

Impact of Gender Inclusion of Nepal: With reference of local Government Election, 2017

Dipendra Bikram Sijapati*

Abstract

Gender refers to the socially constituted relations between men and women. It focuses on power relations, roles and challenges along with the existing women's subordination in the society. Gender Inclusiveness is additional diverse activity and process of local governments, local institutions like Ward, VDC (Gaunpalika), DCC (District Coordination committee), and Municipality (LGs) with self-reliant local governance and sustainable and effective service providing agencies. This paper entitled "An Overview of Gender Variation in Local Governments: With Special Reference to Local Election of Nepal, 2017" is carried out with the objective to highlight the existing variation of women's inclusion in local governments among developed and developing countries. It analyses the provisions regarding inclusion addressed in the federal Constitution of Nepal in local elections. This paper widely covers concept, definition, theories, practice, situation, laws, policies and program at all levels. The paper is built on secondary sources of information, data published by Election Commission 2017, in Nepal. The raw data are analysed using the Excel spread program on computer and are calculated in frequency distribution and percentage to make its meaningful analysis. Data is carefully analysed and interpreted for generalization. The gender inclusion in local government is gradually increasing. As in national election 2017, the female elected members in local government are almost 40 percent in the districts of Nepal and the data is more than allocated (33%) by the Constitution of Nepal 2015 and election manifestos of different political parties. All the acts, policies and constitutions also emphasized the gender inclusion in all sector of Nepalese government.

Key Words: Gender Inclusion, Local Government, Policy, Situation and Theories

*Research Scholar, Tribhuvan University. email: sijapatidipendra@gmail.com

INTRODUCTION

Gender refers to the socially constituted relations between men and women. It focuses on power relations and roles and challenges among the existing women's subordination in the society. Gender Inclusiveness is additional dimensional activity and process of local governments in the Ward, VDC (Gaunpalika), DCC (District coordination committee) and Municipality (LGs) with self-reliant local governance and sustainable development and effective service providing to local government.

Objectives

The objectives are as follows:

- To highlight the existing variation of gender participation at local governments among developed and developing countries.
- To analyse some of the constitutional provision on the matter of inclusion in local elections in Nepal.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Gender refers to the socially constructed status, power, roles, responsibility and capacity of men and women.¹ It refers to the rules, norms, customs and practices by which biological differences between males and females are translated into socially constructed differences between men and women and boys and girls. In Nepal, women face unequal power relations and gender-based barriers due to a patriarchal society.

Social Inclusion

The removal of institutional barriers and the enhancement of incentives to increase access by diverse individuals and groups to development opportunities. This requires changes in policies, rules, and social practices and shifts in people's perspectives and behaviour toward excluded groups.

Inclusive democracy build on the principle that political power is dispersed and shared in a variety of ways – to protect minorities and to ensure participation and freedom of expression for all citizens.² Inclusive democracy emphasizes the quality of representation by striving for consensus and inclusion, not the brute electoral force of the majority. An inclusive democracy also appreciates the need to promote civil society organization. Human Development Report 2000, has emphasized the inclusive democracy to all the people without any discrimination on the basis of gender, race, caste, religion and especially women can take part in any decision making process even in local government.³

The Pre-World War II period saw flourishing movements of various forms of feminism; however, the nexus between (economic) development and women were not clearly articulated

¹ GDR, Nepal, 2011

² UNDP, 2000

³ Ibid.

until the second half of the Twentieth century. Women first came into focus in development as objects of welfare policies, including those focused on birth control, nutrition, and pregnancy.⁴ "In 1962, the UN General Assembly asked the Commission on the Status of Women to prepare a report on the role of women in development. Ester Boserup's path breaking study on *Women's Role in Economic Development* was published in 1970. These events marked monumental moments in developing the liberal paradigm of women in development, and the welfare's approach remains dominant in development practice today.

This article reviews the dominant liberal approaches, including women in development (WID), women and development (WAD), gender and development (GAD) and neoliberal frameworks.⁵ There is significant overlap among these approaches for example; WID is considered as an early version of the neoliberal framework. GAD is most concerned with equity and empowerment.⁶ Social scientists explain above different matters but in context of Nepal, society was heterogeneous and diversified settlement in all provinces in local areas and the important part of Nepalese gender development slogans "Men and women are considered as two wheels of cart" but in practice women have been backward". In demographic situation, the female population of Nepal is 1,36,45,463 in total population of 2,64,94,504.⁷ The socio-economic and political conditions of this half section of population are miserable. Women's participation in power and access to resources and opportunity is very negligible. They are confined in household works and subsistence activities. Their contribution in economy is underestimated though; they have significant contribution in household economy. Fifty percent women constitute the total population around the world yet their participation in decisions making at various levels is negligible. Men monopolize the political space all over the world. In many countries, women have played a very important role in the independent movements for democracy but their participation in various spheres of public life has continued to remain miserable in comparison to their male counterparts. Political participation of women in South Asia is not very encouraging. Although, in many countries of this region to increase women's political participation special provisions have been made, but their percentage at higher level has not been increased.

