

Women's participation in UP labour force surges by 17.9%

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Lucknow: The participation of women in Uttar Pradesh's labour force has witnessed a remarkable surge of 17.9% over the past six years, says the latest Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS).

The survey says that the state's women labour force participation rate soared from 14.2% in 2017-18 to an impressive 32.10% in 2022-23.

While this is below the national average of 39.80%, the state government said the jump of 17.9% has come about due to implementation of several pro-women schemes at both the central and state levels.

"This is a highly commendable development, showing the success of chief minister Yogi Adityanath's schemes in the state," said a government spokesperson.

As an example, an official said that in UP, a network of 10

lakh self-help groups has connected 1 crore women with employment while more than two lakh women have benefited from the PM SVANidhi Yojana.

In the all India data given in the report, the country had

SURVEY FINDING

a female labour force participation rate of 39.80% in 2022-23 while in 2017-18, India's female labour force participation rate stood at 25.3%.

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi's focus on women's empowerment at the national level, combined with the CM's emphasis on women's self-reliance in UP, has played a pivotal role in bolstering women's participation in the workforce across the country," the official added.

The official said that the notable pro-women initiatives include the Beti Bachao-Beti Padhao campaign,

which has raised awareness among 1.90 crore women in just UP, and the Mission Shakti campaign, which has benefited 8.99 crore women in the state. The government has approved 1,89,789 Anganwadi centres of which 1,89,014 centres are currently operational.

He added that initiatives like the Banking Correspondent Sakhi programme have helped not just women become self-reliant but also taken the convenience of banking right to the doorsteps of villagers. They have been appointed in 57,000 gram panchayats. More than 1.5 lakh women have secured government jobs in UP.

"These initiatives have provided women with the necessary resources and support to thrive in various sectors, ensuring that they derive maximum benefits from a range of government programmes," he said.