

National Webinar
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN DAY
Prime Minister Agenda 3 for Disaster Risk Reduction
(Women leadership in DRR)

March 08, 2022



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ZONE4SOLUTIONS

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Despite the fact that women provide wealth and resources to disaster planning and response, their leadership potential is overlooked. Rather they are stereotyped ‘victims’ resulted from gendered vulnerabilities and socio-cultural taboos. The risks women confront during and after disasters are outside the scope of policy and risk reduction efforts, according to the disaster lens. The success of disaster management and related interventions depend on gender equality and women's empowerment. Hence, women's empowerment requires not just policy creation and execution, but also societal reforms. There are also limits to the extent to which a disaster-focused policy framework can bring about dramatic societal change. However, the DRR interventions should have a bolder and broader multi-hazard approach to gender inclusiveness to adopt considerations such as gender-based violence, gendered vulnerabilities, gendered damages and loss.

Today, on International Women's Day 2022, we not only celebrate womanhood but also discuss the issues related to women's socio-economic empowerment. UN Women's this year theme Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow, also encourage gender equality and climate change activists and celebrates women's participation in disaster-resilient development. During the webinar, Zone4Solutions tried to explore the hurdles women faces every day and during disasters; examine the effects of women's leadership, identifies drivers, enablers, and provides an insight into why investing in women as leaders especially at the local level is important. At the outset, I would like to express our sincere thanks to the honourable Chief Guest Mr. Rajender Singh, Member NDMA, Dr Anita Bhatnagar Jain, IAS(Retd) Member (Admin), UP Public Services Tribunal, India. I also thank the imminent speakers, Ms Risha Sayyad, Advocate, Kailash Satyarthi Children Foundation Dr Manju Panwar, Director Women Studies BPS, Women University Sonipat, Haryana and Er. Awdhesh Kumar, Asst. Professor, Invertis University, India for enriching technical sessions.

It gives me immense pleasure in acknowledging the cooperation and I extend my gratitude to Ms Tanushree Verma, Head (Training and Research), Zone4Solutions who immensely moderated the webinar and developed report. I would also like to thank the supporting staff of Zone4Solutions and the audience as without them it would not have been possible to organize the webinar.



Mr. Nakul Kumar Tarun
Director, Zone4Solutions



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1 INTRODUCTION

Understanding how gender relations shape community preparedness and response are vital to disaster risk reduction because the 'gender roles' affect disaster impact and coping abilities. Women and girls are more vulnerable to hazards than males, not just because of their physiology, but also because of socio-economic disparities and unequal power relations, known as 'gender-specific vulnerabilities'. Disasters and crises may worsen pre-existing disparities, thereby exposing people to additional risks. As a result, in the aftermath of a disaster, women's death rates are often substantially greater than men. Women, for example, were projected to account for 61% of fatalities in Myanmar following Cyclone Nargis in 2008, 70 % in Banda Aceh during the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami, and 91% in Bangladesh during Cyclone Gorky in 1991. Not only this, during Afghanistan crisis, the deprivation Afghani women and girls (banned secondary and higher education, and altered curricula to focus more on religious studies, curtailed freedom of movement, expression, and association, and deprived many of earned income, etc) are facing is also an issue of concern. Additionally, COVID-19 intensified domestic and gender-based violence (GBV) globally. For instance, a 30% of increased in GBV was reported in France since lockdown on March 17, 2021 similarly 30-33% of GBV cases were registered on helplines in Cyprus and Singapore.

Therefore, there is a need to address fundamental gender disparities and barriers, promote gender equality and women's empowerment, and provide a safe environment for women to lead not only disaster risk reduction intervention but also sustainable resilience-building.

1.1 THE MISSING HALF: GENDER DISPARITIES IN INDIA

According to the World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap Report 2021, India is rated 140th out of 156 nations, with a score of 0.625. (Out of 1).

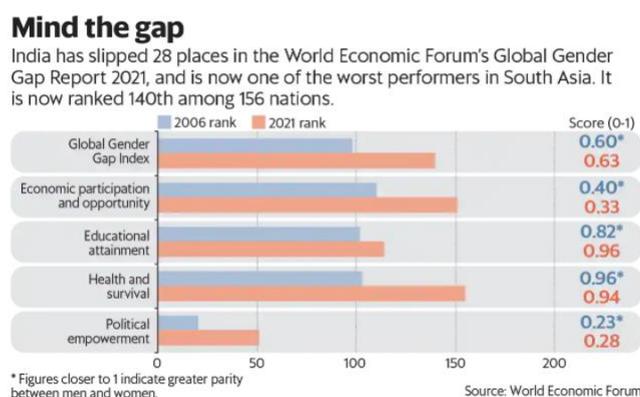


Figure 1: Global Gender Gap Report, 2021: India

The normalisation of domestic abuse, as well as a lack of political inclusion, technical and leadership responsibilities, a decline in women's labour force participation, inadequate healthcare, a low female to male literacy ratio, and economic inequality, are all detrimental to women's well-being. Crimes against women have doubled in the period between 1991 and 2011. National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5) data reports that the percentage of married women aged 18 to 49 who have ever suffered marital violence has more than doubled, from 20.6 % in 2014-

