

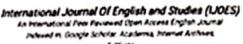


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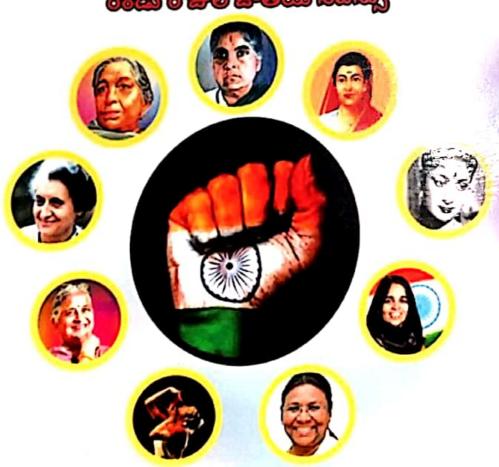
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"PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES OF WOMEN IN 75 YEARS OF INDEPENDENT INDIA" DEPARTMENT OF TELUGU

ICSSR SPONSORED TWO DAY NATIONAL SEMINAR

రెండు రోజుల జాతీయ నటేస్పు



నిర్వహణ : **ర్ బి .జ్యో**త

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Women In Politics: Achievements And Challenges

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INTRODUCTION:

As India celebrates 75 years of independence, it is imperative to acknowledge the As India celebrates 75 years of independence?

As India celebrates 75 years of independence?

The velocity are notifical arena, breaking barriers and arena, breaking barriers and arena. role women have played in shaping the political arena, breaking barriers and challenges in India have made significant strides in the political arena, breaking barriers and challenges are the achievements. in India have made significant strides in the pointer in the point traditional gender norms. However, despite notation and representation. This article explores challenges that hinder their full participation and representation. This article explores challenges that hinder their full participation and challenges faced by women in politics during 75 years of independent in a chievements and challenges faced by women in politics during 75 years of independent in a chievement and challenges faced by women in politics during 75 years of independent in a chieve the chieve the challenges faced by women in politics during 75 years of independent in a chieve the challenges faced by women in politics during 75 years of independent in a chieve the challenges faced by women in politics during 75 years of independent in a chieve the challenges faced by women in politics during 75 years of independent in a chieve the challenges faced by women in politics during 75 years of independent in a chieve the challenges faced by women in politics during 75 years of independent in a chieve the challenges faced by women in politics during 75 years of independent in a chieve the ch

Historical Perspective: When India gained independence in 1947, the political landscape predominantly male-dominated. However, pioneers like Sarojini Naidu and Vijaya Lakshmie, paved the way for women's participation in politics. In 1952, the first general elections women elected to the lower house of Parliament. Since then, the number of women in polhas gradually increased, reflecting a more inclusive democracy. India is a country with a long: rich history of women in politics. From the early days of the independence movement, went have been at the forefront of the fight for equality and social justice. In the 75 years since in gained independence, women have made significant progress in achieving political representations

Achievements:

- 1. Reservation and Representation: The introduction of reserved seats for women in the government bodies, such as Panchayats and Municipalities, through the 73rd and 15 Amendments to the Constitution in 1992, significantly enhanced women's port. representation at the grassroots level. This ensured their involvement in decision management processes and the implementation of policies that directly impact their communities 2019, elected women M.P's had increased to 78, representing 14% of the total seed parliament. This increase in representation is due in part to the passage of the World Reservation Bill, which reserves 33% of seats in the Lok Sabha and state assemble women.
- 2. Prominent Women Leaders: Independent India has witnessed exceptional women leaders who have held key positions in government. From Indira Gandhi, who became the female Prime Minister in 1966, to Pratibha Patel, who served as the first female Press in 2007, these trailblazers shattered glass ceilings and inspired countless women to put
- 3. Legislative Reforms: Over the years, several legal reforms have been introduced to each gender disparities and promote warner. gender disparities and promote women's empowerment. Since 1947, the Parliant India has passed several significant acts aimed at empowering women and addicate dender disparities. Here is a glance at common at empowering women and gender disparities. Here is a glance at some of the key acts:
 - 1. The Hindu Succession Act (1956): This act was a landmark legislation that being significant reforms to inheritance laws for Hind. significant reforms to inheritance laws for Hindu women. It recognized their right to the the right to the ri property, ensuring greater economic empowerment. It recognized their rish community.

