

Women workforce increased from 12% to 36% in 8 yrs: CM

'UP Police Have 44K Women Personnel Now'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Lucknow. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Friday said the women's participation in UP's workforce has recorded a threefold increase in the last eight years and urged them to contribute more in the state's development.

"When we came to office, the rate of women workforce was around 12-15%, but this number has soared to 35-36% in the past years," the CM said in his address at the national convention of FICCI FLO — the women's wing of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry — in Lucknow.

Citing the example of women's numbers in police recruitment, the CM said that in 2017, UP Police had only 10,000 women but now there are 44,000 women personnel, and this will increase further as the govt has made 20% women's recruitment mandatory.

Underlining that when women progress, society progresses faster, Yogi encouraged FICCI FLO members to inspire more women. "When women become self-reliant, the country and state also become self-reliant. For a deve-



Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath attends a three-day inter-state conference organised by FICCI FLO, in Lucknow on Friday

loped India, women can fulfil an even more important responsibility than the strong

participation of men. Women are leading society in every field today," he said.

The CM cited the example of the Balini Milk Producers group of Jhansi as a case in point. "Established in 2019, this group had a handful of women who were barely class eight pass. But due to their diligence and vision, they have grown into a force of 62,000 women that none can reckon with. Now, they are linking new milk producers in Lucknow, Agra, Varanasi, and Gorakhpur, with which thousands of women are joining economic self-reliance," he said.

Yogi said there was no dearth of opportunities. "Bangladesh's position in the global market of readymade garments is continuously declining. India can capture that market. This is an opportunity for women entrepreneurs. FICCI FLO can play a major role in advancing half the population through the flatted factory model in readymade garments," he said.

He suggested to FICCI FLO to connect women and set a target of reaching not 16,000 but 16 lakh organisations in the first phase. Every small and big work is an enterprise and assured the organisation that UP govt will cooperate in the campaign.

FICCI FLO national president Poonam Sharma, national senior vice-president Pooja Garg, founder-president Abha Dalmia, Vandita Agarwal, chairperson FLO Lucknow Chapter were among those present.