

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4943
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2010
PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN LABOUR MARKET
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Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether according to an International Labour Organisation survey about three fourth of the work force are women in the country;
- (b) if so, whether the increased participation of women including tribal women in the labour market is likely to boost Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in future;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to encourage the women in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT(SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) No, Madam. However, the total workforce in the country on usual status basis during 2004-05 is estimated to be 459.10 million based on 61st Round National Sample Survey (NSS) on Employment-Unemployment. Women workers among them were 148.98 million which is about 32.5 per cent of the total workers.

(b) & (c) Work force participation rate (WFPR) is one of the indicators of the descent work. Work force participation rate measures the capacity of an economy to expand/ contract productive jobs to the growing labour force. Higher level of WFPR amongst women including tribal ones in the labour market is, therefore, likely to boost Gross Domestic Product of the country.

(d) The Government has formulated a National Policy for the empowerment of women, 2001 which takes care of all social groups including tribal women in the country.

Directorate General of Employment & Training (DGE&T) under Ministry of Labour & Employment has set up a network of Institutes, both under the Central & State Governments, which aim at stimulating employment opportunities among women of various socio-economic levels and different age groups. Under the Central Sector, a National Vocational Training Institute (NVTI) for women, NOIDA and ten Regional Vocational Training Institutes (RVTIs) for women have been set up across the country. Under State Sector, Vocational Training facilities exclusively for women at Craftsmen level are provided through a network of Women Industrial Training institutes/Women Wings in ITIs under the administrative control of the respective State Governments. The employment exchanges take special care to cater to the job needs of women registered with them. During 2009, 53372 women were placed in various employments.

The Ministry of Women & Child Development is also administering a scheme called Support to Training and Employment Programme (STEP) for women. The Scheme aims to provide training for skill up gradation, development of entrepreneurial skills, asset creation and mobilization into small viable groups to enable beneficiaries to take up employment-cum-income generation activities. The programme is implemented through implementing agencies.