

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

LOK SABHA

**STARRED QUESTION NO. 53
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.02.2017**

WOMEN WORKFORCE PARTICIPATION

***53. DR. SHASHI THAROOR:**

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the International Labour Organisation's report which has identified India's Female Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) as one of the lowest in the world and if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;**
- (b) whether the Government has also taken note of the World Bank report which states that the poor growth rate in sectors which specifically employ women workers in India is a major cause of low LFPR;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard including the incentives proposed to be provided to such sectors;**
- (d) whether the Government also proposes to provide assistance to develop other support systems, including mobile creches and day-care centres, that cater to the needs of women workers particularly in the unorganised sector to increase female LFPR; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with other steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?**

**ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)**

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 53 DUE FOR 06/02/2017 BY DR. SHASHI THAROOR, HON'BLE MP REGARDING WOMEN WORKFORCE PARTICIPATION.

(a) & (b): Government of India has received no formal communication either from International Labour Organisation (ILO) or World Bank in this regard. Although, few of the working/research papers of ILO and World Bank available on internet mentions the said trend.

(c): Not applicable.

(d) & (e) Government of India has taken various proactive measures to encourage female employment. The Maternity Benefit Amendment Bill, 2016 has been passed by Rajya Sabha. The proposed amendment inter-alia includes provisions for providing creche facilities in the establishments having 50 or more employees on mandatory basis. The Bill is to be considered in the Lok Sabha. Other enabling provisions are being taken appropriately. The textile package announced by the Government of India will also encourage participation of more women in this sector. Skill development programmes and recognition of prior learning programmes are not gender specific but are training large number of women also to take advantage of job opportunities. Women helpline numbers to protect the safety of women going out for work is also an enabling factor for promoting women employment.
