

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2520
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04TH AUGUST, 2025**

PATTERN OF RURAL EMPLOYMENT

2520. SHRI K GOPINATH:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

the details of the pattern of rural employment in the country in terms of primary, secondary and tertiary sectors of employment, gender and State-wise particularly in Tamil Nadu?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SUSHRI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE)**

The official data on Employment and Unemployment is collected through Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) which is conducted by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) since 2017-18.

As per the latest available Annual PLFS reports, the estimated Worker Population Ratio (WPR), indicating employment, on usual status for persons of age 15 years & above in rural areas in the country and in Tamil Nadu during 2019-20 to 2023-24 are as follow:

Years	Worker Population Ratio (in %)	
	All India	Tamil Nadu
2019-20	53.3	59.8
2020-21	55.5	62.1
2021-22	55.6	60.8
2022-23	59.4	59.6
2023-24	62.1	63.1

Source: PLFS, MoSPI

The data indicates that the employment in rural areas has increasing trend over the years. The estimated WPR, indicating employment, in rural areas has increased from 53.3% in 2019-20 to 62.1% in 2023-24. Also, in Tamil Nadu, WPR has increased from 59.8% to 63.1% during the same period.

As per the latest available Annual PLFS report 2023-24, the percentage distribution of rural workers by broad industry division are as follows:

(in %)

S. No.	Broad Industry Division as per NIC- 2008	AI India	Tamil Nadu
1	Agriculture	59.8	41.2
2	Mining & quarrying	0.2	0.2
3	Manufacturing	8.3	12.2
4	Electricity, water, etc.	0.4	0.6
5	Construction	12.5	21.5
6	Trade, hotel & restaurant	8.3	10.0
7	Transport, storage & communications	3.7	6.4
8	Other services	6.9	8.0
	All	100	100

Source: PLFS, MoSPI

The State-wise and gender-wise information are available in the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) reports, which may be seen at https://www.mospi.gov.in/downloadreports?main_cat=ODU5&cat=All&sub_category=All