

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.430
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16TH SEPTEMBER, 2020**

UNEMPLOYMENT ALLOWANCE TO UNEMPLOYED

430. SMT. PHULO DEVI NETAM:

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

- (a) the rate of unemployment in the country along with female/male-wise and rural/urban area-wise, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether it is a fact that the unemployment has increased rapidly during lockdown period, if so, the details thereof; and**
- (c) whether Government proposes to give unemployment allowance to unemployed separately, if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a): Annual Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) on employment and unemployment is conducted by National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. As per PLFS 2018-19, the estimated unemployment rate to the extent available based on such survey for persons of all ages on usual status (principal status + subsidiary status) basis in the country is given below:

Unemployment Rate			
Rural		Urban	
Male	Female	Male	Female
5.6%	3.5%	7.1%	9.9%

(b) & (c): The global spread of the corona virus (COVID-19) followed by lockdowns has affected economies across the globe including India. Covid-19 has resulted in large number of migrant workers going back to their native places. Government has announced relief package under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY) for the poor, so that they do not face difficulties in buying essential commodities and meeting essential needs. This included foodgrains, gas cylinders free of cost, ex-gratia payments directly in the accounts of beneficiaries, EPF contribution for employees working in certain establishments. Further the wage under MGNREGA has also been increased from Rs 182 per day to Rs 202 which has benefitted about 13.62 Crore families.

Government of India, under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Rozgar Abhyan (PMGKRA), has taken various initiatives to boost rural infrastructure & rural economy to provide local employment opportunities particularly to the migrant returnees. It covers 116 districts of 6 States with a resource envelope of Rs 50,000 crore and is being implemented in a mission mode campaign of 125 days through Ministry of Rural Development.

Government of India has launched PM- SVANidhi Scheme to facilitate collateral free working capital loan upto Rs.10,000/- of one-year tenure, to approximately, 50 lakh street vendors, to resume their businesses.

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, alongwith relaxation of eligibility conditions to claim the benefit.