Exclusion and inequality come at a high cost without the equal participation of all people, including individuals at risk of exclusion; society has less an opportunity to reach its full potential, in terms of both its economy and its level of governance. In other words, gender equality and social inclusion are social goods, more than simply being something we intrinsically feel is 'the right thing to do'. In fact, not only inclusion has a positive impact on those who are excluded but also positively influences the economy and governance for the benefit of the whole society.⁸

Meaning and Definition of Gender Inclusion in Local Government

UNESCO defined the Gender Inclusion, as "Gender equality and empowerment of women as well as the active participation of women in political, economic, social and cultural life should be

⁴ Razavi, Shahrashoub, Carol M. *"From WID to GAD: Conceptual Shifts in the Women and Development Discourse"*. 1995

⁵ Government of Nepal. *Interim Constitution of Nepal*. Singhadarbar, Kathmandu. 2007

⁶ Boserup, 2011

⁷ CBS, *Population Census report*. National Planning Commission Secretariat, Ramshah Path, Kathmandu. 2011

⁸ UN, 2013

promoted. For women to be able to fully exercise their human rights, gender perspectives have to be mainstreamed in all inclusive urban policies.”⁹

The Gender equality, equality between men and women, entails the concept that all human beings, both men and women, are free to develop their personal abilities and make choices without the limitations set by stereotypes, rigid gender roles and prejudices. Gender equality means that the different behavior, aspirations and needs of women and men are considered, valued and favored equally. It does not mean that women and men have to become the same, but that their rights, responsibilities and opportunities will not depend on whether they are born male or female. Gender equity means fairness of treatment for women and men, according to their respective needs. This may include equal treatment or treatment that is different but which, is consider equivalent in terms of rights, benefits, obligations and opportunities.¹⁰

According to UNICEF, gender Equality means that women and men, and girls and boys, enjoy the same rights, resources, opportunities and protections. It does not require that girls and boys, or women and men, be the same, or that they be treated exactly alike.¹¹

As defined by the United Nations gender equality refers to the equal rights, responsibilities and opportunities of women and men and girls and boys.¹² The Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations defined Social exclusion as the involuntary exclusion of individuals and groups from society’s political, economic and social processes, which prevents their full participation in the society in which they live. Gender equality and social inclusion are seen not only a fundamental aspect of human rights and social justice but also a precondition to improve the development process by putting social concerns at the forefront of interventions.

Gender Equality, women and men and their similarities and differences are recognized and equally valued. Men and women enjoy equal status, recognition and consideration.¹³ Women and men enjoy the followings: equal conditions to realize their full potential and ambitions, equal opportunities and equal access, equal opportunities to participate in, contribute to, and benefit from society’s resources and development, equal freedom and quality of life; and equal outcomes in all aspects of life.

METHODOLOGY

For the article, the essential data and information mostly collected from secondary sources. Nepal Election Commission- 2017 and other related published information like policies, acts and programmes, books, journals and reports are use in this paper. The Election Commission of Nepal provided the raw data. Later, the acquired data entered into the MS Excel program. Finally, the data calculated and tabulated by SPSS program and data was presented by frequency distribution and cross-tabulation for meaningful analysis.

⁹ UNESCO ,2017

¹⁰ ILO, 2000

¹¹ UNICEF ,2011

¹² Op.Cit., United Nations ,2013

¹³ Quinn Ingrid, *Women in Public Life in Maldives: Situation Analysis*. UNDP, Maldives. 2010

RESULTS

Women Representation in Politics: Review of different Countries

There is variation on women representation in policymaking level among the countries of the world. The table shows the top ten countries with women representation in world.

