



PROTIBAAD Forum Newsletter

Protesting Violence Against Women

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Editorial

Women Matter : Numerically, Politically, Economically ...

Beware, political parties! This summer, women are set to challenge the dominance of men in deciding the fate of candidates in the 2014 general elections. Former CEC Mr S.Y. Quraishi says, "Election Commission analysis shows that in 16 of the 20 states that went to polls after 2010, women voting percentage was higher than men. In fact, women are no more hesitant to show their electoral preferences."



The gap in voting between men and women has been falling since 1962 and was lowest in 2009. It came down from 16.7% to 4.4% and the sharpest dip was seen between 2004 and 2009 polls, Election Commission data shows. About 60.5% of women voted in the 2012 UP assembly elections as compared to 58% men. In Bihar 54.5% women voted as compared to 51% men in the 2010 assembly polls. Kerala, Karnataka and Assam too tales the same story.

The exception in the list of states favouring women voters is Gujarat, PM hopeful Narendra Modi's home state. In the 2012 Gujarat assembly polls, 69.50% women came out to vote as compared to about 73% men.

Does increasing women voter participation in elections impact political outcomes? Dr. Shamika Ravi and Dr. Mudit Kapoor (two academics at the Indian School of Business), have studied the last 50 years' data on Indian elections and explored the role of women voters. Their analysis is revealing: when the Assembly election was held in Bihar in Feb. 2005, no party emerged winner. As a result, re-elections were held after eight months. Comparing the outcomes of all 243 Bihar Assembly constituencies for both the elections, the researchers found that in 35% constituencies, there was a change in poll result. This was fundamentally brought about by the women voters. The outcome was a new political party taking up the reigns in Bihar. It will be interesting to see how women vote this time in Bihar. Incidentally, the women's vote was a key factor in the JD(U)-BJP combine's victory in 2010 Assembly elections. Their research reveals that the sex ratio of voters—the number of women voters for every 1,000 men voters—has improved from 715 in the 1960s to 883 in the 2000s.

Politicians will have to reckon women power in U.P. and Bihar. The two states have 120 Lok Sabha constituencies (22% in the lower house). Actually, women in these two states can decisively change the fortune of any political party.

Increasingly, women are also deciding for themselves which way to vote. This is particularly true in urban areas, says pollster G.V.L. Narasimha Rao who has been tracking election data for several decades. For instance, in the 2013 Delhi state polls, Kejriwal's AAP attracted more women voters than the BJP or the Congress.

Women matter, numerically, politically, economically and every which way. They are emerging as an electoral force, despite the adverse sex ratio in the country. Imagine the possibilities if female foetuses were not aborted, little girls were not abandoned and the full potential of the female vote could be realised.

PS: Non-registration of women voters is a worrisome problem and needs to be looked into seriously. ■■■

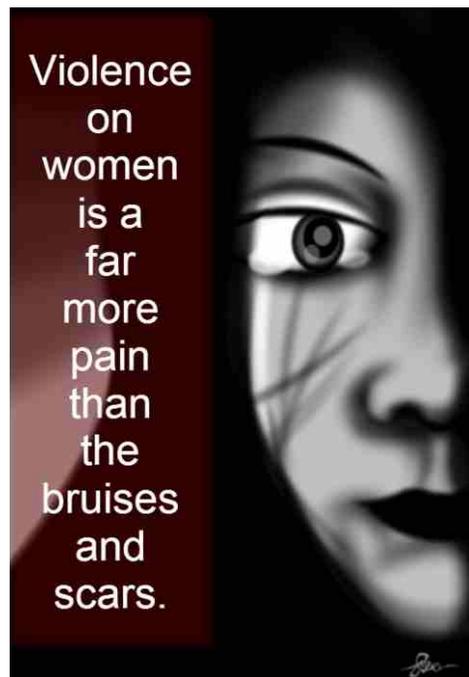
Soni Sori in Election Fray

February issue of this journal covered the story of Soni Sori. Now she is an AAP candidate from the crucial Bastar seat that goes to polls in the first phase on April 10. With a bank deposit of a mere Rs 424 and Rs 95,000 collected through donations made for the party, Soni Sori, is the poorest candidate in fray. Sori was granted permanent bail by the Supreme Court last month, after almost two-and-a-half years of her arrest, has no immovable properties and the only movable asset that she has is her husband's Bolero jeep, which too is lying in police custody. The only other asset she has is Rs. one lakh in fixed deposit in the name of her daughter.



