

PROGRESS OF WOMEN IN PAKISTAN

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QUESTIONS

1. What has been the level of women's access to education and health since 2000?
2. What has been the extent of women's access to economic opportunities since 2000?
3. What has been the state of women's participation in politics and decision-making positions?
4. What has been the progress of women in legal empowerment?
 - a. Has the progress been evenly distributed b/w women?
 - b. What has been the level of inequality b/w women & men?



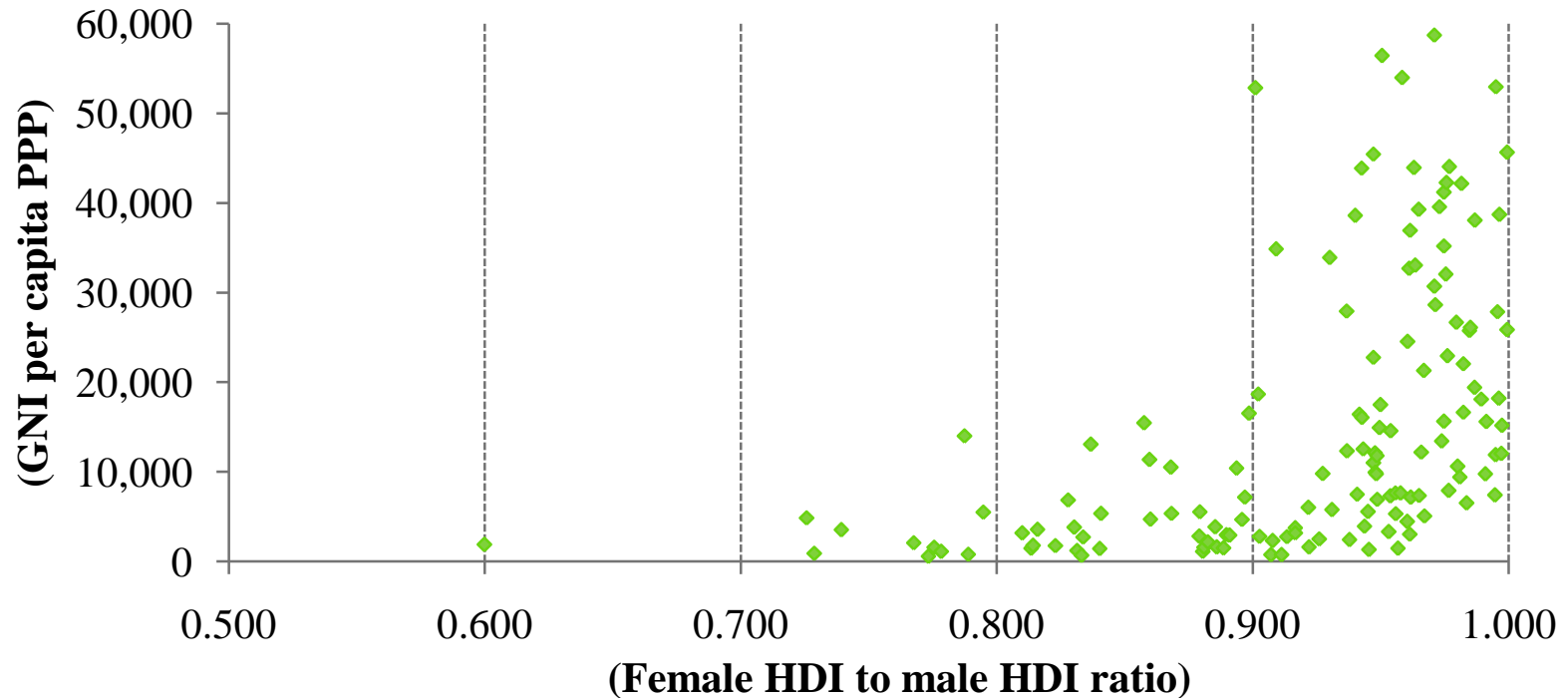
THE STATE OF WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT IN PAKISTAN

- Pak's female HDI value rank is 141 out of 161 countries
- Female to male HDI rank is 160 out of 161. female HDI value averages 37.8% < male. The gap is 8.3 % for the world, developing countries (11.3 %), South Asia (24.8 %).

