



ALL INDIA WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

PEOPLE'S DEVELOPMENT JUSTICE REPORT



People's Development Justice Report

Monitoring and Review of Sustainable Development Goals In India

By
All India Women's Conference



Supported By
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Law and Development
Thailand



Acknowledgement

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Abbreviations

AIDS - Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome

AIWC – All India Women's Conference

ASEAN - Association of Southeast Asian Nations

AWW – Anganwadi Workers (*Anganwadi* means "courtyard shelter" in Indian languages, Women working with the community)

CII - Confederation of Indian Industry

CPI- Corruption Perceptions Index

CPI-M – Communist Party of India - Marxist

CEDAW - Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women

CSE – comprehensive Sexuality Education

CSO – Civil Society Organisation

CSR - Child sex ratio

DAC - Development Assistance Committee

EFTA - European Free Trade Association

EU - European Union

FDI – Foreign Direct Investment

FFD3 - Third Financing for Development Summit

FICCI - Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry
FTA - Free Trade Agreements
FTAPCCI - Federation of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry
GDP – Gross Domestic product
GNI - Gross National Income
HIV -Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HLPF - High Level Political Forum
ICDS - Integrated Child Development Services
ICE - India's Citizen Environment & Consumer Economy
IMD- Indian Meteorological Department
IPR - Intellectual Property Rights
KGBV - Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (Kasturba Gandhi Girls School)
MDG – Millennium Development Goal
MP – Member of Parliament
MoD - Ministry of Defence
MoSPI - Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
NCRB - National Crime Bureau Report
NFHS - National Family Health Survey
NITI Aayog - National Institution for Transforming India
NRHM - National Rural Health Mission

OECD - Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PPP - Purchasing Power Parity
RCEP - Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership
RIS - Research and Information System for Developing Countries
SABLA - This Scheme shall be called Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for Empowerment of Adolescent Girls (RGSEAG)
SDG – Sustainable Development Goal
SRHR – Sexual Reproductive and Health Rights
STD – Sexually Transmitted Disease
STEP - Society for Training and Employment Promotion
TARA - Technology and Action for Rural Advancement
TRIPS - Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights
UHC - Universal Health Coverage
UN – United Nations
UNCTAD – United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP - United Nations Development Programme
UNFPA - United Nations Fund for Population Activities
VAT - Value Added Tax
WCD - Women and Child Development
WNTA – Wada Na Todo Abhiyan (Do Not Break the Promises Movement)
ODA - Official Development Assistance



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

India, a country situated in South Asia is a federal republic governed under a parliamentary system and consists of 29 states and 7 union territories. It is a pluralistic, multilingual and multi-ethnic society. The Indian subcontinent was home to the urban Indus Valley civilization of the 3rd millennium BCE. It is the second most populous country in the world with a population of 1210 million; 623.7 million males and 586.5 million females as on 1st March 2011 (Census of India, 2011). Unlike the previous decades, there is a significant decline in population growth rate in the recent decade. As a result of increased use of contraceptives, there was a 23.6 percent reduction in birth rate in India during 1996-2012. Rural urban differentials in birth rate are wide; the birth rate in rural area was 23.1 per 1000 as against the 17.4 in urban area (Sample Registration System, 2012). The overall sex ratio has increased slightly from 933 to 944 during 2001-2011. As per the 2011 census, about 30 percent of the population in India are young people in the age group of 15-24 years and a little more than one fifth are adolescents aged between 10-19 years (Census of India, 2011).

One of the significant paradigm shifts of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) formulation from that of the MDG is that the process has been transparent, inclusive and there have been some consultations with the stakeholders. While very few CSO's were consulted before the formulation of the SDGs, there has been a little wider outreach effort by the government in recent times post SDG adoption. However, there is no mechanism as such with respect to the regular engagement with women's organization or many other marginalized sections of the society.





For the past three decades, while development has been one of the primary focus of Indian government, they had to deal with three major challenges - Hunger, Poverty and unemployment. The government has also developed several schemes simultaneously, focusing on the infrastructure and other development requirements. Following the adoption of SDGs, most of the existing schemes have been revived as well as new schemes launched to fulfil the targets under each goal, particularly under the goals of health, environment and women empowerment. However, there is no system in place for public engagement before finalizing any PPP projects. While gender budgeting is mandatory as per the government's rule. In the absence of proper supervision mechanism, many departments are getting away with not adhering to it or showing it just for the paper work.

AIWC chose to review the goals 3, 4, 5 and 13 under the Women 2030 project since, we have been working in the field of education, health, gender equality and climate change across India over many decades. AIWC's own programmes under the above heads have also been linked with the relevant goals and targets and SDGs popularized through the network of our branches.

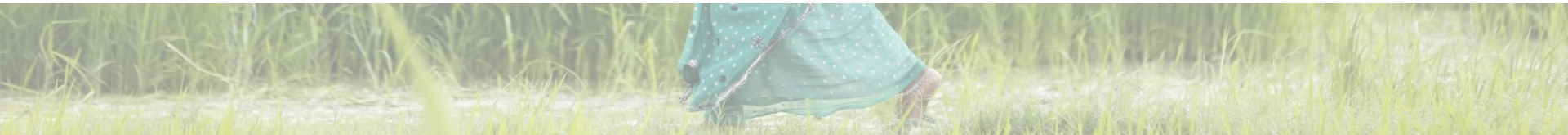
During the course of the Women 2030 project, based on the consultations and research, we found that structural barriers like social cultural practices and patriarchy system limit the level of participation of women in the workforce as well as in development work or policy formulation forum.

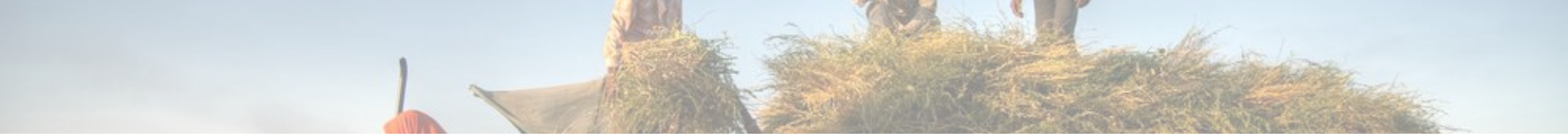




Government has initiated number of schemes for welfare and livelihood of women and adolescent girls. However, due to less popularization and cumbersome availing process or for structural flaws, the schemes have not satisfied the objectives completely. There are few other reasons why the development benefits are not reaching the right-based beneficiaries like women and marginalized group of society. There are systemic and institutional barriers such as deep rooted patriarchy, corporatocracy, lack of rule of law, armed violence, hunger, multidimensional poverty, huge gap between welfare policies and ground realities, corruption, red-tapes, lack of proper implementation, lack of communication and coordination among government departments to name a few. Some of the trade barriers under the head of agriculture had a direct impact on women who are majorly involved in agriculture work particularly in rural areas. Foreign direct investments (FDI) on one side create jobs in the urban areas but on the other side it also promotes the exploitation of workers, local traders, farmers etc.

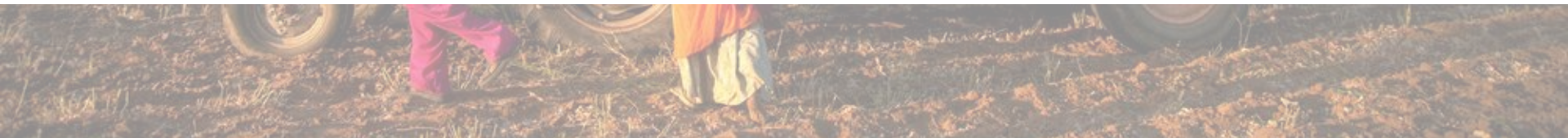
Limited access to resources and absence of land ownership have resulted in women not being able to avail many of the government schemes. Wealth inequality is widening gradually and the poor are getting poorer. India's budget and investment in defence sector is also gradually increasing every year as compared to the budget in social sector.