She claims that the only reason for her joining politics is to 'transform' the system, which caused her immense physical and mental pain. "When I was in jail, I saw there were many like me, caught just because they chose neutrality. That was not fair. I began writing and finally the movement grew. Before tackling the Maoists, the intentions of the government need to be above board. When I was incarcerated and the Sukma collector was abducted, negotiations took place, committees were formed and a list of people was drawn up who were to be released in lieu of the collector. The Maoists did let go of the collector but what did the government do? It did not do what it was to do. Tell me who should I hold responsible? If there is trust, violence will come down."

Violence
on
women
is a
far
more
pain
than
the
bruises
and
scars.



Child Marriage, Female Literacy and Economic Growth

A decrease in Child Marriage (CM) could potentially increase Female Literacy Rate (FLR) in future but not vice versa; the Granger causality test reveals.

Late Clive Granger received the Nobel Prize in economics in 2003 (with Robert Engle) primarily for constructing an algorithm for 'cointegration' analysis. It takes us a step further from spurious correlation to predictable causation with an objective to rule out a false hypothesis of causation. Following his algorithm, researchers organise time series data carefully to conduct a special econometric test to rule out a number of plausible channels through which causality may flow. If we cannot rule out a potential route for causality then we look for a hypothesis to identify causality meaningfully with a story. Thus, the Granger causality test is not an ultimate test for causality, which can only make sense within the context of a theoretical model.

So the above finding is only the first step; yet an important one. It rules out the myth



that increased female literacy could be a solution to reducing child marriage. On the contrary, the test result suggests that if we can change the underlying conditions in the economy to decrease the incidence of child marriage then the new economy may have more incentives and fewer constraints to increase female literacy rate on its own.

The empirical analysis also dispels another popular myth that as the economy grows, female literacy will grow and child marriage will decline. Not so, it turns out. Indian States which started with larger GDP per capita did not reduce CM or increased FLR necessarily. In fact, once we include past data on FLR and CM, GDP data lose any additional significance.

Interestingly, the analysis does leave a significant explanatory power of variables other than GDP in predicting CM or FLR. Data for these variables are not yet available to me at this time. Based on the analysis done on the international data (SIGI:

<http://genderindex.org>), I guess that they would be variables measuring various institutional characteristics, such as Civil Liberty of Women or Inherited Property Rights of Women, Religion, Law and Order, Political Representation of Women and other characteristics that affect the value of women in a society. That would be a topic for future research.

The only two significant findings from my current research are as follows: (i) A decrease in child marriage could potentially increase female literacy rate in future but not vice versa; (ii) neither female literacy rate (FLR) nor child marriage (CM) would change significantly if only GDP increases, with no other changes in policy and institutions.

Neither the World Bank nor the United Nations campaigns for a reduction in Child Marriage in a way comparable to their call for increasing the female literacy rate or the growth of GDP. Are they misguided?

Conventional wisdom does guide policy-makers to focus on economic growth with the presumption that the growth of GDP should automatically improve female literacy and also reduce child marriage. Yet, I wonder, if they are unwittingly undermining the need for the removal of institutional barriers foreliminating child marriage, an important determinant of female literacy and economic growth?

Thanks to their preconceived notion, are they putting the cart before the horse?

