

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1244
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.03.2025

LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN FROM MINORITY COMMUNITIES

1244. SHRI SANDOSH KUMAR P:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the data on the labour force participation of women from minority communities during the last three years, State-wise;
- (b) the data on the number of women belonging to minority communities employed in Government services, State-wise; and
- (c) whether Government is planning to improve the labour force participation rate of women from minority communities, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

- (a) The estimates of all-India labour force participation rate - defined as the percentage of persons in labour force (i.e. working or seeking or available for work) in the population - for females among major religious groups as per the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) conducted by the National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation during 2021-22, 2022-23 and 2023-24 are as under:

Religious group	PLFS 2021-22	PLFS 2022-23	PLFS 2023-24
Hinduism	26.1	30.5	33.3
Islam	15.0	14.2	21.4
Christianity	34.2	35.1	38.3
Sikhism	19.8	23.5	26.7
All	24.8	27.8	31.7

The State-wise data is not available.

- (b) This data is not available.

- (c) The Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS) is a flagship Scheme of the Ministry which focuses on upliftment of six notified minorities through skill development; education

support for school dropouts along with targeted focus on women through the entrepreneurship and leadership component. The scheme converges the five erstwhile schemes of the Ministry viz. Seekho aur Kamao, Upgrading the Skills and Training in Traditional Arts Crafts for Development (USTTAD), Hamari Dharohar, Nai Roshni, and Nai Manzil.

Seekho aur Kamao scheme, started in 2014-15, targeted to upgrade the skills of minority youth (14-45 years) in various modern / traditional skills depending upon their qualification, prevailing economic trends, and market potential, that could earn them suitable employment or make them suitably skilled to take up self-employment. Under the scheme, over 2.69 lakh women were trained, which is 57.64% of the total beneficiaries.

USTTAD scheme started in 2015 and targeted capacity building and upgrading of the traditional skills of master craftsmen / artisans. Under the scheme, 19,255 women were trained, which is 89.10% of the total beneficiaries.

Nai Manzil scheme was under implementation from 2014-15 to 2020-21 with an objective to benefit the minority youth who do not have formal school leaving certificate. The scheme provided a combination of formal education (Class VIII or X) and skills and enabled the beneficiaries to seek better employment and livelihoods. Under the scheme, 54,233 women were trained, which is 54.94% of the total beneficiaries.
