

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 312
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02ND FEBRUARY, 2026**

STATUS OF EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN RURAL AREAS

312. DR. NISHIKANT DUBEY:

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

- (a) whether the Government has recently undertaken any survey/study regarding the employment opportunities in rural areas of the country;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the number of individuals who have migrated from rural areas to urban areas in search of employment during the last three years and the current-year, year and State/UT-wise, especially in Jharkhand;**
- (c) whether the Government has introduced any schemes/projects/initiatives for increasing employment opportunities in rural areas of the country and if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) the total number of beneficiaries of such schemes/projects/initiatives during the last three years and the current year, year and State/UT-wise;**
- (e) whether the Government has taken/proposes to take any steps for introduction of job-fairs, employment portals and other such events/programmes to provide jobs to youths in rural areas of the country; and**
- (f) if so, the details thereof, especially in Santhal Pargana of Jharkhand?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (f): The data on Employment and Unemployment is collected through Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) which is conducted by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) since 2017-18. The survey period is July to June every year.

As per the data available in latest Annual PLFS Reports, the estimated Worker Population Ratio (WPR), indicating employment, including rural areas, on usual status for persons of age 15 years and above during 2021-22 to 2023-24 were as follows:

(in %)		
Year	Rural	Total
2021-22	55.6	52.9
2022-23	59.4	56.0
2023-24	62.1	58.2

Source: PLFS, MoSPI

The above data indicates that the employment has increasing trend in the country.

The Ministry of Labour and Employment has launched eShram portal, on 26th August, 2021. It has been made available to the States/UTs for registration of unorganised workers, including migrant workers, on eShram portal. It also allows an unorganised worker to register on the portal on a self-declaration basis. The main objective of the eShram portal is to create a national database of unorganized workers, including migrant workers, seeded with Aadhaar, and facilitate registration under existing Social Security and Welfare Schemes to such workers. As on 28.01.2026, 31.48 crores workers have registered on this portal.

Employment generation coupled with improving employability of the youth is a priority of the Government. Accordingly, Government is implementing various employment generation schemes/ programmes in the country including rural areas. The details of various employment generation schemes/programmes being implemented by the Government may be seen at https://dge.gov.in/dge/schemes_programmes.

Job fair is one of the steps towards fulfilment of the Commitment of the Government to accord highest priority to employment generation amongst youth. Regular Job Fairs are being organized under various schemes by the State Governments/ Ministries/ Departments.

Job fairs are primarily intended to facilitate linkage between jobseekers and local employers, so as to address local employment requirements. Such fairs focus on employment opportunities aligned with local labour market demand. Till date, a total of 2359 job fairs have been organized in Jharkhand under the National Career Service (NCS) project, in which 9141 employers have participated. Notifying final hiring figures is not a mandatory requirement on NCS portal.

Additionally, The 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 job search & matching, information on online & offline job fairs, career counselling, vocational guidance, information on skill development courses, skill/training programmes etc. through a digital platform [www.ncs.gov.in].

National Career Service (NCS) portal has also been integrated with e-Shram portal, which is a database of 31.48 crore unorganized workers. Through this integration, e-Shram registrants can avail all services available on the NCS portal.

Ministry has entered into strategic Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with private partners such as job portals, placement organizations and reputed institutions in order to enhance the visibility and access to the job opportunities from the reputed and top companies. These MoUs have been instrumental in expanding outreach and providing greater access to diverse employment opportunities for youth across the country including Jharkhand.

Further, under the NCS project, in collaboration with States/Institutions, Government has approved 407 Model Career Centres (MCCs) across the country. These centres connect local youth and other job-seekers with job opportunities through Job fairs, NCS portal as well as career counselling and training.
