

## UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR WOMEN HAS COMEDOWN FROM 5.1% IN 2018-19 TO 4.2% IN 2019-20.

Relevant for: Developmental Issues | Topic: Rights & Welfare of Women - Schemes & their Performance, Mechanisms, Laws Institutions and Bodies

As per the results of Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) conducted by National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation during 2019-20, Labour Force Participation Rate(LFPR) for the persons aged 15 years and above on usual status (principal status + subsidiary status) basis, LFPR for women has increased from 24.5% in 2018-19 to 30.0% in 2019-20 and the unemployment rate for women has come down from 5.1% in 2018-19 to 4.2% in 2019-20. This was informed by Minister of State for Labour and Employment Shri Rameshwar Teli in a written reply in Lok Sabha yesterday.

Government has taken several initiatives to improve women's participation in the labour force. In order to encourage employment of women, a number of protective provisions have been incorporated in the labour laws for creating congenial work environment for women workers. These include enhancement in paid maternity leave from 12 weeks to 26 weeks, provision for mandatory crèche facility in the establishments having 50 or more employees, permitting women workers in the night shifts with adequate safety measures, etc.

Government has taken a decision to allow the employment of women in the aboveground mines including opencast workings between 7 pm and 6 am and in below ground working between 6 am and 7 pm in technical, supervisory and managerial work where continuous presence may not be required. Further, in order 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.

Government has taken various steps for generating employment in the country like encouraging various projects involving substantial investment and increasing public expenditure on schemes like Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Pt. DeenDayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) and Deendayal Antodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM).

Aatmanirbhar Bharat Rozgar Yojna (ABRY) Scheme has been launched with effect from 1st October 2020 to incentivize creation of new employment along with social security benefits and restoration of loss of employment. This scheme reduces the financial burden of the employers and encourages them to hire more workers. Under ABRY, Government of India is providing for a period of two years both the employees' share (12% of wages) and employer's share (12% of wages) of contribution payable or only the employees' share, depending on employment strength of the EPFO registered establishments.

The new employees under the scheme include those who lost their jobs during Covid-19 and didn't join in any EPF covered establishment upto 30.09.2020. The terminal date for registration of beneficiary under the scheme has been extended from 30th June, 2021 to 31st March, 2022. As on 12th July 2021, total benefit of around Rs.993 crores has been given through 84,390 establishments covering more than 22 lakh beneficiaries including 5.88 lakh women beneficiaries.

Government is incentivizing employers for creation of new employment with social security benefits. Under the scheme, Government of India is paying Employer's full contribution i.e. 12% towards EPF and EPS both (as admissible from time to time) for a period of three years to the new employees through EPFO. The terminal date for registration of beneficiary through establishment was 31st March 2019. The beneficiaries registered upto 31st March, 2019 will continue to receive the benefits for 3 years from the date of registration under the scheme. Under PMRPY, as on 14.06.2021, benefits have been given to 1.21 crores beneficiaries including 26.05 lakhs women beneficiaries.

Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) has been initiated by Government inter alia, for facilitating self-employment. Under PMMY collateral free loans upto Rs. 10 lakh, are extended to micro/small business enterprises and to individuals to enable them to setup or expand their business activities. About 70% of the loans have been given to women entrepreneurs.

Government has increased MGNREGA wage to Rs. 202 a day from Rs. 182 to benefit nearly 13.62 crore families. Out of total employment generated (in person days) under MGNREGS, women share has increased from around 145.35 crore person days in FY 2019-20 to around 207 crore person days in the FY 2020-21.

**Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) according to usual principal status+ subsidiary status (ps+ss) for each State/UT age groups: 15 years and above**

(inpercentage)

Sl.No

State/UTs

rural+urban(2019-20)

Male

Female

person

1

AndhraPradesh

78.1

39.2

58.2

2

ArunachalPradesh

68.8

22.9

47.5

3

Assam

77.0

16.4

46.9

4

Bihar

73.0

9.5

41.8

5

Chhattisgarh

82.3

53.1

67.6

6

Delhi

73.5

16.1

47.3

7

Goa

75.7

28.2

51.5

8

Gujarat

79.4

31.1

55.9

9

Haryana

73.7

15.7

45.8

10

HimachalPradesh

82.0

65.0

73.2

11

Jharkhand

76.9

35.7

55.9

12

Karnataka

77.4

33.8

55.5

13

Kerala

71.7

31.9

50.3

14

MadhyaPradesh

80.0

37.7

59.4

15

Maharashtra

75.6

38.7

57.5

16

Manipur

70.9

29.9

50.3

17

Meghalaya

75.3

45.7

60.2

18

Mizoram

69.8

37.0

53.8

19

Nagaland

76.0

43.0

60.3

20

Odisha

78.3

33.1

55.3

21

Punjab

77.2

23.7

51.6

22

Rajasthan

76.2

38.6

57.6

23

Sikkim

79.8

59.4

70.4

24

TamilNadu

77.9

40.2

58.4

25

Telangana

75.7

44.3

59.9

26

Tripura

78.1

24.2

51.2

27

Uttarakhand

74.6

31.8

53.4

28

UttarPradesh

76.0

17.7

47.1

29

WestBengal

80.0

24.0

52.1

30

A&NIslands

75.9

35.9

57.0

31

Chandigarh

77.3

20.4

48.5

32

Dadra&Nagar

Haveli

89.5

52.3

74.4

33

Daman&Diu

87.9

35.8

66.4

34

Jammu& Kashmir

74.3

37.4

56.3

35

Ladakh

72.8

51.1

62.8

36

Lakshadweep

81.2

29.7

55.6

37

Puducherry

71.6

31.6

51.7

AllIndia

76.8

30.0

53.5

Source: Annual report, Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS), 2019-20 M/o  
Statistics and Programme Implementation.

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Source: Annual report, Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS), 2019-20 M/o Statistics and Programme Implementation.

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**END**

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