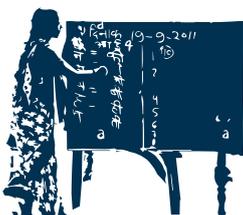
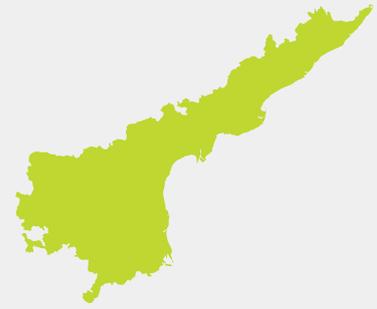


WOMEN'S WORKFORCE PARTICIPATION IN INDIA: **STATEWISE TRENDS**

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Andhra Pradesh

Situated along the south-eastern coast of the Indian peninsula, Andhra Pradesh (AP) is the eighth largest state in India in terms of its geographical area. 23.5 percent of the land in the state is covered with forests. The area under cultivation is also approximately 50.5 percent.¹ While 60 percent of the state's population was dependent on agriculture and allied sectors in 2018-19,² its contribution to the state Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) is only 32 percent.³ AP ranked 17th among all states in terms of GSDP per capita in 2017-18,⁴ which makes it one of the middle-income states in the country. The rate of growth of AP's GSDP was around 11 percent, as per the Advanced Estimates for the period 2018-19,⁵ making it one of the faster growing states in the country.

Female labour force participation rates (FLFPRs) in AP have been historically higher than the national average, in both rural and urban areas. The recently released Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) 2017-18 reports that rural FLFPR is 39 percent, which is way above the national level estimate of 18.2 percent. The difference between the state's FLFPR and the national FLFPR in rural areas is visible, despite the fact that FLFPR in AP has been consistently declining since 2004-05. It dropped from 48.8 percent in 2004-05 to 44.78 percent in 2011-12, and then declined further to 39 percent in 2017-18.⁶ Urban FLFPR in AP increased from 18 percent in 2011-12 to 25.1 percent in 2017-18. This is significantly higher than the urban FLFPR for India (15.9 percent).

The Socio-Economic Survey of Andhra Pradesh for the year 2018-19 attributes the high FLFPR in rural areas to active participation of women in the MGNREGA programme. While this could explain high employment of rural women in the state, a more rigorous study needs to be done to establish the attribution, if any.

Female labour force participation rates is

39%

which is way above the national level estimate



¹ This accounts for the total crop production in the state. Source: Agricultural Statistics at a Glance 2018, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare. (GOI)

² Data source: Socio-Economic Survey 2018-19 for the state of Andhra Pradesh

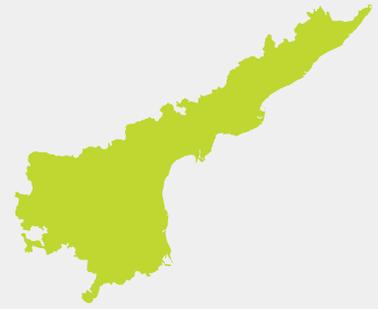
³ Source: Budget Speech 2019-20

⁴ Source: Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation

⁵ Source: Socio-Economic Survey 2018-19 for the state of Andhra Pradesh

⁶ Source: PLFS, 2017-18, 61st round of NSS (2004-05) and 68th round (2011-12)

