

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 760
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08TH FEBRUARY, 2024
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IN THE COUNTRY**

760. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR:

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

- (a) the details of fluctuations witnessed in unemployment rate during the last five years and the current unemployment rate in the country;**
- (b) the details of employment provided to the unemployed in the Government sector in the last five years;**
- (c) whether it is a fact that unemployment is continuously increasing in the country;**
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken to resolve it; and**
- (e) the details of unemployed people who became over aged due to lack of adequate opportunities and job scarcity in the last five years?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e): The data on Employment and Unemployment is collected through Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) which is conducted by the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MoSPI) since 2017-18. The survey period is July to June every year.

As per the latest available Annual PLFS Reports, the estimated Unemployment Rate (UR) on usual status for persons of age 15 years & above in the country during the period 2018-19 to 2022-23 are as follows:

Years	UR (in %)
2018-19	5.8
2019-20	4.8
2020-21	4.2
2021-22	4.1
2022-23	3.2

Source: PLFS, MoSPI

The data indicates that the unemployment rate has declining trend in the country over the years.

The estimated Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) on usual status for various age groups during the period 2018-19 to 2022-23 is as follows:

Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) (in %)			
Years	15-29 years	15 years & above	15-59 years
2018-19	38.1	50.2	53.6
2019-20	40.9	53.5	56.9
2020-21	41.4	54.9	58.4
2021-22	42.0	55.2	58.9
2022-23	44.5	57.9	61.6

Source: PLFS, MoSPI

The data shows an increasing trend in the labour force participation rate across all age-groups which indicates that more and more people are joining labour force over the years.

The estimated Worker Population Ratio (WPR), indicating employment, on usual status for various age groups during the period 2018-19 to 2022-23 is as follows:

Worker Population Ratio (WPR) (in %)			
Years	15-29 years	15 years & above	15-59 years
2018-19	31.5	47.3	50.3
2019-20	34.7	50.9	53.9
2020-21	36.1	52.6	55.7
2021-22	36.8	52.9	56.3
2022-23	40.1	56.0	59.5

Source: PLFS, MoSPI

The data indicates that the employment across all age-groups has an increasing trend over the years.

Creation and filling up of posts in the Central Government is responsibility of the concerned Ministry/ Department. Filling up of vacant posts in various Ministries/ Departments is a continuous process and efforts are made to fill up the vacancies as per the provisions of the relevant recruitment rules.

Employment generation coupled with improving employability is the priority of the Government. Accordingly, the Government of India has taken various steps for generating employment in the country, including rural youth.

The Government of India has announced Aatmanirbhar Bharat package to provide stimulus to business and to mitigate the adverse impact of Covid 19. Under this package, the Government has provided fiscal stimulus of more than Rupees Twenty Seven lakh crore. This package comprises of various long term schemes/ programmes/ policies for making the country self-reliant and to create employment opportunities.

The Aatmanirbhar Bharat Rojgar Yojana (ABRY) was launched with effect from 1st October, 2020 to incentivize employers for creation of new employment and restoration of loss of employment during Covid-19 pandemic. The terminal date for registration of beneficiaries was 31.03.2022. Since inception of the scheme, till 19.01.2024, benefits have been provided to 60.49 lakhs beneficiaries under the scheme.

The Government is implementing Prime Minister Street Vendor's AtmaNirbharNidhi (PM SVANidhi Scheme) since June 01, 2020 to facilitate collateral free working capital loan to street vendors to restart their businesses, which were adversely impacted during the Covid-19 pandemic. As on 31.01.2024, 83.67 lakh loans have been sanctioned under the scheme.

Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) was launched by the Government 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 26.01.2024, 46.16 crore loans were sanctioned under the scheme.

The Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme is being implemented by the Government with an outlay of Rs. 1.97 lakh crore, for a period of 5 years starting from 2021-22 which have potential for creating 60 lakh new jobs.

PM GatiShakti is a transformative approach for economic growth and sustainable development. The approach is driven by seven engines, namely, Roads, Railways, Airports, Ports, Mass Transport, Waterways and Logistics Infrastructure. This approach is powered by Clean Energy and Sabka Prayas leading to huge job and entrepreneurial opportunities for all.

The Government of India is encouraging various projects involving substantial investment and public expenditure on schemes like Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) and Deen Dayal Antodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM) etc. for employment generation.

The Government is implementing a programme for skilling of rural youth for entrepreneurship development through Rural Self Employment and Training Institutes (RSETIs).

Further, the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) is implementing the National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS), Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS) Scheme and Craftsman Training Scheme (CTS) through Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) to enhance the employability of youth.

Besides these initiatives, various flagship programmes of the Government such as Make in India, Start-up India, Stand-up India, Digital India, Housing for All etc. are also oriented towards generating employment opportunities.

All these initiatives are expected to collectively generate employment in the medium to long term through multiplier-effects.