—Debasis Bandyopadhyay

Child Marriage Hot Spots

Rank	Country Name	% girls married before 18
1	Niger	75
2	Chad	68
3	Central African Republic	68
4	Bangladesh	66
5	Guinea	63
6	Mozambique	56
7	Mali	55
8	Burkina Faso	52
9	South Sudan	52
10	Malawi	50
11	Madagascar	48
12	Eritrea	47
13	India	47
14	Somalia	45
15	Sierra Leone	44
16	Zambia	42
17	Dominican Republic	41
18	Ethiopia	41
19	Nepal	41
20	Nicaragua	41

*Child marriage prevalence is defined as the percentage of women 20-24 years old who were married or in union before age 18.

Source: UNICEF State of the World's Children, 2013. Data from UNICEF Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS), Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) and other national surveys, and refers to the most recent year available during the period 2002-2011.

For justice, rape victim and mother lock themselves in cage

In Layyah town of Pakistan, a 13-year-old girl and her mother locked themselves up in a cage outside the district press club. They were protesting the release of the child's rapists.

According to a report in the Dawn, Hasina Bibi of Chak 150-TDA was kidnapped and raped by her relatives a few months back. Upon her return home, she along with her father went to the police station to file a case of kidnapping and rape against Raheem Bhakhsh, Mohammad Qasim, Bashir Husain and Hashim. Both Bashir and Qasim were arrested, however, they were released soon afterwards on the pressure of MNA Pir Saqlain Shah.

Girl complained that she was repeatedly raped at gun point. In her statement, she also said that she turned pregnant and after two months, in July 2013 Qasim, his wife Sakina Mai, Raheem and Bashir took her for abortion to Wahowa in Dera Ghazi Khan

where she was again gang-raped for three days. The Dawn reports, suspects also took her thumb impressions on a white paper.

In February 2014, the girl gave birth to a baby girl and returned home in March.

The police said that as there was no concrete evidence against the suspects they were released on the request of MNA Pir Saqlain.



The rape victim and her mother locked themselves up in a cage in the Pakistan city of Layyah to protest the release of the girl's rapists

Women's Education : Part II

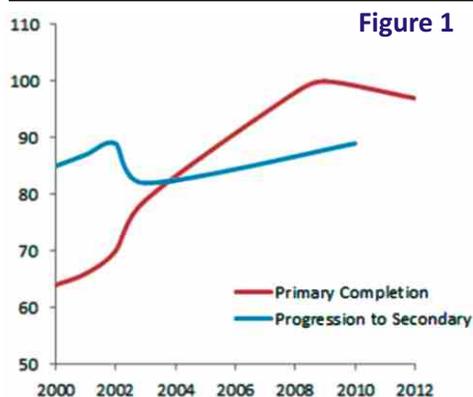
“Education is one of the most important means of empowering women with the knowledge, skills and self-confidence necessary to participate fully in the development process.”—ICPD Programme of Action, paragraph 4.2

PRIMARY EDUCATION

The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan(SSA) or Total Literacy Campaign programme launched in 2001, along with the universalization across government schools of the mid-day meal scheme, are credited by most experts as critical interventions that have helped India achieve near universal enrollment in primary education. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act—popularly referred to as the right to education (RTE) Act, implemented on April 1, 2010—for the first time provides a legal right to students between age 6 and 14 to demand schooling.

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan recognizes that ensuring girls' education requires changes not only in the education system but also in societal norms and attitudes toward educating women. A two-pronged gender strategy has therefore been adopted to make the education system responsive to the needs of the girls through targeted interventions. These provisions include the following:

- Free textbooks to all girls upto class VIII
- Separate toilets for girls
- Back to school camps for out-of-school girls
- Bridge courses for older girls



Current trends of women's participation in early education: (a) primary completion rate, the total number of new female entrants in the last grade of primary education as percentage of the total female population of the theoretical entrance age to that grade; (b) progression to secondary, the number of new female entrants to the first grade of secondary education (general programmes only) in a given year as a percentage of the number of female pupils enrolled in the final grade of primary education in the previous year. (Source: World Bank¹)

- Recruitment of 50 per cent women teachers
- Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) centers in/near schools/convergence with Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) programme etc.
- Teachers' sensitization programmes to promote equitable learning opportunities.
- Gender-sensitive teaching-learning materials including textbooks.
- Intensive community mobilization effort
- 'Innovation fund' per district for need-based interventions to ensure girls' attendance and retention.

