



## Role of Women in Society

**Dr. Sunita Devi**

**Assistant Professor of Political Science  
I.G. Govt. P.G. College, Tohana**

**Jayesh**

**Research Scholar  
M.A. English (NET-JRF)**

### **Abstract:**

Women are the pioneers of the country. Women are highly valued in Indian culture because they make up half of the global population. According to a study by the UN secretary general, women make up 50% of human resources, making them the second-largest and most potential human resource behind males.

Women are essential to both family life and sustainable development. Wife, head of the home, administrator, financial controller, and last but not least, mother are just a few of the many roles that women perform in the family. Woman is a man's helpmate, friend, and ally. She sacrifices her own desires and objectives, sets moral guidelines, reduces her husband's stress, and maintains peace and harmony in the household. She creates the conditions necessary for her husband to provide for their family's financial security by doing this. She acts as a source of inspiration for males to achieve great things in life. She talks to him about all of her accomplishments and helps him through every challenge. He turns to her for love, sympathy, understanding, comfort, and recognition. She stands for chastity, allegiance, submission, and dedication to her husband.

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In the ancient world, women were revered as spiritual and religious leaders, warriors, politicians, and symbols of fertility and prosperity. Men "took the front row seat" and rose to become rulers and leaders as the female-dominated society of the early social groups transitioned at some point from a matriarchal to a patriarchal setting. Our civilization has historically and culturally been dominated by men for thousands of years. The majority of anthropologists believe that there are no cultures that are clearly matriarchal. It is a well-known fact that since then, women have never been given the same status as men and have instead always filled "minor" roles that are characterised by subservience. Like never before, communication between people is simple and transcends linguistic and societal barriers. The internet is creating more opportunities than any previous form of communication. It allows people to debate, share ideas, spread culture, work, and even be entertained in addition to communicating with one another. First and foremost, any discussion of gender equality on a worldwide scale must be done very carefully. According to the area

of the world being studied, as well as the society, religion, and many other societal factors that have an impact on the unequal gender roles of contemporary society, the degree of this equality varies considerably.

The status of women had once again changed as a result of Raja Ram Mohan Roy's campaign against women's subjugation to men and the British impact on Indian culture and civilization. But they didn't reaffirm their equality with males until Mahatma Gandhi took on an enlightened leadership role. They left their veils behind and emerged from their homes' four walls in answer to Gandhi's call, joining their brothers in the fight for freedom. As a consequence, women now have the same status as men under the Indian Constitution. Males and females are treated equally. Merit is the only selection factor, so both of them are qualified for any position.

Although women are important contributors to food systems as producers, processors, traders, consumers, scientists, and politicians, their contributions are not always acknowledged or taken into account. The production and security of food can both rise if the gender gap in farming is closed.

Women make up roughly 43% of the agricultural labour population globally, and this number is significantly higher in some Asian nations. Few women who work in agriculture own land in South Asia, with rates varying from 4.8% in Bangladesh to 12.8% in India. This indicates that the majority of women farmers in South Asia work as paid farm labourers or unpaid family employees. However, when women own land, they become more involved in community activities and have a big impact on family decisions regarding agriculture or productivity.

Female farmers in the area contribute significantly to agriculture, but they do not enjoy the same economic advantages as males in terms of pay or employment. Agricultural extension services that cater to the requirements of female farmers and give them more knowledge, skills, and information are also unavailable to them.

The significance of women's roles in society is primarily recognised in their workplaces and other fields, such as social work and other related fields. Family structures have changed and trended in well-known ways over the previous few decades. There are now more women parenting the majority of the children in nuclear families. The primary responsibilities of women in the home are to instill in their children a strong sense of cultural values, ideals, and beliefs.

Social justice, human growth, and political change are given significant weight in women's positions in society. Women's policy activism in India takes into account the unique difficulties presented by political and religious groups and organisations. While promoting gender equality in India, women social workers are overburdened by different gender roles in both private and public structures. Every woman needs to acquire martial arts to defend herself rather than relying on others in order to gain self-respect. Therefore, political action on the part of women entails challenging various organisations and structures that govern State policies as well as altering the social structure of gender.

