

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
RAJYA SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO.\*126**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON 31<sup>ST</sup> JULY, 2025**

**UNEMPLOYMENT IN INDIA**

**\*126. SMT. PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI:**

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

- (a) whether Government has any data regarding the number of youth aged between 18-29 years who had moved to foreign destinations for menial jobs due to unemployment in India, if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether Government has any data regarding the number of youth aged between 18-29 years who are unemployed, if so, the details thereof along with literate unemployed youth and illiterate unemployed youth; and**
- (c) whether Government is aware of the fact that the employability in the manufacturing sector is still very low, if so, the steps taken by Government to increase employability in this sector?**

**ANSWER**

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

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

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. \*126 DUE FOR REPLY ON 31.07.2025 BY SMT. PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI, M.P. REGARDING “UNEMPLOYMENT IN INDIA”**

**(a):** As per data available on eMigrate Portal, maintained by Ministry of External Affairs, a total of 4,78,311 Indian workers aged between 18-29 years, holding Emigration Check Required (ECR) passports, were granted Emigration Clearance for employment purposes in the ECR countries, during the years 2020 - 2025 (till June 2025).

**(b) & (c):** 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.

As per the latest available Annual PLFS reports, the estimated Unemployment Rate (UR) on usual status for youth of age 15-29 years has decreased from 17.8% in 2017-18 to 10.2% in 2023-24.

The estimated Unemployment Rate (UR) on usual status for persons of age 15 years and above of different general education level from 2017-18 to 2023-24 is as follows:

General Education Level	2017-18	2023-24
Not Literate	1.2	0.2
Literate & Upto Primary	2.7	0.6
Middle	5.5	1.6
Secondary	5.7	1.9
Higher Secondary	10.3	4.4
Secondary & Above	11.4	7.1
All	6.0	3.2

**Source: PLFS, MoSPI**

The data indicates that the unemployment rate has declining trend across different education levels.

Further, the estimated Worker Population Ratio (WPR), indicating employment, on usual status for youth of age 15-29 years has increased from 31.4% in 2017-18 to 41.7% in 2023-24.

**The KLEMS (K: Capital, L: Labour, E: Energy, M: Materials and S: Services) database published by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) provides employment estimates, including manufacturing sector, at all India level. As per the latest available data, employment in the manufacturing sector has increased from 5.47 crore in 2017-18 to 6.31 crore in 2022-23 indicating an increase of about 84 lakhs during this period.**

**Employment generation coupled with improving employability, including in the manufacturing sector, is a priority of the Government. Accordingly, Government is implementing various employment generation schemes/ programmes. This inter-alia includes Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana- National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM), Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY), Deen Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM), Production Linked Incentive (PLI), Make in India, Startup India, Standup India, Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY), etc. seeks to boost employment creation. The details of various employment generation schemes/programmes being implemented by the Government may be seen at [https://dge.gov.in/dge/schemes\\_programmes](https://dge.gov.in/dge/schemes_programmes).**

**Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) has been implementing its flagship scheme, Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), since 2015 to impart skill development training through Short-Term Training (STT) and up-skilling and re-skilling through Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) to youth across the country to enhance the employability of youth by equipping them with industry relevant skills.**

**In addition, the Union Cabinet has approved the Employment Linked Incentive (ELI) Scheme to support employment generation, enhance employability and social security across all sectors, with special focus on the manufacturing sector.**

**Further, 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 [[www.ncs.gov.in](http://www.ncs.gov.in)].**