These targeted interventions collectively have served as a pull factor to enhance access and retention of girls in schools and, on the other hand, have generated a community demand for girls' education. Motivation and mobilization of parents and the community at large, enhancing the role of women and mothers in school related activities and participation in school committees, and strengthening the linkages between the school, teachers and communities are some of the ways in which the enabling conditions are being created.

ECCE is a critical and essential input in freeing girls from sibling care responsibilities, leading to their regular attendance in school and in providing school readiness skills to pre-school children. The SSA works in a convergent mode with the ICDS programme to promote pre-school education by providing for training of Anganwadi workers, primary school teachers, and health workers for a convergent understanding of pre-school and ECCE.

In addition, to target pockets where girls' education is lagging behind, the Govt. of India has launched two focused interventions for girls—the National Programme for Education of Girls at Elementary Level (NPEGEL) and the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) to reach out to girls from marginalized social groups in over 3272 educationally backward blocks in the country where the female rural literacy is below the national average and the gender gap in literacy is above the national average.

As with literacy rate, there are large differences in school attendance among the states. In six states, over 85% of girls aged 6

to 14 were attending school. Not surprisingly, these states also had female literacy rates that were above the national average. In all states except Bihar, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh, more than half of the girls aged 6 to 14 were attending school. The **primary completion rate**, also known as **gross intake rate to the last grade of primary**, has been improving over the last decade (see **Figure 1**). The ratio can exceed 100% due to over-aged and under-aged children who enter primary school late/early and/or repeat grades.

In spite of Government efforts, a recent report³ from the UNICEF and UNESCO on out-of-school children in India highlights that Dalit girls have the highest primary school exclusion rate in India. The report also finds that half of the pre-school age Dalit children are not attending school (compared to 40% overall). Among primary school-age children, 6.6% of girls are out of school (compared to 6.3% boys).

SECONDARY EDUCATION

Secondary education deals with children in 14-18 age group. Access to continued education beyond the primary level solidifies the benefits associated with girls' primary education. Secondary education for girls ensures they receive both the benefits of primary education and additional benefits linked to further education.

Figure 2 illustrates the relative participation of girls and boys at primary and secondary levels. The statistics have been improving across India with girls' enrollment outpacing boys'. Eight states have already achieved gender parity at primary level. Kerala is experiencing a higher girls' enrollment in secondary education. Even the depressed north and west states are showing very promising indicators with innovative programmes, such as that of Haryana, which provides free bicycles to girls joining sixth grade, or Uttar Pradesh's enthusiastic campaign to mobilize local communities around school-related sports and cultural programmes.

Despite strong economic and social evidence of the high returns to female education, most communities continue to under-invest in female education relative to male education. The deeply embedded undervaluation of female labour, identified primarily with the reproductive or household sphere, underlies the belief in many communities that educating females bring low returns, as skills required in their productive sphere need domestic socialization and not many years of schooling.

Cont'd →

Figure 2



Ratio of girls to boys enrolled at primary and secondary levels in public and private schools.

(Source: World Bank¹)

Females are pulled from school to help out at home, on agricultural farms and for activities which require no formal education, such as securing domestic water and fuel.

Studies suggest that in Indian household's seven-to-nine year old girls work as many as 120-150% more hours than boys do. Fewer than 2% of girls who are engaged in agriculture work attended school. The secondary school exclusion rate in rural areas, particularly among girls belonging to 'disadvantaged' groups, is quite high. Consequently, the literacy ratio of female-to-male begins to suffer during secondary education drops from 1.0 (equal participation of female and male) in primary education to 0.79 (lower participation of female) in secondary.

The **progression to secondary rate** has remained nearly unchanged over the last decade (see **Figure 1**). Overall, 6.3% of lower secondary school-age (11-13 years) girls are out of school (compared to about 5.1% boys).