15 to 44.5 % in 2021. It is also noted that domestic violence, child marriage, cybercrime, and women and girl trafficking are a few of the issues women faces aftermath of the disasters. Additionally, despite being the other half of the population, women's needs and interests are excluded at the household level and policy level. The reasons behind this are as follows:

Patriarchal culture
It has been always identified that as the major barrier for women empowerment. Some societies accept wives and girl child as subordinates/inferior of husbands and sons and thus have 'son preferences.' This society acknowledge women as second-class citizens, weaker sex, child barres and care givers. The 'gender role' associated with women prevents them to open the doors of opportunities. This is also supported by the religious believes.
Level of education
Though, level of education is an individual characteristic, but the access to education is social issue. In many countries inadequate access to educational institution are what prevent women to develop interpersonal skills and knowledge, public speaking and organizing and coordinating activities for their economic and social wellbeing.
Self interest
Women attitude for themselves as will to make decision for themselves and their family.
Policies and legislations
Unaware about the policies and laws for women empowerment and lack of capacity building at grassroot level. Additionally, unhealthy political environment also prevents women leadership.
Organizational Culture
Devaluation of women economic contribution, limited support, unfavourable working conditions, security issues and patriarchal structures in the organizations too affect their participation

The Indian government has made it a priority concern to close the gender gap in India by eliminating disparities between men and women, improving women's health, raising their socioeconomic position, and expanding their involvement in numerous professions. The following are some of the significant steps implemented by the Indian government to close the gender gap in all aspects of social, economic, and political life:

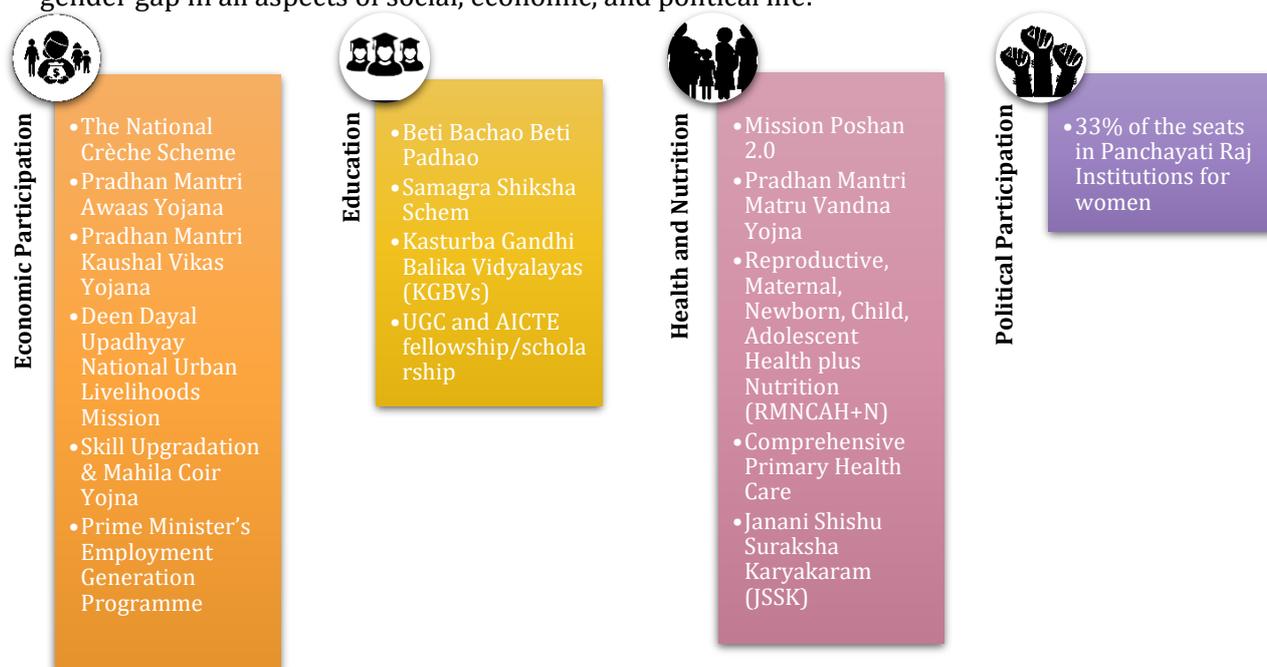


Figure 2: National Policies for gender disparities

1.2 GENDER-CENTRIC DRR AT LOCAL LEVEL

When designing a successful DRR plan, numerous factors must be taken into account, including security/good governance, economic/social development, food and water security, environmental sustainability/climate change adaptation, and disaster risk management programmes due to the paradigm shift to preparedness and response approach. This accommodates the participation of vulnerable section of the community and among them women are considered as necessary stakeholders of managing disaster.