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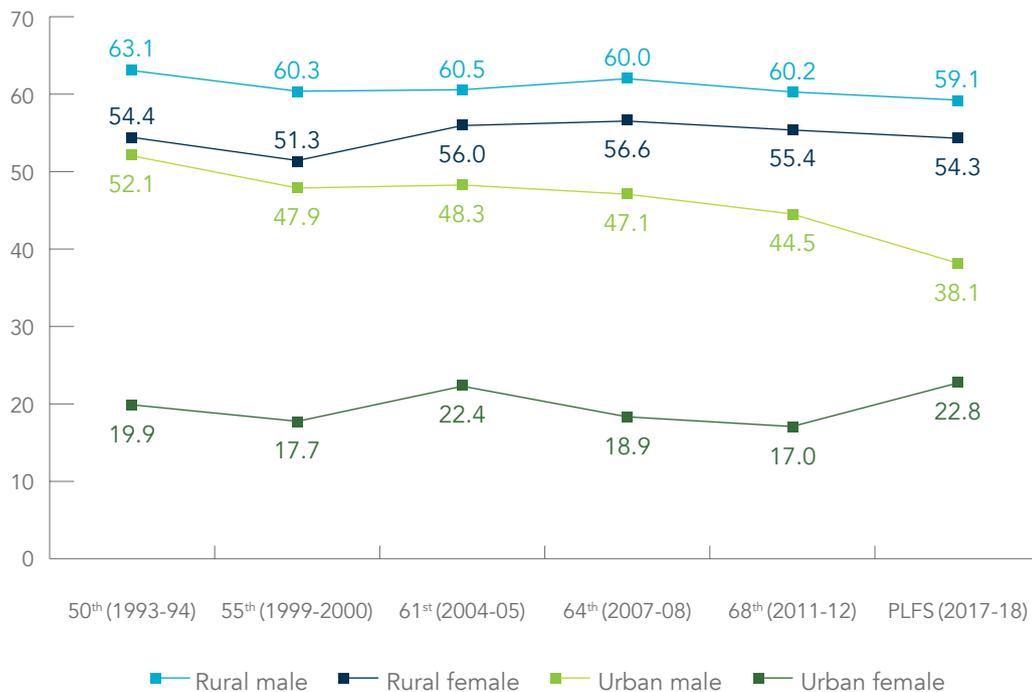


Trends in Female Workforce Participation Rates (FWPR) (Chart 1)

The FWPR measures the ratio of employed female to total female population, unlike the FLFPR which also includes the unemployed in its measurement. Some interesting trends for AP for this indicator are as follows:

- The PLFS 2017-18 and earlier rounds of the National Sample Survey (NSS) show that the FWPRs in rural areas are substantially higher than the urban areas (Chart 1).
- Urban FWPRs increased from 17 percent to 22.8 percent and the rural FWPR reduced by almost 6 percentage points from 44.5 percent in 2011-12 to 38.1 percent in 2017-18 (Chart 1).
- Such trends also led to a convergence in the rural-urban gaps in FWPR in AP. While the increases in urban areas are welcome, it is important to investigate whether these increases are symptomatic of structural transformation in women's employment in AP, given the decline in rural FWPR.
- Similar trends are not observed for male WPRs in the state.

Chart 1: Work Participation Rate



Source: Authors' estimates use PLFS 2017-18 and rounds 50, 55, 61, 64, 68 of NSS

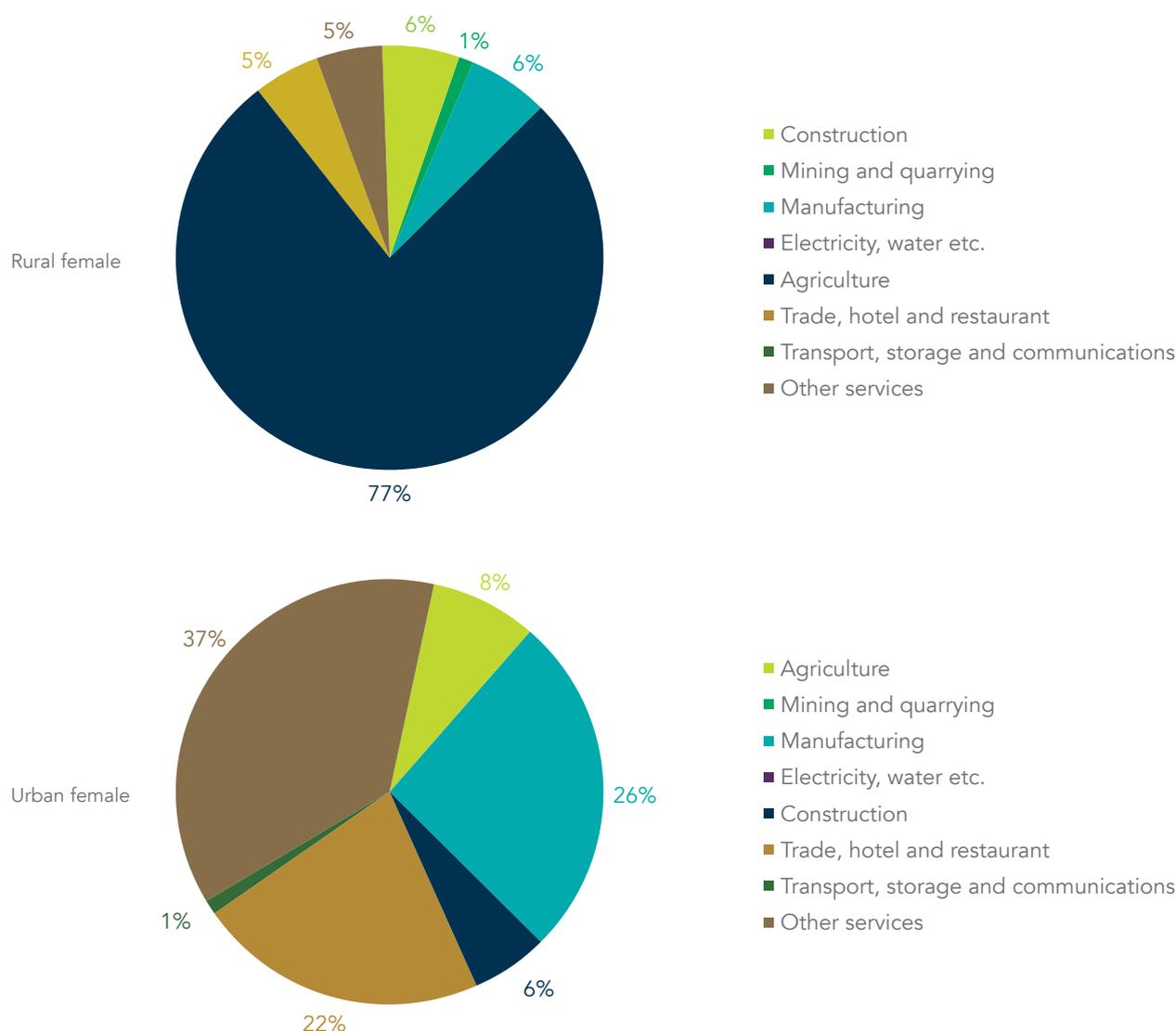
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Distribution of women workers by broad industry divisions (Chart 2)

