GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *103 TO BE ANSWERED ON 11TH FEBRUARY, 2019

NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT POLICY

*103. COL. SONARAM CHOUDHARY:

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

- (a) whether the number of unemployed persons is increasing in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is taking any concrete steps to formulate the National Employment Policy in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *103 DUE FOR REPLY ON 11-02-2019 BY COL. SONARAM CHOUDHARY REGARDING NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT POLICY.

(a): As per the results of available labour force surveys on Employment-Unemployment conducted by Labour Bureau, Ministry of Labour and Employment, the estimated unemployment rate for persons aged 15 years and above on Usual Principal & Subsidiary Status UPSS (PS+SS)approach basis in the country in 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2015-16 was 4.0%, 3.4% and 3.7% respectively.

To generate employment and improve employability, the Government of India has taken various steps like encouraging private sector of economy, fast tracking various projects involving substantial investment and increasing public expenditure on schemes like Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) run by Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGA), Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) scheme run by Ministry of Rural Development and Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana- National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM) run by Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs.

Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) has also been initiated by Government inter alia for facilitating self-employment. Under PMMY collateral free loans upto Rs. 10 lakh, are extended to small/micro business enterprises and to individuals to enable them to setup or expand their business activities. Till 25th January, 2019, total 15.59 crore loans have been sanctioned under the scheme.

Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojana (PMRPY) has been launched by the Ministry of Labour and Employment for incentivising employers for promoting employment generation. Under this scheme, Government is paying entire employer's contribution (12% or as admissible) towards EPF and EPS for all eligible new employees for all sectors for 3 years. Till 4th February, 2019, the scheme covered 1.31 lakhs establishments and 1.06 crores beneficiaries.

(b) & (d): The Government of India is in the process of evolving a comprehensive National Employment Policy. The proposed policy inter-alia purports to address macroeconomic policy issues, sectoral policy issues, Labour policy, micro and small enterprises' issues, skill development issues, issues relating to women and vulnerable workers and incorporate suggestions for improving employment opportunities. Consultations have been held with various stakeholders like Ministries, State Governments, Trade Unions, Industry Associations etc. for inputs to the Policy.