In India, the richest 1% of population own 58% of the country's total wealth that is much higher than the global 50% ratio. Data provided by World Economic Forum has shown that just 57 billionaires have the same wealth as the bottom 70% of total population. India has 85 billionaires and out of them 3 are among the top 10 richest people in the world. The minimum wage in India hovers around USD 120-210 (9000-13500 Rupees) per month in skilled major sectors.

In conclusion, while the current government is quite keen on fulfilling commitments under agenda 2030, the process will only be meaningful and effective if elements of transparency, public engagement, mechanism of accountability and appropriate means of implementation are integrated therein. There is also a strong need of a coordinated approach by the government, implementing authorities and citizens. Popularization of SDGs at State and district level will also help and accelerate the process. Last census has proven the fact that India has significantly large population of youth. Their involvement therefore, is essential, worthy and pertinent. The development agenda 2030 is certainly achievable provided it is absolutely inclusive and leaves no one behind in true sense.





1 INTRODUCTION



A. National Context

India is the oldest democracy in the world. Citizens of India elect government at three levels - national, state and local. The constitution of India, which is the longest written constitution of any sovereign country in the world, provides a number of rights and protection against violation of basic human rights thus, structuring the Indian state as a secular, rights based, welfare and non-discriminatory to the citizens. The rosy picture being presented in the constitution and the vision imagined by the founding fathers of the Indian State have been facing challenges from extreme poverty, corruption, patriarchy, gap between poor & riches, gender based violence, violation of human rights, religious fundamentalism, unemployment, lack of skills etc.



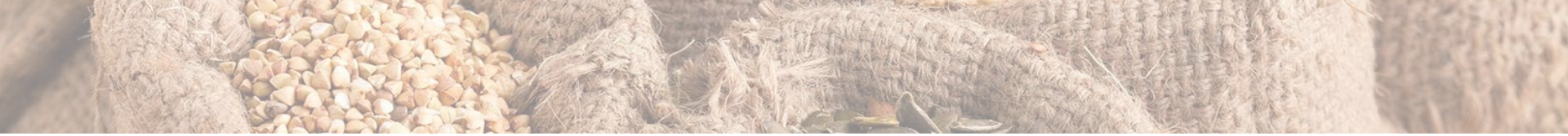
Major sectors such as health and education still lack basic access facilities in many locations. As per the latest budget, India spends less than 2% of its GDP on health sector and 3.71% on education that is one of the lowest amongst developing countries. India spends insufficient and negligible amount on health and education among other developing countries but the country ranks 4th in military spending in the world. With being the 7th largest economy in the nominal GDP and 3rd largest in the purchasing power, India's per capita income (nominal) was \$1570 in 2013, ranked 112th out of 164 countries by the World Bank while its per capita income on purchasing power parity was US \$5350 and ranked 100th. India is the second-most unequal country globally with millionaires controlling 54% of its wealth. In India, the richest 1% own 53% of the country's wealth, according to the latest data from Credit Suisse. The social cultural practices and patriarchal system limit the level of participation of women in the workforce as well as in developmental work. India has been launching a number of schemes for the benefits of the citizens but currently has no mechanism in place for strategic implementation and ensuring the rightful end-use beneficiaries.



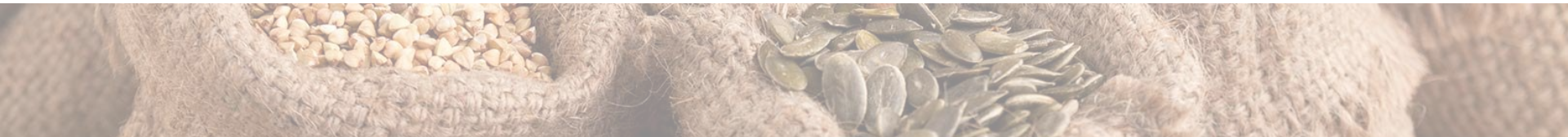
i. Trade and Investments

The Complication and complexity of international trade was very visible at the 2006 Doha Development Round meeting where India was called out for providing benefits and subsidies to the local peasants and protecting them in the international market. In the meeting, it was proposed that welfare states like India where the farmers are being given subsidies, should be stopped as these are against the norms of liberal market. India currently has Free Trade Agreements (FTA) with Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Singapore, and Thailand. FTA negotiations with European Union (EU) & European Free Trade Association (EFTA) are stalled at this point while the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)-India free trade agreement was signed in 2003 and is in effect from 2010. India currently has filed 23 cases under the Investor-State Dispute Settlement provisions from various trade agreements and is being sued in 24 cases by other nations and regions. While there has been no specific lawsuit in relations to gender, a UAE company has sued the State Government of Andhra under the UAE-India bilateral investment treaty for cancelling mining license to protect indigenous people's rights.





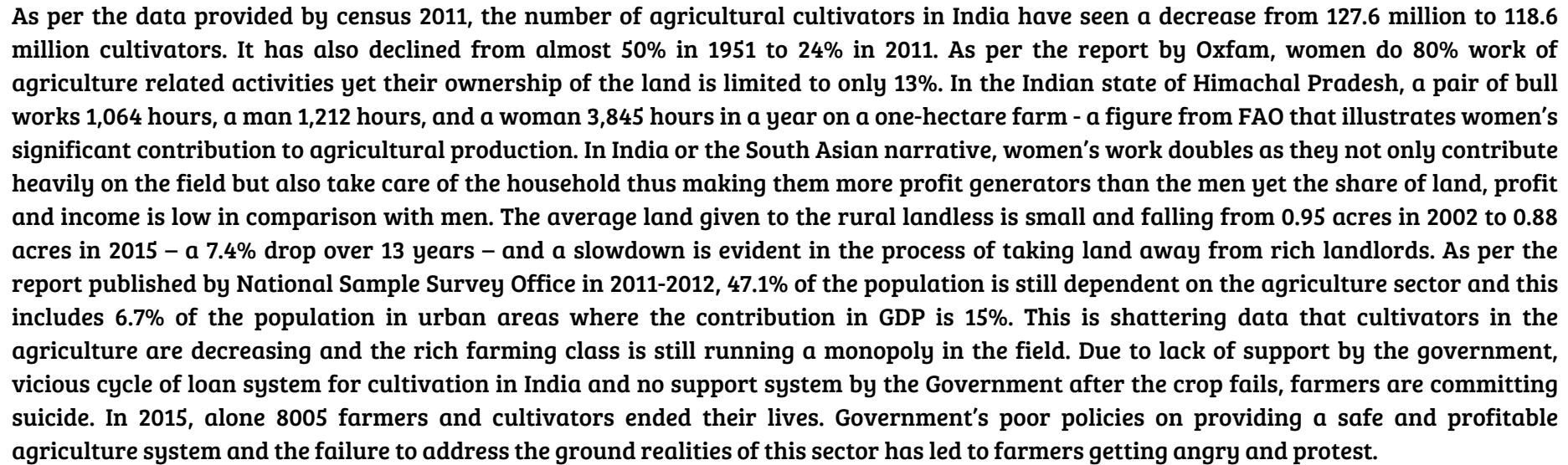
The ASEAN-India FTA has created major livelihood losses in the plantation sector in the State of Kerala due to closure. India has signed about 14-15 Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) and negotiating about more than 15 including the RCEP and the EU-India FTA. The new age FTAs being negotiated by India may lead to loss of regulatory space and human rights. During WTO meeting in Doha, 2001. EU demanded the removal of subsidies given by the government of India to its domestic farmers for agricultural products including plantation, dairy and others. This move may have adverse impacts on 60% labour class women working in this sector. The sector is threatened not only by duty cuts but also by intellectual property and investment provisions that threatens access to seeds and public services respectively. There is also lot of pressure to liberalize FDI in retail that is women's second highest employment opportunity after agriculture. There is a pressure to include TRIPS-plus provisions on IPR that will threaten access to medicines where women already suffer from disproportionate access. Investment chapters in FTAs and standalone investment agreements erode government's policy space to regulate for development or to protect human rights. The power of MNCs and big corporations may influence the developmental agenda of any state, especially in the developing world where the democracy is being subverted because of corporate interference.