Human Development Index (HDI) by gender and Gender Development Index (GDI), 2014

	HDI		Life expectancy at birth (years)		Expected years of schooling		Mean years of schooling		Income per capita (2011 PPP \$)	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
Pakistan	0.436	0.601	67.2	65.3	7.0	8.5	3.1	6.2	1,450	8,100
India	0.525	0.660	69.5	66.6	11.3	11.8	3.6	7.2	2,116	8,656
Bangladesh	0.541	0.590	72.9	70.4	10.3	9.7	4.5	5.5	2,278	4,083
Nepal	0.521	0.574	71.1	68.2	12.5	12.2	2.3	4.5	1,956	2,690
Sri Lanka	0.730	0.769	78.2	71.5	14.2	13.3	10.7	10.9	5,452	14,307

- Improving women's status is not dependent with high income



- Women's empowerment can be attained at all income levels with a strong political commitment, not enormous financial depth.



Q.1 WOMEN'S SOCIAL EMPOWERMENT IN PAKISTAN

- Women's empower has improved:

Educational achievements

Primary enrolment (2000-15)	60	86	(Gender Parity Index: 0.85)
Secondary enrolment (2000-14)	28	37	(GPI: 0.79)
Tertiary enrolment (2003-14)	2.4	10.7	(GPI: 1.06)
Literacy rate (2005-15)	35	43	(GPI: 0.61)

Health achievements

Female life expectancy (2000-14)	64	67
Maternal mortality (2000-15)	306	178
Fertility rate (2000-14)	4.6	3.6

Remaining challenges

- Of total no. of female (5-16 years): 53% are out of school (13.7m)
- No. of illiterate female increased from 30.7 to 32.7 m (2005-13)
- Women's presence in TVET remains low

- Pregnant women: anaemia 51%), vitamin A deficiency (46%), vitamin D deficiency (48%), zinc deficiency (69%),
- Child sex ratio: 92 girls 100 boys at birth: 9.85 million missing girls

Table 1 Progress in female literacy and enrolments in South Asia, 2000-2015

	Adult female literacy rate		Female primary school enrolment (% gross)		Female secondary school enrolment (% gross)		Female tertiary school enrolment (% gross)	
	2000-05	2015	2000	2013-14	2000	2013-14	2003	2013-14
India	47.8	63.0	86.3	117.0	37.1	69.2	8.5	23.1
Pakistan	35.4	42.7	59.5	85.8	28.1	36.6	2.4	10.7
Bangladesh	40.8	58.3	100.9	115.1	48.8	60.7	4.0	11.4
Afghanistan	..	23.9	45.6	91.8	6.8	39.7	0.5	3.7
Nepal	34.9	54.8	104.6	140.6	29.0	68.9	2.5	15.3
Sri Lanka	89.1	91.7	106.9	100.1	..	102.0	..	24.7
South Asia	45.6	..	83.2	111.7	36.8	63.4	7.3	20.1

Table 2 Progress in female life expectancy, maternal mortality and fertility rate in South Asia, 2000-2015

	Female life expectancy (years)		Maternal mortality ratio (per 100,000 live births)		Fertility rate (births per woman)	
	2000	2014	2000	2015	2000	2014
India	63.5	69.5	374	174	3.3	2.4
Pakistan	63.6	67.2	306	178	4.6	3.6
Bangladesh	65.7	72.9	399	176	3.2	2.2
Afghanistan	56.3	61.6	1,100	396	7.5	4.8
Nepal	63.4	71.1	548	258	4.0	2.2
Sri Lanka	74.9	78.2	57	30	2.2	2.1
South Asia	63.8	69.6	388	182	3.5	2.6

Polices:

- **Education:** Article 25-A of the Constitution of Pakistan makes education free and compulsory for children between 5 to 16 years of age
- National Education Policy 2009, could not be applied b/c of 18th Amendment: National education policy 2016 in process
- **Health:** National Health Policy 2001, failed, 18th Amendment: National Health Vision 2025 is the recent initiative. Its implementation depends on allocation of funds, close and transparent cross-agencies coordination and the approval of the Council of Common Interests.



