

Gender Equality



IDEA - NE

Gender Empowerment

Gender equality has **five components**:

- **Sense of self-worth**
- Right to have and to **determine choices**
- Right to have **access to opportunities and resources**
- Right to have the **power to control their own lives**, both **within** and **outside** the home
- Ability to **influence the direction of social change to create a more just social and economic order**, locally, nationally and internationally

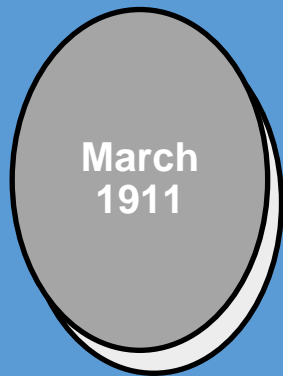
Guidelines on gender empowerment, United Nations Population Information Network (UNPIN) UN Population Division, 1995

Gender Empowerment

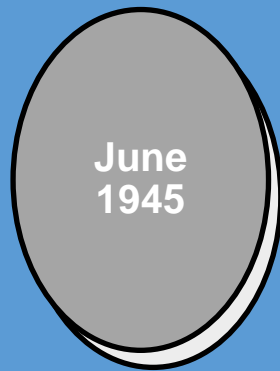
It is a process, and the outcome of the process, by which women and gender minorities challenge against discrimination in all the institutions and structures of society



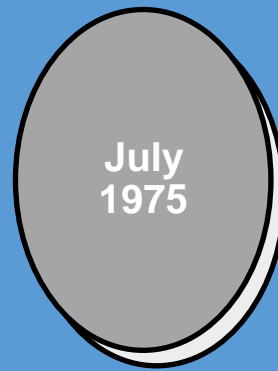
Global Progress Toward Gender Equality: A Timeline



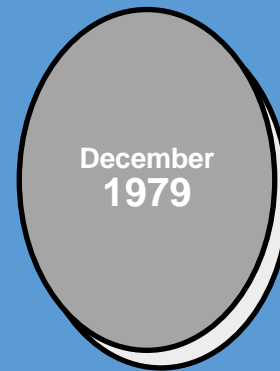
First celebration of
International Women's Day



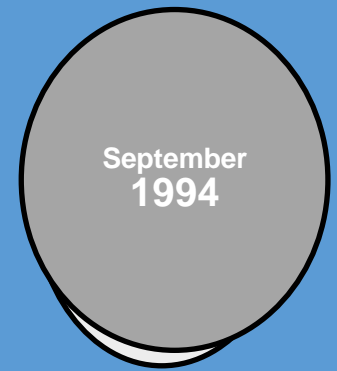
Gender equality enshrined in
the **United Nations Charter**



UN First World
Conference on
Women in Mexico City

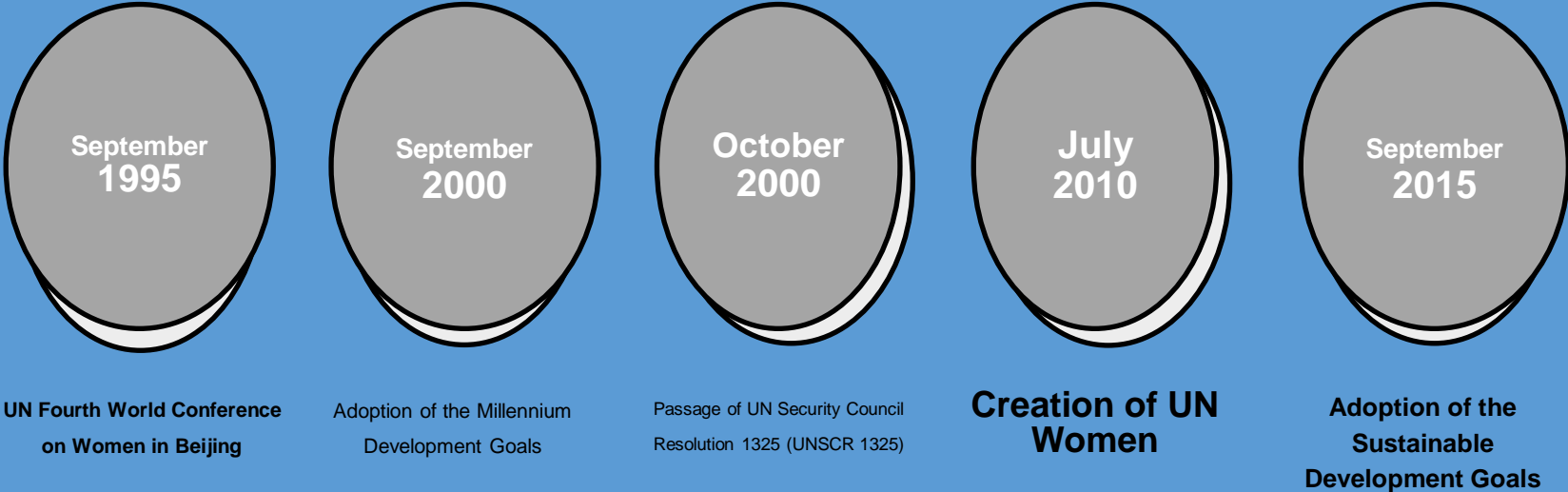


**CEDAW: An "international
bill of rights for women"**



International Conference on
Population and Development in Cairo

Global Progress Toward Gender Equality: A Timeline



Policy framework for Gender Equality

- **The UN Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women**

defines what constitutes discrimination against women and sets up an agenda for national action to end such discrimination. The Convention defines discrimination against women as "...any distinction, exclusion or restriction made on the basis of sex which has the effect or purpose of impairing or nullifying the recognition, enjoyment or exercise by women, irrespective of their marital status, on a basis of equality of men and women, of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural, civil or any other field."

