

Women representation in local government

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Abstracts:

The important factors behind the limited participation of women in political sphere in Nepal can be noted as discrimination, violence, prejudice and aggression against women. However, Nepal has the highest number of women parliamentarians in Asia. This increased ratio is the result of a commitment to inclusion as well as constitutional provision that guaranteed affirmative action. The Constituent Assembly(CA) Election Act has the provision outlines 33 percent reservations regarding candidacy for CA and a legal provision for a proportional election system that reserved 50 percent candidacy with a closed list.

A study on '*Women Representation in Local Government*' is conducted to find out the status and representation of women in local government through sample size of 34,888. The major sources of information for this study are interview, researching/ reviewing previous publications regarding representation of women in local politics, and observation. The report attempted to analyze the involvement of women in social and political organization at local government. It also closely examined the issues, activities and barriers that women are facing while participating in the social and political organizations. Various women's rights movements with time-frame, legal frameworks for women participation and representation are also intensely discussed in the report. The report indicated that the participation of women in major position within government is still limited in practice, even though the constitution has guaranteed 33% women seats in Federal Parliament and State Assembly. The report suggested the political parties and the government to fix quota for women constituency in federal legislative to local legislature for women empowerment and increase the numbers of women voters through awareness during election.

Tags: women representation, political sphere, reservations, constitution.