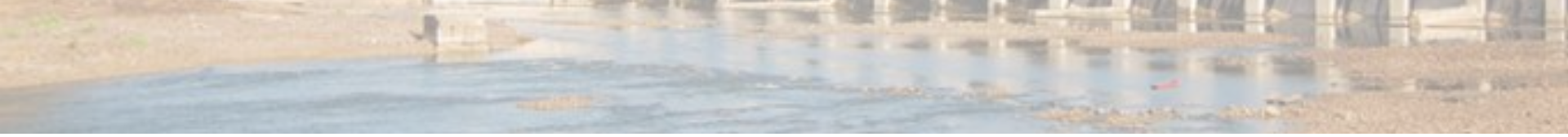


ii. Land Resource Grabbing

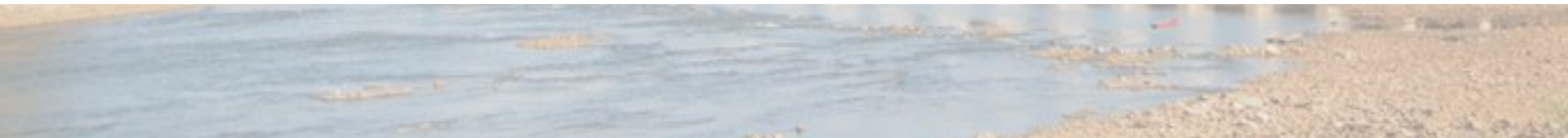
In India, women do 80% of the farm work but own only 13% of total land. As the resource demands of globalization increase, land has emerged as a key source of conflict. In India, 65% of people depend on land for their livelihood. Land grabbing in the name of development has been a major issue in India. The Land Acquisition Act 1894, a law from the colonial past of India was a major instrument used to grab the land of the poor until it was removed in 2013 by Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013. After the 2011 violent land acquisition in Bhatta Parsaul, Uttar Pradesh, the new act has important provisions such as “Fair compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement” but again the act seems to be working for only land owning classes and forgets the poor-landless agricultural laborers.

The background of the slide features a dense, repeating pattern of green leaves, likely from a plant like basil, which is slightly out of focus and has a soft, naturalistic feel. The leaves are various shades of green, from light to dark, and their veins are visible. This pattern covers the entire background, with a thin, solid olive-green horizontal band separating the top and bottom sections of the leaf pattern.

As per the data provided by census 2011, the number of agricultural cultivators in India have seen a decrease from 127.6 million to 118.6 million cultivators. It has also declined from almost 50% in 1951 to 24% in 2011. As per the report by Oxfam, women do 80% work of agriculture related activities yet their ownership of the land is limited to only 13%. In the Indian state of Himachal Pradesh, a pair of bull works 1,064 hours, a man 1,212 hours, and a woman 3,845 hours in a year on a one-hectare farm - a figure from FAO that illustrates women's significant contribution to agricultural production. In India or the South Asian narrative, women's work doubles as they not only contribute heavily on the field but also take care of the household thus making them more profit generators than the men yet the share of land, profit and income is low in comparison with men. The average land given to the rural landless is small and falling from 0.95 acres in 2002 to 0.88 acres in 2015 – a 7.4% drop over 13 years – and a slowdown is evident in the process of taking land away from rich landlords. As per the report published by National Sample Survey Office in 2011-2012, 47.1% of the population is still dependent on the agriculture sector and this includes 6.7% of the population in urban areas where the contribution in GDP is 15%. This is shattering data that cultivators in the agriculture are decreasing and the rich farming class is still running a monopoly in the field. Due to lack of support by the government, vicious cycle of loan system for cultivation in India and no support system by the Government after the crop fails, farmers are committing suicide. In 2015, alone 8005 farmers and cultivators ended their lives. Government's poor policies on providing a safe and profitable agriculture system and the failure to address the ground realities of this sector has led to farmers getting angry and protest.



Another example of the case of land grabbing turning into violent conflict can be in some way linked to the emergence of Maoist Movement in the state of West Bengal. The term Naxalites comes from Naxalbari, a small village in West Bengal, where a section of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) (CPI-M) initiated an uprising in 1967. The movement now has turned into an ultra-radical movement where regular attacks on villages, politicians, armed forces take place. In 2011, the Twelfth Five-Year Plan blandly noted that out of the estimated 60 million people displaced in development projects since independence, as many as 40% were Adivasis (Tribals); their share in the general population has hovered around 8%. There have been many campaigns by citizens for equal and fair rehabilitation of displaced people such as Sardar Sarovar Dam project (Sardar Lake Dam Project) and Narmada Bachao Andolan (Save Habitat of Narmada River Movement). While the ideals of the Nehruvian era was to ensure that land reforms should benefit poor landless labourers in the countryside, it is actually the rich farmers who gained from the dissolution of the feudal system. Any effort to redistribute land was only initiated on paper but not in practice. This failure of the government in ensuring land reforms hindered social reforms resulting in class and caste based oppression and also in women falling at the bottom of the hierarchy or in the other words 'formation of a patriarchal society'.



iii. Corporate Capture

With being the 7th largest economy in the nominal GDP and 3rd largest in the purchasing power, India's per capita income (nominal) was \$1570 in 2013, ranked 112th out of 164 countries by the World Bank while its per capita income on purchasing power parity was US \$5350 and ranked 100th. As per the official data provided by the Government of India, the state has currently 1300 Public Private Partnership (PPP) under implementation. According to the World Bank, India is one of the leading countries in terms of readiness for PPPs. As per the 2015 Infrascope Report of the Economist Intelligence Unit, "Evaluating the environment for PPPs in Asia-Pacific 2014", India ranks first in the world in "Operational Maturity" for PPP projects, third for sub-national PPP activity and fifth overall in terms of having an ideal environment for PPP projects.





For decades, organizations such as the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) among others, have worked hard on behalf of their members to influence key ministries and policies. In recent years, the need for continuous engagement has increased and so has the sophistication. Public-Private partnership (PPP) is something that is being trended in the government in the major sectors. Recently the national government proposed its National Health Policy 2017 where it was stated that the healthcare of India is a major sector and cannot be funded entirely by the government. The mushroom culture of private hospitals and crumbling structures of government hospitals is something that cannot be ignored. Thus, merging private and public sector is important. As per the latest data provided by the government, 1575 PPP projects are running with a total cost of 1,155,539.23 Crore rupees (178876.042Million USD).





iv. Armed Conflicts

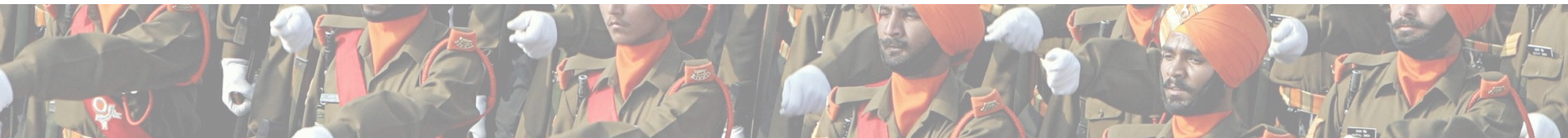
Major security concerns for India are border disputes with China and Pakistan, intra-state terrorism, tension with Nepal on Madhesi issues, migration problems from Bangladesh and Myanmar, Rohingya Issues, internal conflicts as Naxalite movement, Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) in Jammu & Kashmir and entire North-East India (Exception being Tripura where AFSPA has recently lifted). India is the world's fifth spender on defense as per the report published by Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). In 2016, the spending on defense is increased by 8.5% in comparison with the last year.