The gender-specific behaviour make women and girls susceptible to underlined risks. And hence, we can say that disaster affect men and women differently as their needs and vulnerability varies with the given situation. The social, economic, ethnic, cultural, biological, and environmental factors not only affect the disaster response and recovery but their coping strategies and their participation in the disaster management cycle. Therefore, gender is indistinguishably linked to disaster risk reduction planning and execution as a cross-cutting phenomena. As a result, women's empowerment has become a critical component of community disaster preparedness. The international community has acknowledged women's role in DRR and works towards gender equality and women's rights in Disaster risk management. Few of them are:

Table 1: National and International gender specific interventions

International Interventions	
Sustainable Development Goal (2015-2030)	Goal 5: Gender Equality Goal 6: Clean water and Sanitation Goal 7: Affordable and Clean Energy Goal 8: Decent work and economic growth Goal 11: Sustainable cities and communities Goal 12: Responsible consumption and production Goal 15: Life on Land and Goal 17: Partnerships for the goals
Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015-2030)	Implementation of gender-sensitive policies, plans and programs regarding the reduction of disaster-risk
Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women	General Recommendation 34: States parties should address specific threats posed to rural women by climate change, natural disasters, land and soil degradation, water pollution, droughts, floods, desertification, pesticides and agrochemicals, extractive industries, monocultures, biopiracy and the loss of biodiversity, in particular agro-biodiversity.
National Interventions	
India's National Disaster Management Guidelines (2007)	Development of State Disaster Management Plans, emphasis on women participation in disaster planning and identify them as first responders
India's National Policy on Disaster Management (2009)	Distinguishes the vulnerability of women and other socio-economic vulnerable groups and mandates the social inclusion in State Disaster Response Forces to provide support in CBDRR, and charges state with providing for the "permanent" restoration of livelihoods for female-headed

households, among other marginalized and vulnerable groups.

PM's Ten Point Agenda

Point 3: encourage gender involvement and leadership of women in disaster risk management

73rd and 74th Amendment (PRI)

33% of women participation in PRI

Women's role as change agents in their communities is still devalued in disaster management, owing to the stereotype that women are fragile. Though, participation of women at local level governance has increased and women's organizations have also been encouraged and promoted to undertake innovative, gender-equitable, poverty eradication work to reduce disaster risks and build the resilience of communities. However, Women Empowerment is still a far-reaching goal.

2 WEBINAR SUMMARY

2.1 CONTEXT

Women's empowerment is an individual and societal transformation that allows them to obtain power, meaningful choices, and control over their life. Women's empowerment can take various forms, but key enabling factors include collective action by women, constitutional and legislative reform, social and economic policy initiatives, and changes in socio-cultural norms. India is vulnerable to a wide range of natural and man-made calamities to varying degrees. When it comes to catastrophe vulnerability, the economically and socially vulnerable parts of the population are the ones that suffer the most. Women are frequently the most vulnerable group in emergencies since they are exposed to more risks. As a result, disaster risk reduction and women's concerns intersect across all sectors of socio-economic development. Making DRR gender-sensitive approach essential for long-term development.

Based on the aforesaid, Zone4solution hosted a nationwide webinar on "Women Leadership in Disaster Risk Reduction - Issues and Challenges" on March 08, 2022, to discuss the influence of social disparities on a woman as a victim/beneficiary as well as her position in disaster risk governance. The key themes that the webinar discussed are as follows:

- Women's participation and representation in disaster risk reduction decision-making processes at all levels;
- Violence against women in disaster-affected communities especially during COVID-19;
- Women's Issues Awareness and Advocacy;
- Women's access to technological, financial and administrative resources, as well as health care, support services, and early warning in times of disaster; and
- Women and Livelihood Generation

2.2 SESSION PROCEEDINGS

2.2.1 INAUGRAUL SESSION

2.2.1.1 *Welcome Address*

Mr. Nakul Kumar Tarun, Director, Zone4Solutions

Mr Nakul Kumar Tarun, Director of Zone4Solutions, opened the event by welcoming the distinguished speakers, guests, and audience. Despite acknowledging women as powerful agents for change, he pointed out that disasters are often not viewed from a gendered perspective, although women and children are among society's most vulnerable groups. In addition, women play a less significant role in developing DRR policy and strategy.

