

Ques Why there is a long downward trend observed in the proportion of job holders among Indian women?

Ans World Economic Forum's published Global Gender Index 20. It measures the extent of gender based gaps in economic participation and opportunity, educational attainment, health and survival and political empowerment. India's rank is at 144th position out of 153 countries on economic participation and opportunity.

Global Gender Gap report estimates that increasing women's participation in the labour force can increase India's GDP significantly.

DOWNTREND OBSERVED BECAUSE:

① Indian women don't enjoy the same right and privileges as men

② Most of the female workers in India are active in the informal sector engaged in low-paying activities and domestic work.

③ Lack of social security at workplace are seen as barriers

(4) Lack of gender sensitive infrastructure such as full-time creches for children, affordable and safe walking, women's hostels and basic public provisions, such as piped water, hygienic washrooms at public places and safe public transport.

(5) Patriarchy still dominates at some place. There are cultural expectations that married women should not work and that they should prioritize housework and care work.

There are a number of ways to boost the number of women working :-

- The 2017 Maternity Benefit Act by increasing paid maternity leave may also help to limit the dropout of women from work after motherhood.
- Access to subsidised childcare may also free up time for women to engage in the labour force.
- Tackling the cultural reasons that result in women leaving the workforce could be one such way.

U.P.S.C.

प्रश्न संख्या
(Question No.)

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→ changing social norms about gender equity and women's work is paramount and there is where awareness programmes and affirmative action policies may help alleviate gender stereotypes.

women participation is very crucial in workforce to achieve \$ trillion economy dream. women's economic empowerment is highly connected with poverty reduction as women also tend to invest more of their earnings in their children and communities.

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