

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 442  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02<sup>ND</sup> FEBRUARY, 2026**

**STATUS OF EMPLOYMENT**

**442. SHRI JANARDAN SINGH SIGRIWAL:**

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

- (a) the details of the recent data on the total number of unemployed individuals in the country, State/UT and age group-wise;**
- (b) the details of the steps taken by the Government to address the increase in the unemployment rate;**
- (c) the details of the initiatives taken by the Government to enhance skill development and vocational training to address the skill gap contributing to unemployment;**
- (d) the details of the measures taken/being taken by the Government to support Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to generate employment opportunities;**
- (e) whether the Government has conducted any study to assess the economic impact of the rising unemployment rate on the overall economy and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (f) whether the Government has any long-term strategies to ensure sustainable employment growth to reduce unemployment rate and if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

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

**(a) to (f): 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 of age 15 years and above has decreased from 6.0% in 2017-18 to 3.2% in 2023-24. State/UT-wise and age-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](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.**

**The Government of India, through the Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME), implements various schemes for the promotion and development of MSMEs across the country. These schemes/programmes include Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), Credit Guarantee Scheme for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE), Micro and Small Enterprises-Cluster Development Programme (MSE-CDP), Entrepreneurship Skill Development Programme (ESDP), Procurement and Marketing Support Scheme (PMSS), Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP), International Cooperation scheme, Tool Rooms, Technology Centre System Programme (TCSP), National SC/ST Hub (NSSH), MSME Champions, PM Vishwakarma etc.**

**Further, Government has taken a number of initiatives to support the MSME Sector across the country. Some of these are the following:**

- Registration of MSMEs through "Udyam Registration" for Ease of Doing Business.**
- Integration of Udyam Portal and National Career Service (NCS) of Ministry of Labour & Employment, as an outcome registered MSMEs are able to search for jobseekers on NCS.**
- Launch of Udyam Assist Platform (UAP) to bring the Informal Micro Enterprises (IMEs) under the formal ambit for availing the benefit under Priority Sector Lending (PSL).**

**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](http://www.ncs.gov.in)].**

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