

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1128

ANSWERED ON:13.07.2009

INCREASE IN UNEMPLOYMENT

Chavan Shri Harischandra Deoram;Rawat Shri Ashok Kumar

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

- (a) whether there is a sharp increase in unemployment due to decline in productivity in various sectors in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof ; and
- (c) the remedial measures taken by the Government to increase productivity and create more employment opportunities in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR 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 two most recent quinquennial rounds of survey on employment and unemployment, unemployment rate 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.

(c) Eleventh Five Year Plan aims at creating 58 million job opportunities. The focus is also on productive employment at a faster pace than before, and target agriculture growth at 4% per annum in order to raise the incomes of masses of the rural population to bring about a general improvement in their living conditions. Government has also been implementing various employment generation and poverty alleviation programmes, some of the important ones are Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY); Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP); Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) and National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 (NREGA).