- The agricultural sector is the main source of employment in rural Andhra Pradesh; and the share of women workers in agriculture is the highest (76.9 percent).
- A significant proportion of rural women who work in AP are also employed in manufacturing (6.1 percent), construction (5.4 percent), services (5.4 percent) and trade, hotels and restaurants (5.4 percent).
- In urban areas, the share of women workers is highest in the services sector (37.9 percent), followed by manufacturing (26.3 percent), and trade, hotels and restaurants (22.2 percent).

Chart 2: Distribution of women workers by broad industry divisions



Source: Authors' estimates from PLFS, 2017-18

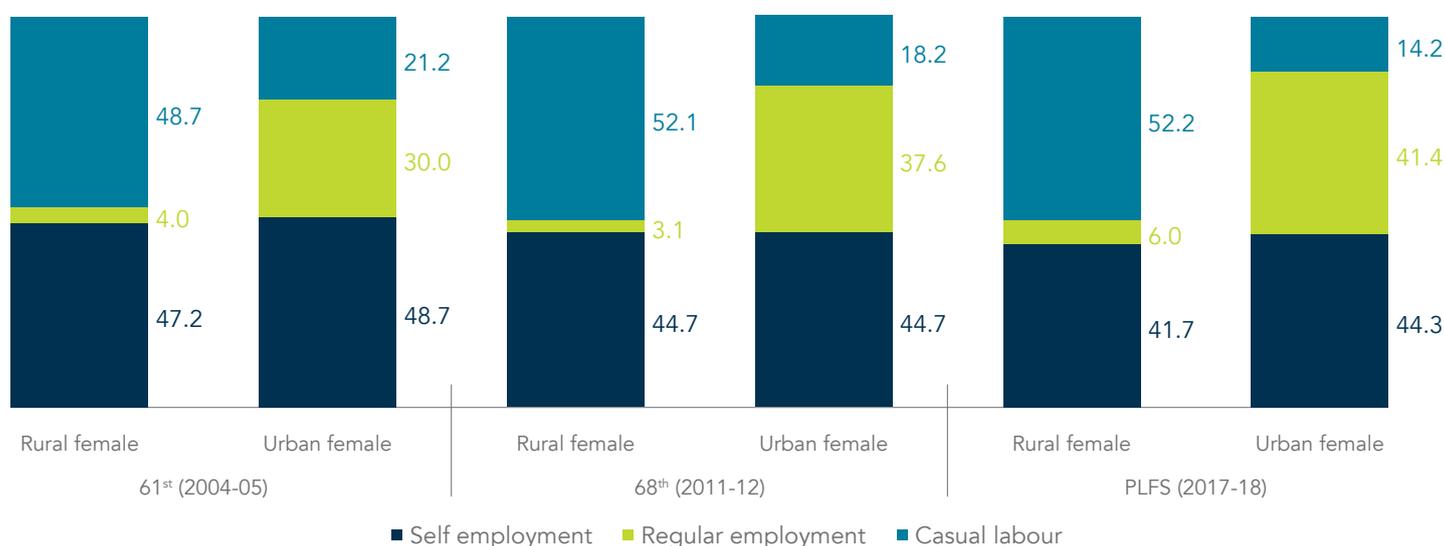
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Distribution of women workers by status of employment (Chart 3)