Table 1: Top Ten Countries with the Greatest Representation of Women in National Parliaments

Rank	Country	Lower or Single House	Upper House or Senate
1	Ruwanda	61.3 %	38.5%
2	Bolivia	53.1%	47.2%
3	Cuba	48.9%	-
4	Iceland	47.6%	-
5	Nicaragua	45.7%	-
6	Sweden	43.6%	-
7	Senegal	42.7%	-
8	Mexico	42.6%	36.%
9	Finland	42.0 %	-
10	South Africa	41.8%	35.2%
Global average of women in national assemblies			21.5 % out of 189 countries

Source: Cambridge University, 2017.

Among the top ten countries in the world, Ruwanda is at the first rank where 61.3 percent female are included in lower or single house. Second is Bolivia where 53.1 percent, Cuba is third (48.9%), Iceland is fourth (47.6%), Nicaragua is fifth (45.7%), Sweden is sixth (43.6%), Senegal is seventh (42.7%), Mexico is eight (42.6%), Finland is ninth highest (42%) and tenth highest is South Africa (41.8%). While analyzing the gender inclusion of Upper house, Bolivia is the first highest (47.2%), second highest is Ruwanda (38.5%), third highest is Mexico (36%), fourth highest is South Africa (35.2%). However, facts are not available of other countries. However, global situation of average women representation in national assembly is 21.5 percent out of 189 countries.

Table 2: Continental situation of gender participation in local government and Parliament

Developed Countries			
Name of countries	Women participation in local government	Reference year	Remarks
Brazil	8.9 %	2006	
China	24.9%	2018	Gender equality in the political sphere started in 1954
Poland	45 %	2003	Local and national
Germany	-	-	Gender quota implemented across parties in 1990s and female quota was less successful in rural areas
Japan	8.14%	2013	Japan rank 127, women in national parliamentary (2014)
Netherland	30%	2013	
Spain	40%	2007	40/60 % mandating by laws
United Kingdom (UK)	32% lower house 25% House of lords	2017	40 th rank in the world
Developing countries			
Ruwanda	56%	2008	

Romania	20.7 % in lower house 14.7 % Upper house	2016	No political gender quotas exist in Romania
Lebanon	NA	NA	Women are considered to have more rights and freedom among the Gulf countries
SAARC Regions			
Bangladesh	20 %	2002	Since 1997 a quota of three seats or one fourth
Pakistan	15 %	2015	Roughly
India	NA	2003	Effort to increase women participation in political
Sri Lanka	<3% out of 3000 Member	1997	Gender inclusion is very poor
Bhutan	7%	2012	
Maldives	6.5 %	2015	In National Parliament
Nepal	>40 %	2017	

Source: Cambridge University, 2017.

While analyzing gender inclusion in local government of the developed countries, Poland is the highest (45%), followed by Spain (40%), followed by United Kingdom (32% in lower house and 25 percent are in house of lords), followed by Netherland (30%), followed by China (24.9%) and Japan (8.14%). Among the developing countries, Rwanda is highest (56%), followed by Romania (20.7%) in lower house and (14.7%) in upper house. Among the SAARC region, Nepal is the first highest (40%), followed by Bangladesh (20 %), third highest is Pakistan (15%), followed by Bhutan (7%), Maldives is fourth highest (6.5%) followed by Sri-Lanka (less than 3%). Nevertheless, facts are not available of India and Afghanistan.

Table 3: Reviewing the Policy on Gender Inclusion in Polity

Constitutions/Laws/Policies/Act	Policy emphasized in gender inclusion
Beijing General Assembly (13 October 1997)	Emphasized for gender equality and representation of female in local election. The promoted the participation of all women in local decision-making.
UN Millennium Declaration (2000 – 2015)	Out of 8 goals, 3 rd goal was “Promoted Gender Equality and Empower Women.
The Human Development Report (1995)	Concluded that, each country required to promote equality and women should have access at least 30 percent decision-making positions.
Laws and Policies Reviewed of SAARC Regional Countries	
Bhutan	Women issues are specifically incorporated into Fifth Five Year Plan (1981-1986) Child Care and Protection Act of Bhutan 2011 (CCPA) Child Adoption Act of Bhutan 2012 (CAA)
Sri-Lanka	Sri Lanka adopted the Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in 1981. In 2003, the Sri Lankan government amended the Citizenship Act of 1948 to eliminate the gender discriminatory provisions of that law.
Nepal	
Approach Paper of 14th Three Year Plan (Nepal), The interim three years plan (2007-2010), The Tenth Five Year Plan (2002-2007) The Ninth Five Year Plan (1997:2002) The Eight Five Year Plan (1992-1997),	All act and policies emphasized to gender inclusion in all sectors of development. Especially, Sixth five year plan (1980-85) has initiated the Women in Development (WAD) policy assigning a separate chapter about the role of women in development which was open the new door gender participation in all sectors.

