

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3789  
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2009  
DECLINE IN EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES  
Shetkar Shri Suresh Kumar

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

(a) whether the employment opportunities in rural areas is declining continuously in the country during each of the last three years and the current year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, State-wise?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT(SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) to (b): The estimates of employment and unemployment are obtained through quinquennial surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation. Last such survey was conducted during 2004-05. As per two most recent quinquennial rounds of surveys, the employment opportunities in rural areas were estimated at 251.22 million in 1999-2000 (55th round) and 278.08 million in 2004-05 (61st round).

Government of India has been implementing various employment generation and poverty alleviation programmes in rural areas such as Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) and Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme(PMEGP). Employment opportunities have been continuously increasing under these schemes. A statement showing employment generated in rural areas under these schemes is at Annex.