

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:167
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2013
UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG MINORITIES
Shekhar Shri Neeraj;Singh Shri Yashvir

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

- (a) whether unemployment among minority communities including Sikhs and Muslims has increased during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, community-wise and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether self-employment has increased among the said communities including Muslims during the said period;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the measures taken/being taken by the Government to address the issue?

Answer

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SIS RAM OLA)

(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. 167 BY SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR AND SHRI YASHVIR SINGH REGARDING UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG MINORITIES DUE FOR REPLY ON 19.8.2013.

(a) & (b) As per last two Surveys on Employment and Unemployment conducted by National Sample Survey (NSS) Office, Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation, during 2004-05 and 2009-10, the unemployment rates among the minorities, as per usual status, during the period is given in the table below.

Unemployment Rates in percentage

Religion	Rural		Urban	
	2004-05	2009-10	2004-05	2009-10
Hindu	1.5	1.5	4.4	3.4
Islam	2.3	1.9	4.1	3.2
Christianity	4.4	3.9	8.6	2.9
Sikhism	3.5	2.4	4.6	6.1
Others	1.1	1.2	6.4	1.7
All	1.6	1.6	4.5	3.4

From the survey results, it may be seen that the unemployment rates have declined for all religious communities except for urban Sikhs.

(c) & (d) As per the estimates from the NSS surveys, the distribution of self-employed persons in percentage as per the usual status is given in the table below:

Religion	Self-employed Rural males		Self-employed Rural Females		Self-employed Urban males		Self-employed Urban Females	
	2004-05	2009-10	2004-05	2009-10	2004-05	2009-10	2004-05	2009-10
Hindu	58.2	53.7	47.1	54.7	42.7	39.7	19.3	39.3
Islam	69.6	52.8	52.3	64.9	75.5	49.6	33.1	59.7
Christianity	61.5	50	50.9	55.4	42.7	29.4	19.6	28.4
Sikhism	#	54.5	#	78.9	#	44.4	#	51.5
Others	43.6	43.8	41.4	33.6				
All	58.4	53.5	47.5	55.7	42.8	41.1	47.6	41.1

Data for Sikhs are included in "All" during 2004-05

From the survey results it may be observed that the proportion of self-employed has decreased amongst rural and urban males across major religious groups and increased amongst females. The NSS survey results for 2009-10 do not provide state-wise details of these estimates.

(e) To promote creation of jobs, Government has taken variety of steps like encouraging private investment in various sectors of economy, fast tracking various approvals for projects involving substantial investment and increasing public expenditure on schemes like Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGA), Swarana Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY); Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP); Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), now restructured as National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM). In addition, Government has decided to spend more funds on skill development programmes. For example, it has been decided to use at least 10% of Special Component Assistance to Tribal Sub-Plan, Special Component Assistance to Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan and 5% of Border Area Development Programme funds for skill development. For ensuring that the people of Minority Community in particular could access various job opportunities, it has recently been decided that at least 10% of funds available under Multi-Sectoral Development Programme run by Ministry of Minority Affairs be used for skill development. In addition, the Ministry of Minority Affairs has launched a new scheme titled 'Seekho aur Kamao' to skill large number of people belonging to minority community in traditional as well as modern trades.