

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 851
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.07.2024

IMPACT OF UNEMPLOYMENT ON WOMEN

851. SHRI CHARANJIT SINGH CHANNI:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has assessed the impact of unemployment on women during the last five years and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has evaluated the mental health issues in women caused by unemployment and high inflation and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Ministry has any specific plan to tackle growing mental illness and depression in women caused by unemployment and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
(SHRIMATI ANNPURNA DEVI)

(a): As per the latest available Annual Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) Reports, the estimated Unemployment Rate (UR) on usual status for persons of age 15 years and above has decreased from 6.0% in 2017-18 to 4.1% in 2021-22.

As per the PLFS Reports, the estimated Worker Population Ratio (WPR), indicating employment, on usual status for persons of age 15 years and above was 46.8%, 47.3%, 50.9%, 52.6% and 52.9% during 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22, respectively, which shows an increasing trend.

In rural areas, Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) increased from 50.7% in 2017-18 to 60.8% in 2022-23 while for urban areas it increased from 47.6% to 50.4%. LFPR for male in India increased from 75.8% in 2017-18 to 78.5% in 2022-23 and corresponding increase in LFPR for female was from 23.3% to 37.0%.

The Aatmanirbhar Bharat Rojgar Yojana (ABRY) was launched with effect from 1st October, 2020 to incentivize employers for creation of new employment and restoration of loss of employment during Covid-19 pandemic. The terminal date for registration of beneficiaries was 31.03.2022. Since inception of the scheme, till 28.02.2023, benefits have been provided to 60.31 lakhs beneficiaries under the scheme.

One of the most successful schemes of the Central Government is Deendayal Antyodaya Yojna - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM), under which approximately 90 lakhs women self-help groups having nearly 10 crore members are changing the rural landscape for employment/ self-employment. Similarly, National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM) is for urban areas. Besides, there are schemes like the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY), Stand-up India, Start-up India, Pradhan Mantri Street Vendors AtmaNirbharNidhi (PM SVANidhi), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), for providing employment/ self-employment and credit facilities. Majority of the beneficiaries under these schemes are women. The Central Government also provides skill and vocational training to the women under the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojna (PMKVY). Similarly, the Government implements the Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA) to provide digital literacy to rural populations. These two schemes have also helped women and girls gaining necessary skills required for jobs and entrepreneurship.

(b) & (c) : The Ministry of Women and Child Development implements the component of One Stop Centre, under which integrated services such as medical aid, psycho-social counselling, police facilitation, Legal aid and counselling etc. provided under one roof to the needy and distressed women. The Ministry of Women and Child Development through National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS) has also provided basic and advanced training under the project named 'Stree Manoraksha' to the staff of One Stop Centres (OSCs) across the country on handling psycho-social and mental health care needs to support the women facing violence and women in distress.
