

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 261
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03RD FEBURARY, 2021

SALARIED UNEMPLOYMENT POST COVID-19

261. SMT. VANDANA CHAVAN:

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

- (a) The State/qualification/gender-wise details of salaried employees seeking job or are available for work from March to December, 2020;**
- (b) whether Government has provided any compensation for income lost through direct benefit transfers to salaried workers who lost their jobs during the COVID-19 pandemic;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- (d) the State/qualification/gender/sector-wise details of salaried workers who have received employment through the National Career Service (NCS); and**
- (e) the steps taken by Government to increase the number of jobs, employers and rate of job-matching through NCS since March, 2020?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): Annual Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) on employment and unemployment is conducted by National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation since 2017. The report is available on the website of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (<https://www.mospi.nic.in>).

Under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY), Government of India has contributed both 12% employer's share and 12% employee's share under Employees Provident Fund (EPF), totaling 24% of the wage for the wage month from March to August, 2020 for establishments having upto 100 employees with 90% of such employees earning less than Rs. 15000/-. Under the PMGKY scheme Rs 2567.66 crore was credited in EPF accounts of 38.82 lakhs eligible employees.

The unemployment benefit under the Atal Beemit Vyakti Kalyan Yojana being implemented by the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) has been enhanced to 50% from 25% of the average wage, payable upto 90 days, along with relaxation of eligibility conditions to claim the benefit.

Aatmanirbhar Bharat Rozgar Yojna (ABRY) Scheme has been launched with effect from 1st October 2020 to incentivize creation of new employment along with social security benefits and restoration of loss of employment during COVID-19 pandemic. This scheme reduces the financial burden of employers in various sectors/industries including MSME and encourages them to hire more workers. Under ABRY, the Government of India is providing both the employees' share (12% of wages) and employer's share (12% of wages) of contribution payable or only the employees' share, depending on employment strength of the EPFO registered establishments.

(d) & (e): 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 manner and has a repository of career content for job seekers.

Hiring tracking functionality is available on NCS, however it is not mandatory for employers to disclose hiring figures on the portal. Till date more than 80 lakhs vacancies have been mobilized through NCS portal.

NCS has taken various initiatives from March to December' 2020 to increase the employment opportunities for the youth.

NCS portal launched an online Job Fair module where the complete cycle of job posting to selection of candidate can be completed on the portal. A special link for Work from Home Jobs and Online Trainings was created on NCS portal home page to give direct access to jobseekers to these jobs. Facility for uploading video profile by job seeker has been provided on the NCS portal. On line soft skills training to enhance employability of job seekers has also been provided on the portal. All services on NCS are free of cost.