Therefore, he encouraged participants to utilize this webinar to discuss recommendations to enhance the role of women in DRR, particularly in terms of decision making, policy implementation, and preparedness.

QUOTATION OF THE SESSION

As the other half of the population, women have the right to lead.

*Mr. Nakul Kumar Tarun,
Director, Zone4Solutions*



Figure 3: Mr. Tarun addressing the audience

2.2.2 TECHNICAL SESSION

Session 1: Women Empowerment the uneven Journey 2021

Presenter: Dr. Anita Bhatnagar Jain, IAS(Retd) Member (Admin), UP Public Services Tribunal, India



Figure 4: Dr Jain addressing the audience

Key Takeaways

- Dr Jain commenced the discussion with the fact that till the time we think of women as only survivors/victims of disasters, the effectiveness of DRR would be hampered. Their role as local leaders, decision-makers should be acknowledged.
- It is important to consider the conditions of women in an at-risk society. She asked to reflect and see if the girls and women of a particular society can answer questions related to their freedom of speech, domestic violence, marriage and sexual abuse, then only they can determine their role in DRR. She considered this as an important and complex issue considering the socio-economic and psychological aspects.
- It is a given fact that women's participation is essential to make progress in disaster-resilient development. Yet, Dr Jain reminded us on International Women's Day that we need to rethink where we stand, what the issues are, what the substantial solutions are and how we measure the progress of women's empowerment. Dedicated Target Indicator for gender, or additional indicators under existing target categories for measuring gender specific impact should be developed. In this context, concentrating on the socio-economic aspect of women empowerment, Dr Jain added:
 - According to the National Health Survey, there are 1200 women per 1000 men. However, while comparing the child sex ratio at birth it is 952 women per 1000 men which conveys that Indian society still prefers male children over females.
 - In the Global Peace & Security Index, India secured the 148th rank out of 170 countries.

- While discussing the valuation of women's household work, Dr Jain referred to a survey stating a woman spend at least 5 hours each day in household work but a man spends approx. 30 minutes.
- Dr Jain emphasised that women's participation in DRR can only be possible if there is gender equity in the country. To discuss this, she provided many instances, such as:
 - **Women as a valuable asset:** She asked us to reconsider how many percentages of women from the active population can be considered as an asset to the economic productivity of the country given that women comprise 66.3% of the active population (48.3% of the total population) from the age groups of 16-65 years. The women parliamentarians are 10%, IAS are 12% and IPS are 7% only.
 - **COVID-19 impact on women:** In the context of COVID-19, the women and girls were adversely affected as we have witnessed increased domestic violence, lost their jobs in the male dominating market, etc. She also highlighted that during the pandemic the age of marriage has also gone down. Additionally, she stressed that women have become so accustomed to domestic violence that they have even accepted it.
 - **Women's rights and recognition:** While sharing her experience, she acknowledges that it is still hard for the male dominating society to accept women's participation and recognition for their contribution. For instance, Karnam Malleswari, Mary Kom, Saina Nehwal, P. V. Sindhu, Sakshi Malik, Saikhom Mirabai Chanu, Lovlina Borgohain, the women hockey team, the women cricket team but still gender disparity can be seen even after 75 years of independence that out of 33 judges there are only four sitting female sitting judges.
 - **Women Rights:** Mentioning the Representation of the People Act 1918, and women's active participation in legislative elections in India (73rd and 74th amendment of Panchayati Raj Institutions), Dr Jain accredited the fact that political parties and women are also realised that women can be at the forefront.
 - **Gender Inequality in the workplace:** Dr Jain also highlighted economic gender inequalities and appreciated the effort made by women to break the glass ceiling, especially in the IT sector where we have observed many female leaders.
 - **The great sacrifice:** She also connected the discussion with female sacrifices when the family is in need such as kidney donors. Marriage is also another aspect that Dr Jain focused on, stating that women should have the right to decide about marriage. We live in a society where there are honour killings, acid attacks on females.
 - **Women Leadership:** Dr Jain, herself a leader, expressed that a "leader woman" has to work harder, thus, it is essential to understand a woman's leadership ability because she will understand people's personal needs, be open to new ideas, and solicit other opinions.
- Therefore, there is a need for change in the mindset of the society including women to think of economic independence of the women, teach males to respect females. She added that women need to be the first agents of change at the household level and women related policies should be channelized through civil societies. In the context of DRR, she

QUOTATION OF THE SESSION

Women's Day should be celebrated every day, in every household. Unless the conditions of women are not improved in society, we will be just talking about women in DRR and the women's participation on the ground will be slow.

