

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 59
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07/02/2025

EMPLOYMENT TO WOMEN IN RURAL AREAS

*59 DR. DHARMASTHALA VEERENDRA HEGGADE:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any estimates of unemployment rate among females in rural areas in the country during the last three years, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has initiated any action in this regard, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by Government to provide employment to rural women, the details thereof;
- (d) the number of rural women who have been provided employment under various rural development schemes in the country during the said period, State-wise; and
- (e) the schemes/programmes being implemented for skilling of rural poor youth including women to improve their employability?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (e) OF THE RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 59* FOR REPLY ON 07.02.2025 REGARDING EMPLOYMENT TO WOMEN IN RURAL AREAS

(a) & (b): The Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) conducted by National Statistics Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) during the periods July 2021 – June 2022 to July 2023 – June 2024, the estimates of Unemployment Rate in usual status [principal status (ps) + subsidiary status (ss)] for female in rural areas at all-India level are given below:-

Unemployment Rate (UR) (in percent) according to usual status (ps+ss) from PLFS among females in rural area		All-India
Survey year	Unemployment Rate (in percent)	
PLFS, 2021-22		2.1
PLFS 2022-23		1.8
PLFS, 2023-24		2.1
<i>Source: Annual Report, PLFS, 2023-24</i>		
<i>Note: 2021-22 refers to the period July 2021 – June 2022 and likewise for 2022-23 and 2023-24</i>		
<i>Explanatory note with respect to definition followed in the survey is at Annexure – I.</i>		

(c) to (e): The Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) is implementing the following schemes for providing employment to rural people including rural women:

- i. Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS) is a demand driven wage employment Scheme which provides at least one hundred days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005, requires that priority shall be given to women in such a way that at least one-third of the beneficiaries shall be women who have registered and requested for work. It is a gender-neutral scheme that promotes participation of women by providing wage parity with men, provision of separate schedule of rates of wages for women, facilities for crèche, work-side sheds for children and child care services.
- ii. Start-up Village Entrepreneurship programme (SVEP), a sub scheme under DeendayalAntyodayaYojana-National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM) is under implementation since 2015 with an objective to help the rural poor (form Self-Help Group ecosystem) to set-up enterprises at the village level in non-agricultural sectors. Besides providing start-up capital, a cadre of Community Resource Persons-Enterprise Promotion (CRP-EP) is also developed to provide business support services to enterprise. SVEP is approved in 429 blocks across 31 States/UTs. Till January 2025 a total of 3.29 lakhs enterprises are supported across the States/UT.

- iii. The Ministry also implements two welfare schemes in the field of skill development for rural poor youth for their gainful employment with a view to eradicate poverty in the country under the umbrella scheme of DeendayalAntyodayaYojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM).
- iv. DeenDayalUpadhyayaGrameenKaushalyaYojana (DDU-GKY) is a placement-linked skill development program for rural poor youth in the age group of 15-35 years. It empowers the rural poor youth with employable skills and facilitates their participation in regular labour markets, thus providing them with jobs having regular monthly wages at or above the minimum wages. DDU-GKY guidelines provide for earmarking 50% of the funds for SCs and STs. Under DDU-GKY, coverage of 15% minorities, 5% of PwDs & 33% of women is mandatory.
- v. Rural Self Employment Training Institutes (RSETIs) is a Bank lead- MoRD funded training institution established by the Sponsor Banks in their Districts, to provide training for Skill and Entrepreneurship Development. MoRD extends financial support for the construction of RSETI building and also bears the cost of training the Rural Poor candidates. Any unemployed youth in the age group of 18-45 years having an aptitude to take up self-employment or wage employment and having some basic knowledge in the related field can undergo training at RSETI. Some of the trained candidates may also seek regular salaried jobs / wage employment.

The State/Union Territories-wise details of rural women who have been provided with employment, skilling and enterprises supported under these schemes of this Ministry in the country during the last three years are given at **Annexure-II**.

Further, this Ministry is implementing Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana – Gramin (PMAY-G), which aims to provide assistance to eligible rural households with an overall target to construct 4.95 crore pucca houses with basic amenities. Women members of the PMAY-G beneficiaries are encouraged to join Self Help Groups (SHGs) accredited to the National Rural Livelihood Mission of Ministry of Rural Development, for livelihood and employment opportunities. Under PMAY-G, there is a provision of 90/95 person-days of un-skilled wage labour under MGNREGS for construction of house, over and above the unit assistance. The construction of a house under PMAY-G generates direct employment of approximately 201 person-days, which includes 56 skilled, 34 Semi-skilled, and 111 unskilled person-days. Accordingly, the construction of 2.69 Crore houses under the scheme has generated employment of around 541 crores of person-days. Under the Rural Mason Training program of PMAY-G, so far 2.92 lakh candidates have been trained. Further, some of the well-trained certified masons also got opportunities to work abroad in the construction field. Under PMAY-G, the indirect employment is also generated through the production of building materials and their transportation for the house construction.