- 2. The Dowry Prohibition Act (1961): This act aimed to combat the social evil of dowry, which often led to harassment and violence against women. It made the giving, taking, or demanding of dowry illegal, with stringent penalties for offenders.
- 3. The Maternity Benefit Act (1961): This act ensured certain benefits and protections for women during pregnancy and after childbirth. It provides for paid maternity leave, medical allowances, and other benefits to support women's reproductive rights and maternal health.
- 4. The Equal Remuneration Act (1976): This act aimed to prevent gender-based wage discrimination by ensuring equal pay for equal work. It prohibits employers from discriminating against women in matters of recruitment, promotion, and salary.
- 5. The Commission of Sati (Prevention) Act (1987): This act criminalized the practice of Sati, the act of a widow self-immolating on her husband's funeral pyre. It declared the practice illegal and punishable by law, reflecting the commitment to protect women's rights and dignity.
- 6. The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act (2005): This act provides a comprehensive legal framework to protect women from domestic violence. It recognizes various forms of abuse, including physical, sexual, emotional, and economic, and ensures the provision of protection orders, shelter, and other support services to victims.
- 7. The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition, and Redressal) Act (2013): This act addresses the issue of sexual harassment in the workplace. It mandates the establishment of Internal Complaints Committees in organizations and provides mechanisms for reporting, investigating, and redressing cases of harassment.
- 8. The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act (2013): This act was introduced in response to the widespread protests following the heinous gang-rape incident in Delhi in 2012. It amended several provisions of the Indian Penal Code and other laws to provide stricter punishment for crimes against women, including rape, acid attacks, and voyeurism.
- The Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Act (2017): This amendment increased the duration
 of paid maternity leave from 12 weeks to 26 weeks, providing women with extended time
 to care for their newborns and ensuring their overall well-being.

These acts represent significant steps taken by the Parliament of India to safeguard women's rights, promote gender equality, and create a more inclusive society. However, there is still much work to be done to address the persisting challenges and ensure the full empowerment of women in all spheres of life.

4. Top of Form

Challenges:

- Gender Bias and Stereotypes: Deep-rooted gender bias and stereotypes pose significant challenges for women in politics. Women often face prejudice and discrimination, with their capabilities and qualifications being questioned solely based on their gender. These biases can deter women from entering politics or pursuing leadership positions.
- Lack of Support Mechanisms: The absence of adequate support mechanisms, including financial resources and institutional support, hampers women's political aspirations. The cost of campaigns, limited access to funding, and the absence of party support pose significant barriers for women seeking political office.

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Violence and Harassment: Women politicians are frequently subjected to violence and Harassment: Women politicians are frequently subjected to violence and Harassment: Women politicians and offline. This creates an environment of the control of the c

- Violence and Harassment: Women politicalise. This creates an environment intimidation, and harassment, both online and offline. Addressing this is intimidation, and harassment, both online and office in politics. Addressing this issue is and discourages women from actively participating in politics. Addressing this issue is and discourages women from actively participating in politics. and discourages women from actively participating of women in the political arena robust measures to ensure the safety and security of women in the political arena
- 4. Low Representation at Higher Levels: While women have achieved substance diminishes as they be to level their presence diminishes as they be to level the level their presence diminishes as they be to level the level their presence diminishes as the level the level the level the level their presence diminishes as the level the lev Low Representation at Higher Levels: Willie the Representation at the grassroots level, their presence diminishes as they move the representation in state assemblies and prove the representation at the grassroots level, their presence diminishes as they move the representation at the grassroots level, their presence diminishes as they move the representation at the grassroots level, their presence diminishes as they move the representation at the grassroots level. representation at the grassroots level, then produce assemblies and particular political hierarchy. Women's underrepresentation in state assemblies and particular political hierarchy. political hierarchy. Women's underrepresentation and participation and effort bridge this gender gap.
- 5. Patriarchal attitudes and practices: Patriarchal attitudes and practices can discourse Patriarchal attitudes and practices: ratifactors and they can also make it difficult for them to succeed once they are in politics.

Conclusion:

The achievements made by women in Indian politics in the 75 years in independence are commendable. The introduction of reserved seats, the rise of prominent was leaders, and legislative reforms have contributed to increasing women's political participa However, significant challenges persist, including gender bias, lack of support mechanisms, viole and low representation at higher levels. Addressing these challenges requires collective effective effective from society, political parties, and policymakers to create a more inclusive and gender-equal policymakers to create a more inclusive and gender-equal policymakers. landscape. Empowering women in politics will not only enhance democracy but also lead to a comprehensive and effective governance that benefits all citizens of India.

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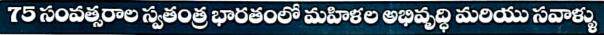
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- Inter-Parliamentary Union: www.ipu.org.
- United Nations Development Programme: www.undp.org. 5. 6.
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"Progress and Challenges of Women in 75 Years of Independent India"

June 23 & 24, 2023



This is to certify that Prof. / Dr. / Sri / Smt. / Kum. : KRISHNA TAMMISETTI

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11/

Seminar Convener

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