<p>The Seventh Five Year Plan (1986-1990) Sixth Five – Year Plan (1980-85), Muluki Ain 11th amendment 2063, Upper House Parliament Members Secretariat Office Related Act 2064, Local Level Election Act 2073, Local Government Mobilization Act 2074, Kamaiya Eliminate Act 2053, amendment 2072, Karmachari Sanchayakosh Act 2019, amendment 2063 Jai Act 2019, amendment 2072 , Public (Criminal and Punishment) Act 2027 amendment 2072 Gali and Beijoti Act 2016, amendment 2072 Civil Rights Act 2012, Amendment 2068 Election Commission Act 2073 Child Rights Related Act 2048 Human Trafficking and Transportation Control Act 2064, MulukiDewani Act 2074, Social Security on the Basis of Contribution Act 2074, Political Party Related Act 2073, Upper House Parliament Secretariat Related Act 2064, National Women Commission Act 2074 Marriage Registration Act 2028, Amendment 2072, Constitution Bill of Nepal (Nepal Sambidhan) 2015 Nepal Constitutions 2072 BS Millenniums Development Goal (MDG) 2015 Local Self Governance Act 2055 and Niyamawali 2056 (1999) Sustainable Development Goals (2016- 2030)</p>	<p>Nepal has formulated and adopted many laws, acts, constitutions, long term, short term, periodical national plans and policies (those included in literature-reviewed article). They all are priorities of gender inclusion in local government and all sphere of national development.</p>
--	--

Sources: Based on Literature Reviewed, 2018.

Table 4: Political parties and their commitment in election manifestos (2017)

Political Parties	Manifesto emphasized
Nepali Congress	Nepali Congress has prioritised the gender inclusion in all sector of state either those are political or in other sectors. The party has strongly mentioned in the election manifesto that the women participation will be minimum 33 percent in all sector including upper house parliament members, house of representative members of the state and local level, and will end the gender violence in all form.
Nepal Communist Party (UML)	As Party Election Manifesto Article 52 under the title Inclusion development, mentioned the 33 percent female participation will be acted as constitution 2072 in all sectors, including upper house members, house of representatives, local government (Metropolitan, Sub-metropolitan, Municipality and Rural Municipality) and in other sectors i.e. socio-economic and development, etc.
Rajapa Nepal	The manifesto mentioned that gender inclusion would be in all level of political opportunities as their right base. They also have emphasized the gender inclusion in other opportunities i.e. employment, education and participation in development and other social and political activities.
Saghiya Samajbadi Forum	Sanghiya Samajbadi Forum Nepal Election Manifesto 2074, article 5 mentioned that the women would be included in all spheres of the nation. The Forum also mentioned that minority people, back warded people, Khas and Arya and other needy people will be bring in

	the main stream of the national building process enhancing their fully participation in the political and other development activities beside women.
--	--

Source: Parties election manifestos, 2017.

There is variation on level of women participation among the countries in the world. In the context of Nepal, women’s participation in the parliament is encouragingly increasing.

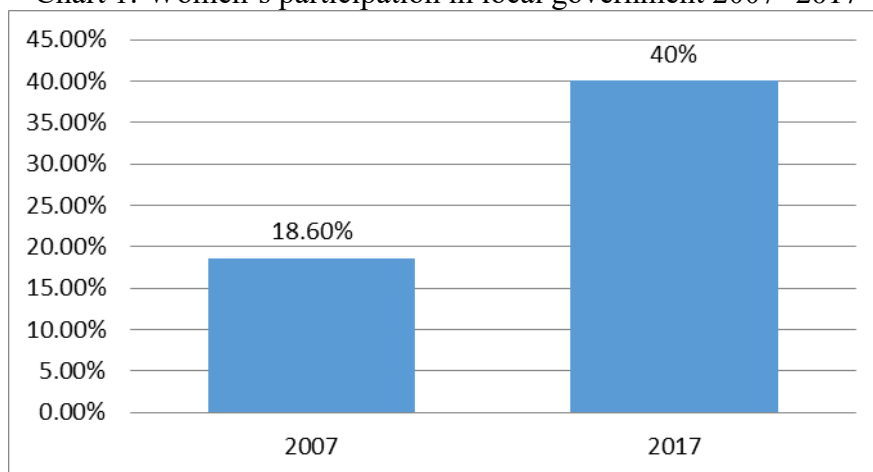
Table 5: Women representation in Parliament under the five parliamentary elections (1959-2017)

Year	Total number of seats	No of Women Representation	Percent
1959	205	6	2.9
1991	205	6	2.9
1994	205	7	3.4
1999	205	12	5.8
2017	165	6	3.64

Source: Nepal Election Commission, 2070.

