

Participation of Women in Politics

A case study of Karnataka

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Women in labour force

- Female Labour Force participation in India - 29 % as of 2018 contributing to 17% of India GDP 2018 (Global average -37%)
- Women comprise almost 40 % of agricultural labour, they control only 9 percent of land in India.
- Gender pay gap - 34%; highest among 73 countries (Global Wage Report 2018 – 19)
- ~ 13 % of women work in areas of finance, insurance, real estate and business services, which includes informational technology services (NSSO, 2016)

Women in decision making

- Women representation in LS as of 2014 – 11 %, 12 % council of ministers
- Only 1 women judge in Supreme Court (out of 25); In all the High Courts of the country, only 11% (74 females against 613 males)
- 17 % women in IAS (2016) ; 11 % women in IPS (2017); 8 % women in IFS (2016)
- Armed Forces 13% of women in IAF , 6% Indian Navy , 3.8% Indian Army (2018)

Social indicators

- Number of girls enrolled per 100 boys enrolled in primary education – 90 (2016)
- Female literacy rate – 65.46 % (2016)
- 51 % of women reproductive age in India are undernourished (NHFS, 2018)

Crime against women

- Cases of crime against women rose 83 % between 2007 and 2016 (National Crime Record Bureau)
- 4 rape cases were reported every hour in 2016
- Rape accounts for about 12 % of all crimes against women
- Conviction rate for crimes against women – 19 %

- To realise Human Rights and Sustainable development Goals.
- Corollary increase in policy making that emphasizes **quality of life and reflects the priorities of families, women, and ethnic and racial minorities.**
- Women's representation is **critical for the development of inclusive, responsive, and transparent democracies.**
- **India is 148th in a global ranking of 193 countries- behind Nepal, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Bangladesh, UAE, Saudi Arabia.**

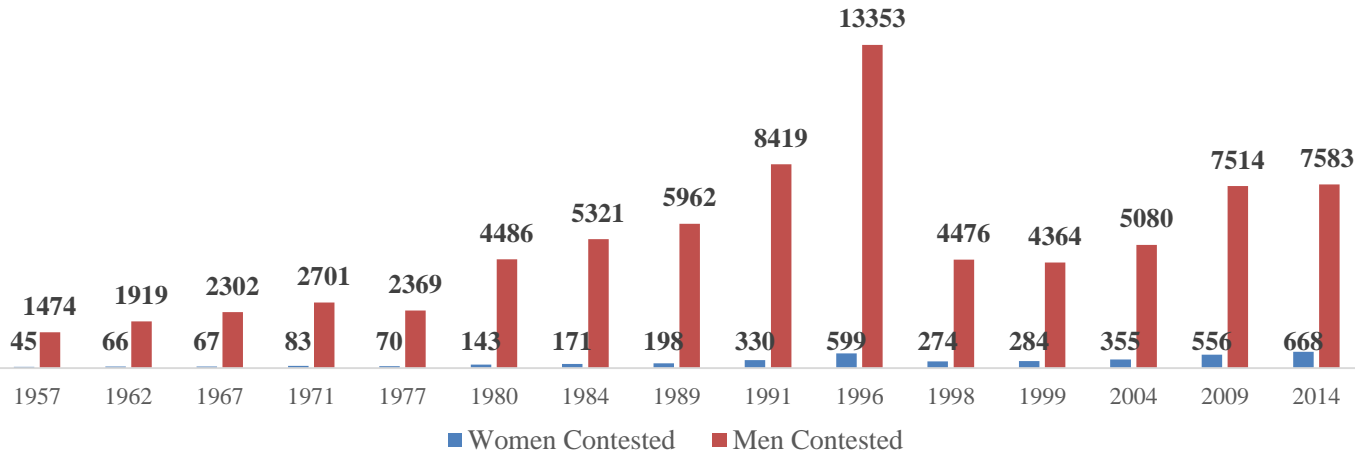
Women's participation in politics in India

Historical context

- Women's organizations in India first began to emerge in the early 1900s.
- 1920s: Women active in the freedom movements, holding protests and public meetings in support of independence.
- 1950-60: All India Women's Conference (AIWC) formed to advocate for women's education. Passage of the Hindu Code of Bills
- 1970s: New wave of feminism in response to gender inequality and status of women in India.
- Indian women significantly involved at the grass roots level of activism- Chipko Movement.

