

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1347

ANSWERED ON:08.08.2011

REGISTERED UNEMPLOYED

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the alarming rise in unemployment rate particularly among the educated people leading to decline in growth rate of the economic development of the country;
- (b) if so, the total number of registered unemployed youths both in urban and rural areas, separately;
- (c) the details of various schemes or employment policy formulated by the Government for both the skilled and unskilled people in the country;
- (d) whether youths in the country are feeling depressed due to unemployment and the changing economic scenario as per the United Nation's International Children emergency fund (UNICEF) report; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government for providing employment to the unemployed youths, both skilled and unskilled?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE)

(a) Government of India is fully aware of magnitude of problem of unemployment among the educated youth in the country. Basic problem in the country is not of unemployment but of under employment. The poor cannot afford to remain unemployed and therefore, unemployment rate among the poor is very low as compared to educated youth who are from the relatively better of economic family background. Higher the level of education attainment, higher is the rate of unemployment. This is because of the fact that they can afford to remain unemployed to search for better employment opportunities. In order to bridge the employment gap to harness the benefit of demographic dividend, Government of India has undertaken Skilled Development Mission to make them more employable for engaging them in more productive employment.

(b) Total number of youth job seekers in the age group of 15-29 year, all of whom may not necessarily be unemployed , registered with employment exchanges as on 31-12-2008 combined for rural and urban areas was

2.70 crore.

(c) Government have taken several steps to reduce unemployment in the country. The focus is on creation of productive employment at a faster pace in order to raise incomes of masses to bring about a general improvement in their living conditions. The job opportunities are created on account of growth in Gross Domestic Product (GDP), investment in infrastructure development, growth in exports etc.

(d) UNICEF'S Report on the State of the World's Children-2011 has reported that with 81 million young people out of work, youth unemployment is now a concern in almost every country. Adolescents struggle to find decent work guaranteeing them a foot hold above the poverty line. In many developing countries, the paucity of opportunities for productive full-time employment means that the first experience of work for young people is too often one of waste talent, disillusionment, under employment and continued poverty. However, the observation does not hold good for Indian Labour Market. Recent NSSO survey reveals a major trend of the past five years has been a decline in labour force participation rate. The decline in labour force participation rate could mainly be due to the increase in participation of the young population in education and increase in wages of principal status workers over the years.

(e) Government of India has also been implementing various employment generation programmes, and important ones are: 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 the Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises.