

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1596**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.12.2024

WOMEN IN WORKFORCE

1596. SMT. RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

- (a) India's Female Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR), in terms of percentage, in the last five years, year-wise;
- (b) whether rural self-employed and unpaid women workers are being counted as actual employment, according to recent PLFS data, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether it is a fact that the real average monthly wage of self-employed women has declined by 35 per cent and salaried women workers by 7 per cent between 2017-18 and 2023-24, if so, the recent policy measures implemented by Government in this regard??

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION; MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE [RAO INDERJIT SINGH]

(a): The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) has been conducting Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) since 2017 to estimate various indicators related to employment and unemployment situation in the country. From this survey, the estimates of Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) according to usual status (ps+ss) for female in the last five years are given below:

<b>Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) according to usual status (ps+ss) for female</b>	
<b>all-India</b>	
Survey (period)	LFPR (in percent) according to usual status (ps+ss) for female
PLFS, 2019-20	22.8
PLFS, 2020-21	25.1
PLFS, 2021-22	24.8
PLFS, 2022-23	27.8
PLFS, 2023-24	31.7

*Note: 2023-24 refers to the period July 2023 – June 2024 and likewise for 2022-23 and, so on*

*Source: Annual Report, PLFS, 2023-24*

(b): In PLFS, persons who, during the reference period, are engaged in any economic activity or who, despite their attachment to economic activity, have temporarily abstained from work for reasons of illness, injury or other physical disability, bad weather, festivals, social or

religious functions or other contingencies constitute workers are classified as Workers or employed. Unpaid helpers who assist in the operation of an economic activity in the household farm or non-farm activities are also considered as workers. All the workers are assigned one of the detailed activity statuses under the broad activity category 'working or being engaged in economic activity'. The percentage distribution of female worker in usual status (ps+ss) by status in employment categories i.e. self-employed, regular wage/salaried employee and casual wage labourer in rural areas of India according to Annual Report , PLFS, 2023-24 is given below:

<b>Percentage distribution of female workers in usual status (ps+ss) by status in employment in rural areas estimated from PLFS (2023-24)</b>						
indicator	category of employment					
	self-employment			Regular wage/ salary	casual labour	all
	own account worker and employer	helper in household enterprise	all self employed			
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
percentage distribution of female workers in usual status (ps+ss) by status in employment in rural areas	31.2	42.3	73.5	7.8	18.7	100.0
<i>2023-24 refers to the period July 2023 – June 2024</i>						
<i>Source: Annual Report, PLFS, 2023-24</i>						

(c): In PLFS, real average monthly wage of self-employed women is not estimated. However, the quarterly estimates of average wage/ salary earnings (in Rs.) during the preceding calendar month by the regular wage/ salaried female employees in Current Weekly Status (CWS) in India is given Statement at Annexure I. The quarterly estimates of Average gross earnings during last 30 days from self- employment among self-employed females in CWS is given in the Statement at Annexure II.

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## Annexure I

Statement referred to in reply to part (c) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1596 for reply on 09.12.2024

Average wage/ salary earnings (in Rs.) during the preceding calendar month by the regular wage/ salaried female employees in Current Weekly Status (CWS) in India for each of the quarters during July 2017 – June 2024	
Survey period	average wage/ salary earnings (in Rs) during the preceding calendar month by the regular wage/ salaried female employees in CWS
July- September 2017	13209
October- December 2017	14192
January – March 2018	13976
April- June 2018	13890
July- September 2018	12183
October- December 2018	12629
January – March 2019	12285
April- June 2019	12851
July- September 2019	14095
October- December 2019	12769
January – March 2020	13533
April- June 2020	14688
July- September 2020	13737
October- December 2020	14014
January – March 2021	13248
April- June 2021	13927
July- September 2021	15362
October – December 2021	14217
January – March 2022	14508
April – June 2022	14678
July- September 2022	14723
October – December 2022	15741
January – March 2023	15499
April – June 2023	16926
July- September 2023	15790
October – December 2023	16621
January – March 2024	16546
April – June 2024	17034
Source: Annual Report, PLFS, 2017-18 Annual Report, PLFS, 2018-19 Annual Report, PLFS, 2019-20 Annual Report, PLFS, 2020-21 Annual Report, PLFS, 2021-22 Annual Report, PLFS, 2022-23 Annual Report, PLFS, 2023-24	

**Annexure II**

**Statement referred to in reply to part (c) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1596 for reply on 09.12.2024**

Average gross earnings (in Rs.) during the last 30 days from self-employment work in current weekly status among self-employed females in India for each of the quarters during July 2017 – June 2024	
Survey period	Average gross earnings (in Rs.) during the last 30 days from self-employment work in CWS
July- September 2017	6380
October- December 2017	6246
January – March 2018	5599
April- June 2018	5516
July- September 2018	4461
October- December 2018	5005
January – March 2019	4996
April- June 2019	4919
July- September 2019	5202
October- December 2019	5536
January – March 2020	5486
April- June 2020	5114
July- September 2020	5162
October- December 2020	5075
January – March 2021	4967
April- June 2021	5170
July- September 2021	5407
October – December 2021	5367
January – March 2022	5329
April – June 2022	5311
July- September 2022	5589
October – December 2022	5302
January – March 2023	5534
April – June 2023	5637
July- September 2023	5297
October – December 2023	5384
January – March 2024	5503
April – June 2024	5803
Source: Annual Report, PLFS, 2017-18 Annual Report, PLFS, 2018-19 Annual Report, PLFS, 2019-20 Annual Report, PLFS, 2020-21 Annual Report, PLFS, 2021-22 Annual Report, PLFS, 2022-23 Annual Report, PLFS, 2023-24	