

Gender issues in the era of globalisation

Gender
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The most heartening aspect of globalisation is that it has opened vista of opportunities for women in the developing countries.

The unfortunate reality, however is that these opportunities have not been fully exploited in Pakistan.

High costs have forced the industrialized nations to shift labor intensive industries in developing countries, particularly those with

relatively large endowments of labor, is the high share of female employment in the emerging exporting industries.

Pakistan is not taking full advantage of its women's talent. Ladies are barred from working after sunset that has limited their job opportunities particularly in apparel industry that badly needs available skilled women workforce.

The state through this discriminatory law has reduced job opportunities for women. A better option would have been to make it mandatory for factories to pick and drop girls working in the second shift.

The entrepreneurs in need of skilled women work force would

have happily complied.

The crude activity rate (per cent of labor force in total population) for women in rural areas of Pakistan are 10.7 per cent and 6.3 per cent in urban areas). While the refined activity rate (per cent of labor force in population of persons having 10 years of age and above) is for women in rural areas is 16 per cent and 8.8 per cent in urban areas.

Gradually things are improving for the women, which have been caused by their tremendous determination and courage.

They are entering in the field of education, health, engineering,

IT and active participation is seen

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Gender Indicators

	Pakistan				South Asia		Low income	
	1980	1990	1995	2000	1980	2000	1980	2000
GNP per capita(US\$)	300	390	490	450	260	440	380	410
Population								
Total (millions)	82.7	108	122.4	138.1	901.3	1,354.20	1,613.40	2,462.30
Female population (% of total)	48.1	47.7	48.5	48.2	48.2	48.5	49.3	49.4
Life expectancy at birth (years)								
Male	55	58	60	62	54	62	52	58
Female	56	60	62	64	53	63	54	60
Adult illiteracy rate (% of people aged 15+)								
Male	59.6	50.7	46.5	42.6	47.6	34.2	41.9	28.6
Female	86.1	79.9	76.2	72.1	74.8	57.3	64.5	47
LABOR FORCE PARTICIPATION								
Total labor force (millions)	29	38	44	52	389	602	710	1,113
Female labor force (% of total)	23	24	26	29	34	33	38	38
Unemployment								
Total (% of total labor force)	3.6	3.1	5.4	5.9	..	..	..	..
Female (% of female labor force)	7.5	0.9	13.7	14.9	..	..	..	..
EDUCATION ACCESS AND ATTAINMENT								
Net primary enrollment rate (% of age group)								
Male	..	..	..	83	..	..	..	..
Female	..	..	..	48	..	..	..	..
Progression to grade 5 (% of cohort)								
Male	..	..	..	..	..	70	..	..
Female	..	..	..	..	..	65	..	..
Primary completion rates								
Male	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Female	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Youth illiteracy Rate (% of people aged 15-24)								
Male	48.2	37.5	32	28.9	36	23.7	30.3	18.8
Female	78.5	69.4	63.5	58.1	61.1	40.6	50.8	31.1
HEALTH								
Total fertility rate (births per woman)	7	5.8	5.2	4.7	5.3	3.3	5.3	3.6
Contraceptive prevalence (% of women aged 15-49)	..	..	..	14	18	28	..	49
Births attended by skilled health staff (% of total)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Maternal mortality rates (per 100,000 live births)	..	..	..	200	..	..	..	..
Child malnutrition-weight for age (% of children under 5)..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Prevalence of HIV (% of people aged 15-24)								
Male	..	..	..	0.1	..	0.3	..	1.2
Female	..	..	..	0	..	0.5	..	2.2