Below is the table of India's defense spending in last decades

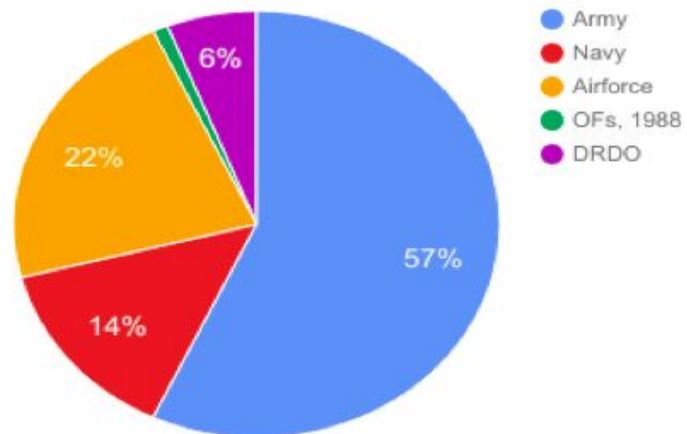
Year	Spending (in Million USD)
1988	17880
1990	18841
1995	19351
2000	27287
2005	35576
2010	48508
2015	51295
2016	55631



As it can be perceived from the above table, the defense spending has been increasing throughout the years. There are also some marked changes in the format of the defense Demand for Grants (under which defense money is distributed among the armed forces and other defense agencies), bringing further complexity to the task of estimating the various heads that make up India's official defense budget. The national government allocated Rs. 274,114 crores (42432.508 Million USD) including 86,488 crores (13388.235 Million USD) for Defense capital in 2017 Union budget of India which was 6.7% higher than previous year thus making India's annual defense spending 274,114 crore rupees (42432.508 million USD).



Share of the Defence Services 2017-18



V. Patriarchy and Fundamentalism

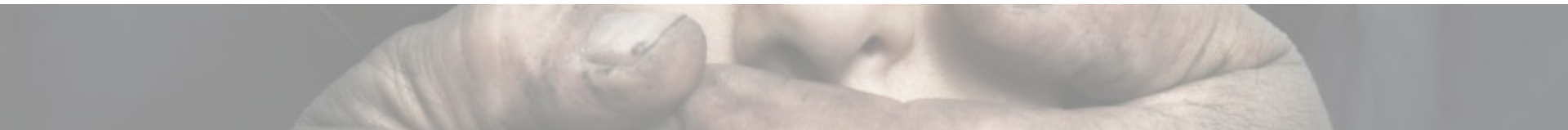
According to the 2001 census, India's population consists of 586.5 million women. The National Sample Survey 2011-2012 (68th round) reveals that Female Headed Households account for 11.5% in rural area and 12.4 % in urban households as compared to 9.7% and 10.6% in rural and urban households respectively during 1993-94. A study on Child abuse in India - 2007 carried out by the Government's Ministry of Women and Child Development found that 70.57% of girls reported negligence of one form or another by family members; 48.4% of girls wished they had been born a boy; and in Bihar 65.63% of girls reported being given less food than their brothers, which is three-fold the national response of 27.33%. The Child Sex Ratio (CSR) (0-6 years) has declined from 927 girls per 1000 boys in 2001 to 919 girls per 1000 boys in 2011 (UNFPA, 2013). Another major challenge in India, like major countries in the world, is the emergence of neo-nationalism and violent right wing. There have been clashes between right wing supporters against intellectual class, including students, professors, writers, or columnists and these have steadily increased in recent time. There have also been cases of personal attacks and killings under the banner of 'fundamentalism'.

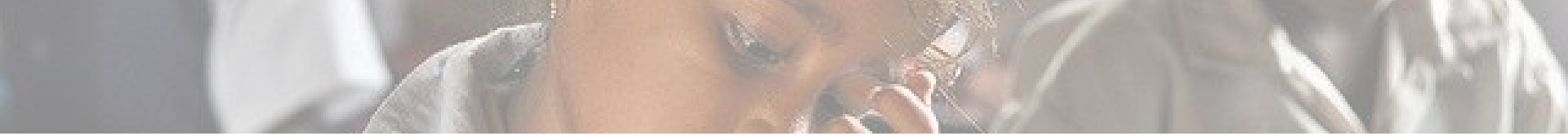




Caste plays a major role in India and minority community have also faced major challenges in sustenance and benefitting from any welfare schemes. Crime against women has also been a major setback for the policymakers as without providing women a secure place the true meaning of development cannot be achieved. In the year 2015 as per the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) there were 327,394 registered crimes against women . The crime registration data can vary from the actual crimes taking place as in many cases such as sexual assaults, rape, molestation, Stalking, domestic violence, honour killing a huge number of cases do not even get filed under the laws due to the societal barriers for a woman to reach police station. As per the data provided by NCRB data crime against women has gone up to 34% in past four years . A total of 327,394 cases of crime against women (both under various sections of IPC and Special and Local Laws {SLL}) were reported in the country during the year 2015 as compared to 337,922 in the year 2014, thus showing a decline of 3.1% during the year 2015.

India ranks 103rd out of 140 countries with 12% representation of women in the Parliament. Within Asia, India stands at 13th position out of 18 countries in women's participation in legislature. However, at Regional level, some of the states have fared slightly better with 14% women representation in State Assembly. Whereas at the sub-regional level (village administration) India has fared well with significant number of women heading the Panchayat (village governing body). The average age of women MPs was 47 while the average age of male MPs was 54 years.





India's gender inequality index is 0.56. India's GDP has grown at the rate of 7.2 % per annum but there has been a large decline in female labour force participation. The NFHS survey conducted in 2015-16, shows the proportion of working women (who were paid for their work) fell 4% points over the past decade to 24.6%. The proportion of women in the urban labour force is 24%, while that in the rural labour force is a bit higher at 29%, according to the Household Survey on India's Citizen Environment & Consumer Economy (ICE 360° survey). As per the 73rd amendment in the Constitution of India, Panchayati Raj (Village Government) as a third tier of democracy was added in 1992 and this is one area where there have been positive results. As of now 33% of the total village governance seats are reserved for women. The 2011-12 data has shown that there were 1,038,045 women head in villages which is 36.84%. The state of Bihar has the highest number of women as village head at 54.12% thereby surpassing the number of male village heads. The ground reality may differ from the actual practice as the decisions of these women head are often influenced by the male members of their families due to the patriarchal norm that decisions should be made by men only. Women's reservation bill which ensures 50% of women presence in all tier of governance is pending in the parliament for approval.





B. National context as it pertains to the 2030 Agenda

The current government which won the last national election with complete majority has been perpetuating the idea of development. They are trying to strike a balance between meeting the crucial challenges faced by people and continue with development. The government has initiated a number of measures purportedly in order to create a just and equitable framework and launched a number of schemes to fulfill the development agenda. As of now the NITI Aayog has prepared a mapping of all schemes and ministries for all SDGs. Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) has prepared the national indicators for SDG agenda 2030 where comments and suggestions by academicians, CSOs, Citizens, have been invited. Though a proper system of engagement with CSO is still lacking. There have been several consultations initiated by the government where CSOs have been invited. Simultaneously, there has been participation of the government or government appointed agencies in the consultations organized by the CSOs.