While analyzing women representation in Parliament since 1959 to 2017, highest percent (5.8%) of women are included in 1999, second highest in 2017 (3.64%), third highest (3.4%) and in 1994, and 1959 and 1991 is the same percent i.e. 2.9. However, trend in gender inclusion in parliament is in flux, as shown in chart 1.

Chart 1: Women’s participation in local government 2007- 2017



Source: Election Commission of Nepal 2007 and 2017

The women’s participation in local government was 18.6 percent in 2007 and more than 40 percent in 2017. Within 10 years period the gender inclusion in local government is increase more than two times (chart 1).

Table 6: Gender distribution of contested candidates and elected candidates, 2017, Nepal

Sex	Contested Candidates		Elected Candidates	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Male	90517	61.01	20705	59.04
Female	57847	38.98	14329	40.96
Total	148364	100.0	35034	100.0

Source: National Election of Nepal, 2017.

The total numbers of contested were 148364 (61.01 percent were male and 38.98 percent female) in local election of 2017 for local government, among them, 35034 candidates are elected and that becomes 23.61 percent in total. Among them, 59.04 percent are male and 40.96 percent are female. As elected candidates, more than 40 percent are female that is more than allocated (at least 33% female should be included in any section) by the national constitutions of 2015 and election manifestos of different political parties and government policies programs (table 7).

Table 7: Distribution of Elected Members by Position, Nepal

Positions	Male %	Female %	Total	Number
Mayors	97.24	2.76	100.0	254
Deputy Mayors	6.18	93.82	100.0	275
Chairman	97.34	2.63	100.0	418
Vice Chairman	9.18	90.84	100.0	415
Ward Chairs	99.28	0.78	100.0	6733
Open members	98.12	1.86	100.0	12775
Women members	-	100.0	100.0	6742
Dalit women members	-	100.0	100.0	6568

Source: Election Commission of Nepal, 2017.

Majority of male (97.24 %) are elected in Mayor, 97.34 percent in chairperson, 99.28 percent in ward chair and 98.12 percent in open members. However, higher percent female are elected in reservation quotas (Women and Dalit Women) and second position like 93.82 percent in Deputy Mayor and 90.84 percent in Vice Chairman. However, majority of female are elected in minor post i.e. ward members and deputy post (table 8).

Table 8: Local Elected Members by Province in 2017 Local Election of Nepal

S.N.	Province	No of Candidate members			Total Elected Members		
		Male %	Female %	Total	Male %	Female %	Total
1	Province-1	60.85%	39.15	25067	58.81	41.19	6043
2	Province -2	83.9	16.1	27248	41.15	2723	6618
3	Province -3	62.36	37.64	23613	59.27	40.73	5792
4	Province-4	60.04	39.96	12655	58.9	41.10	3934
5	Province -5	60.88	39.11	23036	58.78	41.22	5133
6	Province -6	60.91	39.09	12402	59.97	40.03	3687
7	Province -7	59.28	40.72	14343	59.0	41.0	3834
	Total	61.01	38.98	148364	59.04	40.96	35041

Source: Election Commission of Nepal, 2017.

While analyzing the number of candidates and numbers of elected members for local government by province, total 148364 members were candidates for election in all seven provinces but only 35041 (23.62%) members are elected. As gender, among 90519 male candidates 20689 (22.86 %) are elected. Similarly, among 57843 female candidate 14352

(24.81%) are elected. As province wise analysis, in province No 1, total numbers of candidates were 25067. Out of them 6043 (24.11%) are elected and 58.81 percent are male and 41.19 percent are female. In province No. 2, total numbers of candidates are 27248. Out of them 24.29 percent are elected and 58.85 percent are male and 41.15 percent are female. In province No. 3, total numbers of candidates were 23613. Out of them, 5792 (24.53%) are elected and 59.27 percent are male and 40.73 percent are female. In province No 4, total number of candidates was 12655. Out of them 3934 (31.1 %) are elected and 58.9 percent are male and 41.10 percent are female. In province No. 5, total numbers of candidates were 23036. Out of them 5133 (22.28%) are elected and 58.78 percent are male and 41.22 percent are female. In province No. 6, total numbers of candidates were 12403. Out of them 3687 (29.73%) are elected and 59.97 percent are male and 40.03 percent are female. In the province No. 7 total numbers candidates were 14343. Out of them, 3834 (26.73%) are elected and 59 percent are male and 41 percent are female. Among the elected candidates, gender inclusion in local government is quite high than allocated by Nepal Constitution 2072 as well as election manifesto 2074 of different political parties because, the Nepal Constitution 2072 mentioned that each and every political parties should at least 33 percent women included in their political activities including election too (table 9).

