

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2804

ANSWERED ON:15.03.2010

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IN RURAL AREAS

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any survey regarding the prevalent unemployment rates among the rural youth of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-Wise;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to increase employment opportunities in rural areas in the country; and
- (d) the success achieved by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) & (b) Reliable estimates of employment and unemployment are obtained through quinquennial labour force surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Organization. Last such survey was conducted during 2004-05. As per latest survey report, number of unemployed youth in the rural areas in the age group of 15-29 was estimated at 7.95 million on usual status basis during 2004-05. State-wise details of unemployment rate in rural areas of the unemployed youth on usual status basis are annexed.

(c) & (d) Government of India has been implementing various Employment Generation and Poverty Alleviation Programmes to generate additional employment opportunities. Some of the important ones are: Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) and National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS). These programmes primarily aim at providing more opportunities for employment generation in rural areas of the country.