*Dr Anita Bhatnagar Jain,
IAS(Retd) Member (Admin), UP
Public Services Tribunal, India*

stated that these interventions will help us understand the role of women during emergencies not as caregivers or social victims but also as a responder.

- While discussing the UN Women International Women’s Day 2022: “Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow”, she added that women’s inequality is a challenge to sustainability. Sustainable development and greater gender equality need to continue to examine the opportunities and constraints for empowering women as equal players in climate change and sustainability decision-making.
- On the occasion of IWD, Dr Jain highlighted all the related issues such as women’s education, women’s income, male child preference over female, girl child security, domestic violence, verbal sexual abuse, women warriors i.e., Pink Brigade, women leadership in her short story, ‘*Ek Din ki Durga*’ portrait the life of a little girl who became an IPS. Lastly, she urged that it is essential to give females opportunities to be self-reliant, we have one life, one earth, so let’s make a difference.



Figure 5: Story Telling session by Dr Jain

Session 2: Panchayati Raj Institutions- Mainstreaming Women in Governance and DRR

Presenter: Dr Manju Panwar, Director Women Studies BPS, Women University Sonipat, Haryana

Key Takeaways

- Dr Panwar highlighted that many international forums have identified women as one of the key stakeholders in disaster management. Though women can play important role in disaster response and recovery, women’s role in decision making at various levels for disaster risk governance is limited.
- She mentioned challenges such as lack of decision making capacities at the ground level (lack of family support as female Sarpanch), less knowledge and skills to respond to any emergency (Less exposure to capacity building training of female leaders at local level governance) lack of knowledge about policies and services for women empowerment (lack of internal coordination among different depts), inability to recognise leadership quality of women, especially women related organization (gender-related issues as agenda).

- The importance of local governance is highlighted by Dr Panwar in her discussion of women leaders in Panchayat Raj Institutions, where 33% of certain panchayat positions are reserved for women. Moreover, local governance plays an important role in disaster management (bottom-top approach of disaster management strategy), such as the development of the district planning committee in consultation with panchayat (Article 243 D) as well as the approval of the institutional arrangement plan for economic development and social justice (Article 243G).
- While discussing the role of women leaders at the ground level for disaster management Dr Panwar highlighted that local bodies are nearest to the people (females can come forward to discuss their issues), they are familiar with the resource pool (females' capacity to identify and utilize resources judiciary), are accountable transparent (elected by the village community, SHGs, Manilla Mandal, the females have a sense of responsibility and accountability not only to the male but the female section of the village) and know the social profile of the community which helps in spreading awareness about disaster risk and prepared action to the last mile especially the most vulnerable of the village. Therefore, women should be part of different committees to have gender-neutral development.
- Dr Panwar also discussed the status (limitation) of women in the disaster management cycle:
 - Pre-Disaster/Normal scenario: Unequal representation of women in Planning and decision making, women capacities are overlooked
 - During disaster: As a caregiver, it becomes a responsibility to look after the dependent, due to cultural and social taboos restriction of movement.
 - Post-disaster: Limited access to privacy and increased family responsibility
- She mentions the need for capacity-building programs for women leaders to explain their roles and responsibilities, with an emphasis on sustainable practices, while discussing ways to strengthen women's leadership on a local level. Mahila Mandalas, CBOs, and SHGs should also be included in this process. Additionally, women's participation at every level must be ensured through a positive approach for preparedness and development activities, without demotivating or blaming women.
- Last but not at least, Dr Panwar urged to provide special efforts to mainstream activities for women's equity including gender budgeting (sectors like education, health, sanitation and security) for sustainable growth. This can be ensured by empowering panchayats financially, functionally, and administratively. This also includes active participation of each part of society i.e., government, industries, NGOs, CBOs, policymakers, academics, researchers and practitioners.



Figure 6: Dr Panwar addressing the audience

QUOTATION OF THE SESSION

Providing equal opportunity to women for proper growth and development is the need of the hour.

