Education, Age and Gender Participation in Local Politics in West U.P.: An Analytical Study of Meerut District

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Abstract

By this research article we focus on the current situation of politics in west U.P, in district Meerut.in this district there are seven seats of legislative assembly and different party strongly working for their candidate victory. Wefocus by this article women participation in assembly election,youth participation and try to find educational factor in local assembly election, in this study we find only three women participate in election out of 35 candidates of different parties. Most of candidate old and youth politics is absent in youth population.by this study we find out there is satisfactory participation on the bases on religion but women and lower caste participation is not satisfactory.

Keywords

Political participation, women, caste, Youth etc.

Introduction

The strong political participation of women is critical for democratic governance. However, women throughout the world continue to be marginalized from the political sphere due to restrictive laws and institutional barriers; discriminatory cultural practices; and disproportionately low access to quality education, healthcare, and resources. However, reversing discriminatory policies and practices is possible and has been done. This policy brief examines various proven solutions to addressing barriers in institutions, sociocultural norms, and individual capacity in order to empower all girls and women and amplify their voices in decision-making processes. While women have the right to vote or be elected to office, they have the right to have their voices heard in decision-making processes, as per the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Moreover, at a time when nearly half of the world's countries are considered democracies, the inclusion and equal participation of all citizens has become increasingly critical for good governance, which in turn is necessary for sustainable peace and development.2 Under-representation of women in national governments is a rights issue and has detrimental effects on society, as bodies that govern citizens' daily lives miss the perspectives and experiences of half the population. Parity at all levels of government is fundamental to rights of equal representation and to creating an enabling environment for equality and good governance. Yet data from the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) reveals that in 2019, less than 10% of world leaders were women and only 20.7% of government Ministers were women.

By investing in gender-responsive political participation, the international community not only moves closer to realizing girls' and women's basic human rights, but also fulfilling the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and targets that depend upon it. While achieving gender equality and empowering girls and women is the goal of SDG 5—achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls—the benefits of including girls and women in decision-making are cross-cutting, paving the way to more inclusive and resilient political processes and democracies, balanced economies, and enhanced peace building capacities. As of October 2019, an estimated 24.5% of national parliamentarians were women, a slow rise from 11.3% in 1995. Women have also increasingly taken on positions of power as corporate leaders, civil society activists, political party leaders, mayors, cabinet ministers, prime ministers, and presidents. Despite this progress, there is still a long road ahead to achieving gender equality in the political sphere.

Although multiple international agreements, regional frameworks, and national laws recognize girls' and women's right to lead and participate in politics

as a measure of democratic integrity, the widespread absence of women in political and decision-making bodies persists. Furthermore, as of June 2019, only 11 women worldwide were serving as heads of state and 12 were serving as head of government. As of January 2019, only 42 countries had 30% or more women in ministerial positions. As of 2018, young people under age 30 made up only around 2% of the world's parliamentarians, making young women among the most underrepresented globally. Both male and female legislators face numerous challenges during political campaigns, but according to a 2015 survey conducted in 84 countries by the Women in Parliaments Global Forum and the World Bank, women are three times as likely to worry about gender discrimination and twice as likely to fear not being taken as seriously as their male counterparts.

Women often face their first barriers to full political participation as girls, which can limit their participation and leadership later in life. Prevailing social norms and cultural attitudes discourage political activism among girls and young women, which in turn limits their willingness and agency to take political action.

A 2019 study by Plan International found that while 62% of girls are confident in their ability to lead, only 20.6% aspire to national leadership and only 19.3% want to be a community leader. With little encouragement from their direct environment and limited female role models in the public sphere, Meeting the demand to invest in women's political participation and decision-making power is linked to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and targets, including:

SDG 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

- 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
- 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

SDG 10: Reduce inequality withinand among countries

- 10.2 By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic, and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion, or economic or other status
- 10.3 Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies, and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies, and action in this regard

SDG 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all, and build effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels

Multiple barriers have persistently prevented women from taking their place within the political arena. For women who belong to a marginalized and/or minority group, additional challenges, such as legal, political, and cultural constraints, prevent them from full and equal participation due to interconnected systems of power. Meaningful political participation of girls and women needs to address the overlapping dynamics of inequality and power and should be representative of all girls and women, including those from indigenous communities, those with disabilities, those in LGBTQIA+ groups, girls and women living in urban slums, girls and women living in fragile settings, refugees, and sex workers.