Sexual harassment and violence also continue to be major constraining factors preventing parents from freely sending their girls to school. One of the glaring factors is the concern for the physical and moral safety of a girl child when traveling distances to school each day. Religion and socio-cultural factors influence parents' choice to search for a school where only girls are admitted and the one where women teachers are employed. The concern heightens when girls reach puberty—even education beyond the level of literacy for girls may be perceived as threat for possibilities for their marriage.

Sanitation is very closely linked to female literacy in India. The large number of girls in India who drop out of school, particularly around the time they reach

Class VIII, is often due to a lack of toilet and water facilities. Approximately 46% schools in rural India lack toilet facilities and 17% lack water supply. This lack of facilities does not only affect female student attendance but also the attendance of female teachers.

Empirical research consistently shows a strong positive correlation between girls' secondary education and faster economic growth, higher wages for women, slower population growth, and increased labour productivity. According to one estimate, a 1% increase in proportion of women enrolled in secondary school will generate a 0.3% growth in annual per-capita income.¹

A recent UNESCO report, **Education Transforms Lives**² notes, "If all women in India had completed secondary education, the under-five mortality rate would be 61% percent lower." Currently, India has one of the world's highest child mortality rates. "Educated mothers are better informed about specific diseases, so they can take measures to prevent them. They can recognise signs of illness early, seek advice and act on it," says the report.

To promote enrollment of girl child at the secondary education level, the Govt. of India launched the National Scheme of Incentives to Girls for Secondary Education in May 2008. Under the scheme, Rs.3,000/- is deposited in the name of eligible girls as fixed deposit. The girls are entitled to withdraw the sum along with interest thereon upon reaching 18 years of age and on passing Class X examination (Class VIII for SC/ST girls).

References:

1. The World Bank (2013).
2. UNESCO (2013). *Education Transforms Lives*.
3. UNESCO (2014). *Global Initiative on Out-of-School Children*.

[Next: Tertiary Education]

—Subhdev Das

Feminist Activist Walks 2,000 km to Protest Sexual Abuse



Traveling alone on foot is still a new concept in China. While some women like the adventurous idea, they worry about sexual harassment on the road. That's why Chinese feminist activist **Xiao Meili** started her new project: 'Beautiful Feminist Walk - A Protest Against Sexual Abuse to Promote Women's Freedom'.

Xiao, the lead actor in the Chinese version of the 'Vagina Monologues', is walking all the way from Beijing to the southern city of Guangzhou—a distance of about 2,000 kilometers—to protest against sexual harassment and child abuse. She has already spent five months on the road and along the way has been collecting signatures, staging performances and handing out information to local governments. She has been sharing her experience on her blog with photos, writing and drawings.

Born in 1989 in China's Sichuan province, Xiao has done many feminist projects to promote sexual equality and freedom. On Valentine's Day in 2012, she was one of the three women who dressed up in blood-splattered wedding gowns in protest of domestic violence. She once occupied a men's toilet to protest China's toilet inequity, calling for the government to provide more public toilet stalls for women (according to a Time magazine report, men take 30 seconds to use the bathroom on average, while women take 90 seconds). In August 2013, she shaved her head in protest of the discrimination against women students in university enrollment.

Xiao is currently making a living by teaching drawing and selling vintage things through online shop Taobao. She calls for donations on her Taobao page to support her journey. She also asks that women in local cities to walk with her, or provide a sofa for her to stay the night.

