

In a first for G20, India may add chapter on women-owned SMEs

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New Delhi: From women steering self help groups on ground to women in the small and medium enterprises, the deliberations of the G20 alliance for the empowerment and progression of women's economic representation (G20 EMPOWER) has brought focus on the role of women at the grassroots level and the need to recognise them.

In a first under the G20 process, India proposes to add a chapter to the 'EMPOWER KPI Dashboard' on women in SMEs which is being cited as a factor that will be instrumental in supportive evidence based policy-making towards improving the health of women-owned SMEs across G20 nations. "The KPI dashboard is there to measure

and monitor the progress of women to leadership positions through identified indicators because it is well known fact that what you cannot measure you cannot show," said Sangita Reddy, joint managing director of Apollo Hospitals Group who is the chair of G20 EMPOWER. The dashboard updates data on parameters like monitoring women's workforce participation across levels, gender pay gap, share of women on company's board of directors, numbers of women in technical roles. The revamped new KPI dashboard with enhanced features is proposed to be launched on August 1.

"EMPOWER is taking forward the cause of women's empowerment and women led development based on a life cycle continuum ap-

proach through various endeavours focussing on the priority areas," Reddy said. "During India's G20 presidency the identified priority areas include — women entrepreneurship — a win-win for equity and economy; creating a global partnership for promoting women's leadership across all levels including the grassroots; education, the game changing pathway to women's empowerment with digital inclusion being a cross cutting area," she added.

G20 Empower is an alliance among businesses and governments for accelerating women's leadership and empowerment across G20 countries. This initiative was launched in 2019 with representation from the government and private sector.