- There is high incidence of self-employment among female workers in AP, both in the rural and urban areas.
- In rural AP, very few women workers are regular wage or salaried employees (only 6 percent of the total working women in rural AP receive regular wages). A majority of women workers in rural AP work as casual labourers (52.2 percent).
- In urban AP, the trend in wage employment is quite the opposite: 41.4 percent women workers are regular wage or salaried workers, while casual employment accounts for a small share of 14.2 percent.
- PLFS 2017-18 shows that the share of self-employed women in both rural and urban Andhra Pradesh reduced in the period between 2011-12 and 2017-18, though the decline was marginal in the case of urban women. In rural areas, the share of women in self-employment declined by 3 percentage points. In urban areas, the share of self-employed women fell slightly from 44.7 percent to 44.3 percent.
- There was an increase in the share of women engaged in regular employment between 2011-12 and 2017-18, in both rural and urban areas. The proportion of regular women employees almost doubled in rural Andhra Pradesh, from 3.1 percent in 2011-12 to 6 percent in 2017-18. In urban areas too, there were observed increases in the share of regular workers by 3.8 percentage points, from 37.6 percent in 2011-12 to 41.4 percent in 2017-18. However, this is a trend that can be traced back to 2004-05.
- The proportion of rural women working as casual labourers seemed to stagnate after 2011-12, while the proportion of urban women working as casual labourers declined by 4 percentage points.

Chart 3: Distribution of women workers by status of employment



Source: Authors' estimates use PLFS 2017-18 and rounds 61 and 68 of NSS



Working condition in regular employment (Chart 4)

- Increase in regular employment does not imply better working conditions for urban women in Andhra Pradesh.
- PLFS 2017-18 data reveal that a high proportion of regular women workers in urban areas are working without a written job contract (78 percent), paid leaves (66.7 percent) or any social security benefits (68.7 percent).
- Such figures indicate substantial presence of informal employment among urban women.

Chart 4: Share of regular women workers in urban AP without non-wage remunerations (PLFS 2017-18)



Women workers in casual employment (Chart 5 and 6)

- There has been a steady decline in casual employment of urban women since 2004-05 (Chart 3). The share of women casual workers in urban areas also showed a significant decline of 4 percentage points from 18.2 percent in 2011-12 to 14.2 percent in 2017-18.
- Almost all casual women workers in urban areas remain engaged in casual work that are non-public. In rural areas, however, there is a higher incidence of employment of women workers in public works. While only 1.12 percent of women workers are employed as casual labour in public works, MGNREGA accounts for most of public work employment.
- In rural areas, 7.95 percent of the women casual labourers are employed under the MGNREGA (Chart 5), which is substantial as compared to the scheme's performance in other states. The state ranks second in terms of the number of women casual labourers availing employment from MGNREGA, after Tamil Nadu. Chart 6 substantiates this: Andhra Pradesh is among the top 10 states in the country in terms person days availed by women out of total person days worked under MGNREGA (59.6 percent). This figure is much higher than the national average of 53.1 percent.