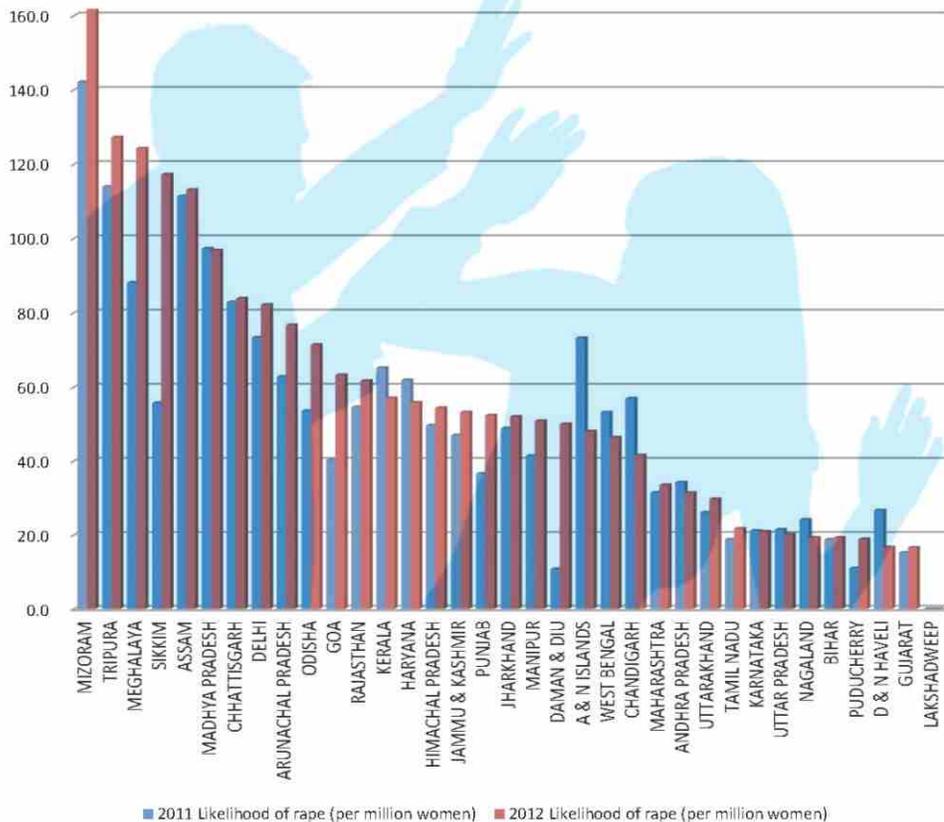
Related link:

<http://www.globaltimes.cn/NEWS/tabid/99/ID/841063/Long-marcher.aspx>

Likelihood of Rape in India

Where in India is Rape Most Likely (to occur)? States of India with the highest likelihood of rapes are located either at the north eastern border or in the remote part of the mid Indian forests, which cover relatively impoverished parts of India. The capital of India Delhi is indeed a noteworthy exception. The number of rapes per millions of female population shows an increase in 2012 from 2011 in most states of India. We can reasonably expect that this trend in increased reporting to continue in 2013, following a sharp increase in public awareness of rape and reporting of rape following the brutal gang rape and murder in Delhi at the end of 2012 that shook the conscience of India.

Likelihood of Rape per Million Women: Below 50 (Low), 50-75 (Moderate), Above 75 (High)



High Likelihood States

Increase in 2012: NE States, Delhi, Odisha, Rajasthan, Punjab, Jharkhand and Goa.
Decrease from 2011: Kerala.

Low Likelihood States

Increase in 2012: Gujarat, Pudcherry, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, Maharashtra & Bihar.
Decrease from 2011: Nagaland, Andhra Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.

Moderate Likelihood States

Increase in 2012: Manipur.
Decrease from 2011: Chandigarh, W.B., Andman & Nikobar Islands and Haryana.

—Debasis Bandyopadhyay

Jordan Court rules Women who don't wear Hijab are 'Sluts'

World moves forward and keeps raising the glass ceiling where women are concerned, the Kingdom of Jordan left the world in a shock recently when a court ruled that a woman who does not wear the Islamic hijab should be considered a 'slut' and shouldn't be allowed to testify in court. The court's ruling was based on a 'fatwa'. This ruling has left the Jordanian Women's Union fuming. In a statement, the Union described the court's ruling as discrimination against women and a violation of the Jordanian Constitution, which considers all Jordanian men and women as equals.