C. Priorities

90 years of history of All India Women's Conference has been dedicated to the empowerment, education and emancipation of women in India. The organization has been working at the grassroot level to make sure that the fruits of development reach the women from lower income groups, marginalized communities and disadvantaged sections of the society. Education, health, gender equality, environment and climate change mitigation have been the focus of the organization for decades, much before the MDGs were finalized and implemented. The current status of organization is not very different from its glorious past. The dreams to bring gender equality, enhancing women's participation at all levels of policies, saving the Mother Nature, creating awareness among women on various issues impeding gender equality are still the focus of the organization and we continue our dedicated work in this regard consistently.





The decision to monitor implementation of goals 3, 4, 5 and 13 was primarily on the basis that these Goals co-relate with many of the AIWC programmes. AIWC conducts formal and non-formal education programmes, health and sanitation awareness campaigns, environment protection advocacy and activities through the network of her branches. The organizations is also engaged with gender integration into climate change policy work at national as well as global level for past many years. Post SDGs adoption, AIWC has also linked up many of her own run programmes with the goals, targets and advised branches to report under the categorization.

The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation recently came up with national indicators and called for input from CSOs/individual. A group of network of CSOs, led by Wada Na Todo Abhiyan (WNTA), a registered CSOs which is closely working with the government right from the beginning of SDGs formulation invited all the CSOs working on the SDGs to contribute and the recommendations were sent to the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI). Several other group discussions under the banner of UN Women, other CSOs were also held and AIWC has participated in them. AIWC held 2 regional and one national consultation on the chosen goals and the findings and outcome of the consultation have been included in this report.






2

**INDIA'S SDGS
COMMITMENTS**





India has appointed National Institution for Transforming India (NITI Aayog) as the main agency for the implementation of SDGs in India. NITI Aayog has been established to provide a platform for cooperatives federalism; facilitating the state and center together as equal while states will take lead in providing policy interventions to the union government. The NITI Aayog has prepared a mapping of all the existing schemes, linked them up with relative goals and listed government departments responsible for the same. This information is available on their website. State governments have been asked to replicate this exercise at their level. Until now only the State of Assam has started working on it and is in the process of partnering with Earth Institute, University of Colombia. Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS) is an autonomous research institution established with the financial support of the Government of India. It is India's contribution to the fulfilment of the long-felt need of the developing world for creating a 'Think-Tank' on global issues in the field of international economic relations and development cooperation.



RIS in collaboration with NITI Aayog and with support from the UN in India, is spearheading a programme of consultations among lawmakers, policymakers, academia, private sector and the civil society in India on SDGs to ensure maximum awareness and participation towards drawing up a roadmap for the implementation of relevant targets in India as enshrined in this agenda. RIS is also collaborating with key international think tanks and organizations in India on specific issues related to the SDGs to strengthen knowledge partnerships.

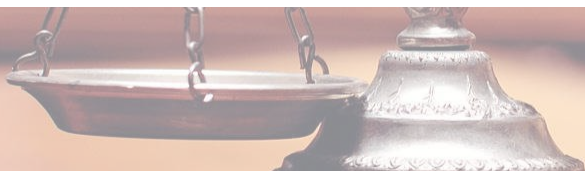
Recently, the government has been holding consultations for all goals and has been inviting selected NGOs and groups like, WNTA, UN Women etc., however coordinated mechanism of a formal or regular CSO consultation is still lacking. During the national consultation on monitoring and review of SDGs Goal 5 & 13 held by AIWC in Delhi, the Director of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), who attended the closing session, openly invited all the CSOs members to submit their recommendations on national indicators being prepared by the ministry and encourage them to work with the government.





Government has also launched a number of schemes and campaign which has a direct and indirect impact on achieving the SDGs such as Swachh Bharat Abhiyan (Clean India Mission), Digital India Campaign, Padhe Bharat - Badhe Bharat (Educate India - Grow India), Pradhanmantri Jandhan Yojna (Prime Minister Direct Cash Transfer Scheme), Make in India, Sansaad Adarsh Gram Yojna (where every Member of Parliament [MP] has to adopt a village and develop it), Kaushal Vikas Yojna (Skill India Scheme), Sukaynya Samridhi Yojna (Girl Empowerment Scheme), Beti Padhao - Beti Bachao Andolan (Educate Daughters - Save Daughters Movement) etc. A report published by Technology and Action for Rural Advancement (TARA) has estimated the gap of around USD 8468 Billion for the implementation of SDGs in India.

India had come up for VNR during the HLPF in July 2017 and the report submitted by the Indian Government is available at <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/india-presents-national-review-report-on-sdg-implementation-in-un/articleshow/59679310.cms>. The CSO network under the leadership of WNTA prepared and submitted a shadow report to the UN and AIWC co-anchored Goal 5 part of the said report.



The Goal wise estimation of the financial gap can be seen in the table below :

SDGs Goals	Source of Finance (Considered)	Finance Required (Billion USD)	Gap (Billion USD)
Goal 3 : Ensure Healthy Lives and Promote well-being for all at all Ages	Public	880	305
Goal 4 : Ensure Inclusive and Equitable Quality Education and Promote Lifelong Learning Opportunities for all	Public & Private	2258	740
Goal 5 : Achieve Gender Equality and Empower all Women and Girls	Public	1408	1091
Goal 13 : Take Urgent Action to Combat Climate Change and its impacts	Public & Private	267	267



3



**THEMATIC ANALYSIS :
WOMEN'S PRIORITIES**

Non-availability of gender disaggregated data has been a major challenge for many of the assessment exercise, however, based on the consultations we have had under the project and research work conducted, following were the findings under the four identified goals.





Goal 3 : Ensures Healthy Lives and Promote well-being for all at all Ages

SDG 3 is led by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and has five centrally sponsored schemes - National Health Mission including NRHM, Human Resource in Health and Medical Education, National Mission on Ayush including Mission on Medicinal Plants, National AIDS & STD Control Programme and Integrated Child Development Service. It has one related intervention – Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (2006).

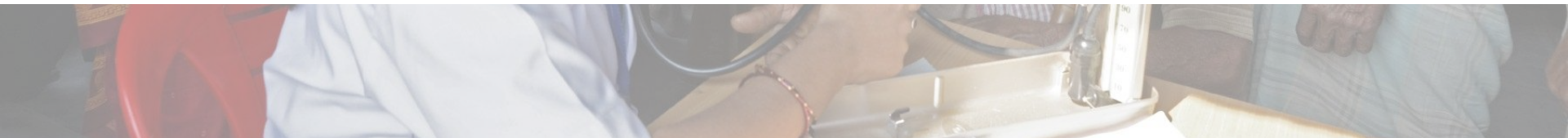
There has been a paradigm shift in investment in contraception and family planning during the last decade. However, there is larger need for distribution and accessibility of Sexual and Reproductive Health Care Services at grass root level. Lack of awareness and non-availability of comprehensive maternal health care services such as post abortion and antenatal care, also act as an indicator for poor quality of health care.



In 2015, India was declared a polio-free country. This was the result of decades of campaigning and vaccination drives across the country.

Different schemes such as Rashtriya Kishor Swasthya Karyakram (National programme for youth's health) and Programmes like the SABLA were merged with other programmes for the upliftment of adolescent girls. However, due to limitations such as poor implementation and lack of funds, these programmes fail to fulfil its objectives. During the consultations, it was generally felt that the end co-benefits were not being ensured primarily because the schemes are not gender neutral and also due to lack of proper implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the existing government schemes.