Section 2: Solutions and Interventions

The systemic barriers to meaningful political inclusion that girls and women face must be addressed on three levels: individual, institutional, and sociocultural. While change may not happen simultaneously on each level, all three must be addressed in order to create an enabling environment for girls and women to reach equal and sustainable political participation. Breaking down the barriers and creating opportunities at each level calls for a collaborative effort among states, civil society, and the international community. Each of these stakeholders, from lawmakers to activists to religious and traditional leaders to family members, can play a different role in addressing different challenges.30 Additionally, instituting mechanisms that report on gender-equality commitments and ensure accountability for increasing women's political participation are essential for tracking progress and collecting data at the local and state levels. The path forward needs to ensure and support girls' and women's right to be involved in decision-making and political processes. This should be rooted in the following solutions:

- Introduce gender quotas as transitional mechanisms where representation is not equal.
- Promote girls' and women's rights and participation in conflict prevention, mitigation of humanitarian crises, and peace building processes.
- Promote access to decision-making spaces and political processes for all women, including themost marginalized.
- Create training and leadership pathways for girls and women that are gender sensitive.

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- Foster inclusivity in leadership, civic engagement, and decision-making in public and private spheres.

- Ensure political environments are free from gender-based discrimination and violence.

- Ensure recognition of women in decision-making capacities as a human right.

Introduce Gender Quotas as Transitional Mechanisms Where Representation Is Not Equal Evidence suggests that when women are elected to political positions, they make a difference for girls and women and strongly impact legislation. In many cases, women are more likely to pursue inclusive policies and respond to constituent concerns; tend to push for positive change around health, community wellbeing, poverty reduction, and family welfare; and are more likely to strive to reach a consensus on policies. Studies show that under certain conditions, women in parliament are more likely to sponsorlegislation, reach across political lines, and secure funding for their constituents. Additionally, evidence from more than 125 countries suggests that the presence of women in government is associated with lower levels of corruption.

When well-designed and properly implemented, quotas can be effective, temporary measures to increase women's access to decision-making positions while transitioning to the point where a gender balance in political leadership can be achieved and sustained. Quotas can be adapted to fit a variety of political systems, structures, and contexts, and while they may not work in every situation, they can be particularlycrucial within electoral systems that are not conducive to equal participation. Quotas often addressan institutional barrier—whether within national political parties or the private sector—and, ideally, they demand action from institutional actors and power-holders rather than placing the onus on individual women to succeed. As of February 2019, more than half of the 50 single or lower houses that were comprised of 30% or more women had some form of a quota system in place—either legislative candidate quotas or reserved seats.Additionally, a 2018 report on women in parliament showed that 27.7% of women were elected in single and lower chambers and 36.1% in upper chambers in countries where quotas were used, compared to 18.6% and 16.2% of seats, respectively, in countries where no form of gender quotas were used.

Method: - we collected data of seven seats of assembly in Meerut district and name, age, gender, education and their economic status. Primary and secondary data will be used in this study and empirical data also used and deeply analysis in variable in gender, age, education and religious.

In present table-1 we give the detail of Meerut shahar sheet candidate

Table No. - 1: Meerut Shahar

Party	Age	Education	Gender	Name of candidates
AAP	38	UG	M	Kapil Sharma
BJP	48	7th	M	Kamal Dutt Sharma
BSP	39	12	M	Dilshad
SP_RLD	60	8th	M	Rafeek Ansari
CONGRESS	41	5th	M	Ranjan Sharma
	Avg:45.2			

In the above table all respondents classified on the bases on their party, age, education, gender wise, by the deeply analysis there is educational crisis in the candidates of assembly elections and there is no participation for women 100% male candidates selected as candidates for assembly election in 2022.by the analysis of local point of view economy play very important role in local politics and education have negative correlation with economic situations of individuals, average age of the respondent 45.2 years.

In present table .2 we give the detail of Meerut Dushkin sheet candidate

Table No. - 2: Meerut Dukshin

Party	Age	Education	Gender	Name of candidates
AAP	51	0	M	OmduttSharma
BJP	41	Ph.D	M	SomenderTomar
BSP	60	0	M	Dilshad Ali
SP_RLD	47	12th	M	Mo Aadil
CONGRESS	48	5th	M	Naffesh
	49.4			

By the analysis above table only one candidate is doctorate and three candidate are below 5th standard and one candidate 12th pass the above date very critical for present situation there is educational crisis in present politics. By the age analysis 49.4average age of all candidate of and youth politics in crisis. 100% of domination of male candidates in this seat that is indicator for crisis of women participation in assembly elections.

In present table .3 we give the detail of Meerut cantt. sheat candidate

Table No. - 3: Meerut Cannt

Party	Age	Education	Gender	Name of candidates
AAP	65	PG	M	Madan Singh Maan
BJP	67	UG	M	Amit Aggarwal
BSP	41	11th	M	Amit sharma
SP_RLD	47	P.G	F	Manisha Ahelawat
congress	33	U.G	M	AvneeshKajala
	avg50.6			

By the analysis above table only two candidate is post graduate and two candidate are U.G and one candidate 11th pass. The above date very critical for present situation there is educational crisis in present politics. By the age analysis 50.6 average age of all candidate of and youth politics in crisis in local elections in west Utter Pradesh.. 80% of domination of male candidates in this seat that is indicator for crisis of women participation in assembly elections only 20% participation on this seat.