A Rickshaw For Women's Rights



In March, a 3-wheeled auto-rickshaw, painted red to represent strength and female solidarity reached Lower Parel, Mumbai. It was the end of a 10-day journey that started in Delhi by way of Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat and the union territory of Daman. The 1800-km (1100-mile) journey, dubbed the **Red Rickshaw Revolution**, was intended to "raise awareness about the inspirational women across India and share their achievements," said Laura Turkington, country director of the Vodafone Foundation, the lead sponsor, and one of the vehicle's three passengers. She, Sunita Chaudhary, the first woman to work as an auto-rickshaw driver in the Delhi and Carina Deegan, a foundation supporter, took turns driving the rickshaw.

The project had an interactive Website, which showcased the profiles of 30 Indian women who are seen as "ordinary women doing extraordinary things." The red rickshaw visited 10 of these women in their hometowns and shared their stories on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.

The project started to raise funds for the 'Apne Aap Women's Collective', which works with sex workers in Mumbai's red-light area, and slowly grew much larger. Two more NGOs joined. 'Breakthrough' (based in Delhi & New York), which works to end domestic violence and 'The Community Outreach Programme' (C.O.R.P.). The campaign raised 5.1 million rupees (\$92,000) to be split between the three NGOs. In addition, the Vodafone Foundation has also pledged 12.5 million rupees.

—Jen Swanson

Asian Women's Film Festival in Goa

The Entertainment Society of Goa, in association with the International Centre Goa, organised the **10th IAWRT (International Asian Women in Radio and Television) Asian Women's Film Festival 2014 and 2nd Our Lives...To Live Film Festival 2014.**

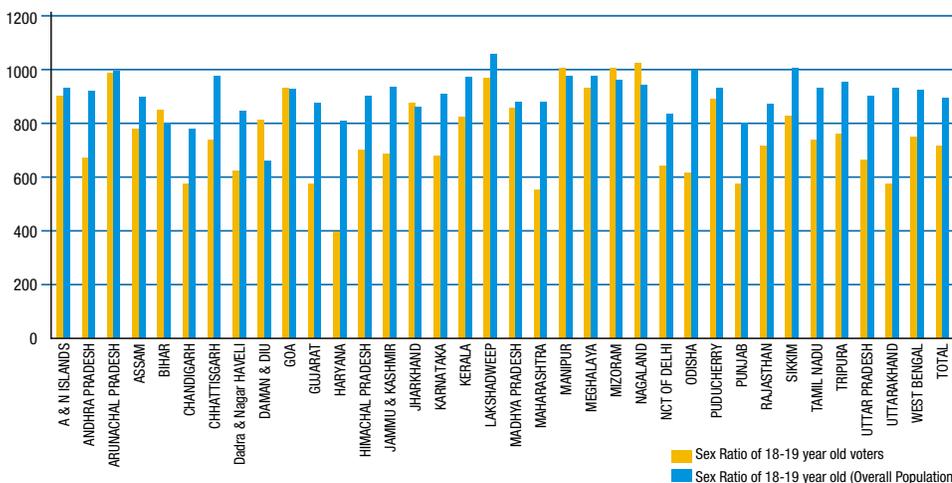
The Festival lasted four days (13-16 March) with selections from both festivals and engaging discussions. Animation, Community Videos, Documentaries, Experimental Films, Feature Fiction, Music Videos and Short Fiction films selected from 13 countries were showcased.

India's Missing Women Voters

A comparison of census and election data shows that an imbalanced sex ratio explains only part of the gender gap in the registration of voters

The Election Commission put out some pretty alarming statistics on Friday, yet another chapter in India's continuing story of gender inequities. Just 41% of the 18-19 year-olds registered to vote for the first time are women, 96 lakh of them as against 1.4 crore new male voters. Haryana, Maharashtra, Punjab, Chandigarh and Gujarat have the most skewed electoral sex ratios.

The electoral registration gap is reducing very slightly, and it's women's exceptionally high voter turnout that's resulting in them making a serious impact on elections. So why then is there this gap in registration? Since India has a sex ratio skewed in favour of men, it seems logical that this is what explains the gap. But on testing, I found that it doesn't explain the entire gap. I compared the sex ratio of registered voters aged 18-19 as put out by the Election Commission with the sex ratio of the entire population aged 18-19 as put out by the Census. For this, I looked at all those who were aged 15-16 at the time of the 2011 Census, since they would now be 18-19.



