

# Finish Contribution to Women's Empowerment in Nepal

## World scenario

In the world even though women are the major founders of the society, yet women have not achieved equality with men. Of the world's 1.3 billion poor people, it is estimated that nearly 70 per cent are women. No matter how talented they are, they never get a chance to develop. But slowly now a days the status of Women is upgrading , because the empowerment of Women is being increasing across the world though there are lots room to work for the betterment of women economic cultural social and political rights .

## Status of women in Nepal

The socio-economic status of women in Nepal is still need to uplift. Women are being discriminated in every aspect of the society. There are rampant cases of gender base violence. Though there are lots indicator tells about women latest year is in progressive way, mainly young women are developing their carriers. Parents are also trying to narrow the gender gap. But still the overall structure of the state is in line with Patriarchal mind set, Lots of reforms of legal and social parameters are women's friendly, but the main problem is implementation.

## Women in Politics in Nepal

\* Senior Women Rights Activist of Nepal.



Sharmila Karki\*

In Nepal, people were greatly influenced by different freedom struggles. The contribution of women in the people's movement of 2006 and movements for the freedom from long run was very high, indeed encouraging. But still the women's participation in different mechanism of the state is insufficient. However, the participation of women involved in the port polio in the political party as well senior post in the government still needs to be improved.

Figure: Women in Politics

Federal Parliament	33%
Upper House	37%
Provinces level	34.4%
Local Level	41%

## Constituent Assembly and women's participation

Nepal has entered a new political milieu with the successful completion of the Constitution Assembly (CA) election. CA election is itself a triumph in Nepali history; its

significant achievement lays in electing 197 women members. They represent the grassroots level, district and national level. We all are honored with the victory of women candidates.

## Historic achievements:

There were lots of struggle for women to be in power, we can see the very low participation of women in various developed country except Scandinavian countries. Women Participation in politics means involving in power in various ways. The patriarchal mind set is affect the overall women's rights. To overcomes by this situation we need to have the women friendly policy program and enabling implementing situation. So, the meaningful participation of women only fulfills the gender gap. In this Regards Nepalese women had done lots struggle for equal participation. Though there is still lots challenge for equality.

## Support women's Empowerment program from Finish government

Gender Equality is the key issue of Finish government, if we see their own country is also one of the very good achievements in various sector.

With the support of Finland Embassy of Nepal, Partnering with UN women and various other national level CSOs. Finish Government had support and still supporting to uplift the Nepalese women's socio economic



condition as well women leadership development through various program. Following are the major program and achievements.

#### Supported districts:

Banke, Kailali, Kavre, Makawanpur, Nawal parashi, Sunsari, Arghakhanchi, Gulmi, Pokhara, Jhapa, Ilam, Morang etc. and some other far west districts.

**Support for Socio Economic Empowerment:** The following programs are implementing for women's empowerment.

- **Village Water resources management program:** With thousands women in western region of Nepal, drinking water project had implemented, its directly effect to women 's life and lively hood, while having safe drinking water it's the matter of women's awareness health, hygiene, sanitation, before women were spending their most of the time for fetching the water. So by this program they have saved time, empowered and raised awareness
- **Construction the school building and toilets:** Because of not having separate toilet for girls especially in menstruation period, girls do not want go school slowly they start drop out from school. So, toilet building is the key for decreasing the dropout rate of girl child education as well awareness for menstruation issues on the perspective of Human Rights.
- **Working for Rural women economic empowerment and lively hood support program:** This is the major program economic empowerment of women to uplift their lively hood, leadership and build the confidence even dignity. This program is one of the pioneer for them. The

special thing in this program is they are not only learning the traditional skill development activities, but learned nontraditional skill like E - Riksha drivers and lots others. It will help to narrow the Stereo type of gender role.

- **Conflict Victims support and Women peace and security program:** Nepal had suffered by Arm conflict, there were big no of women are being affected by the arm conflict, the program helped to address the recent condition of effected women along with peace building process, working with security forces as well bureaucrats and LPC with the perspective of UN Resolution 1325 and 1820 is one of the contribution for women and peace building process.
- **HIV survivors support program:** Its hard for them to spend the life with HIV, Socially as well health perspective, it is so important to work with them as per the Human Rights bench mark. The main thrust of this program was to help them.
- **Local level community economic empowerment program:** There are lots local resources based economic empowerment program where mostly women are involving in their life time, but the program will help how to make it easy equipped and advance, This program gave them more spaces for socio economic empowerment.
- **Women Leadership and Governance Program:** Under this program Embassy have supported to elected women in local government. We have 753 posts among them more than 90% of women won in the post of Deputy

Mayor. The Deputy Mayor and some women leaders are focus under this program. They need to know all the legal system as well mediation and women rights related issues. In this Regards this program is strategically important for to strengthen their knowledge and capacity.

#### Major Achievements

- *Empowering big no of women for their health hygiene and sanitation.*
- *Uplifting their economic Status and lively hood where they are standing for their own capacity.*
- *Decreasing the girl child drop-out rate with the help of having toilet in community school.*
- *Awareness rising about the menstruation among adolescent and manage this matter properly.*
- *Support for peace building process as well empower the conflict Victims women in various way.*
- *Enhancing the skill develop training to community women properly.*
- *Helping the Survivors and support to protect their Human Rights.*
- *Support to strengthen Local government women representative especially deputy mayor where it help them for to be a strong political leader.*
- *Support to community for the safe drinking water which helps to all but specially women getting more benefits.*

#### Finally:

Finish Government contribution for the entire Nepalese women are the key Support for their total Socio Economic and political empowerment as well transformation and lively hood.