

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3931
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2012
FEMALE LABOURERS
Raghavan Shri M. K.

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

- (a) whether female labour force has stagnated below 35 per cent in the country during the last more than 25 years;
- (b) if so, whether this is attributed to unequal wages, security, access for finance and proper training etc; and
- (c) if so, the measures being taken to overcome this factor and raise the female labour force in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE)

(a) Reliable estimates of employment and unemployment are obtained through quinquennial labour force surveys conducted by National sample Survey Office. Last such survey was conducted during 2009-10. As per results of various rounds of surveys conducted during 1983 to 2009-10, female labour force participation rate on usual status basis has varied from around 30.0 percent in 1983 to 23.3 percent in 2009-10.

(b) Decline in rate of growth of labour force during 2004-05 to 2009-10 may be attributed to drastic deceleration in labour force participation rate, particularly, among women, reduction in subsidiary employment, increase in level of income in rural areas due to increase in real wages, higher level of participation in education, etc.

(c) In order to enhance skills and employability of women, the Ministry of Labour & Employment is providing training to them through a network of Industrial Training Institutes, National Vocational Training Institute and Regional Vocational Training Institute and Regional Vocational Training Institutes for women. Large number of women are being trained in modular employable skills under Skill Development Initiative Scheme. Government has also been implementing various employment generation programmes, such as, Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rojgar Yojana, Swarnajayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act and Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme in addition to various entrepreneurial development programmes run by Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium enterprises.