Dr Manju Panwar, Director Women Studies BPS, Women University Sonapat, Haryana

Session 3: COVID 19 pandemic- Issues and challenges faced by Women

Presenter: Ms. Risha Sayyad, Advocate, Kailash Satyarthi Children foundation

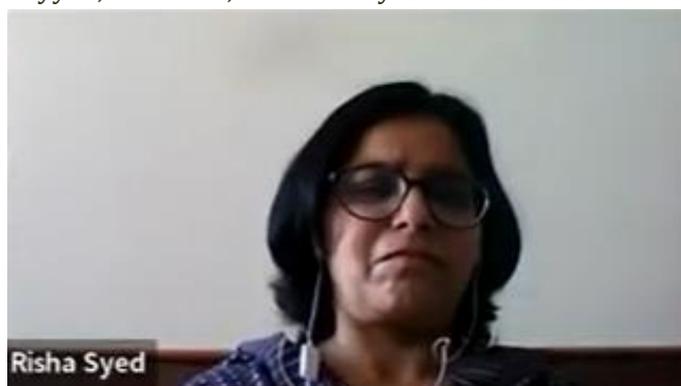


Figure 7: Ms Sayyad addressing the audience

Key Takeaways

- COVID-19 has impacted the community socially, economically and psychologically. During the COVID-19 lockdown, a spike in domestic violence rates occurred all over the world as women were trapped at home with their abusers. Within the first few months of the pandemic, India saw an increase in cases of domestic violence, child marriage, cyber violence, and trafficking of women and girls. Surprisingly, the National Crime Records Bureau report, 2020 stated that the crime against women has been decreased from 405326 (2019) to 371503 (2020). The reason is that the perpetrator is residing in the same house (father, brother, friend or any relative) and women have no access to notify this due to consecutive lockdowns. Especially, Uttar Pradesh has the highest reporting of crimes followed by West Bengal, Maharashtra (states have dominating patriarchal society), whereas the highest rate of crime against women was noticed in Assam Odisha and Delhi.

National Intervention during COVID-19 for Women Protection: She mentioned that due to increasing domestic violence and sexual abuse the government issued an advisory to all the nodal officer's period to women-oriented policy and law (Domestic Violence Act, Provision of Child Marriage Act, Prohibition of Dowry Act) to be available 24 hours to tackle these situations. The women's safety was insured by a few schemes such as:

One-stop Centre	Emergency Response and Rescue Services, Medical assistance, Assistance to women in lodging FIR /NCR/DIR, Psychosocial support/ counselling, Legal aid and counselling, Shelter, Video Conferencing Facility at the district level
Women helpline (181), women helpline by National Legal Services Authority (15100) for legal aid, WhatsApp numbers issued by National Commission for Women	
24-hour Women Shelter house	
Signal for help	A gesture an individual can use publicly or over a video call to alert others to their feeling of being threatened and needing assistance

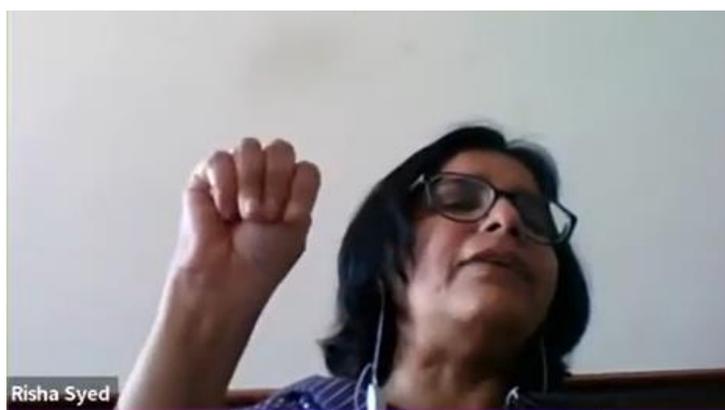


Figure 8: Signal for Help

- **Child Marriage during COVID-19:** In such a situation the Kailash Satyarthi Foundation with government officials, police are trying to generate awareness at the grassroots level about child marriage, women trafficking because a lot of times child marriage is a way to traffic a girl into exploitation (physical, sexual, removal of organs, servitude) or physical abuse. In addition to limited or no access to online education, lockdowns provided the perfect situation in which the burden could be transferred to another family. Ms Sayyad introduced the interventions done by the Kailash Satyarthi Foundation which includes rescuing the trafficked children (rescued 1 lakh children since 1980).
- In this way, it became crucial to make the community aware of women's economic empowerment since economic empowerment will not only increase their incomes but also have positive impacts on their families, communities, and countries.
- The efforts are done by women and girl children to raise voices against exploitation were also appreciated in the discussion because during lockdowns it was hard to hear the voices. Those women and girls became role models for the community to fight back.

QUOTATION OF THE SESSION

A gender-sensitive approach to DRR should focus on how the interventions will affect the women, especially as it pertains to preventing violence.

