

Uttarakhand Leads in Employment Growth

Why in News?

The Uttarakhand government claims significant progress in reducing <u>unemployment</u>, as highlighted in the latest <u>Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS)</u>, **2023-24** report.

Key Points

- Unemployment Rate Decline:
 - Overall unemployment decreased from 4.5% to 4.3%.
 - Most notable reduction in the 15-29 age group, dropping from 14.2% to 9.8%.
- Improvement in Worker Population Ratio:
 - Increased worker population ratio across all age groups in 2023-24 compared to 2022-23.
 - For ages 15-29: Increased from 27.5% to 44.2%.
 - For ages 15-59: Increased from 57.2% to 61.2%.
 - For ages 15 and above: Increased from 53.5% to 58.1%.
- Youth Labor Force Participation:
 - Increased participation in the labor force for youth (15-29 years) from 43.7% to 49%.
 - Labor force participation for ages 15-59 rose from 60.1% to 64.4%.
 - Ages 15 and above saw an increase from 56% to 60.7%.
- Surpassing National Averages:
 - Uttarakhand's labor population average for ages 15-29 is 49%, compared to the national average of 46.5%.
 - For ages 15-59, the state stands at 64.4% (national average: **64.3**%).
 - For ages 15 and above, Uttarakhand is at 60.7% (national average: **60.1%**).

Periodic Labour Force Survey Report

- **About**: It is conducted by the NSO under the <u>Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation</u> (MoSPI) to measure the employment and unemployment situation in India.
 - It was developed to address the limitations of earlier labour force surveys conducted by the <u>National Sample Survey Office (NSSO)</u>.
- **Two Primary Objectives of PLFS:** It was designed with two major objectives for measuring employment and unemployment:
 - First Objective: To measure the dynamics of labour force participation and employment status at short intervals (every three months) for urban areas using the Current Weekly Status (CWS) approach.
 - **Second Objective**: To measure labour force estimates for both rural and urban areas using the Usual Status and CWS parameters.
- Innovations in Sampling Design and Data Collection: The PLFS introduced changes in the sampling design and the structure of the schedule of inquiry compared to the previous quinquennial surveys conducted by the NSSO.
 - The PLFS also included additional data, such as the number of hours worked, which was not collected in the earlier quinquennial rounds of the NSSO.

