GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2391 TO BE ANSWERED ON 15TH DECEMBER, 2025

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IN ASSAM

2391. SHRI K SUDHAKARAN:

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

- (a) the details of the current estimated overall unemployment rate in Assam according to the last two reporting periods of the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) and its comparison to the national average during the same periods;
- (b) the details of the estimated unemployment rate in percentage in Assam, specifically for the last available reporting period in rural and urban areas, gender and age-wise;
- (c) the details of the specific measures taken by the Government in collaboration with the Government of Assam to address the rising unemployment among women and the educated youth in the said State; and
- (d) whether the Government has initiated any specialised skill development or employment generation schemes tailored to the economic requirements and geographic constraints of the North Eastern Region and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): 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.

As per the latest Annual PLFS reports, the estimated Unemployment Rate (UR) on usual status for persons aged 15 years and above was 3.2% during 2022-23 and 2023-24. In the State of Assam, the corresponding UR was 1.7% in 2022-23 and 3.9% in 2023-24. During 2023-24, the UR was 3.6% and 3.5% for rural male and female whereas 5.7%, 11.8% for urban male and female respectively.

Age-wise details of the estimated Unemployment Rate (UR) on usual status are available in the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) reports, which may be accessed at https://www.mospi.gov.in/publications-reports.

Employment generation coupled with improving employability (including for women and educated youth of Assam) is a priority of the Government. Accordingly, Government is implementing various employment generation schemes across the country (including North Eastern Region). The details of various employment generation schemes/programmes being implemented by the Government may be seen at https://dge.gov.in/dge/schemes_programmes.

Government is 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 (including Assam) to get future ready, equipped with industry relevant skills.

Further, to facilitate credit access for the Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) & Micro Finance sectors in the North Eastern Region, the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (MDoNER) has been providing annual budgetary allocation to North Eastern Development Finance Corporation Ltd. (NEDFi), a Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) under administrative control of MDoNER, in the form of an interest free loan under the North East Enterprise Development Scheme (NEEDS) for the period 2021-22 to 2025-26, with a total allocation of Rs. 300 crore

The Prime Minister's Development Initiative for North Eastern Region (PM-DevINE) Scheme is a Central Sector initiative aimed at funding infrastructure, supporting need-based social development projects, enabling livelihood activities for youth and women, and addressing development gaps across various sectors in the North Eastern Region including Assam.

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]

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.

The Occupational Safety, Health & Working Conditions (OSH&WC) Code, 2020 permits the employment of women in all establishments and for all types of work. It further allows women, with their consent, to work between 7:00 pm and 6:00 am, subject to conditions relating to their safety, working hours, and holidays.

The Code also mandates that establishments must ensure adequate safeguards and protective measures before deploying women in any hazardous or dangerous processes.

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.
