

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The Labour Force Survey provides data on (a) age, sex, marital status, literacy, level of education and migration of the population, (b) dimensions of country's labour force, viz (i) employed labour force classified by, industry, formal & informal sectors, occupation, employment status, hours worked and level of education, (ii) occupational safety and health information of the employed persons, and (iii) unemployed labour by level of education and previous experience. **In comparison with the LFS 2006-07 some of the main findings of LFS 2007-08 are outlined as under:**

### 1. Literacy and Employment

1(a) **Literacy rate** shows improvement (55%, 56%), more for females (42%,44%) than males (67%,68%) and rural (46%,48%) than urban (71%,72%). This notwithstanding, rural-urban and male-female disparity does not seem to be changing significantly.

1(b) **Participation rate** suggests fractional improvement (31.8%, 32.2%) for both genders. Area wise, rural rate gain a percentage point (33%,34%) while urban one lose by same margin (30%,29%) gender evenly.

1(c) **Employment by Major Industries** indicates increase in the share of *agricultural and allied activities* (44%, 45%) in a gender equivalent way. As for non-agricultural employment, the comparative figures are close to each other. However, *manufacturing* and *community, social and personal services* indicate fall in the level of activity.

1(d) **Employment Status** shows decrease in the comparative profiles of *employees* (37%, 36%) and *own account workers* (35%, 34%) while *unpaid family workers* increase (27%, 29%) mainly for females.

1(e) **Unemployment Rate** (5%) remains unchanged. Similar pattern is noted for both genders and in rural areas. Nevertheless, some fractions of male origin seem to be off from urban unemployment rate.

1(f) **Formal Sector**, as a whole, recedes (28%, 27%) during the comparative periods due to decline in the rural areas (27%, 25%) while urban areas remains at the same level. The opposite configuration holds for the informal sector.

### 2. Informal Sector

2(a) **Size of Informal Sector** accounts for more than seven-tenth (73%) of the employment in main jobs outside agriculture, more in rural (75%) than in urban areas (71%). Contrarily, formal sector activities are more concentrated in urban areas (30%) as compared to rural areas (25%). Informal employment shows increase (72%, 73%) in the comparative periods, more for females than males and in rural than urban areas.

2(b) **Employment by Major Industry Divisions** assigns the largest part (35%) to *wholesale and retail trade* followed by *manufacturing* (21%), *community, social and personal services* (17%), *construction* (14%) and *transport* (11%). The *other* categories, including *mining & quarrying; electricity, gas & water* and *finance, insurance, real estate & business services*, account for less than two percent. Comparative Labour Force Surveys indicate a mixed trend though increases are more in number than decreases.

2 (c) **The Employment Status** categorizes majority (44%) as *employees* followed by *own account workers* (42%). About one in ten workers (12%) is reported as *unpaid family workers* and one in fifty (2%) as *employers*. *Unpaid family workers* gain while *employees* lose one percentage point each, *employers* also add some fractions whereas *own account workers* remain at same level.

### 3. Occupational Safety & Health

3(a) **Percentage of Employed** reporting some sort of occupational injury/disease in the past twelve months that resulted in working time loss or doctor's consultation are about one in fifty (2%). Male workers are more vulnerable (2.4%) relative to female workers (0.8%). Same is the case for rural workers (2.2%) compared to urban workers (1.6%). Generally, profile of vulnerability in the comparative periods remains at the same level.

3(b) **Major Industry Divisions** puts almost half (47%) of sufferers in *agriculture*. *Construction* accounts for one-seventh (15%) approximately, followed by *manufacturing* (13%) and, equivalent activities of *community, social and personal services* (8%), *wholesale & retail trade* (8%) and *transport, storage and communication* (8%). As for comparative risk profile, *agriculture* shows deteriorates, *manufacturing, wholesale and retail trade* and *community, social and personal services* improve while *construction* and *transport, storage and communication* remain at the same level.

3 (c) **Major occupational grouping** finds majority of suffered (41%) in *skilled agriculture and fishery activities*. Comparative figures of the two surveys indicate deterioration over time. *Elementary occupations* (22%) are getting riskier while opposite is the case with *craft & related trade activities* (22%). *Legislators, senior officials* and *managers* and *plant and machine operators and assemblers* indicate improvement.

3(d) **Employment Status** puts majority of the suffered in the category of *employees*. Comparative figures show improvement (40%, 42%) down the time. The other important categories are *own account workers* (39%) and *unpaid family workers* (21%). The first one improves while the second one deteriorates.