

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 382
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH DECEMBER, 2017**

WOMEN WORKFORCE PARTICIPATION

**382. SHRI KESINENI NANI:
SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI FEROZE VARUN GANDHI:**

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

- (a) the details of contribution of women in the workforce as a percentage of the workforce and as a percentage of contribution to GDP in the last three years;**
- (b) whether there is any change in participation of women in the workforce during the said period in the formal and informal sector and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (c) the major reasons for low participation of women in the workforce and the steps taken by the Government to boost the same?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)**

(a) & (b): As per the survey of Labour Bureau, the estimated female Worker Population Ratio aged 15 years and above on usual status basis was 25.0% during 2012-13, 29.6% during 2013-14 and 25.8% during 2015-16 and the GDP growth rate has been 5.5%, 6.4% and 8.0% for the years 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2015-16. Worker Population Ratio (WPR) for male and female both on usual status basis is given below:-

Worker Population Ratio (WPR)- All India (in %)			
Years	Male	Female	Persons
2012-13	74.5	25.0	51.0
2013-14	73.5	29.6	53.7
2015-16	73.3	25.8	50.5

(c): The decline in female work force participation rate may be attributed to factors like increase in level of income in rural areas due to increase in real wages, increased educational attendance and higher level of participation in education and insufficient formal wage employment opportunities etc.

The Government has taken several initiatives to improve the employability of youth including women. A new Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship has been established to coordinate the skill development schemes across various sectors. Government is implementing the National Career Service(NCS) Project with a portal (www.ncs.gov.in) for online registration and posting of jobs for job-seekers and provide other employment related services.

In order to encourage the employment for women, statutory provisions have been made in certain Labour laws for organizing child care centers for the benefit of women workers, Factories Act, 1948, the Beedi & Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966 and the Building and other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and conditions of Service)Act, 1996. The Mines Creche Rules, 1966 provide for establishment of crèches for the benefit of women workers. The Plantation Labour Act, 1951 provides that the women workers be provided time-off for feeding children and Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 also provides for child care facilities at worksite.