At the country level, India (along with Nigeria) is estimated to account for over one third of all maternal deaths worldwide in 2015 with an approximate 45,000 maternal deaths (15%), respectively.





Maternal Mortality Rate in India as follows

Year	1990*	2004-06	2007-09	2010-12	2011-13	2015*
Rate	556	254	212	178	167	174
*Note	Data of 1990 and 2015 has been taken from World Bank					

The above table shows the difference between maternal mortality rate in India over the years from 1990 - 2016 which is again being affected by the economic, social, educational, cultural and several other factors. Apart from physical health perspective there is a missing link for mental health as postpartum depression is often being neglected. Most of the new mothers or their family are not even aware of the postpartum situation. In addition to the lack of appropriate post natal health and nutritional care, this situation effects women's health to a great extent.





The National Family Health survey-3 (2005-06) found that only 37.0% women were able to access the antenatal check-ups which has now increased to 51.2% in the NFHS survey-4 (2015-16). The number of mothers accessing antenatal check-ups at the minimum number of 4 check-ups was also 51.2% in the year of 2015-16 while it was 37.0% in 2005-2006. The progress is also visible in the availment of antenatal care. While the survey 3 showed that only 11.6% mothers were able to access the facility, in survey 4 the number increased to 21.0%. Under the Janani Suraksha Yojna (Pregnant Women Security Scheme, JSY) 21.4% women in urban and 43.8% women in rural areas were benefited.

A worrying figure shows that in the period between 2000 and 2013, when the UNFPA report was released, with 11,875,182 pregnancies, India topped the chart of 10 countries with the greatest numbers of women aged between 20 and 24 who gave birth before their age was 18. Young girls being pregnant in the context of marriage and out of the context of marital practice is increasing. The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (pertaining to girls below the age of 18) provides protection to girls in case of pregnancy as a result of sexual abuse. However, in case of abortion, the MTP Act states the necessity of involvement of a parent or a legal guardian for the abortion. With such environment mixed with shame, law and stigma, underage girls often seek informal abortion methods which often are unsafe. A brief analysis of maternal health is being shown in the table below:

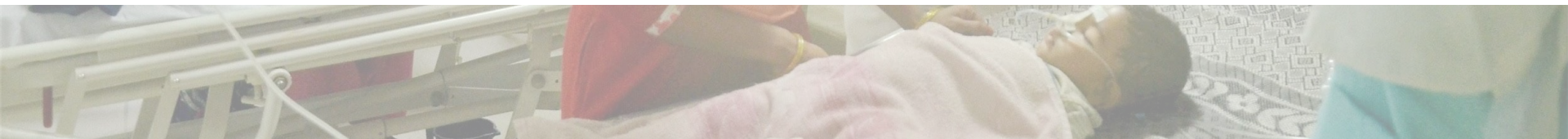


Indicators	NFHS-3 (2005-06)	NFHS-4 (2015-16)	NFHS-4 (2015-16)	NFHS-4 (2015-16)
	Total	Total	Rural	Urban
Mothers who had antenatal check-up in the first trimester	43.9	58.6	61.1	54.2
Mothers who had at least 4 antenatal care visits	37.0	51.2	66.4	44.8
Mothers who had full antenatal care	11.6	21.0	31.1	16.7
Mothers who consumed iron folic acid for 100 days or more when they were pregnant	15.2	30.3	40.8	25.9
Mothers whose last birth was protected against neonatal tetanus	76.3	89.0	89.9	88.6
Registered pregnancies for which the mother received Mother and Child Protection (MCP) Card	N/A	89.3	87.7	90.0



Poverty and family priorities often restrict women to access healthcare.

The Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostics Techniques (PCPNDT) act, 1994 could also do with more strengthening. In India, Of 122,291 deaths there were 10,041 all-cause deaths in women between the age 15–49 years. There were 1130 pregnancy-related deaths, of which 34 were excluded as they were either accidental or incidental, resulting in 1096 maternal deaths (11.1% of all-deaths of women age 15–49 years). The national MMR reported by the SRS in 2004–2006 is 254 deaths per 100,000 live births (95%CI 239–269). Rural areas of poorer states had the highest MMR (397, 95%CI 385–410) compared to the lowest MMR in urban areas of richer states (115, 95%CI 85–146). Three-quarters of maternal deaths were clustered in rural areas of poorer states (estimated total maternal deaths 52,800), whereas these regions have only half the estimated live births in India (13.3 million births). The proportion of maternal deaths to all-cause deaths in women, 15–49 years, was three times higher in rural areas of poorer states (16.3%) compared to urban areas of richer states.



Goal 4 : Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

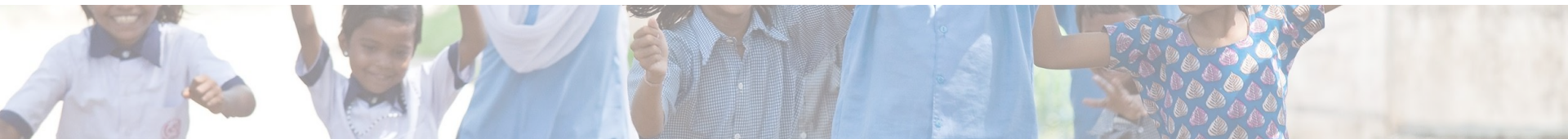
72% of India's population is under the age of 32. The Government of India has committed to ensure quality and equal right to education for all. The Ministry of Human Resource Development operates seven centrally sponsored schemes - Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Programme Nutritional Support to Primary Education, Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan, Support for Educational Development including Teachers Training & Adult Education, Scheme for providing education to Madrasas, Minorities and Disabled, Rashtriya Uchhtar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA), Umbrella scheme for Education of ST students and one related Intervention - Padhe Bharat Badhe Bharat (Educate India, Grow India).

However, the success and the outreach of the above schemes depends upon several factors like supply of qualified teachers, equitable access; good sanitation system, more efficient strategy concerning location, size, and operation of secondary schools and resource allocation.





More boys than girls are dropping out of the schools in India. As against 39% boys who dropped out before completing elementary education in 2013-14, only 33% girls did so, says the latest statistics of the Ministry of Human Resources and Development (MHRD). The Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (Save Daughters, Educate Daughters, BBBPS) scheme flagship programme by the government aims to tackle two major problems in India, education of girls and female infanticides. The idea is noble but there has been more setbacks than success. BBBPs aim was improving the sex ratio at birth (SRB) in gender critical districts by 10 points each year. As per the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) reports in the state of Punjab & Haryana the sex ratio has worsened, one example being that in the city of Panipat the ratio was 892 against the target of 902 but it dropped further to 881. In the State of Punjab, in 2015, six districts saw a decrease in SRB in comparison to the baseline values of 2014. In four of these districts, the SRB was not only declining but also less than Punjab's overall SRB. The target to enroll all girls into the school is yet to be achieved. In 2012-13, nearly 41% female students had dropped out of the schools without completing elementary education, as against 40.3% male students. The gender gap in dropout within a year appears to be more profound in the upper primary classes (5-8). The figures are based on provisional data of Unified District Information System for Education. 74% of class 5 students cannot read the text books of class 2. Basic literacy and numeracy skills are not taught properly. The quality of education imparted at the government schools needs substantive overhaul. 3.32% budget is allocated to children in the union budget. ICDS allocation is 15245 cr. (Million \$2771.82) and has not increased at all in the last 6 years.





