

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:517  
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2012  
DECREASING WOMEN LABOUR FORCE  
Choudhry Smt. Shruti

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

- (a) whether female labour force in the country has come down by an alarming seven per cent in the past three decades; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof comparatively along with the reasons there for?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE)

(a & b) 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 two rounds of these surveys on employment and unemployment conducted during 1983 and 2009-10, female labour force participation rate based on usual status basis has declined from 29.5 per cent in 1983 to 23.3 per cent in 2009-10. Reasons for decline in female labour force participation rate are mainly attributed to increasingly higher level of participation in education and rise in the level of income due to increase in real wages.