

Work Participation of Women in India

Women's work participation refers to the involvement of women in economic activities such as paid employment, self-employment and unpaid family work. It is an important indicator of gender equality and economic development. Although, women constitute nearly half of India's population, their participation in the workforce has traditionally been lower due to social, cultural and economic barriers. However, in recent years, there has been gradual improvement, reflecting growing empowerment and inclusion.

A large share of working women in India is concentrated in the primary sector, especially agriculture and allied activities. Nearly 60-65 percent of working women are engaged in farming, livestock rearing, fisheries and related work. Women play a crucial role in sowing, transplanting, weeding, harvesting and post-harvest processing. However, much of this work is unpaid or underpaid and women often lack ownership of land and access to resources. As a result, their contribution remains

undervalued.

Women's participation in the secondary sector (industries and manufacturing) is comparatively lower but gradually increasing. Around 15-20 percent of working women are engaged in activities such as textile production, handicrafts, food processing and small-scale industries. Many women work in informal or home-based units where wages are low and job security is limited. Lack of technical skills and training also restricts their entry into higher-level industrial jobs.

The tertiary or service sector is the fastest-growing area of employment for women, especially in urban areas. Women are increasingly working in education, healthcare, banking, administration and information technology. These jobs offer better wages, job security and career advancement opportunities. However, challenges such as work-life balance, workplace safety and limited leadership roles still persist.

There is also a noticeable rural-urban difference in women's work participation. Rural women tend to have higher participation rates due to involvement in agriculture and family-based work. In contrast,

Urban women often show lower participation because of higher educational engagement, social norms, and limited suitable job opportunities. Many women also leave jobs after marriage or childbirth due to household responsibilities and lack of support systems.

The Government of India has taken several initiatives to improve women's participation in the workforce. Programs such as Self-Help Groups (SHGs), MGNREGA, and Skill India aim to provide employment opportunities, skills development and financial independence. Efforts are also being made to promote women entrepreneurship, digital literacy and access to credit.

According to recent surveys, female labour force participation in India has shown improvement, but many women are still employed in informal, low-paid and insecure jobs. Therefore, the focus should not only be on increasing participation but also on improving the quality of employment, ensuring equal pay, job security and safe working conditions.

In conclusion, women's work participation in India is gradually improving, reflecting positive progress toward empowerment and equality. However, challenges such as gender inequality, informal employment and social barriers remain. For inclusive and sustainable development, it is essential to ensure that women have access to secure, well-paid and dignified employment opportunities.

- Fiza Siddique
2nd Semester




Inflation and Its Impact on Women

Inflation, the steady rise in prices of goods and services, affects everyone but its impact on women is often deeper and less visible.

As prices increase, managing daily household expenses becomes more difficult and in many families women are the ones who bear this responsibility.

Women, especially those in low-income groups or informal sectors, face greater challenges during inflation. Their earnings are often lower and less stable, making it harder to cope with rising costs of food, healthcare and education. For homemakers, inflation means stretching limited resources to meet the needs of the entire family.

Moreover, inflation can reduce women's access to essential services. When budgets shrink, spending on women's health, nutrition and



education is often compromised first. This silently widens inequality and affects their overall well-being.

Addressing inflation is not just an economic issue but also a social one. Policies should focus on protecting vulnerable groups, especially women, by ensuring fair wages, price stability and access to basic necessities.

Inflation is more than rising prices, it is a challenge that highlights the hidden struggles of women and calls for inclusive solutions.

— Amalraj Tete
5th semester



Where Women And Rivers Meet

She begins like a river
quiet, unnoticed, small,
a gentle stream of dreams
no one listens to at all.

She flows through paths of life,
through stones, through shifting sand,
giving more than she receives,
like rivers feeding land.

Like Sacred Ganga, she nurtures all,
yet asks for nothing back,
she carries worlds upon her heart,
but walks a silent track



She bends but never truly breaks,
she changes, yet stays true,
a river and a woman -
both powerful, both new.

In every man, in every tear,
their stories intertwine,
for where a river learns to flow,
a woman learn to shine.

- Liza Siddique
2nd Semester

The One Who Flows Like A River

She is a lady, flowing with the flow,
Just like a river that softly flows.

Blowing away all the knots,
Breaking down all the barriers,
Removing away all the titles,
She flows, carrying her glow.

The pain she carries, no one knows,
The tears that fall, no one saw.
The only thing they ever saw was
her strong comeback everytime that she show.

She doesn't chase, she simply flows,
Where fate intends, her current goes,
No force can bind, no wall can stay,
She finds her path in her own way.

Therefore, she is compared to a river
that keeps flowing carrying its glow.