As you can see, the sex ratio of the overall population in that age group explains some of the gender imbalance in registered voters. The states with the worst overall sex ratios are also the ones with the most imbalanced electorates. However, this is clearly an incomplete answer. There is a further gap after one accounts for the overall sex ratio, meaning that the Election Commission is not able to register new male and female voters at an even pace.

A state like Karnataka, with a reasonably decent sex ratio in the 15-16 (now 18-19) age group of over 900 girls per 1000 boys does not have a good excuse for registering just 673 girls for every 1000 boys. Similarly, Maharashtra with 873 girls for every 1000 boys is registering just 549 girls for every 1000 boys. Nagaland is the only state that appears to have corrected too far in the other direction: despite an overall sex ratio slightly skewed in favour of boys, the new voters' sex ratio is slightly skewed in favour of girls.

Overall, just 46% of those who should be aged 18-19 today have been enrolled to vote by the Election Commission so far just 2.3 crore enrolled so far out of a total potential population of over 5 crore. As the final push to enrol all those left out begins, it seems clear that an extra effort is going to be needed to make sure young women are not disenfranchised.

—Rukmini S., The Hindu, February 23, 2014

'Meri Beti Meri Shakti' : An advocacy Initiative of Plan India

'Meri Beti Meri Shakti', an advocacy initiative of Plan India was launched by Amitabh Bachchan in Mumbai on 26th February 2014 by releasing a book which contains inspirational stories of daughters as shared by eminent personalities from different walks of life.

The event was attended by Govind Nihalani (the noted filmmaker and Plan India Board Chairperson) and contributors to the book Praseon Joshi, Gayatri Ruia, Kalpana Shah, Kirthiga Reddy, Rana Kapoor, Sangita Jindal, Shobhaa De, Sulajja Firodia Motwani, Uday Shankar, Vandana Malik among others. Sathya Saran who conducted one-on-one interactions with all the interviewees and Sapna Kar of Burgundy Events who relentlessly coordinated at various level for bringing out this inspirational book were also present at the event.

The idea of 'Meri Beti, Meri Shakti' was conceived by Govind Nihalani. The book is produced in English and Hindi. The book celebrates girls, promotes their rights and also aims to spread awareness about the value that girls have in a family.

Delhi remains India's Rape Capital



It will take some special effort by the police and the government to remove the 'rape capital' tag from Delhi. Attribute it to the increasing crime rate or to efforts by the Delhi Police to record all complaints related to crimes against women, as many as 388 cases of rape have been registered in the first two months of 2014, a huge jump from 2013.

Last year only 181 rape-cases were reported between Jan. 1 and Feb. 15 in Delhi. A senior Delhi police official says, "we have adopted the policy of not turning down any female complainant." He also adds, "the figures also indicate that efforts by the Delhi Police are not enough. In 2013 we registered 129% more rape cases than 2012."

In 2014 so far, "every day, on an average, police are registering five rape cases as compared to four last year", the police said. Even the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data of 2012 records, about 588 rape cases were chargesheeted out of the total 680 reported. NCRB data also shows that when it comes to crimes against women, "among 53 mega cities, Delhi (city) accounted for the maximum—14.2% (5,194)—of such crimes followed by Bangalore 6.2% (2,263) and Kolkata 5.7% (2,073)." Delhi topped the chart between 2007 and 2011 under crimes against women. In 2012, the year which saw the infamous Dec. 16 gang rape case, the average number of reported rape cases was about two per day. It is on the rise since then despite strict anti-rape laws.

Not only rapes, but the cases of molestation, eve-teasing and stalking have also increased. In 2013, molestation cases showed more than 400% variation than the previous year. Police records says in 2012, 653 cases of molestation were registered, which rose to 3,347 in 2013. The Delhi Police claim that 76% of the cases related to women were solved within one week.

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