

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2676  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2021**

**FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO JOB LOSERS DUE TO COVID-19**

**2676. SHRI M.V. SHREYAMS KUMAR:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the employment opportunities have decreased and the percentage of unemployment has increased in the country in the last one year, and if so, the reasons therefor;**
- (b) whether Government proposes to provide any kind of financial assistance to those who have become jobless during the second wave of COVID-19, if so, the details thereof; and**
- (d) the number of casual/contract employees retrenched from their jobs during this second wave of COVID-19 pandemic, State/UT-wise?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI RAMESWAR TELI)**

**(a) to (d): As per the results of Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) conducted by National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MOSPI) during 2018-19 and 2019-20, the estimated Unemployment rate (UR) and Worker Population Ratio (WPR) on usual status for 15 years and above is as follows:**

	<b>Unemployment Rate (UR) (in %)</b>	<b>Worker Population Ratio (WPR) (in %)</b>
<b>2018-19</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>47.3</b>
<b>2019-20</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>50.9</b>

**Government is providing fiscal stimulus of more than Rs. Twenty seven lakh crore as part of the Aatmanirbhar Bharat financial Package comprising various long term schemes/ programmes/ policies for making the country self-reliant and to create employment opportunities.**

**Aatmanirbhar Bharat Rojgar Yojana (ABRY) has been launched w.e.f. 1st October, 2020 to incentivize employers for creation of new employment along with social security benefits and restoration of employment. This scheme being implemented through EPFO seeks to reduce the financial burden of the employers and encourages them to hire more workers. The terminal date for registration of beneficiaries has been extended from 30.06.2021 to 31.03.2022.**

**Prime Minister Street Vendor's Atma Nirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) Scheme was launched on June 01, 2020 to provide working capital loan to Street Vendors, vending in urban areas, to resume their businesses, which were hurt adversely due to COVID-19 induced lockdown.**

**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 the establishments having upto 100 employees with 90% of such employees earning less than Rs. 15000/-.This has helped in protecting employment in EPFO registered establishments during post Covid period.**

**Government had launched the Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan (GKRA) of 125 days on 20th June, 2020 to boost employment and livelihood opportunities for returnee migrant workers and similarly affected persons including youth in rural areas, in 116 selected districts across 6 States of Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.**

**Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) is being implemented 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.**

**In addition, RBI and Government of India have introduced measures to infuse liquidity in the economy to sustain the market economy and raise the level of employment.**

**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 and Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme have the potential to generate productive and sustainable employment opportunities.**

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