

## **Regarding situation arising out of unemployment in the country-Laid**

**SHRI KALIPADA SAREN KHERWAL (JHARGRAM):** According to the Periodic Labour Force Survey, the youth unemployment rate is soaring at 10% from the last two years. This implies that one out of 10 youth are unemployed. As per ILO, one in three youth is not in education, employment, or training with women making 95% of this group. As India is on the verge of overtaking China as the world's most populous country, it is worrisome that we are failing to reap on our demographic dividend. Over 35,000 MSMEs had shut down between 2020 and 2024. As formal employment opportunities are shrinking, the youth are increasingly falling back on casual low-wage labour. The growing unemployment crisis nationwide is a cause of serious concern. The much-advertised PM Internship has also failed. Out of nearly 4 lakh applicants, only 16,000 joined the scheme. This translates to only 4%. The situation was even worse for people from scheduled caste and scheduled tribes. Only 1.4% of the applicants from these communities have had the opportunity to avail the internship. Thus, I urge the Government to take the matter of unemployment seriously and act on it.