In present table .4 we give the detail of Meerut Kithor sheet candidate

Table No. - 4: Kithor

Party	Age	Education	Gender	Name of candidates
AAP	44	10	M	Rahul Kumar
BJP	68	12th	M	Satyveer Tyagi
BSP	60	LLB	M	Kushal Pal
SP_RLD	67	M.A	M	Shahid Manjur
CONGRESS	41	Ph.D	F	Babita
	avg 57.6			

By the analysis above table only one candidate is doctorate and one candidate are graduate law degree holder and one candidate 12th pass and one candidate 10th pass the above date very critical for present situation there is educational crisis in present politics and lack of women participation . By the age analysis 57.6 average age of all candidate of and youth politics in crisis. 80% of domination of male candidates in this seat that is indicator for crisis of women participation in assembly elections. Only 20% participation of women candidate.

In present table .5 we give the detail of Meerut-Hastinapur sheet candidate

Table No. - 5: Hastinapur

Party	Age	Education	Gender	Name of candidates
AAP	48	9th	M	Anmol
BJP	45	9th	M	Dinesh Khateek
BSP	41	UG	M	Sanjeev Kumar
SP_RLD	53	12th	M	Yogesh Verma
CONGRESS	28	Ug	F	Archana Goutam
	avg 43			

By the analysis above table only two candidates is U.G and two candidates are below 10th standard and one candidate 12th pass the above data very critical for present situation there is educational crisis in present politics. By the age analysis 43 average age of all candidate of and youth politics in crisis. 80% of domination of male candidates in this seat that is indicator for crisis of women participation in assembly elections. only 20% participation of women.

In present table .6 we give the detail of Meerut-Shivalkhass sheet candidate

Table No. - 6: Shival khass

Party	Age	Education	Gender	Name of candidates
AAP	52	12	M	Kuldeep
BJP	52	7th	M	Maninder Pal
BSP	53	10	M	Nanhe Kha
SP_RLD	69	P.G	M	Gulaam Mohmad
CONGRESS	67	10th	M	JagdeeshChander
	avg-58.6			

By the analysis above table only one candidate is Post Graduate, and Four candidate are 12th and below standard, the above date very critical for present situation there is educational crisis in present politics. By the age analysis 58.6 average age of all candidate of and youth politics in crisis. 100% of domination of male candidates in this seat that is indicator for crisis of women participation in assembly elections.

In present table .7 we give the detail of Meerut Shardana sheet candidate

Table No. - 7: Shardana

Party	Age	Education	Gender	Name of candidates
AAP	49	10	M	sanjay
BJP	42	12th	M	Sangeet Soam
BSP	42	LLB	M	sanjeev
SP_RLD	38	UG	M	Atul Pardhan
CONGRESS	33	UG	M	Rehanudeen
	avg 40.8 p			

By the analysis above table three candidate is under Graduate, and one candidate are 12th and one candidate 10th pass, the above date very critical for present situation there is educational crisis in present politics. By the age analysis 40.8 average age of all candidate. This data support to youth in Indian local politics. 100% of domination of male candidates in this seat that is indicator for crisis of women participation in assembly elections.

Conclusion

- Introduce transitional quota systems and inclusive, gender-sensitive leadership pathways to help bring all girls and women into politicalspheres. (Most relevant for: governments, the private sector, and NGOs)

- Secure equal visibility of female politicians and decision-makers and promote a more inclusive representation of leadership. (Most relevantfor: the media)

- Promote a safe and enabling political environment in which all girls and women may participate in public life at all levels without fear ofphysical, emotional, or online violence and harassment. (Most relevant for: governments, civil society, media, the United Nations, and theprivate sector)

- Promote women in leadership and decision-making roles at all levels, including at peace negotiation tables and in humanitarianemergencies. (Most relevant for: governments, civil society, the United Nations, development and humanitarian international actors, andthe private sector)

- Support women's leadership in the workplace through greater inclusion in executive positions and on corporate boards. (Most relevantfor: governments and the private sector)

- Fund grassroots organizations that build the capacity of girls and women to participate both individually and collectively in social, economic, political, and public life. (Most relevant for: governments and the private sector)

- Implement international agreements, guidelines, and protocols that seek to reduce harassment and violence that prevent women fromascending to leadership positions, such as the International Labour Convention to Eliminate Violence and Harassment in the Worldof Work and the OECD Recommendation on Ending Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Harassment in Development Co-operation andHumanitarian Assistance. (Most relevant for: governments and the private sector)

These briefs are intended to be used by policymakers, decision-makers, advocates, and activists to advance issues affecting womenin global development. These materials are designed to be open-sourced and available for your use.

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