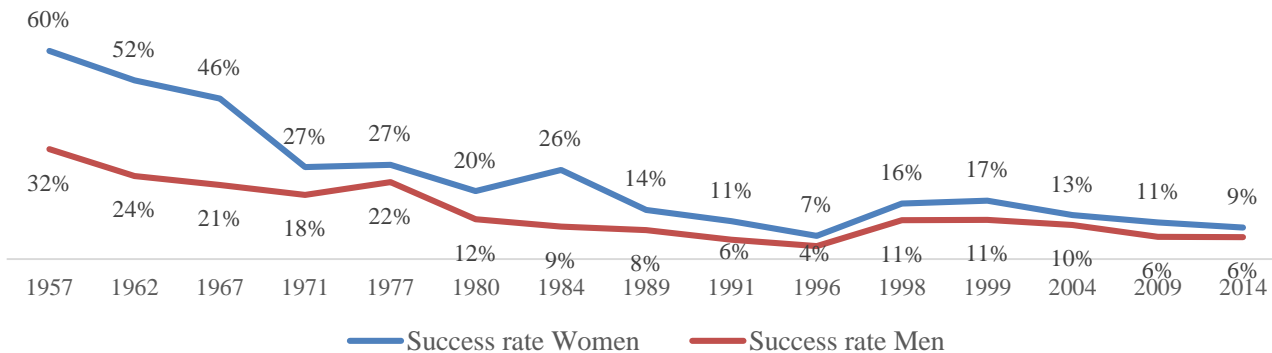
Women's participation and representation in Lok Sabha

WOMEN AND MEN CONTESTING LOK SABHA ELECTIONS



- The ratio of women:men contesting elections was 1:33 in 1957 which has fallen to 1:11 in 2014 elections (**higher women participation**)

SUCCESS RATE OF WOMEN AND MEN IN LOK SABHA ELECTIONS



- Between 1957 to 2014 Lok Sabha General Elections, **the success rate of women has always been higher than success rate of men**

Growing competitive nature of politics in India !

Women's participation in Karnataka politics

Historical context

- Actively participated in the Indian freedom movement and have also led a few social reform movements in Karnataka
- Umabai Kundapur: Toured all over Karnataka and brought women volunteers to the annual session of the National Congress
- Bellary Siddamma, made a mark by participating in the Shivpur Congress Session in 1938
- Jayadevitai Ligade and Krishnabai from Honnavar played important roles in the Swadeshi movement and rendered notable service to the society

Women Participation, Status & Empowerment Karnataka

Women in decision making

- 3.5 % representation in KLA as of 2018
- 9 % representation in Judiciary (3 women judges of total 33) as of 2018
- 5 % in police force as of 2018

Women in Politics

Women – 3.5 %
Men – 96.5 %

28
seats

**MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT,
LOK SABHA**

Women – 3.5 %
Men – 96.5 %

224
seats

**MEMBER OF KARNATAKA
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

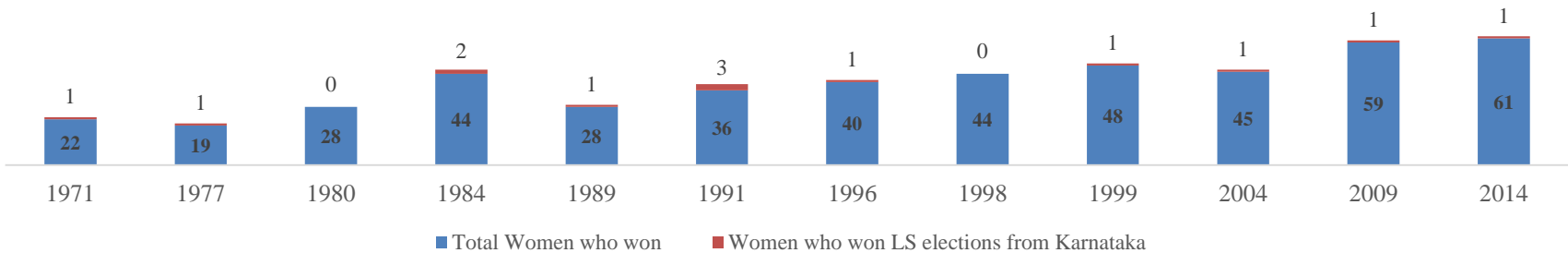
Women – 51 %
Men – 49 %

198
seats

**BBMP
CORPORATORS**

Representation of women from Karnataka in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha

