

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3112
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27TH MARCH, 2025**

ASSESSMENT OF UNDEREMPLOYMENT TRENDS IN THE COUNTRY

3112. SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE:

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

- (a) whether Government has conducted any assessment of underemployment trends in the country over the last five years;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof, sector-wise and State-wise;**
- (c) the key factors contributing to high underemployment, particularly among youth and women; and**
- (d) the measures taken to address underemployment and facilitate the transition of workers from informal to stable and well-paying jobs?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SUSHRI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE)**

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

The estimated Unemployment Rate (UR) on usual status for persons of age 15 years and above has decreased from 4.8% in 2019-20 to 3.2% in 2023-24. Also, the UR for women (age 15 years and above) has decreased from 4.2% to 3.2% and the UR for youth (15-29 years) has decreased from 15% to 10.2% during the same period.

Further, the estimated Worker Population Ratio (WPR), indicating employment on usual status, for persons of age 15 years and above has increased from 50.9% in 2019-20 to 58.2% in 2023-24. Also, the WPR for women (age 15 years and above) has increased from 28.7% to 40.3% and the WPR of youth (age 15-29 years) has increased from 34.7% to 41.7% during the same period.

Sector-wise and State/UT-wise details of Unemployment (UR) and Worker Population Ratio (WPR) are available in the PLFS reports and may be seen at https://www.mospi.gov.in/download-reports?main_cat=ODU5&cat=All&sub_category=All

Employment generation coupled with improving employability of the youth is a priority of the Government. Accordingly, Government is implementing various employment generation schemes/ programmes. These inter-alia include Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY), Rural Self Employment and Training Institutes (RSETIs), Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM), Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY), Stand-UP India Scheme, Startup India, etc. The details of various employment generation schemes/programmes being implemented by the Government may be seen at https://dge.gov.in/dge/schemes_programmes

Government is implementing Skill India Mission (SIM) to deliver skill, re-skill and up-skill training through an extensive network of skill development centres/ schools/ colleges /institutes etc. under various schemes, viz. Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS), National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) and Craftsmen Training Scheme (CTS) through Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs). The SIM aims at enabling youth of India to get future ready, equipped with industry relevant skills.

Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India, is running the National Career Service (NCS) Portal which is a one-stop solution for providing career related services including jobs from private and government sectors, information on online & offline job fairs, job search & matching, career counselling, vocational guidance, information on skill development courses, skill/training programmes etc. through a digital platform [<https://www.ncs.gov.in/>].
