

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 261
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02ND FEBRUARY, 2026**

UNEMPLOYMENT OF YOUTH

261. SHRI RAHUL GANDHI:

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

- (a) whether the Government acknowledges the existence of a graduate youth unemployment crisis in the country and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) the details of the total number of jobs created for youth under the age of 40 years during the last ten years, social category and gender, State/UT-wise;**
- (c) the details of the average time taken by graduates with undergraduate degrees and vocational training qualifications to secure employment;**
- (d) whether the Government has undertaken any review of the existing framework for measuring employment and unemployment in light of concerns raised by independent economists regarding the reliability and representativeness of official labour statistics; and**
- (e) 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 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 graduate persons of age 15 years and above has decreased from 17.2% in 2017-18 to 13.0% in 2023-24.

Further, as per the latest Annual PLFS reports, the estimated Worker Population Ratio (WPR) indicating employment (including graduates) on usual status for persons of age 15 years and above in the country was 46.8% in 2017-18, 47.3% in 2018-19, 50.9% in 2019-20, 52.6% in 2020-21, 52.9% in 2021-22, 56.0% in 2022-23 and 58.2% in 2023-24. State/UT-wise, gender-wise and category-wise information is available in the PLFS reports which may be seen at the website of MoSPI at <https://www.mospi.gov.in/publications-reports> .

Employment generation coupled with improving employability (including for youth) is a priority of the Government. Accordingly, Government is implementing various employment generation schemes/programmes in the country. 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 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.

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.

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].