

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 2007-08, some of the main findings of LFS 2008-09 are outlined as under:**

1. Literacy and Employment

1(a) **Literacy rate** shows improvement (56.2%, 57.4%) by area and gender equivalently. This notwithstanding, rural-urban and male-female disparities do not seem to be changing significantly.

1(b) **Participation rate** suggests fractional improvement (32.2%, 32.8%) across the area and gender. However, improvement is more of urban than rural and female than male provenance.

1(c) **Employment by Major Industries** indicates increase in the share of *agricultural and allied activities* (44.6%, 45.1%) of masculine origin. As for non-agricultural employment, the comparative figures are close to each other. However, *construction* bespeaks a sort of increase while *services* seem to be trending down.

1(d) **Employment Status** shows marginal changes-decrease in the comparative profiles of employees and *own account workers* while increase in the case of employers. *Unpaid family workers* also increase (29%, 30%) due mainly to males.

1(e) **Unemployment Rate** (5.5%) is higher than that of the previous survey (5.2%). The change is more due to female than male and urban than rural unemployment rates.

1(f) **Formal Sector** employment recedes in size (27.2%, 26.7%) during the comparative periods. The decline is of male (27.2%, 26.6%) and rural origin (24.9%, 23.8%). Formal sector activities are more concentrated in urban areas (29.4%) as compared to in rural areas (23.8%).

2. Informal Sector

2(a) **Informal Sector** accounts for more than seven-tenth (73.3%) of the employment in main jobs outside agriculture, more in rural (76.2%) than in urban areas (70.6%). Informal employment shows increase (72.8%, 73.3%) of male and rural origin during the comparative periods.

2(b) **Employment by Major Industry Divisions** is mainly comprised of *wholesale & retail trade* (35.2%), *manufacturing* (21.5%), *community/social & personal services* (14.9%), *construction* (15.5%) and *transport* (10.9%). Comparative Labour Force Surveys indicate a mixed trend of changes.

2 (c) **The Employment Status** constitute *employees* (45%), *own account workers* (41%), *unpaid family workers* (12%) and *employers* (2.6%). Marginal changes-increase in the comparative profiles of *employees* and *employers* while decrease in the case of *own account* and *unpaid family* workers is observed.

3. Occupational Safety & Health

3(a) **Percentage of Employed** reporting some sort of occupational injury/disease in the past twelve months that resulted in the loss of working time or doctor's consultation are about one in thirty three (2.7%). Male workers are more vulnerable (3.1%) relative to female workers (1.1%). Same is the case for rural workers (3.1%) compared to urban workers (1.8%). The profile of vulnerability during the comparative periods seems to be trending up.

3(b) **Major Industry Divisions** puts sufferers mainly in the activities of *agriculture* (50.4%), *construction* (14.5%), *manufacturing* (14%), *wholesale & retail trade* (8.5%) and *transport/storage & communication* (8.1%). The comparative risk profile of *agriculture*, *manufacturing* and *wholesale & retail trade* deteriorate, *community/ social & personal services* improves while that of *construction* and *transport/storage & communication* remains at the same level approximately.

3(c) **Major Occupational Grouping** finds the largest group of the sufferers (44.9%) in *skilled agriculture & fishery activities*. Comparative figures of the two surveys indicate deterioration over time more for males than females, though three-fourth (76.1%) of female sufferers belong to this group. The next major groupings are *craft & related trade workers* (22.1%) and *elementary occupations* (19.8%). Risk profile of the former is increasing while the latter's decreasing, more for females than males in either case. As for the masculine groups of *plant/machine operators & assemblers* and *legislators/senior officials & managers*, the former indicates deterioration while the latter improvement during the comparative periods.

3(d) **Employment Status** puts majority of sufferers either *own account workers* (38.8%) or *employees* (38.3%). In comparison with the respective estimates of the LFS 2007-08 (38.6%, 40.1%), the former group gets a bit riskier while the latter betokens improvement. *Unpaid family worker* (22.7%) indicate deterioration as compared to LFS 2007-08 (20.5%), while *employers* allude to a sort of improvement in their risk profile.