Women's responsibilities in food systems are influenced by agricultural practises and sociocultural norms. According to a 2020 ADB study on Tajik women's roles in agriculture, 69% of women in Tajikistan were formally employed in the industry, compared to 41% of males. If wage or daily employees are taken into account, the percentage could

reach as high as 80%. Their responsibilities come under those of wage or day labourers in agriculture, overseers of kitchen gardens, and family farmers. These positions may overlap, particularly if women perform domestic caregiving or small-scale agricultural production that is not acknowledged in formal statistical reports.

Women's involvement in rice cultivation in Bangladesh is frequently restricted to post-harvest tasks, in contrast to India where they are also involved in crop establishment, harvesting, and post-harvesting tasks. Women may find it difficult to acquire or implement new agricultural technologies and farming practises due to gender norms that restrict women's roles. Women's involvement boosted production, income, and household assets in development programmes supporting high-value agriculture in Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Mozambique, and Uganda, according to a review of those initiatives.

A lady manages the family's money in a modest manner. She is in charge of ensuring that every dollar is spent as efficiently as feasible. She never opts to make a budget that is in the red; instead, she always prefers one that is in the black. She uses money sensibly, taking losses and gains into account. She spends the money shrewdly by allocating it to different needs, comforts, and luxuries. By working and making money both inside and outside the home, the female family member also contributes to the household revenue. She contributes significantly financially to the family through her job.

#### **As a Mother:**

The majority of childbearing and child rearing duties fall on the mother in the family. The child's practices of restraint, cleanliness, diligence, honesty, or larceny are primarily her duty. During his early years, she interacts with the child, which shapes his behaviour patterns. She is in charge of maintaining strict rules in the home as a result. She is the child's first instructor. She imparts the child's ethnic heritage. The child learns moral principles, ethnic stereotypes, and masculine behaviour from their mother. The mother is able to identify and nurture the particular traits, skills, and attitudes of the child because of her close and ongoing relationship with them.

Later, these characteristics play a big part in how his personality develops. She is in charge of the family's well-being because she is a mother. She is deeply concerned for the physical well-being of every member of the family, including the ailing kid, the helpless baby, and the elderly parents. To make sure that everyone in the family has access to enough food, rest, and leisure, she organises the home and household tasks. She made the house a welcoming and appropriate environment for the kids by using her skill. Additionally, she develops a sense of style for the interior design and furnishings placement, transforming the house into a cozy, peaceful, and happy place.

The focus of the home and the extended family is the mother. Every member turns to her when they require comprehension, acclaim, or sympathy. A woman devotes her attention, time, and care to the welfare of the household. Woman provides the traditions and setting for the harmony of interacting personalities, while man provides the sanctuary. In the family, the woman concurrently fulfils the roles of mother, teacher, health inspector, artist, queen, organizer, administrator, director, re-creator, disburser, and administrator. Women are also essential to the

socioeconomic development of society. Modern economics and education are pressuring women more and more to leave the confines of the family and work alongside males to make society a better place.

### **As the household manager and leader:**

A well-organized, disciplined family is crucial for the success of the average family. This is a woman's place in the family. She runs a company as its CEO. It assigns families in accordance with their interests and abilities and provides assistance in completing the assignment in terms of tools and supplies. She was essential in the cooking and serving of meals, the gathering and care of clothing, the washing, the furnishing, and the housekeeping. As an administrator, she plans a lot of social events to promote the family's social standing. She oversees recreation as well. She plans a variety of recreational activities to meet the interests of both the young and senior family members.

### **Journalism:**

When it comes to gender equality in the news business, progress has all but ceased. Only 24% of people who hear, read, or watch news in newspapers, on television, according to the largest study on the representation, involvement, and depiction of women in the news media, which covers 20 years and 114 countries. There is a glass barrier for female news correspondents when it comes to newspaper bylines and newscast stories. 37% of the stories entered in 2015 were written by women, which is essentially unchanged from ten years prior. Contrary to the democratising promises of digital media, women only make up 26% of the population in Internet news articles and media news tweets, matching their poor representation in traditional news media.

Whether read in print or online, just 4% of news items expressly question gender norms. Stereotypes and the obvious underrepresentation of women in the media, among other variables, contribute significantly to the development of derogatory and unfriendly opinions about women.

### **Women in Armed Forces :**

The amount of women serving in armies is not understated because of how much access women now have to the military. Women typically work in the fields of fire, engineering, medical, administration, and surveillance. However, they frequently participate in activities that do not involve the use of weapons. Their enlistment in the military has increased the likelihood of creating a contemporary, robust society. These female soldiers have attained top military positions and participate actively in contemporary battles.