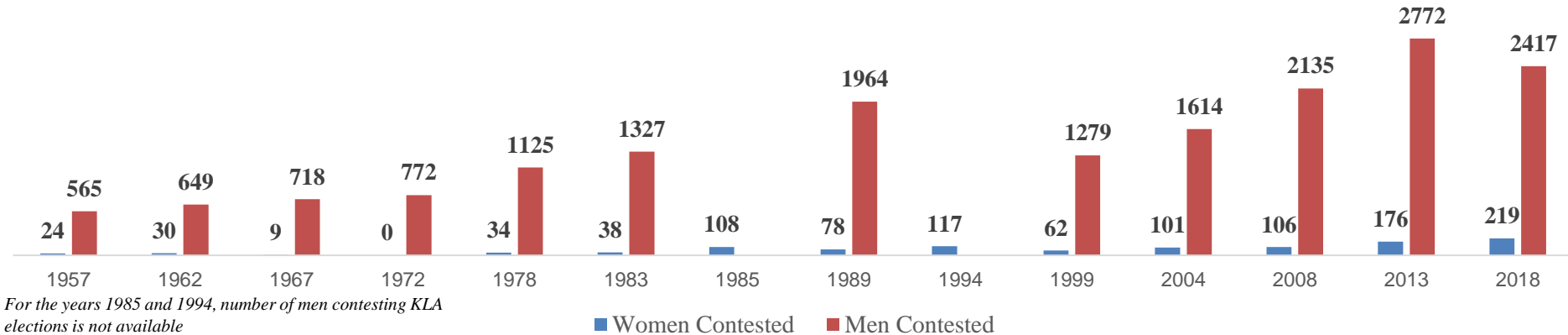
REPRESENTATION OF WOMEN FROM KARNATAKA IN LOK SABHA



- **2014 Lok Sabha general elections - 61 women who won elections, only one woman represents Karnataka state.**
- **Women winning the LS general elections from Karnataka has fallen from 4.5 % to 1.6 % (1971 to 2014 elections);**
- **In Rajya Sabha, between the years 1958 to 2018, 11 women (11.8% of the total 96 members from Karnataka) have been elected, with a maximum four terms.**
- **As of 2018, there is only one-woman MP representation from Karnataka of the 12 seats allocated for the state.**

Participation of women in Karnataka Elections

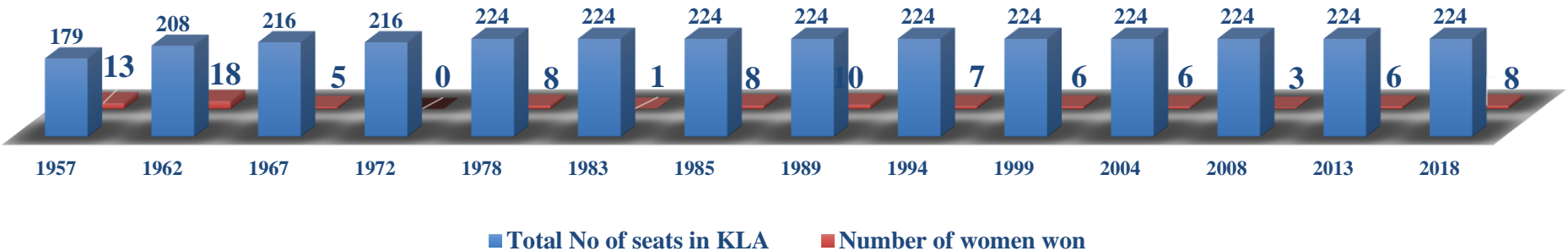
WOMEN AND MEN CONTESTING KLA ELECTIONS



Between 1957 and 2018:

- The number of women contesting the elections increased by 813%
- Men contesting the elections has increased by 285%
- The ratio of women:men contesting elections was 1:23 in 1957 which has fallen to 1:11 in 2018 elections