*Ms. Risha Sayyad, Advocate,
Kailash Satyarthi Children
Foundation*

Session 4: Status of women in Disaster Risk Reduction- Issues and Challenges

Presenter: Er. Awdhesh Kumar, Asst. Professor, Invertis University, India



Figure 9: Er. Kumar addressing the audience

Key Takeaways

- At the outset of the discussion, Mr Awdhesh Kumar explained the difference between gender and sex. While gender is social construct sex is biological. Gender is associated with the roles that the community has associated with a particular gender (men and women) however, sex is associated with the biological/physical traits (male and female). In this context, he highlighted the fact that though there is a rise in women's leadership as Sarpanch in PRIs, the authority to dominate still lies with their male relatives (hands-over power).
- Furthermore, he cited instances of female trafficking and slavery during World War I and II. He emphasised that SDG 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls, which asserts that gender equality is not just a basic human right, but also a prerequisite for a sustainable world. Mr Kumar also discussed PM's 10-point agenda for DRR (Point 3: encourage gender involvement and leadership of women in disaster risk management) which emphasised the hidden victims of the disasters.
- While discussing the context of disaster, Mr Kumar provided some instances such as cyclone 1991 Bangladesh 80 to 90% of death women similarly during emergencies women are likely to lose access to their farmland, disasters increase sexual assault and risk of being forced into child marriage domestic work for transactional sex to cope up with no-livelihood measures (9/10 Women were affected by 2004 Tsunami in India and 6/10 women were suffered sexual assault within 2 years after the tsunami in Sri Lanka).
- He added during major natural disasters women do not have technical knowledge about disaster occurrence, in general, thus, the participation of women in planning designing implementing and monitoring the emergency program and Rehabilitation project is still on a low-key profile. The additional reasons for the same include:
 - Cultural constraints female mobility due to clothes and cultural norms
 - Lack of knowledge and skillsets such as swimming or climbing
 - Less physical strength than males due to prolonged nutritional deficiency
- In discussing women empowerment for disaster risk reduction, he mentioned that it is important to build the capacities of women to meet the special needs of women affected by the disaster. This can also be achieved by strengthening the skills of women engineers, Masons, and building artisans to assist with post-disaster reconstruction and promote self-help groups that can promote livelihood recovery.
- **Water Crisis with Gender lens:** Due to shifting weather patterns and periodic droughts, India is water-stressed. Women are disproportionately affected by this situation. According to the most current Central Ground Water Board statistics (from 2017), 256 of India's 700 districts have declared 'critical' or 'over-exploited' groundwater levels. Not only this but the water crisis will result in 6% less GDP by 2050. He also referred to African nations where millions of dollars are lost on productivity in attaining potable water. Being second-class citizens, the water crisis only puts them at a higher risk of vulnerability. Fetching water from long distances, marriage for water and without safe drinking water, adequate sanitation facilities it becomes hard for women & girls to lead dignified productive in a healthy life.

- He also mentioned the initiatives take-up by the British women during the rule in India such as Dr Clara Swan creating Clara Swan hospital and Isabella Thoburn College established by Isabella Thoburn for women empowerment. Additionally, he mentioned the Chipko Movement and the establishment of the first Indian All-female Squad for Disaster Rescue Operation in the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) as small steps for women's participation in decision making and disaster response respectively.
- Women, particularly at the household level, play an important role in disaster response and recovery. However, due to unknown causes, their influence on organisational decision-making, particularly in disaster risk governance, is minimal. This has resulted in questions of equity and equality among one of the most affected populations. As a result, forums for reaching out to the unseen voices should be established to break down the boundaries that limit their involvement.

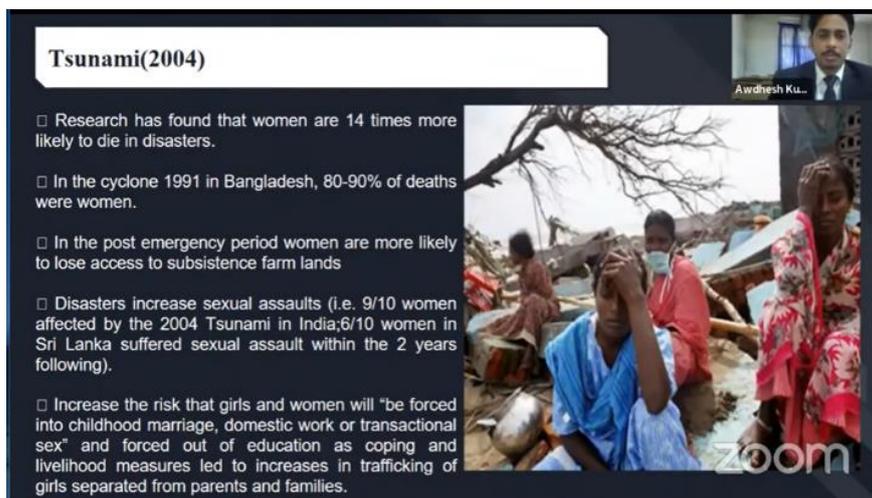


Figure 10: Presentation slide by Er. Kumar

QUOTATION OF THE SESSION

Women's voices must be heard if want to achieve a disaster resident world by 2030. Providing Platforms to raise voices for women by women is essential to enhance women's leadership.

