

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3694
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2012
WOMEN LABOUR FORCE
Biswal Shri Hemanand

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

- (a) whether the overall participation of women in the labour force remains low in the country;
- (b) if so, the State-wise data on the participation of women in the labour force in the country;
- (c) whether there is a proposal to set up child care facilities at work- sites to increase women's participation in the Labour force; and
- (d) the measures taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH)

(a) Reliable estimates of employment and unemployment are obtained through quinquennial labour force surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Office (NSSO). Last quinquennial labour force survey was conducted during 2009-10. As per the two most recent surveys, labour force participation rate based on usual status basis for women in the country has declined from 29.4 percent in 2004-05 to 23.3 percent in 2009-10.

(b) State-wise labour force participation rate on usual status basis for women in the country is at Annex.

(c & d) Statutory provisions have been made in certain Labour laws for organizing child care centres for the benefit of women workers. The Factories Act, 1948, the Beedi & Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966 and the Building and other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996, the Mines Creche Rules, 1966 provide for establishment of cr ches for the benefit of women workers. The Plantation Labour Act, 1951 provides that the women workers be provided time-off for feeding children. Under MGNREGA, Worksite facilities like cr che if there are more than five children below the age of six years will have to be provided by the implementing Agency. If more than five children below the age of six years are present at the worksite, a person (preferably a woman) is required to be engaged to look after them and will be paid a wage equal to the prevalent wage rate paid to the unskilled worker.