sectors, with special focus on the manufacturing sector. The scheme with an outlay of Rs 99,446 Crore aims to incentivize the creation of more than 3.5 Crore jobs in the country, over a period of 2 years.

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].

Government is also implementing Skill India Mission (SIM) to deliver skill, re-skill and up-skill training through an extensive network of skill development centres/ schools/ colleges /institutes etc. under various schemes, viz. Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS), National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) and Craftsmen Training Scheme (CTS) through Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) in the country. The SIM aims at enabling youth of India to get future ready, equipped with industry relevant skills.

The detailed progress of training provided under PMKVY in the country is available at <https://www.skillindiadigital.gov.in/pmkvy-dashboard>. As a result of the concerted effort of the Government, the percentage of persons in the age-group 15-29 who are vocationally trained (formal and informal) has increased from 7.1% in 2017-18 to 26.1% in 2023-24.

A number of protective provisions have been incorporated in the labour laws for equal opportunity and congenial work environment for women workers. The Code on Social Security, 2020 has the provisions for paid maternity leave of 26 weeks, provision for mandatory crèche facility in the establishments having 50 or more employees, etc.

Further, the Code on Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions (OSH), 2020 has the provisions that women shall be entitled to be employed in all establishments for all types of work and they may be employed, with their consent before 6 am and beyond 7 p.m. subject to such conditions relating to safety, holidays and working hours or any other conditions to be observed by the employer as may be prescribed by the appropriate Government.

The Union Budget (2024-25) announced setting up of working women hostels in collaboration with industry, and establishing crèches, for increasing participation of women in the workforce.