Goal 5 : Achieve Gender Equality and Empower all Women and Girls

The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action in 1995 was monumental because for the first time, women from grassroots engaged in international decision making frameworks. 12 critical areas were identified in the platform related to women including poverty, economy, violence against women, human rights, peace, education and health. CEDAW played a huge role in Beijing framework. While the government received the platform enthusiastically, it failed in implementation.

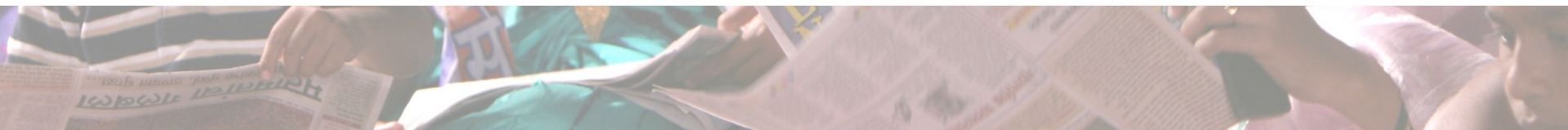
The targets of Goal 5 strive to eliminate discrimination, violence and harmful practices, recognize unpaid and domestic work, ensure women's participation in decision making, access to sexual, reproductive and health rights (SRHR) as well as access to economic resources and technology. While the detail in which CEDAW and poverty were mentioned in the Beijing Platform was missing in the SDGs, the government of India is endeavouring to create an equitable and inclusive development agenda which is meant to benefit all.



The Ministry of Child and Development have two centrally sponsored schemes - National Mission for Empowerment of Women including Indira Gandhi Matritrav Sahyog Yojana (Indira Gandhi Pregnant Women Help Scheme) and Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for Empowerment of Adolescent Girls (SABLA). It also has six related interventions - Beti Bachao Beti Padhao , Sukanya Samridhi Yojana (Girl Child Prosperity Scheme), Support to Training And Employment Programme For Women (STEP) 2014, Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY), SWADHAR 2011 (A scheme for women in difficult circumstances), Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalay (KGBV).

There is a disjunction between policies and their implementation which is probably why the anticipated results are not forthcoming. While the girl child ratio shows increase in some of the State, harmful cultural practices in some others highlight the glaring gaps in gender parity. While the focus is on digitalization, cybercrime has phenomenally increased too. Such facts prove that the methods of violence are changing, and due to non-operationalization of a proper implementation strategy or action plan, the schemes are not fulfilling the anticipated objective.

According to the 2011 census, the male literacy rate in the country was 82.1% and female literacy lagged at 65.5%. The workforce participation rate of males and females in the country is skewed at 54.4% and 21.9% (National Sample Survey Report 2011-2012).





The year 2015 has witnessed a reduction in crime against women as compared to 2014. Recording a decrease of 3.1%, 2015 saw the registration of 327,394 cases under the head of Crimes against Women as compared to 337,922 cases in 2014, as recorded by the National Crime Records Bureau. More than 50% cases of human trafficking involved minors and close to 90% of them were girls trafficked to be forced into prostitution in 2015. According to the NCRB data for 2015, out of 6,877 cases of human trafficking in the country, 3,490 (51%) involved children. Of these 3,087 (88.5%) were cases registered under Section 366A (procurement of girl to force her into sex) of the Indian Penal Code.



Goal 13 : Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has eight related Interventions -

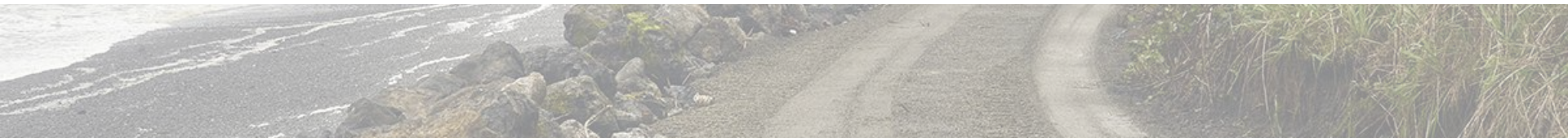
1. National Action Plan on Climate Change
2. National Mission for a Green India
3. National Solar Mission
4. National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency
5. National Mission for Sustainable Habitat
6. National Water Mission
7. National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Ecosystem
8. National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture and National Mission on Strategic Knowledge for Climate Change.





While India has ratified the Paris Agreement and agreed on the emission target, recent proposal by Indian Government to start the coal power plant to meet the energy demands may be viewed very critically. The coal and other fossil fuels meet around 70% of India's power demand and the government aims to install 100 GW of solar power by 2022. The government has however, tried to justify the coal plant proposal with the growing industrial and domestic energy demand.

Each state within India has also been advised to prepare the State Climate Change Action Plan based on the NAP. However, there are huge gaps in the gender integration in any of the climate change policy or action plan. While it is widely accepted that women are disproportionately impacted by climate change, sensitive areas like adaptation or capacity building lack gender mainstreaming into the action plans at different level. Women's contribution in climate change mitigation is also hardly recognized. Patriarchy, lack of asset holding, less opportunity in policy level participation and even less inclusion in action plan are all drivers of the missing gender angle in the climate change arena.