In addition to this, Government has taken various initiatives/measures to boost employment opportunities in the country, including for women like Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY), Stand-UP India Scheme, Startup India, Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), Production Linked Incentive, etc. The details of various

employment generation schemes/ programmes being implemented by the Government of India may be seen at https://dge.gov.in/dge/schemes_programmes.

Further, Government is also implementing women centric schemes such as Mission Shakti, Namo Drone Didi, LakhpatiDidi, Women in Science and Engineering- KIRAN (WISE-KIRAN), SERB-POWER (Promoting Opportunities for Women in Exploratory Research), etc. for improving the employability of women. To enhance the employability of female workers, the Government is providing training to them through a network of Women Industrial Training Institutes, National Vocational Training Institutes and Regional Vocational Training Institutes.

Under the Government of India's Skill India Mission (SIM) , the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) delivers skill, re-skill and up-skill training through an extensive network of skill development centres / institutes etc. under various schemes, viz. Pradhan MantriKaushalVikasYojana (PMKVY), Jan SikhshanSansthan (JSS), National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) and Craftsman Training Scheme (CTS) through Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs), to all the sections of the society across the country.

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) to (b) of the Rajya Sabha Starred Q.No. 59* to be answered on 07.02.2025 regarding employment to women in rural areas

Explanatory note with respect to definition followed in the survey Periodic Labour Force Survey conducted by National Statistics Office

1. **Definition of worker (employed persons)**: Persons who, during the reference period, were engaged in any economic activity or who, despite their attachment to economic activity, temporarily abstained from work for reasons of illness, injury or other physical disability, bad weather, festivals, social or religious functions or other contingencies constituted *workers*.
2. **Definition of usual status worker (ps+ss)**: The workers in the usual status (ps+ss) are obtained by considering the usual principal status (ps) and the subsidiary status (ss) together. The workers in the usual status (ps+ss) include (a) the persons who worked for a relatively long part of the 365 days preceding the date of survey and (b) the persons from among the remaining population who had worked at least for 30 days during the reference period of 365 days preceding the date of survey.
3. **Seeking or available for work (or unemployed)**: Persons who, owing to lack of work, had not worked but either sought work through employment exchanges, intermediaries, friends or relatives or by making applications to prospective employers or expressed their willingness or availability for work under the prevailing conditions of work and remuneration, were considered as those 'seeking or available for work' (or unemployed).
4. **Unemployed persons in usual status (ps+ss)**: The number of persons unemployed for a relatively long period during a reference period of 365 days is defined as unemployed in the usual principal status or in usual status (ps). However, some of the unemployed on the basis of this criterion might be working in a subsidiary capacity. Therefore, the persons who are neither employed in PS nor employed in SS but available for work (seeking or not) are defined as unemployed in usual status (ps+ss).

$$\text{Unemployment Rate (UR)} = \frac{\text{Number of unemployed persons}}{\text{No. of employed persons} + \text{No. of unemployed persons}} \times 100$$

Annexure-II

Annexure referred to in reply to part (c) to (e) of the Rajya Sabha Starred Q.No. 59* to be answered on 07.02.2025 regarding employment to women in rural areas

State/UT-wise details of rural women who have been provided employment, skilling and enterprises supported under various rural development schemes in the country during the last three years

