

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:166
ANSWERED ON:26.03.2012
UNEMPLOYMENT IN NORTH-EASTERN REGION
Toppo Shri Joseph

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

- (a) the details of unemployment both for skilled and unskilled trade in urban and rural areas of the North-Eastern Region (NER) during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) whether the Government has constituted any Group of experts to study unemployment in the NER and suggest ways and means to improve employment;
- (c) if so, whether the Government has received the report of the said Group of experts;
- (d) if so, the follow-up action taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (e) the other measures taken to ensure gainful employment to the unemployed skilled and unskilled persons of the Region?

Answer

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE)

(a)to(e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 166 DUE FOR REPLY ON 26.03.2012 BY SHRI JOSEPH TOPPO, M.P. REGARDING UNEMPLOYMENT IN NORTH-EASTERN REGION.

(a) As per latest information available, number of job seekers, all of whom may not necessarily be unemployed, registered with employment exchanges for skilled and unskilled trades, taken together, in urban & rural areas of North-Eastern Region (NER) as on 31st December during the years 2008 to 2011 was 32.69, 30.45, 28.78 and 31.08 lakh respectively. Statewise number of jobseekers on the Live Register of Employment Exchanges for North-Eastern Region is at Annex.

(b)to(d) No, Madam.

(e) Government has been making continuous efforts by focusing 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. Government of India has also been implementing various employment generation programmes such as Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP); Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY); Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) and Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY); besides entrepreneurial development programmes run by the Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises.

A new Centrally Sponsored Scheme, namely, "Enhancing Skill Development Infrastructure in NE States and Sikkim" has been approved during 2010-11 at a cost of Rs. 57.39 crore. The main objective of the scheme is to upgrade 20 ITIs and supplement deficient infrastructure in 28 ITIs in order to improve quality of training and employability of youth in the Region.