Er. Awdhesh Kumar, Asst. Professor, Invertis University, India

2.2.3 CONCLUSION AND VOTE OF THANKS

Mr. Nakul Kumar Tarun, Director, Zone4Solutions, extended his gratitude to the organizers, guests, and audience for their valuable contribution urging the audience to provide space and platform to women wherever they work, reside and support women's participation in decision making and policy interventions. He also advocated for the development of a village disaster management plan under women participation and leadership. There has to be a clearer understanding of how gender influences behaviour and susceptibility, as well as the knowledge, capabilities, and resources that women bring to disaster risk reduction. Similarly, at the national governance level also women's participation as head of offices should be there to make a visible change. He thanked the presenters for their valuable perceptions and knowledge. The program was insightful.



Figure 11: Mr. Tarun submitting the Vote of Thanks

2.3 RECOMMENDATIONS

Determine the socio-cultural, socio-economic, and individual qualities, as well as legal and institutional hurdles, that hinder them from participating in decision-making, governance, and any DRR activities.

Institutionalization

Accepting that women can be effective change agents at the global, national, and local levels, in addition to being useful role models.

Encourage greater multi-sectoral approach and clarity of roles, enhance accountability between respective national institutions for gender equality concerns and disaster risk management.

Representation

To improve government responsiveness and women-oriented programme efficacy, increase women's leadership in public administration and decision-making.

At the policy and programme levels, recognise and strengthen women's organisations and networks for enhanced capacity and involvement in DRR.

Capacity Development

Women's capacity building at local level to boost their confidence, guarantee that their interests are heard, and that their problems are adequately addressed.

Assure women's legal rights and practical access to disaster-related support and services, such as basic health care, including sexual and reproductive health, compensations, cash transfers, insurance, social security, credit, and employment.

3 ANNEXURE

3.1 WEBINAR FLYER

International Women Day
8th March 2022

WEBINAR ON

**Prime Minister Agenda
3 for Disaster Risk Reduction
(Women leadership in DRR)**

DATE
03RD MARCH 2022

TIME (IST)
10.30 AM-12.30 PM

zoom
MEETING ID: **814 8228 8784**
PASSWORD: **ZONE4S**

CHIEF GUEST
Shri Rajender Singh
Member NDMA, GoI

SPECIAL GUEST
Dr. Anita Bhatnagar Jain,
IAS(Retd) Member(Admin)
UP Public Services Tribunal

CONVENOR
Mr. Nakul Kumar Tarun
Director, Zone4solutions

SPEAKER
Dr. Manju Panwar
Director Women
Studies BPS, Women
University Sonipath, HR

SPEAKER
Ms. Risha Sayyad
Advocate, Kailash Satyarthi
Children foundation

SPEAKER
Er. Awdhesh Kumar
Asst. Professor
(Civil Engineering)
Invertis University, UP

MODERATOR
Ms. Tanushree Verma
Head Training and
Research, Zone4solutions

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3.2 PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN DAY Webinar on Prime Minister Agenda 3 for Disaster Risk Reduction (Women leadership in DRR)

Time: 8th March 2022, 10.30 am -12.30 pm

YouTube Link: <https://youtu.be/nNwXEEBFw2c>

Time	Topic	Speaker
10:30-10:50	Welcome Address and Overview of the programme	Mr. Nakul Kumar Tarun, Director, Zone4solutions
Technical Session		
10:50- 11:00	Women Leadership in Disaster Risk Reduction- Global, Regional perspective (Inaugural Address)	Mr. Rajender Singh, Member NDMA (Chief Guest of the Programme)
11:00-11:20	Women Empowerment the uneven Journey 2021	Dr. Anita Bhatnagar Jain, IAS(Retd) Member (Admin), UP Public Services Tribunal, India (Special Guest of the Programme)
11:20-11:35	COVID 19 pandemic- Issues and challenges faced by Women	Ms. Risha Sayyad, Advocate, Kailash Satyarthi Children foundation
11:35-11:50	Panchayati Raj Institutions- Mainstreaming Women in Governance and DRR	Dr. Manju Panwar, Director Women Studies BPS, Women University Sonipath Haryana
11:50- 12:05	Status of women in Disaster Risk Reduction- Issues and Challenges	Er. Awadesh Kumar, Dept of Civil Engineering, Invertis University, India
11:55-12:20	Open house discussion	To be moderated by Ms. Tanushree Verma, Head (Training and Research), Z4S
12:20-12:30	Vote of thanks	Mr. Nakul Kumar Tarun Director, Zone4solution, New Delhi

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2. Hemachandra, K., Amaratunga, D., & Haigh, R. (2018). Role of women in disaster risk governance. *Procedia engineering*, 212, 1187-1194.
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