

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1722
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2013
UNEMPLOYMENT IN RURAL AREAS
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Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether higher unemployment in rural areas in comparison to the urban areas of the country has resulted in migration from rural areas;
- (b) if so, the details of migration during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise along with the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to bridge the gap of unemployment in the rural and urban areas?

Answer

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

(a) Reliable estimates of employment and unemployment are obtained through labour force surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Office, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. As per NSS surveys unemployment rate (UR) according to usual status (principal and subsidiary) for Rural and Urban areas during 2009-10 and 2011-12 are as under :-

	2009-10	2011-12
Rural	1.6%	1.7%
Urban	3.4%	3.4%
Total	2.0%	2.2%

This clearly shows that unemployment in rural areas is lower than the urban areas.

(b) Does not arise

(c) To promote creation of jobs and improve employability of people, Government has taken variety of steps like encouraging private investment in various sectors of economy, fast tracking various approvals for projects involving substantial investment 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); etc. 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 Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Plan (SCA-TSP), Special Central Assistance to Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan (SCA-SCSP), Multi-sectoral Development Programme funds and 5% of Border Area Development Programme funds for skill development.