

# **FEMALE UNDER- REPRESENTATION IN GOVERNMENT**

**AND ITS SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT**

- At present, Sri Lanka is ranked 182 out of 193 countries on the inter-parliamentary union of rankings
- In the previous parliament 13 legislators, or rather a handful of 5.8% of 225 MPs represented the voice and needs of 52% of the population
- There was only one woman under the age of 40 in parliament that represented the needs of young women
- Newly elected parliament - one Cabinet and two female State Ministers with five more female members of parliament being elected by popular vote. Moreover, SLPP, SJB, and NPP have collectively appointed four female representatives through their National Lists

- The World Gender Gap Report published by the World Economic Forum ranked Sri Lanka amongst the top 20 countries in 2006.
- However, Sri Lanka has slipped in the rankings to be 102 out of 153 countries in 2020

	2006	2020
Economic participation and opportunity sub-index	84	126
Wage equality for similar work	55	82
Political empowerment sub-indicator	07	73
Years with a female head of state indicator	01	09

## ● Labour Force Participation of women

-The estimated economically active population in Sri Lanka - 8.5 million in the first quarter of 2020 - of this 65.7% males, 34.3% female

-Economically inactive population - 8.2 million - out of this 26.1% are male, 73.9% are females

## ● Labour Force Participation Rate

Table 3: LFPR by gender and year  
- All Island

Year	Total	Male	Female
2015	53.8	74.7	35.9
2016	54.1	75.1	36.0
2017	54.1	74.5	36.6
2018	51.8	73.0	36.6
2019	52.3	73.0	34.5
2018 Q1	52.0	73.4	33.5
2019 Q1	52.6	73.4	34.9
2020 Q1	51.0	72.4	32.5

Table 4: LFPR by age and gender-  
-First Quarter 2020

Age Group (Year)	Total	Male	Female
Sri Lanka	51.0	72.4	32.5
15-19	11.0	15.3	6.9
20-24	56.3	72.4	41.7
25-29	65.0	90.3	44.7
30-34	66.1	95.8	41.3
35-39	68.4	97.1	43.2
40-44	66.5	94.4	44.5
45-49	69.9	93.0	48.3
50-54	67.0	92.7	42.8
55-59	57.2	83.3	36.2
60+	29.6	48.4	14.3

● Percentage distribution of Employed population by main industry & gender

Table 7: Percentage distribution of Employed population by main industry & gender- First Quarter 2020

Major Industry Group	Sri Lanka	Gender	
		Male	Female
Sri Lanka	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture	26.5	25.9	27.7
Industry	27.1	27.6	26.0
Services	46.4	46.4	46.2

# Female migrant workers and remittances

- Total migration for employment 2018 - 38.6% (population and labour force, CBSL 2019)
- Remittances to Sri Lanka totalled to USD 7.015 billion
- In 2018, remittances accounted for 7.8 % of the GDP, and could cover 59% of the total import bill or over 13% of Sri Lanka's outstanding external debt (USD 52.31 billion)
- Studies that focus on gender distinctions in remittances show that when it comes to females, a majority remitted a higher proportion, ranging from 81-100% of the income earned in the country of destination. (IPS)

## Departure for skilled level jobs 2017/2018

Age group	Below 25	25-29	40-44	45-49	Above 49
Male	8,028	11,340	8,532	6,315	6,877
Female	1,056	909	485	379	404

## Departure for unskilled level jobs 2017/2018

Age group	Below 25	25-29	40-44	45-49	Above 49
Male	8,301	9,725	4,391	2,915	2,865
Female	595	915	1,544	1,511	1,843



## Departures for household jobs (female only) 2017/2018

Year	Below 25	25-29	40-44	45-49	Above 49
2017	645	4,236	10,603	11,846	11,297
2018	687	4,358	13,141	12,961	14,288



# Crimes against women and cases solved by Police Child and Women Bureau

Table 2: Crimes against women and Cases solved by the Police Child and Women Bureau

Year	Reported Cases	Number of cases Solved
2012	7798	2062 (26.4%)
2013	8320	4672 (56%)
2014	8434	4399 (52%)
2015	8288	4579 (55%)
2016	9042	4976 (58%)

Source: Annual performance repor: Police Department 2014 (50)