

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3714  
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2012  
RURAL URBAN UNEMPLOYMENT GAP  
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**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether unemployment is higher amongst rural areas than in Urban areas in the country;
- (b) if so, the details status, State-wise and year-wise during the last three years;and
- (c) the measures taken by the Government to bridge such gaps of unemployment between rural and urban areas?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH)

(a) & (b) Reliable estimates of employment and unemployment are obtained through quinquennial labour force surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Office (NSSO). Last quinquennial labour force survey was conducted during 2009-10. As per the most recent survey, estimated unemployment rate on usual status basis in rural areas was 1.6 percent for rural areas as compared to 3.4 percent for urban areas in the country during 2009-10. Unemployment rate is found to be higher in urban areas than in rural areas in the country .

(c) In order to tackle the problem of rural and urban unemployment, Government of India has been making constant efforts to provide gainful employment through normal growth process and implementing various employment generation programmes, such as, Swarana Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY); Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP); National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) and Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) besides entrepreneurial development programmes run by the Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises.