

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:8
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2001
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS
GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ;IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the unemployment rate has gone up in the recent years comparing to 1993-94 figures;
- (b) the total number of unemployed persons at present in the country;
- (c) whether the unemployment rate is high in rural areas; and
- (d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to bring down the unemployment rate both in rural and urban areas?

Answer

MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYA NARAYAN JATIYA)

a) to d) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.8 BY SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ REGARDING UNEMPLOYED PERSONS FOR REPLY ON 23.7.2001.

The estimates of Employment and Unemployment are obtained through Labour Force Surveys conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) on a quinquennial basis. The latest survey conducted by NSSO during 1999-2000 reveals that the unemployment rate has marginally gone up when 1999-2000 figures are compared to those of 1993-94 as per Usual Principal and Subsidiary Status (UPSS) Approach. As on 1st January 2000, there were around 9 million unemployed persons in the country. Unemployment rate in rural areas was less compared to urban areas.

The planning for employment generation is a part of the five-year Plans. The Approach to the Ninth Plan envisages priority to productive employment which will be generated in the growth process itself by concentrating on sectors, sub-sectors and technologies which are labour intensive, in regions characterized by higher rates of unemployment and underemployment.

Government is also implementing special programmes for eradication of poverty and generation of employment. The major poverty alleviation programmes, which provide employment in the rural areas, are Swarna Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana, Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana and Employment Assurance Scheme. In the urban areas, Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) is in operation since 1.12.97, which also seeks to provide gainful employment to the poor. Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana is being implemented as a central Plan Scheme to provide employment opportunities to educated unemployed youths in both rural and urban areas.