Q.2 WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT IN PAKISTAN

- 7 out of 10 poor are women
- Female labour force participation rate increased from 13.7 to 22.0% (2000-15) [68% for men in 2015]
- 72.7% (2015) female in farm (72.9% in 2000); In non-farm 7 out of 10 are in informal jobs in 2015
- Female earn 38.6% < male (2015)
- Women received 5% of credit of development finance sector in 2013, 2% women own land
- Women's contributions are undervalued or neglected: Of female total work: 78.6% unpaid, 21.4% paid. (male 8% unpaid and 92% paid)



Policies:

- National Commission on the Status of Women 2000, National Policy for Development and Empowerment of Women 2002, Gender Reform Action Plan 2005, Poverty Reduction Strategy Programme 1 and II, Labour Policy, 18th Amendment
- The Vision 2025 (the government's priorities are not evident in the financial allocations)



Q.3 WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN POLITICS

- **Parliament:** Women hold 21% of seats in NA and 18% in the Senate due to 17% quota (ratio varies: 17.7% in KPK to 21.5% in Punjab)
- **Local governments:** 33% quota 2001, unfortunately declined in the recently passed local government laws
- **Women candidates for election:** increased from 202 to 419 b/w 2002-2013
- **Women voters:** In 2015, 11.5 m female eligible voters were not registered; women account for 1.8% of ECP's full time employees.
- **Women in cabinet:** Of the 35 members cabinet, only 3 are women (2 in Punjab, 1 in Sindh)
- **Civil service:** 4.5% in 2013, lower than the 10% quota for female in all public sector jobs (under GRAP 2005)
- **Women's representation in the justice system:** women account for 0.94% of the police; 15% of judges in lower courts s, 6% in the High Courts, & 0 in Supreme Court of Pakistan



Policies:

- Legal Framework Order 2002, Gender Reform Action Plan 2005, 18th Amendment




Q.4 WOMEN'S LEGAL EMPOWERMENT

Highest no. of laws passed for women in the history

- a) **Family related laws:** Citizenship (male spouse cannot be granted the citizenship), family, child marriage
- b) **Laws for violence against women:** Trafficking (ignores internal trafficking), honour killings, rape, sexual harassment (difficult to prove crime at public place), acid attacks, anti-women customary practices (no punishment for groom), domestic violence
- c) **Women and labour laws:** Industrial Relation Act 2012, Factories Act 1934, Industrial and Commercial Employment Ordinance 1968: (Besides limited coverage, and an insufficient impact, labour laws do not explicitly mention the need to ensure equality of women's wages with that of men, nor do they clearly prohibit gender discrimination with respect to employment and occupation, as mentioned in ILO's conventions 100 and 111)

Judicial system:

- a) *Limited access*
 - b) *Failure of the justice system:* 80% rape cases not reported to police; 2009-14 only 6.5% of registered rape cases led to conviction
 - c) *Parallel justice system* : 65% believe that marriage-related decisions are biased against women
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POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

- A political commitment
- Financial resources along with utilization for social sector
- Inclusive and pro-poor macroeconomic policy (macro policy's focus on decent jobs, fiscal policy's focus gender based budgeting, monetary policy's focus on lending to poor women)
- Recognize and value unpaid and domestic work
- A minimum of 30% quota for women
- Gender sensitive training
- Improve the efficiency of the justice system
- Civil society and media