- **UN Sustainable Development Goal 5 –**

“Gender Equality is not only a fundamental human right, but a necessary foundation for a peaceful, prosperous and sustainable world. Providing women and girls with equal access to education, health care, decent work, and representation in political and economic decision making process will fuel sustainable economies and benefit societies and humanity at large” –

SDG 5 Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

5.1

End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere

5.2

Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation

5.3

Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation

5.4

Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate

5.5

Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life

SDG 5 Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

5.6

Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health & reproductive rights as agreed in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

5.a

Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws

5.b

Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women

5.c

Adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels

There are 14 Indicators across the 9 Targets

Indian Constitution

The principle of gender equality is enshrined in the Indian Constitution in its Preamble, Fundamental Rights, Fundamental Duties and Directive Principles. The Constitution not only grants **equality to women, but also empowers the State to adopt measures of positive discrimination in favour of women**. Within the framework of a democratic polity, our laws, development policies, plans and programmes have aimed at women's advancement in different spheres.



Progress of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)in Meghalaya



The North Eastern Region District SDG
Index published by NITI Aayog (2021)

SDG performance

- Meghalaya is ranked at 7th position and only higher than Nagaland.
- Out of the 103 districts considered for ranking, the best performing district from Meghalaya is East Khasi Hills ranked at 57th and the worst performing is North Garo Hills at 98th position
- Meghalaya's ranking so low in health and well-being of infant and maternal mortality which continue to be high in nearly all districts.
- On Quality Education East Khasi Hills was ranked 25th while South West Garo Hills ranked 98/103.
- On Goal 5 - East Khasi Hills is ranked 95/103 with West Garo Hills faring better at 78/103. South West Garo Hills and South West Khasi Hills were both ranked at 100th.

DATA ANALYSIS ON
INDICATORS ON WOMEN
OF MEGHALAYA

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2



Basic Information

- The sex ratio of Meghalaya, as per the Census report of 2011, stands at 989 females for every 1,000.
- The female literacy rate in Meghalaya, according to the Census report of 2011 was 72.89%.
- As per the National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5) data, the percentage of women in Meghalaya with 10 or more years of schooling is 35.1%. This is indicative of low enrolment of women for higher education.
- As per ASER Test 2022 more than 70 per cent of the eighth-graders in rural areas cannot do division.

Maternal Health

- In Meghalaya IMR is 34 per 1000 and MMR is 197 per lakh deliveries.
- 16.9% of women in the age group of 20-24 in Meghalaya were married before the age of 18.
- The data shows that 7.2% of women in the age group of 15-19 years in Meghalaya were already mothers or pregnant at the time of the survey which is even higher than the national average.
- The adolescent fertility rate for women aged 15-19 years in Meghalaya is 49. A higher rate indicates a higher incidence of teenage pregnancies.
- 43.1% of mothers in Meghalaya consumed iron folic acid supplements for 100 days or more during their pregnancy which is very low.
- The data indicates that 53.8% of women aged 15-49 in Meghalaya are anaemic.
- The data shows that 14.5% of women in Meghalaya have knowledge of HIV/AIDS.
- The data indicates that 27.4% of women in Meghalaya are currently using any method of family planning.

Crime Against Women

- 16% of women between the ages of 18 and 49 years in Meghalaya reported experiencing spousal violence.
- The data shows that 1.6% of women between the ages 18 and 49 years in Meghalaya experienced physical violence during their pregnancy.
- The data indicates that 0.5% of women between the ages of 18 and 29 years in Meghalaya reported experiencing sexual violence before the age of 18.
- The data shows that 41.7% of total reported crimes in Meghalaya are crimes against women.
- According to NCRB data, there were 75 reported cases of rape in Meghalaya.

Women's Empowerment

- 92.3% of currently married women in the age group of 15-49 years in Meghalaya usually participate in three or more household decisions.
- 40% of women in Meghalaya who were in the age group of 15-49 years worked in the last 12 months and received cash payment for their work.
- 65% of women in Meghalaya own a house and/or land.
- 70.4% of women in Meghalaya have a bank or savings account that they themselves use.

Women's representation in the State Legislative Assembly of 60 members

Year	Total no. of women candidates	No. of women candidates elected
1972	09	01
1978	07	01
1983	08	0
1988	03	02
1993	07	01
1998	15	03
2003	14	02
2008	21	01
2013	25	04
2018	32	03