

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2009
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10TH JULY, 2019**

HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

2009. SHRI SANJAY SETH:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that according to data compiled by the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE), the unemployment rate rose to 7.2 per cent coupled with a significant decline in labour participation rate in February, 2019, the worst in 28 months;**
- (b) how many job opportunities have been generated and in which sector since 8 November, 2016 to lower the unemployment rate; and**
- (c) what steps are being taken to resolve the unemployment crisis?**

ANSWER

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

(a): As per the results of Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) conducted by National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation during 2017-18, the estimated unemployment rate on usual status (principal status + subsidiary status) basis for persons of age 15 years and above in the country was 6.0%.

(b) & (c): Employment generation coupled with improving employability is the priority of the Government. Government has taken various steps for generating employment in the country like encouraging private sector of economy, fast-tracking various projects involving substantial investment and increasing public expenditure on schemes such as Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) and Deendyal Antodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM). Details of the employment generated through these schemes/ programmesto the extent available are given below:

Employment Generated				
Schemes/Year	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Estimated employment generated under PMEGP (in lakh)	3.23	4.08	3.87	5.87 (till 31-03-2019)
Persondays Generated under MGNREGS (in crore)	235.14	235.64	233.74	267.9 (till May, 2019)
Candidates placed under DDU-GKY (in lakh)	1.09	1.48	0.76	1.36 (till May, 2019)
Placement under DAY-NULM (in lakh)	0.34	1.52	1.15	1.63 (till 18-06-2019)

Source: Concerned Ministry

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 31-05-2019, the scheme has covered 1,51,579 establishments and 1.21 crore beneficiaries.

Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) has been initiated by the Government inter alia for facilitating self-employment. Under PMMY collateral free loans upto Rs. 10 lakh, are extended to micro/small business enterprises and to individuals to enable them to setup or expand their business activities. Upto 31st March, 2019, 18.26 crore loans were sanctioned under the scheme.

Government has implemented the National Career Service (NCS) Project which comprises a digital portal that provides a nation-wide online platform for the job seekers and employers for job-matching in a dynamic, efficient and responsive manner and has a repository of career content to job seekers.

Start-up India is a flagship initiative of the Government of India, intended to build a strong ecosystem that is conducive for the growth of start-up businesses, to drive sustainable economic growth and generate large scale employment opportunities.

Besides these initiatives, flagship programmes of the Government such as Make in India, Digital India, Swachh Bharat Mission, Smart City Mission, Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation, Housing for All, Infrastructure development and Industrial corridors have the potential to generate productive employment opportunities. Ministries/ Departments/ States run skill development schemes across various sectors to improve the employability of youth and also facilitate placements. Schemes such as the National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) wherein Government reimburses 25 percent of the stipend payable to apprentices also enhances employability of the youth to access employment.
