

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5422

ANSWERED ON:13.12.2010

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

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

- (a) the unemployment growth rate in the country including Andhra Pradesh during the last three years and the current year; and
- (b) the steps taken by the Government to boost the employability and employment growth in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT(SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) 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 the two most recent quinquennial rounds of survey on employment and unemployment, unemployment rate of India including Andhra Pradesh on Usual Status basis has marginally increased from 2.2% to 2.3% during 1999-2000 to 2004-05. This was due to the fact that the pace of growth in labour force at 2.97% per annum exceeded the rate of growth of work force at 2.95% per annum. The increase in labour force is mainly attributed to the fact that working age population grew faster than total population and labour force participation rate increased particularly, among women during 1999-2000 to 2004-05.

(b) Eleventh Plan aims at creating 58 million additional employment opportunities and more job opportunities are likely to be created on account of growth in Gross Domestic Product (GDP), investment, infrastructure development growth in exports etc. Besides, Government of India has also been implementing various employment generation schemes, such as, Swarana Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY); Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP); Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) and Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) besides entrepreneurial development programmes run by Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises. In order to increase employability amongst the youth, a comprehensive Skill Development Programme with wide coverage throughout the country has been initiated by the Government under the Eleventh Five Year Plan. The coordinated Action Plan for Skill Development has a target of 500 million skilled persons by the year 2022, and all concerned Ministries and Departments have been mandated to undertake skill development programmes accordingly. Further, a Mission Mode Project under National e-Governance Plan has also been taken up for modernization of Employment Exchanges. Under the project, a national web portal is proposed to be developed to work like a virtual job market. This will contain all the data regarding availability of skilled persons on the one hand and requirement of skilled persons by the industry on the other. It will thus help youth in getting suitable placement and enable industry to procure required skills on real time basis.