

Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) - Quarterly

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Why in news?

According to Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS), India's job market showed tentative signs of revival in the July-September quarter of 2025.

- **PLFS** It is the primary source of data on activity participation and employment-unemployment conditions of the population.
- Conducted by National Statistics Office
- **Released by -** Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.
- **Indicators** Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR), Worker Population Ratio (WPR) and Unemployment Rate (UR) for persons aged 15 years and above.

Key findings

- **Rural Revival** Decline in unemployment and rise in self-employment indicating strong demand for agricultural and informal sector jobs.
- **Urban Strain** Slight uptick in urban unemployment, especially among women, reflecting stress in formal job creation and industrial sectors.
- **Gender Gap** Female LFPR remains low, though rural women show higher participation than urban counterparts.
- **Sectoral Divide** Agriculture dominates rural employment; services dominate urban jobs—highlighting structural dualism.
- Employment Composition
 - **Rural Areas -** Dominated by self-employment, which rose to 62.8% (from 60.7%).
 - Majority are engaged in agriculture sector accounting for 57.7% from 53.5% in the previous quarter (seasonal spike).
 - \circ **Urban Areas -** Dominated by regular wage/salaried jobs rose marginally to 49.8% (from 49.4%).
 - Tertiary sector remained dominant, engaging 62.0% of workers.

Indicator	Rural		Overall
Unemployment Rate (UR)	(from 18%)	Increased from 6.1% to 6.2% (Male: 6.2%, Female: 9.0%)	Dropped to 5.2% (from 5.4%)

Particination Rate	Increased from 57.1% to 57.2%	from 50.6%	Held steady at 55.1% (No significant change from 55.0%)
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Worker Population Ratio (WPR)	54.7%	47.2%	52.2%

References

- 1. The Hindu | Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) Quarterly
- 2. PIB | Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) Quarterly

