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Title: Regarding poverty and unemployment in Kishanganj.

**DR. MOHAMMAD JAWED (KISHANGANJ):** In the NITI Aayog's Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI), Kishanganj's poverty rate was calculated at 64.75 % implying the increasing number of non-income earning population of Kishanganj, Bihar. Keeping this in mind, the expansion of employment opportunities has to be of paramount importance. Bihar's unemployment rate increased 31.2 % points and rose to 46.6%, in April, 2020. According to a survey conducted by the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy(CMIE). In this regard, the Government should set-up food processing units, SMEs in the ply-wood industry, tea processing plants, jute industry, *inter alia* to increase the employment opportunities in Kishanganj, Bihar.

Per capita income of Bihar was INR 41,000 in FY 2019. Bihar had the lowest per capita in the last decade, since FY2012. The average earnings of an individual are rapidly declining amidst start unemployment. Thus, the Government has to augment investments into the economy of Kishanganj to increase the employment rate and give opportunities to the youth of Kishanganj.

**माननीय सभापति :** श्री दीपक बैज – उपस्थित नहीं ।

डॉ. शशि थरूर – उपस्थित नहीं ।