I. Mahatma Gandhi NREGS

Sl. No.	State/UTs	2021-22			2022-23		
		Total persondays generated (in lakh)	Women Persondays generated (in lakh)	%age of women persondays	Total persondays generated (in lakh)	Women Persondays generated (in lakh)	%age of women persondays
1	Andhra Pradesh	2414.79	1395.97	57.81	2395.36	1449.57	60.52
2	Arunachal Pradesh	158.69	70.98	44.73	151.07	69.33	45.89
3	Assam	915.85	435.65	47.57	786.78	374.13	47.55
4	Bihar	1802.75	958.82	53.19	2364.39	1333.48	56.4
5	Chhattisgarh	1692.27	873.48	51.62	1324.97	705.46	53.24
6	Goa	0.95	0.74	78.4	0.94	0.74	78.4
7	Gujarat	568.01	264.78	46.62	465.99	222.82	47.82
8	Haryana	146.39	77.1	52.67	96.48	57.51	59.6
9	Himachal Pradesh	370.94	231.96	62.53	307.89	199.59	64.83
10	Jammu and Kashmir	406.18	135.42	33.34	308.68	94.71	30.68
11	Jharkhand	1132.2	516.37	45.61	914.86	435.25	47.58
12	Karnataka	1632.1	818.17	50.13	1257.8	653.33	51.94
13	Kerala	1059.66	949.59	89.61	965.78	867.45	89.82
14	Ladakh	19.27	11.99	62.23	19.56	12.09	61.83
15	Madhya Pradesh	2998.5	1230.89	41.05	2258.99	944.36	41.8
16	Maharashtra	825.3	360.38	43.67	787.89	352.51	44.74
17	Manipur	303.31	159.48	52.58	74.16	37.82	50.99
18	Meghalaya	393.63	199.21	50.61	289.22	149.09	51.55
19	Mizoram	200.77	95.87	47.75	202.33	97.18	48.03
20	Nagaland	192.58	73.47	38.15	196.81	84.46	42.92
21	Odisha	1977.63	912.51	46.14	1850.9	887.8	47.97
22	Punjab	331.43	200.27	60.42	321.14	213.94	66.62
23	Rajasthan	4242.67	2828.99	66.68	3571.34	2437.21	68.24
24	Sikkim	34.34	18.08	52.65	32.47	17.71	54.54
25	Tamil Nadu	3457.26	2962.8	85.7	3346.55	2891.96	86.42
26	Telangana	1457.93	862.87	59.18	1218.66	750.14	61.55
27	Tripura	426.18	202.58	47.53	334.55	162.15	48.47
28	Uttar Pradesh	3255.75	1212.69	37.25	3113.23	1178.84	37.87
29	Uttarakhand	243.18	134.98	55.51	206.41	117.17	56.77
30	West Bengal	3642.27	1702.62	46.75	378.75	181.73	47.98
31	Andaman and Nicobar	1.14	0.61	54.1	1.29	0.76	59.13
32	Lakshadweep	0.01	0	0	0.05	0.01	26.67
33	Puducherry	6.15	5.38	87.59	8.3	7.26	87.54
34	Dn Haveli And Dd	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	36310.05	19904.69	54.82	29553.57	16987.55	57.48

Sl. No.	State/UTs	2023-24		
		Total persondays generated (in lakh)	Women Persondays generated (in lakh)	%age of women persondays
1	Andhra Pradesh	2554.92	1547.24	60.56
2	Arunachal Pradesh	160.52	76.77	47.83
3	Assam	874.41	442.43	50.6
4	Bihar	2205.2	1196.82	54.27
5	Chhattisgarh	1276.62	690.85	54.12
6	Goa	0.43	0.31	72.09
7	Gujarat	492.75	231.55	46.99
8	Haryana	123.16	75.19	61.05
9	Himachal Pradesh	344.31	220.6	64.07
10	Jammu And Kashmir	374.75	120.52	32.16
11	Jharkhand	1097.14	524.81	47.83
12	Karnataka	1384.71	731.58	52.83
13	Kerala	994.59	887.84	89.27
14	Ladakh	20.24	12.88	63.66
15	Madhya Pradesh	1995.72	864.75	43.33
16	Maharashtra	1159.99	509.65	43.94
17	Manipur	146.8	77.75	52.96
18	Meghalaya	325.07	186.67	57.43
19	Mizoram	204.07	99.76	48.89
20	Nagaland	178.73	80.02	44.77
21	Odisha	1828.34	896.96	49.06
22	Punjab	350.8	240.88	68.67
23	Rajasthan	3751.6	2577.6	68.71
24	Sikkim	34.33	19.03	55.42
25	Tamil Nadu	4087.02	3541.78	86.66
26	Telangana	1208.58	759.44	62.84
27	Tripura	370.49	183.65	49.57
28	Uttar Pradesh	3452.48	1458.91	42.26
29	Uttarakhand	196.88	111.93	56.85
30	West Bengal	1.65	0.74	45.02
31	Andaman And Nicobar	1.24	0.79	63.73
32	Lakshadweep	0.04	0.01	40
33	Puducherry	21.89	19.13	87.39
34	Dn Haveli And Dd	0.41	0.2	48.79
	Total	31219.87	18389.03	58.9

II. **State/UT-wise enterprises supported under Start-up Village Entrepreneurship Programme (SVEP)**

No.	State	Total Enterprises supported (as on 31.01.2025)
1	Andhra Pradesh	27656
2	Arunachal Pradesh	560
3	Assam	12631
4	Bihar	25994
5	Chhattisgarh	21199
6	Goa	2039
7	Gujarat	5940
8	Haryana	9854
9	Himachal Pradesh	663
10	Jammu & Kashmir (UT)	3954
11	Jharkhand	26507
12	Karnataka	1754
13	Kerala	35952
14	Madhya Pradesh	28710
15	Maharashtra	8273
16	Manipur	1910
17	Meghalaya	1291
18	Mizoram	1308
19	Nagaland	4118
20	Odisha	15043
21	Punjab	3425
22	Rajasthan	11337
23	Sikkim	559
24	Tamil Nadu	4834
25	Telangana	18263
26	Tripura	1491
27	Uttar Pradesh	29136
28	Uttarakhand	3674
29	West Bengal	21044
30	A & N Islands	0
31	Puducherry	0
	Total	329119

