

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3896
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24TH MARCH, 2025**

FEMALE LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE

3896. DR. BACHHAV SHOBHA DINESH:

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any study to increase the female labour force participation rate in the country, State-wise;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and**
- (c) the details and number of Indian women joined the labour force during the last ten years and the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SUSHRI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE)**

(a) to (c): The official data source on Employment and Unemployment is Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) which is conducted by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) since 2017-18. The survey period is July to June every year.

As per the latest available Annual PLFS reports, the estimated Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) on usual status for females of age 15 years and above during 2017-18 to 2023-24 are as follows:

Year	LFPR (in %)
2017-18	23.3
2018-19	24.5
2019-20	30.0
2020-21	32.5
2021-22	32.8
2022-23	37.0
2023-24	41.7

Source: PLFS, MoSPI

The data indicates that the female labour force participation has an increasing trend over the years in the country.

The detailed State-wise information is available in the PLFS reports which may be seen at the website of MoSPI at https://www.mospi.gov.in/download-reports?main_cat=ODU5&cat=All&sub_category=All

Employment generation coupled with improving employability is the priority of the Government. Government is implementing various schemes to boost the female Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) as well as the overall LFPR like Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY), Stand-UP India Scheme, Startup India, Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), Women in Science and Engineering-KIRAN (WISE-KIRAN), SERB-POWER (Promoting Opportunities for Women in Exploratory Research), Mission Shakti, Namu Drone Didi and Lakhpati Didi, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY), Rural Self Employment and Training Institutes (RSETIs), Deen Dayal Antodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM), 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 .

To enhance the employability of female workers, the Government is also providing training to them through a network of Women Industrial Training institutes, National Vocational Training Institutes and Regional Vocational Training Institutes.

A number of provisions have also been incorporated in the labour laws for congenial work environment for women workers, such as paid maternity leave, child care leave, equal wages etc.

All these initiatives are expected to collectively generate employment in the medium to long term through multiplier effects.

In addition, Ministry of Labour and Employment in January, 2024 issued an "Advisory for Employers to Promote Women Workforce Participation". This advisory inter-alia mentions the need for balance between employment and care responsibilities for both men and women including family friendly measures such as paternity leave, parental leave, family emergency leave and flexible working arrangements.

Further, the Union Budget (2024-25) announced setting up of working women hostels in collaboration with industry, and establishing creches, for increasing participation of women in the workforce.