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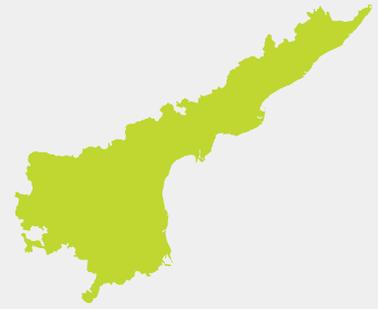


Chart 5: Distribution of women workers in casual employment (PLFS 2017-18)

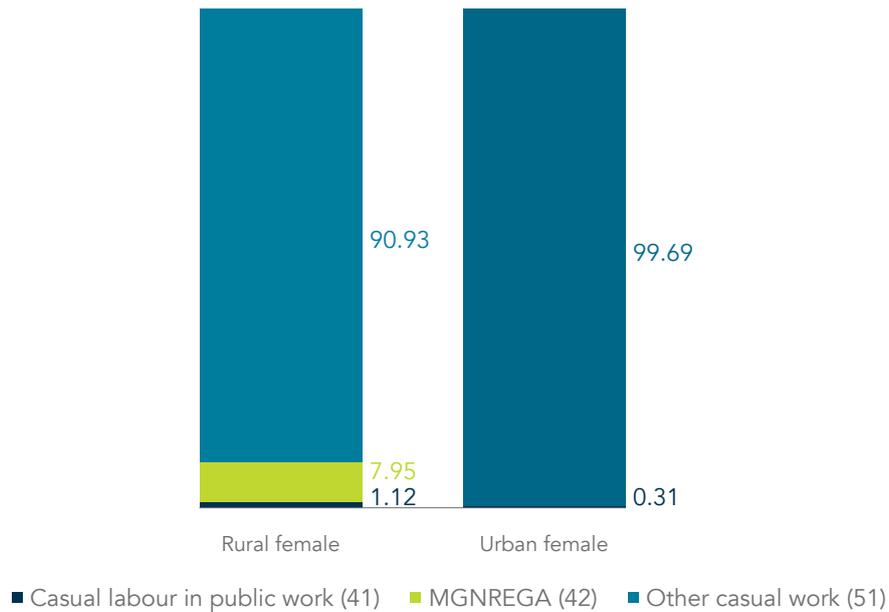
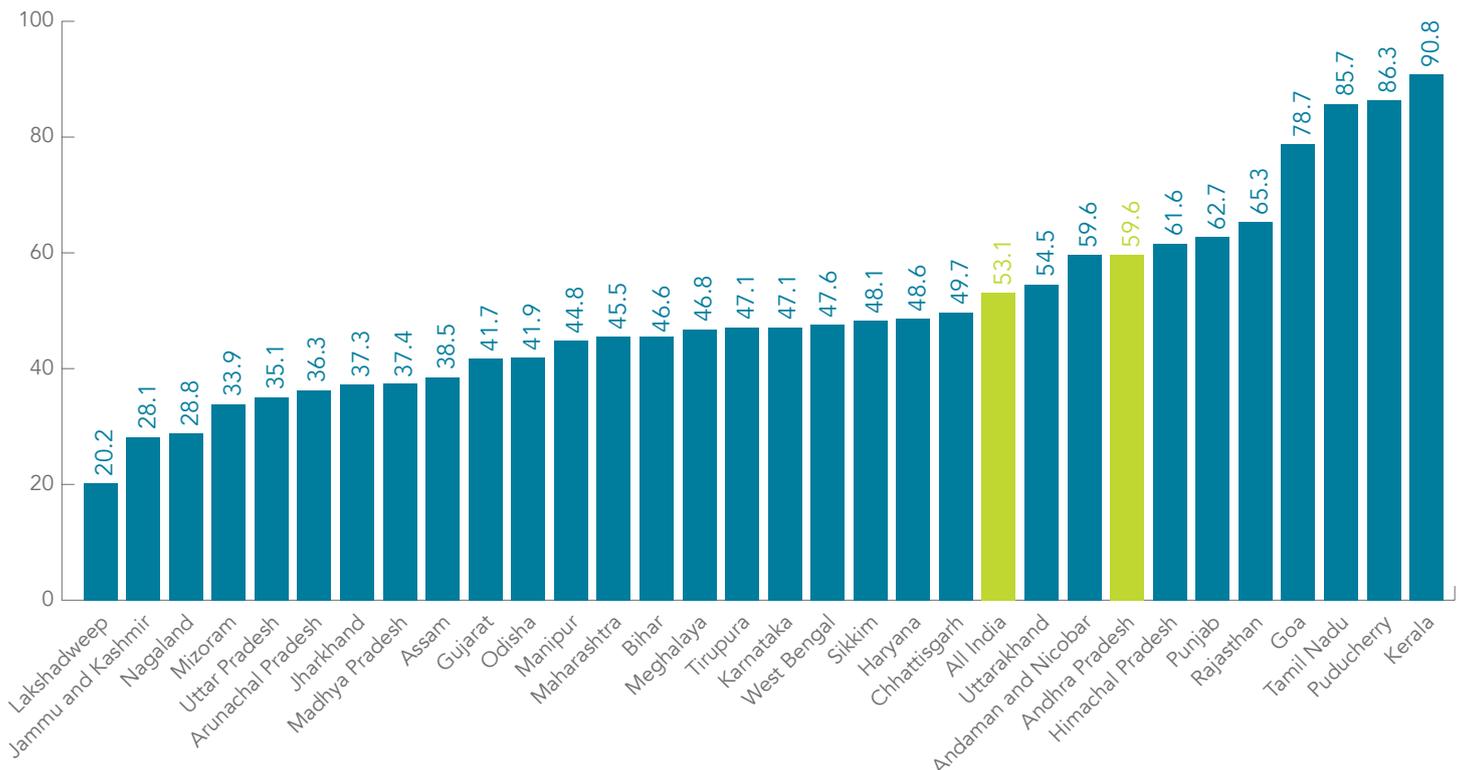
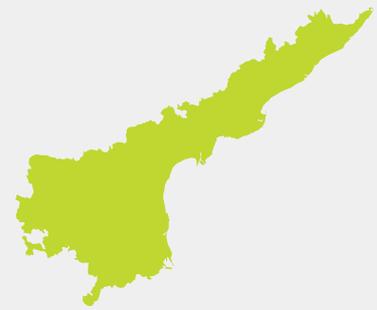