WOMEN REPRESENTATION IN KLA

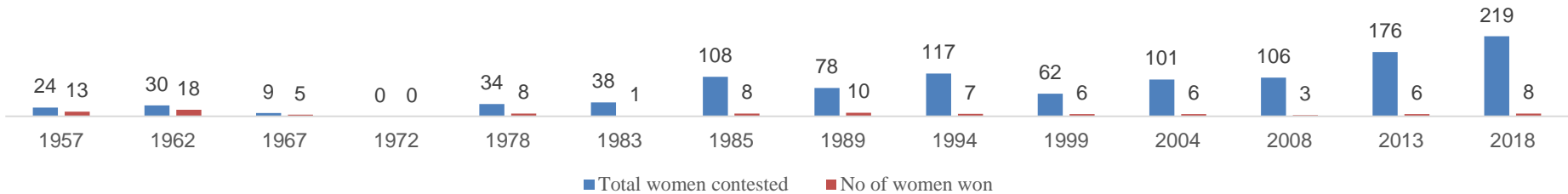


Between 1957 and 2018:

- The number of seats has increased by 25 % in KLA.
- The representation of women in the KLA has fallen from 7.26 % to 3.57%, a 50 % fall in the representation over five decades
- The number of women contesting has increased by 813%;
- The representation of women in the assembly proportionate to the number of seats has fallen by 51 %

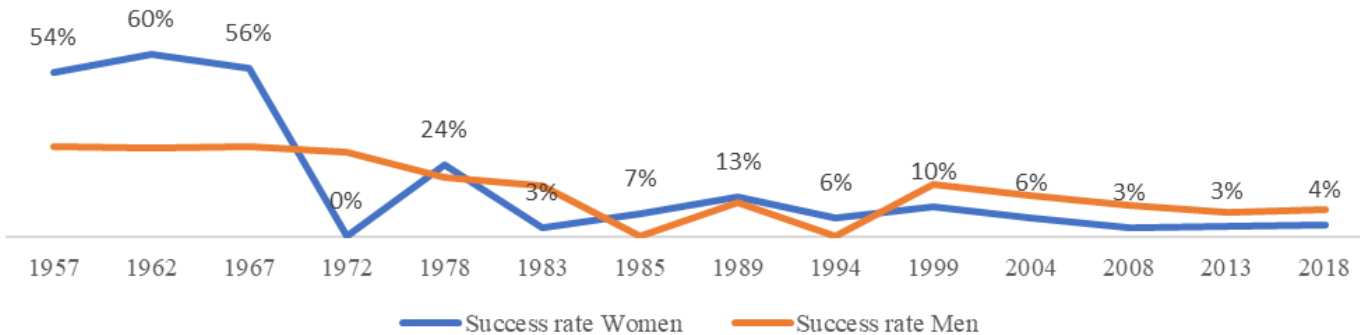
Success Rate of women contestants Karnataka Assembly

KARNATAKA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - SUCCESS RATE FOR WOMEN



- The success rate is defined as the percentage of candidates who win elections to the candidates who contest elections.

SUCCESS RATE OF WOMEN AND MEN IN KLA ELECTIONS



- Between 1957 and 2018, success rate for women has fallen from 54 % to 4 %
- The success rate for men has fallen from 29 % to 9 % (between 1957 to 2018)

Analysis And Observations from our study

- Women are given portfolios like- women and child, health, youth affairs, culture and so on
- 2018 Karnataka Assembly elections, of the 8 women who won elections, **only one woman has been given a ministry of women and child development.**
- Study of Bihar, UP, Kerala and TN – participation of women has increased but the success rate of women has been falling steadily
- Women are more likely to contest elections from constituencies where gender ratio of the electors is less in favour of women
- Therefore the participation as well as representation is higher in the states of Bihar and UP compared to Kerala and TN (Kapoor and Ravi, 2014)

Analysis And Observations from our study

Participation and representation of women in the local body elections – Municipal Corporations and Gram Panchayat

- The 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendment: 33% reservation for women in the Gram Panchayat as well as Municipal Corporations
- The Karnataka State in 2005 exceeded the 33 % representation of women in the Panchayat Raj Institutions.
- In 2012, **the Karnataka government increased the reservation for women in the urban local body and gram panchayat elections to 50 %.**
- With this, 101 wards in Bengaluru have women corporators – **51 % representation in BBMP council as of today.**

Recommendations

- 1) **Women's Reservation Bill:** A 33% Women's Reservation Bill for representation at the Parliament and Legislature is the first and most important step to encourage women participation in the second and first tier of Governments.
- 2) **Gender Report Card:** The government should publish a gender report card that shows participation of women in all spheres
- 3) The Election Commission of India should direct the political parties to put out a gender report card which shows the proportion of women to men representation within the party

THANK YOU

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