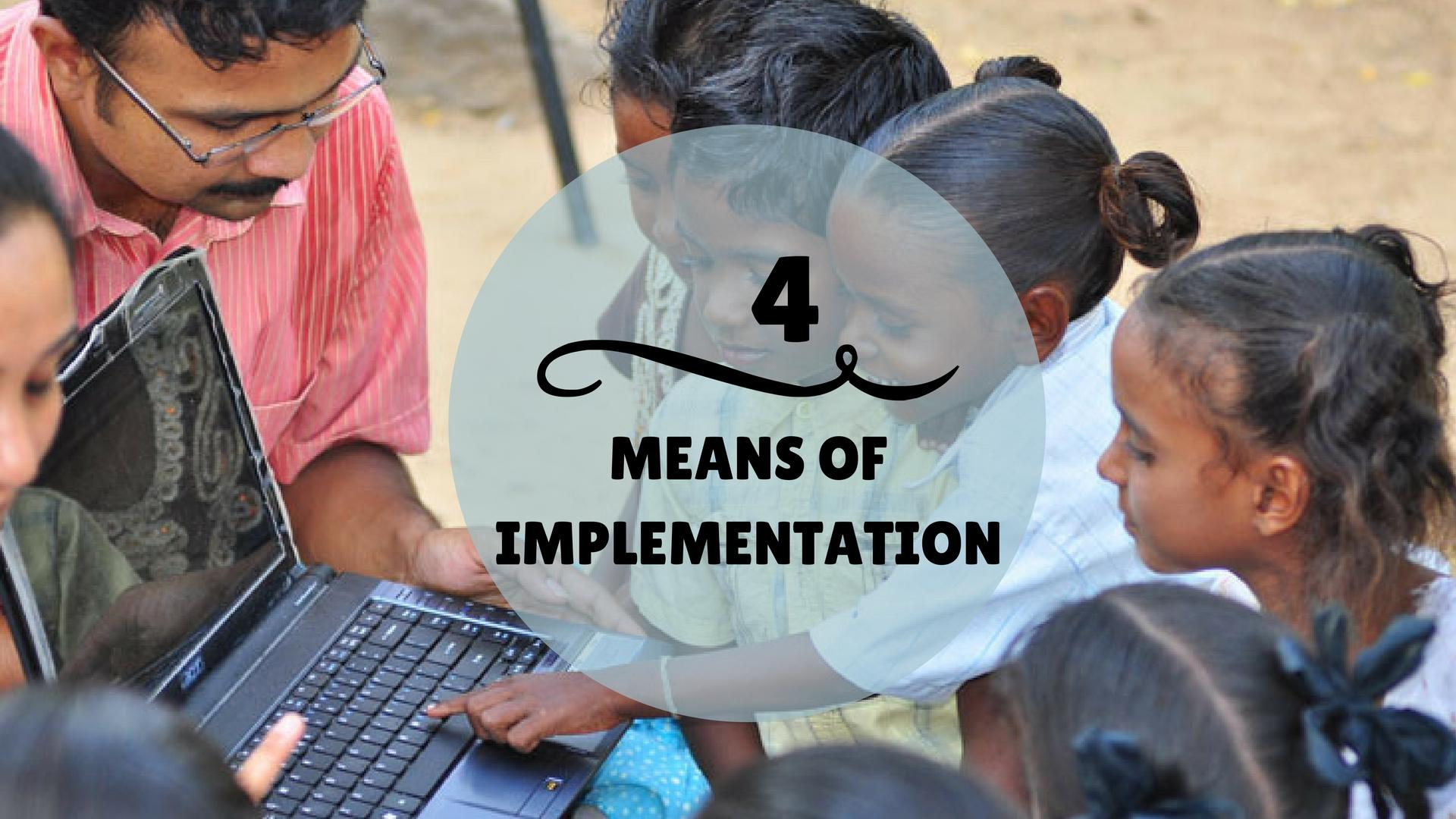


In fact, during the recent Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR), one of the recommendations stated that every district should have a district disaster management plan. Although the agenda of Disaster management has integrated involvement of women in disaster management, there are no gender specific targets because women, children and disabled are joined together. This is a major improvement from the past, in which climate change was considered gender neutral and had no concern about its impacts on women. For Rehabilitation, every adult man is considered as a separate household but the same cannot be said about women.

During the regional consultation in Hyderabad, it was highlighted that there is immense traditional knowledge of climate change adaptation available in India among indigenous and elder women which is supporting their survival. However, these are hardly accounted or documented and voices of such women seldom find space in the policy making arena or decision making forum.

Case Study - Jharkhand and Meghalaya revealed that women and men engaged in production have equal knowledge of alternative agricultural practices while adapting to climate change such as cultivation of Turmeric on Paddy fields and new flood resistant cabbage.



A photograph of a male teacher with glasses and a pink shirt pointing at a laptop screen. Several young students are gathered around him, looking at the screen with interest. The scene is outdoors on a dirt ground.

4

**MEANS OF
IMPLEMENTATION**



The post 2015 development agenda has given a lot of importance to Means of Implementation. It is included separately as a goal and has its own targets which address finance, trade, technology, resource mobilization and systemic barriers. The Goal 17 provides means of achieving the SDGs collectively through governments, private sector, civil society, UN and other mobilizing sources. As per the World Bank data in 2011 India received a total of \$1,681,850,000 in Official Development Assistance (ODA) which increased to \$2,457,380,000 in 2013. Even with a focused approach, India will face several challenges, external and internal, in implementing selected Sustainable Development Goals.

The negotiations on SDGs agenda by UN members over the years is, perhaps, the most ambitious map ever drawn up by the international community with 17 Goals ranging issues from poverty, gender equality to climate change etc. and 169 targets that need to be implemented by 2030 with a monitoring framework to hold all state government accountable.



In comparison, the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), adopted by countries in 2000 to reduce extreme poverty by 2015, had a mere 8 goals and 18 targets – less than half and around one-tenth – of the SDG goals and targets respectively. Yet, while many countries, including India, made significant progress they did not meet all the MDG targets.

Today India is home to more than 30 per cent of the global estimate of over one billion people who live in extreme poverty. Eight resource rich Indian states have more poor than 25 of the poorest countries in Africa. In fact, according to World Bank President, Jim Kim, a single Indian state – Uttar Pradesh – accounts for eight per cent of the world’s population living in extreme poverty. These 66 million are the largest number of poor anywhere in the world.

The current government has already acknowledged India’s pivotal role and responsibility in ensuring the success of the SDGs. The government has directed all the state government to prepare a map to achieve SDGs at state level. The government has also appointed nodal agencies such as RIS, NITI Aayog and MoSPI to work through the SDGs plan. The internal challenges for India are even more daunting. While the MDGs were implemented primarily by the central government, there is broad agreement that the SDGs can only be achieved with the help of state and local governments, the industry and civil society.





This all-of-government, cross- domain approach has not been undertaken before on such a scale. Although the newly constituted NITI Aayog is working towards creating this crucial alliance it remains a work in progress at best. MoSPI recently has published national indicators for SDG agenda and invited comments from public and civil society.

The panchayat (Village Government), which would be crucial to ensure inclusion at the local level, remains the weakest link. Similarly, the selective approach of the government in working with civil society is another hurdle to the success of the SDGs.

Finally, NITI Aayog, which also has the task of monitoring progress on implementation of the SDGs, will have to innovate to keep track of all 169 targets.

Thus, taking in these challenges and addressing the country level complexities shall lighten the path to achieve the goals by 2030. Advocacy for a free transfer of new technology, global cooperation among nations, learning from experiences of other nations, involvement of civil society organizations, comprehensive consultations with public, transparent trade negotiations and rights based approach shall create the will to achieve the goals.



A photograph of a woman with long dark hair, wearing a white t-shirt and a backpack, pouring water from a clear plastic bottle into the mouth of a young child. The child is looking up at the woman. The background is a blurred outdoor setting. A semi-transparent blue circle is overlaid on the image, containing the word 'CONCLUSION' in bold black capital letters.

CONCLUSION

The sustainable development goals with a motto of 'Leave No One Behind' has been a tool for an inclusive development programme. It was a visible consensus in the consultations organized by AIWC that government has to involve CSOs and citizens to achieve the targets under the agenda 2030. There was also a consensus that popularization of SDGs is required and since India is a country with large number of youth population, involving youth in the entire agenda is important. All three-main agency, NITI Aayog, MoSPI and RIS have been very supportive and most of the time engage with initiatives proposed by CSOs. However, there is also a strong opinion that the government's transparent, inclusive and strategized approach with all rightful stakeholders will certainly make the agenda 2030 a great success.



A group of women are seated on a striped mat in a room, some looking at mobile phones. A semi-transparent circular overlay is centered over the image, containing the word 'RECOMMENDATIONS' in bold black text. Two hands are shown holding mobile phones within this circle: a silver Nokia on the left and a white Samsung on the right. The woman on the right holding the Samsung phone is wearing multiple colorful bangles. The background shows several other women in traditional Indian attire (sarees) sitting and observing.

RECOMMENDATIONS



- Government needs to include gender aspects in all the schemes/policies/programmes etc. As per WCD, the gender budgeting is a must for all policies which needs to be applied strictly.
- Popularization of SDGs through electronic, print or any other kind of social media platforms, involvement of schools/colleges/universities/educational institutions etc. should take place.
- A framework for monitoring and review for all SDGs should be available and incorporated by Government of India.
- Government should engage with CSOs before forming development schemes and formulating implementation plans.
- Govt. schemes need to ensure proper end-use of co-benefits and that the schemes be pro-poor, climate friendly, gender responsive, youth friendly and truly leave no one behind.
- Specific Accountability Indicators need to be created and be open for public purview. Consultations on national indicators should include grass root level women, minority community, academics and CSOs working in the field.

A young girl with dark hair in pigtails, wearing a blue school uniform with a black vest, is sitting at a desk. She is looking towards the camera with a slight smile. In front of her is an open book with colorful illustrations of animals and plants. The word 'FISH' is visible on the left page, and a large purple letter 'K' is on the right page. In the background, other children in similar uniforms are sitting at desks, looking towards the camera. A semi-transparent blue circle is overlaid on the image, containing the word 'REFERENCES' in bold black capital letters.

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