

Title: Re: Need to take urgent measures to tackle unemployment in the country.

SHRIMATI APARUPA PODDAR (ARAMBAGH): High unemployment among the youth has now been termed as the biggest challenge for us. The pandemic caused livelihood losses everywhere. India has a large young and informal workforce which has suffered one of the deepest economic contractions due to the pandemic. While GDP recovered in 2021, unemployment has remained above its pre-pandemic levels, especially among young workers with higher unemployment rate compared to the rest of the working-age population. Even before the pandemic, 12 percent unemployment rate versus 7.6 percent in May 2019 and a much higher 17.5 percent compared to 7.9 percent among others in May 2021. Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy reported that the unemployment rate in the country was 7.91% in December against 7% in November. Half of the employed young workers became inactive or unemployed since 2020 compared to 20 percent of the national average which significantly affected mental health through higher levels of worry, frustration, disappointment, alienation and sadness which persists in adulthood, regardless of future employment. I, therefore, urge upon the Government that as unemployment has negatively influenced a person's physical, financial and mental health it should urgently spend enormous resources on job creation and healthcare before it goes out of the situation.