### **Women in Politics :**

Women are disproportionately underrepresented in political offices across the world, and this underrepresentation is most obvious in senior positions. This article summarises some recent research on the potential causes of the underrepresentation of women in political science and economics. These problems can be roughly classed as "supply-side" and "demand-side" variables, according to the literature. While the latter includes voter and party leader prejudices against women in politics, the former includes women's likely lower propensity to run for political office.

Understanding the underlying causes of women's underrepresentation in political institutions is necessary for developing the most effective strategies to bridge the gender gap. The evidence on some of the initiatives that have been implemented or proposed to empower women in politics is analysed in the conclusion, when applicable.

In the political realm, women are significant players. Because of the discrimination, even though women are underrepresented in politics, one woman often has more impact than ten men because she is sandwiched between thirty or forty men. As a result, her voice and political viewpoint will stand out and be heard.

### **Role Model Effect :**

Women in the legislature might act as role models for younger people. According to a study (O'Neil, Plank, and Domingo, 2015), women role models are essential to normalising "the idea and practise of women holding power." According to a 2012 study conducted in India, the larger number of female village leaders, who were able to close the "aspiration gap" between girls and boys by almost 25 percentage points, was the reason that the gender difference in educational attainment was eventually abolished or reversed. Girls began spending less time on household duties in areas where women had higher leadership roles in the village (Beaman and others, 2012). These female role models may have a significant impact on future depiction of women. Following the country's historic general elections in 2018, women now make up 20% of Parliament's membership in Fiji. This is credited to the role-model influence of its first female House Speaker.

### **Women are the key to Sustainable Development:**

The most crucial instrument for developing human resources is education. While she can participate in any women's organisation and literacy program, modern economic life and modern education used to compel women to abandon the small world of the family and work side by side for the advancement and enrichment of society. Such a literacy programme is being started with the intention of influencing society because education empowers women to take advantage of opportunities, question their conventional roles, and alter their circumstances. They ought to join the community center in order to educate people of poor social economic standing about cottage industries, handicrafts, affordable nutritious diets, and food preservation for their economic uplift.

### **Conclusion:**

The backbone of civilization is women. They make up half the population and are the descendants of the other half. Their social position has grown since antiquity. They are the mother, the generational caregiver, the housekeeper, and the all-around societal supporter who also serves as the wife, sibling, and daughter. Which cannot be denied or undervalued, and in this piece, we've talked about how important women are to the development of any modern society.

Currently, laws and regulations are in place, and a large number of organisations fight to defend women's rights and raise awareness of the value of their place in society.



Today's atmosphere has drastically changed. In order to increase the wealth of their male family members, women have been forced to leave their homes and choose a variety of professions. However, women are naturally kind, sensitive, and compassionate. They'll be great teachers, nurses, physicians, social workers, authors, and wardens of orphanages and nursing and senior homes. This does not imply that they cannot succeed in other areas, either.

Historically, rural women have contributed significantly to the economy. They are no longer just allowed in elite locations. They are helpful in a variety of occupations, including poultry farming, weaving, needlework, midwifery, nursing, and the preservation of fruits and vegetables. Because of radio and television, they are fully aware of their responsibilities. The position and dignity of women have changed in rural areas as a result of this expansion. In conclusion, modern women are crucial to a nation's development.

Women are playing significant roles in culture. Sociocultural, technical, infrastructural, and capacity-building elements are what motivate their participation. Women have a variety of tasks in society, such as teaching, providing care, counselling, and guiding, coordinating events outside of the classroom, collecting contributions, reducing violence and crime, addressing hunger, looking after the elderly, and spreading information and knowledge. Women's performance in various positions is influenced by a variety of circumstances, including their financial condition, health, where they live, level of education, areas of specialisation, and interests. If they participate in the execution of any mission or activity, it is crucial that they make good use of the available resources, adhere to the rules, and make sure that their efforts and talents improve their well-being.

Women devote their whole lives to advancing societal wellbeing, mostly via their dedication to the job. Their duties are influenced by the organization's goals, assignments, working conditions, coworkers, pay and benefits, talents and aptitudes, effective communication, administrative duties, decision-making, and teamwork. In society, the roles are either paid or honorary. Women's roles in society also place a strong emphasis on promoting wellbeing.

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