

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *86
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29TH JULY, 2024**

EMPLOYMENT FOR SCs, STs, OBCs AND EWS

***86. PROF. VARSHA EKNATH GAIKWAD:
SHRI MOHITE PATIL DHAIRYASHEEL RAJSINH:**

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

- (a) whether there has been huge increase in the number of urban and rural unemployed persons registered in the country during the last three years and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;**
- (b) the details of the steps taken by the Government to address unemployment among Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), Other Backward Classes (OBCs) and Economically Weaker Sections in the country especially in the State of Maharashtra during the last three years and the current year and the constraints faced by the Government in this regard;**
- (c) whether any permanent employment opportunities have been created for SCs, STs, OBCs and EWS communities and the number of posts remain vacant as of now and if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether any measures are taken/implemented to expedite the recruitment process given the disparities in employment opportunities;**
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to make them aware about the rights and opportunities available for SC and ST communities and ensure their equal participation in the workforce; and**
- (f) the details of the policies being advocated to achieve this goal?**

**ANSWER
MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)**

(a) to (f): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *86 DUE FOR REPLY ON 29.07.2024 BY PROF. VARSHA EKNATH GAIKWAD, SHRI MOHITE PATIL DHAIRYASHEEL RAJSINH REGARDING “EMPLOYMENT FOR SCS, STS, OBCS AND EWS”

(a) to (f): The data on Employment and Unemployment is collected through Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) which is conducted by the Ministry of Statistics and 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 and above in both rural and urban areas during 2020-21 to 2022-23 are as follows:

Unemployment Rate (in %)			
Years	Rural	Urban	All India
2020-21	3.3	6.7	4.2
2021-22	3.2	6.3	4.1
2022-23	2.4	5.4	3.2

Source: PLFS, MoSPI

The data indicates that the unemployment rate in the country has a declining trend over the years, in both Rural and Urban areas.

As per PLFS report, Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR), Worker Population Ratio (WPR) and Unemployment Rate (UR) on usual status for different social groups i.e. Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs) and Other Backward Classes (OBCs) indicating that LFPR and WPR has increased in 2022-23 compared to 2020-21, while UR has decreased in 2022-23 compared to 2020-21, as in table below:

(in%)

Social Group	2020-21			2021-22			2022-23		
	LFPR	WPR	UR	LFPR	WPR	UR	LFPR	WPR	UR
SC	49.3	47.9	2.7	49.2	48	2.4	51.6	50.7	1.8
ST	42	40.2	4.2	41.2	39.4	4.4	43.2	41.8	3.2
OBC	40.9	39.2	4.2	40.7	39.1	3.9	42.9	41.5	3.3

In so far as the employment opportunities in the Central Government is concerned, reservation is provided to Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), Other Backward Classes (OBCs) and Economically Weaker Sections EWS @ 15%, 7.5%, 27% and 10% respectively in civil posts and services to be filled by direct recruitment on all India basis by open competition. As regards the vacant posts in the Government, it is stated that occurrence and filling up of vacant posts, including reserved category vacancies in various Ministries/ Departments is a continuous process.

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 Maharashtra.

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India is striving to uplift and empower disadvantaged and marginalized sections of the society, particularly the SC and OBC Community. A first of its kind, Venture Capital Fund for Scheduled Castes (VCF-SC) was launched by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, in 2014-2015. A similar scheme for backward classes (VCF-BC) was launched in 2017-2018. Financial support from Rs 10 lakh to Rs 15 Crores is provided under VCF-SC and VCF-BC at coupon rate of 4% and 6% respectively. The scheme is applicable PAN India. Till date, 86 SC and 5 OBC entrepreneurs have benefited from Maharashtra.

The schemes inter-alia, aim to provide concessional finance to Schedule Caste and Backward Classes entrepreneurs, who will create wealth and value for society and at the same time will promote their profitable businesses, which also enhances direct and indirect employment generation for these communities.

Ministry of Labour and Employment is also implementing the "Welfare of SC/ST jobseekers Scheme" through the network of 25 National Career Service Centres for SC/ST (NCSC-SC/STs) across the country to enhance the employability of SC/ST jobseekers through pre recruitment training, vocational guidance, career counselling and computer training etc. with a view to prepare them to meet the demands of the labour market.

The various Ministries/ Departments of Government of India like Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises, Ministry of Rural Development, Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Textile, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology etc. are implementing different employment generation schemes/ programmes like Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY), Rural Self Employment and Training Institutes (RSETIs), Deen Dayal Antodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM), Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY), etc. including increase in capital expenditure to boost employment creation. The details of various employment generation schemes/programmes being implemented by the Government of India may be seen at https://dge.gov.in/dge/schemes_programmes.