- Dibya Kumari Singh
B.A 2nd semester

Before you Shine for others

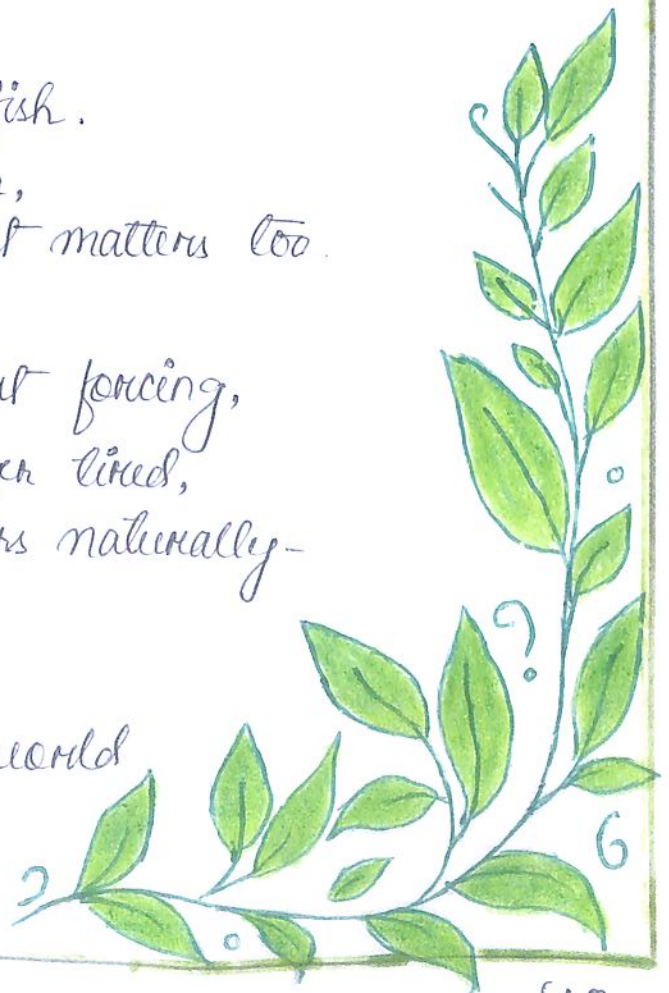
- Trailukya Chetia
B. A 2nd Sem

Be lights first for yourself-
before you become the sunrise for others.
Sit with your own shadows,
listen to the ache you keep silent,
for even wounds deserve patience and care.

Learn to forgive the days you were not strong,
the nights you broke quietly
so no one would hear.
Water your own soul gently,
because a drained heart cannot keep shining.

Rest is not weakness,
choosing yourself is not selfish.
It is survival, it is wisdom,
It is learning that your light matters too.

Only when you grow without forcing,
when your smile is no longer tired,
will your light reach others naturally-
soft, steady, real.
And then, without trying,
you will illuminate the world
simply by being whole.





Quiz



1. Who was the first Indian woman doctor?

Ans: Amambai Jishi

2. First Indian woman to get a PhD?

Ans: Kamala Senani

3. First Indian woman to receive D. Sc (Doctor of Science)?

Ans: Asima Chatterjee

4. First Indian woman meteorologist?

Ans: Anna Mari

5. First Indian woman scientist to head Botanical Survey of India?

Ans: Janaki Ammal

6. First woman Prime Minister of India?

Ans: Indira Gandhi

7. First woman President of India?

Ans: Pratibha Patil



8. First woman Governor of an Indian state ?

Ans: Sarojini Naidu

9. First woman Chief Minister of an Indian state ?

Ans: Sucheta Kriplani

10. First woman Union Cabinet Minister of India ?

Ans: Rajkumari Amrita Kaur.

11. First woman IPS officer of India ?

Ans: Kiran Bedi

12. First woman IAS officer of India ?

Ans: Anna Rajam Malhotra

13. First woman judge of Supreme Court of India ?

Ans: Fathima Beevi

14. First woman High Court judge in India ?

Ans: Anna Chandy.

15. First Indian woman in space ?

Ans: Kalpana Chawla

16. First Indian - origin woman in space mission?

Ans: Sunita Williams

17. First Indian woman to climb Mount Everest?

Ans: Bachendri Pal

18. First Indian woman Olympic medal winner?

Ans: Karnam Malleswari

19. First Indian woman combat pilot?

Ans: Anani Chaturvedi

20. First woman Air Force officer pilot (India)?

Ans: Harita Kaur Seal

21. First Indian woman to open a girls' school?

Ans: Savitribai Phule

22. First Indian woman playback singer legend?

Ans: Kala Mangeshkar

23. First Indian woman lawyer?

Ans: Cornelia Sorabji

24. First woman Nobel Prize winner connected to India?

Ans: Mother Teresa

List of Nobel Laureates in Economics 1969 - 2025

YEARS	LAUREATES	AWARDED FOR
1969	Lagom Friisch (Norway) Jan Tinbergen (Netherlands)	Econometric models and dynamic economic analysis
1970	Paul A. Samuelson (USA)	Scientific foundation of modern economics
1971	Simon Kuznets (USA)	Economic growth and national income analysis
1972	Kenneth J. Arrow, (USA) John R. Hicks, (UK)	General Equilibrium and welfare theory
1973	Wassily Leontief (USA)	Input - output analysis
1974	Friedrich A. Hayek (UK) Gunnar Myrdal, (Sweden)	Money, Fluctuations, and institutions