III. DeenDayalUpadhyayaGrameenKaushalyaYojana (DDU-GKY)

State/UT-wisedetails of women candidates trained and placed under DDU-GKY during the last 3 years:

S. No.	State/UT	2021-22		2022-23		2023-24	
		Women Trained	Women Placed	Women Trained	Women Placed	Women Trained	Women Placed
1	Andhra Pradesh	565	924	8276	7417	9892	9292
2	Arunachal Pradesh	227	68	406	215	418	219
3	Assam	2666	681	8896	4757	8794	5963
4	Bihar	4021	1225	6752	5110	4211	4032
5	Chhattisgarh	4505	1920	6698	5503	2154	2809
6	Gujarat	454	289	1713	879	2670	1703
7	Haryana	1019	411	2692	1552	4541	2728
8	Himachal Pradesh	161	6	2445	1337	2769	1979
9	Jammu and Kashmir	1091	481	2968	1301	599	595
10	Jharkhand	3624	1055	8464	5963	8244	6470
11	Karnataka	988	261	1977	1365	2222	1610
12	Kerala	1555	589	4334	2469	2501	2072
13	Madhya Pradesh	4556	2664	9767	7140	7671	6559
14	Maharashtra	204	911	3818	2371	3588	1905
15	Manipur	595	77	1155	819	358	391
16	Meghalaya	254	168	1262	874	1311	1004
17	Mizoram	116	44	203	217	427	289
18	Nagaland	477	185	1223	680	885	847
19	Odisha	7856	3902	11312	9817	3117	3603
20	Punjab	3601	2377	4572	3795	7159	5366
21	Rajasthan	1853	1455	3443	3679	5147	2553
22	Sikkim	30	7	468	184	694	430
23	Tamil Nadu	4772	1691	8675	5867	8191	6007
24	Telangana	1635	835	2116	1873	25	104
25	Tripura	400	81	980	522	939	568
26	Uttar Pradesh	8565	2107	19528	11482	26626	18679
27	Uttarakhand	2336	624	5219	2999	3770	3524
28	West Bengal	230	966	3503	1616	2376	2646
29	Puducherry	87	36	647	259	612	584
30	A and N Islands	0	0	7	3	339	153
Total		58443	26040	133519	92065	122250	94684

IV. Rural Self Employment Training Institutes (RSETIs)

State/UT-wise details of women candidates trained and settled under RSETI during the last 3 years:

S.NO	State/UT	2021-22		2022-23		2023-24	
		Women Trained	Women Settled	Women Trained	Women Settled	Women Trained	Women Settled
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	407	367	373	397	489	441
2	Andhra Pradesh	5961	5089	8565	7187	8936	7027
3	Arunachal Pradesh	128	0	239	243	300	141
4	Assam	7849	6666	12137	9524	14811	9882
5	Bihar	12828	9206	16365	14496	17466	15125
6	Chattisgarh	7612	6385	9749	9061	9957	8154
7	D & N Haveli	520	418	628	492	643	461
8	Gujarat	14701	12124	19290	15390	21845	14827
9	Haryana	9022	6572	11823	7721	12701	9425
10	Himachal Pradesh	4346	2959	5596	3747	6460	4956
11	Jammu & Kashmir	3403	2519	5826	4716	6418	4680
12	Jharkhand	12049	9444	16027	12107	16947	12648
13	Karnataka	12696	11246	17397	13881	17345	14416
14	Kerala	5092	4842	7951	6938	8703	6801
15	Ladakh	466	271	508	313	460	334
16	Lakshadweep	93	33	444	282	381	312
17	Madhya Pradesh	17931	15122	25123	20086	28372	22608
18	Maharashtra	14620	12275	20915	17112	22192	18017
19	Manipur	281	217	590	562	908	745
20	Meghalaya	1439	755	1534	1295	2024	1345
21	Mizoram	412	388	555	495	628	600
22	Nagaland	202	180	184	208	349	147
23	Odisha	14788	13088	18611	16317	20046	18288
24	Puducherry	446	340	667	633	746	607
25	Punjab	7599	5732	8401	6839	9470	7676
26	Rajasthan	20634	17132	26712	23016	29256	24135
27	Sikkim	165	115	332	269	262	243
28	Tamil Nadu	14119	12227	22636	18014	25365	21076
29	Telangana	3807	3548	4929	4327	5315	4520
30	Tripura	1981	1376	2377	1927	3021	2377
31	Uttar Pradesh	47894	41746	48633	41883	49257	43662
32	Uttarakhand	5361	3675	6047	4793	6920	5243
33	West Bengal	8255	6343	10734	8706	12325	9473
	Total	257107	212400	331898	272977	360318	290392