Chart 6: Women person days out of total in MGNREGA, 2017-18 (percent)



Source: MGNREGA data (www.nrega.nic.in)

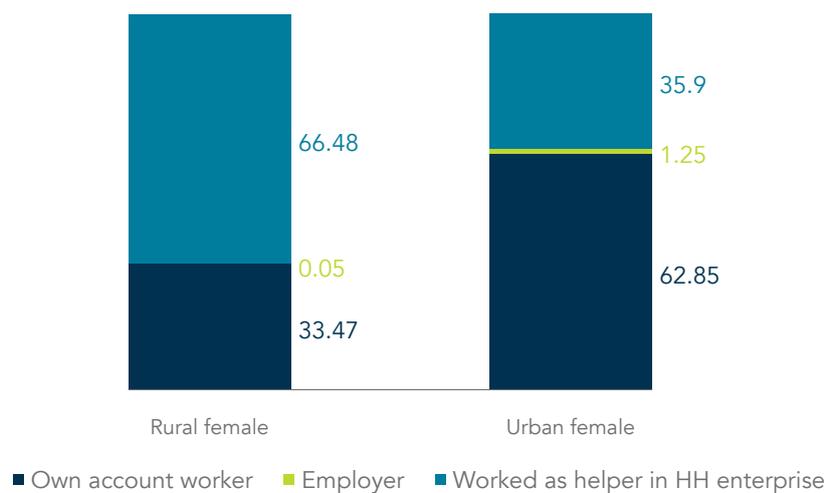
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Women workers in self-employment (Chart 7)

- A substantial proportion of women are self-employed in Andhra Pradesh, both in rural (41.7 percent) and urban areas (44.3 percent).
- Within self-employed categories, both in urban and rural areas women are either own account workers or work as unpaid helpers in household enterprises.
- The proportion of own account workers (63.8 percent) is higher in urban areas as compared to rural areas where more self-employed women tend to work as unpaid family helpers (66.4 percent).
- A very small percentage of self-employed women work as employers in Andhra Pradesh (0.05 percent). In urban areas, however, this ratio is slightly higher, 1.25 percent women out of the total number of self-employed women, work as employers by hiring people in their enterprise. This figure is higher than the national average of 1 percent, which suggests an enterprising quality among the self-employed urban women of the state.

Chart 7: Distribution of women workers across self-employed categories, Andhra Pradesh (PLFS 2017-18)



The analysis of women's employment in Andhra Pradesh reveals certain interesting trends:

MGNREGA is a major contributor of casual employment in the state. Improving the implementation of the scheme along with the remunerations for the beneficiaries can potentially benefit the rural women workforce in the state.

The rise in urban FWPRs has been exceptional. It would be interesting to explore the factors behind this rise, which sectors women work in, and the nature of their employment.

Further, it would be worthwhile to examine the nature of increase in regular work for women in both rural and urban areas.

The factsheet is prepared by Nidhi Gyan Pandey and Sona Mitra, IWWAGE – Lead at KREA University. Copyright ©2020

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