1975	Leonid Kantorovich (USSR) Tjalling C. Koopmans (USA)	Optimal resource allocation
1976	Milton Friedman (USA)	Consumption, monetary history, stabilization policy.
1977	James E. Meade, (UK) Bertil Ohlin, (Sweden)	International trade and capital flows.
1978	Herbert A. Simon (USA)	Decision making process within economic organisation
1979	Arthur Lewis, (UK) Theodore W. Schultz (USA)	Development economics and human capital
1980	Lawrence R. Klein, (USA)	Econometric forecasting models.
1981	James Tobin, (USA)	Financial Markets and macroeconomics.
1982	George J. Stigler, (USA)	Industrial structure and regulation
1983	Genealog Debreu, (USA)	General equilibrium theory
1984	Richard Stone, (UK)	National income accounting

1985	Franco Modigliani (USA)	Household saving and corporate finance
1986	James M. Buchanan (USA)	Public choice theory.
1987	Robert M. Solow (USA)	Theory of economic growth
1988	Maurice Allais (France)	Markets and efficient resource use
1989	Juhyue Haavelmo (Norway)	Foundations of econometrics
1990	Harry Markowitz, Merton Miller, William Sharpe, (USA)	Portfolio theory and finance.
1991	Ronald Coase, (UK / USA)	Transaction costs and market structure
1992	Gary S. Becker, (USA)	Applying economics to social behaviour
1993	Robert Fogel, Douglass North, (USA)	Economic history using theory and data.

1994	John Harsanyi (USA) John Nash (USA) Reinhard Selten (Germany)	Game theory equilibrium analysis
1995	Robert E. Lucas Jr (USA)	Rational expectation macroeconomics
1996	James Mirrlees (UK) William Vickrey (Canada)	Incentives under asymmetric information
1997	Robert Merton (USA) Myron Scholes (USA)	Pricing financial derivatives
1998	Amaritya Sen (India)	Welfare economics, Poverty, famine
1999	Robert Mundell (Canada)	Monetary dynamics and optimum currency areas
2000	James Heckman (USA) Daniel McFadden (USA)	Microeconometrics and discrete choice
2001	Wkerlof (USA) Spence (USA) Stiglitz (USA)	Markets with asymmetric information
2002	Daniel Kahneman (Israel) Veronon Smith (USA)	Behavioural economics and experiments.
2003	Robert Engle (USA) Clive Granger (UK)	Time series volatility and cointegration

2004	Finn Kydland (Norway) Edward Prescott (USA)	Dynamic macroeconomic and business cycles.
2005	Robert Aumann (Israel) Thomas Schelling (USA)	Conflicts and cooperation game theory
2006	Edmund Phelps (USA)	Intertemporal trade-offs in macroeconomics
2007	Hurwicz (USA) Maskin (USA) Myerson (USA)	Mechanism design theory.
2008	Paul Krugman (USA)	Trade patterns and economic geography.
2009	Elinor Ostrom (USA) Oliver Williamson (USA)	Governance of commons and firm boundaries
2010	Diamond (USA) Mortensen (USA) Pissarides (UK)	Search frictions in markets
2011	Thomas Sargent (USA) Christopher Sims (USA)	Causes and effects in macroeconomy
2012	Alvin Roth (USA) Lloyd Shapley (USA)	Matching theory and market design.

2013	Eugene Fama (USA) Lars Hansen (USA) Robert Shiller (USA)	Asset price empirical analysis
2014	Jean Tirole (France)	Market power and regulation.
2015	Angus Deaton (UK)	Consumption, poverty welfare
2016	Oliver Hart (UK) Bengt Holmstrom (Finland)	Contract theory
2017	Richard Thaler (USA)	Behavioural economics
2018	William Nordhaus (USA) Paul Romer (USA)	Climate economy and endogenous growth
2019	Abhijit Banerjee (India) Esther Duflo (France) Michael Kremer (USA)	Experimental approach to poverty
2020	Paul Milgrom (USA) Robert Wilson (USA)	Auction theory
2021	David Card (Canada) Joshua Angrist (USA) Cruide Imbens (Netherlands)	Natural experiments and labour economics
2022	Ben Bernanke (USA) Douglas Diamond (USA) Philip Dybvig (USA)	Banks, financial crises

2023	Claudin Goldin (USA)	women's labour market outcomes.
2024	Daron Acemoglu (USA) Simon Johnson (UK) James Robinson (UK)	Institutions and prosperity
2025	Joel Mokyr (Netherlands) Philippe Aghion (France) Peter Howitt (Canada)	Innovation and creative destruction drive long-term economic growth.