Table 9: Broad Age Group of Elected Local Government Body by Sex, 2017

Age Group	Mayor	Deputy Mayor	Chairman	Vice. Chairman	Ward President	Male Members	Female Members	Total
Number								
21-40	52	111	112	237	2036	4542	6610	13700
41-60	205	172	293	215	4057	7542	6096	18584
61 and above	36	10	53	8	649	1399	603	2757
Total	293	293	460	460	4267	13484	13309	35034
Percent								
21-40	17.75	37.88	24.35	51.52	30.2	33.68	49.67	39.1
41-60	69.97	58.70	63.7	46.74	60.8	55.94	45.80	53.0
61 and above	12.29	3.41	11.52	1.74	9.0	10.38	4.53	7.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: Election Commission of Nepal, 2017.

As a broad aged group of elected Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chairman, vice chairperson, ward president, male members and female members of local government, highest (53%) percent were of age group 41 - 60 years, 39.1 percent were of age group 21-40 years, and only 7.9 percent were of age group 61 years and above. Similarly, majority (69.97%) of the elected Mayors are of age group 41 – 60 years, 58.70 percent are Deputy Mayor, 63.7 percent are Chairman and 60.8 percent are Ward president. However, among the Vice Chairman, majority (51.52 %) are of age group 21-40 years. Likewise, 58.70 percent elected Deputy Mayor are age group 41 years (table 10).

Table 10: Distribution of Elected Candidates for Local Government by Sex and Local Government Institutions

Elected Candidates	Metropolitan city			Sub- metropolitan city			Municipality			Rural Municipality (Gaunpalika)		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Number of	427	440	867	801	490	1291	9482	6587	16069	10072	6925	16997

elected candidates												
Percent of elected candidates	49.25	50.75	100.0	62.04	37.96	100.0	69.0	31.0	100.0	59.26	40.74	100.0

Source: Election Commission of Nepal, 2017.

While analyzing the elected members of local government by local institutions, total numbers of candidates --867 were elected in metropolitan city out of them 49.25 percent were male and 50.75 percent were female. In the same way, total number of elected members are 1291 in sub-metropolitan city of Nepal. Out of them, 62.04 percent are male and 37.96 percent are female. Total number of elected members is 16069 in municipalities of Nepal. Out of them 69 percent, are male and 31 percent are female. In Rural Municipality, total numbers of elected candidates are 16997, out of them 59.26 percent, are male and 40.74 percent are female. It seems that metropolitan city have female members higher than male members, but in sub-metropolitan and Rural Municipality have more female members than allocated by the national constitutions and election manifestos of political parties but in the municipalities have under the allocated margin. However, the gender inclusion in local government is satisfactory (table 11).

Table 11: Distribution of Local Government Institutions, Number of Contested Candidates and Elected Candidates for Local Government of Study Area (Lalitpur District) by Sex, 2017 Election

S.N	Name of Local Government Institutions	Numbers of Contested Candidate			Numbers of Elected Candidates		
		Male %	Female%	Total	Male%	Female%	Total
1	Konjosom R.M	63.95	36.05	86	61.54	38.46	26
2	Godawari M.	63.86	36.14	332	59.72	40.28	72
3	Bagmati R.M	63.78	36.22	127	59.46	40.54	37
4	Mahankal R.M	66.13	33.87	124	59.38	40.60	32
5	Mahalaxmi M.	61.51	38.49	265	57.69	42.31	52
6	Lalitpur Metropolitan	66.18	33.82	621	62.5	37.5	136
Total	(3 M.)(3 R.M)=6	64.57	35.43	1555	60.56	39.44	355

Source: Election Commission of Nepal, 2017. {M= Municipality, RM = Rural Municipality (Gaunpalika)

In the study area, (Lalitpur district), total number of Municipality are three including Lalitpur Metropolitan city and three are Gaunpalika (Rural Municipalities). In this area, total numbers of candidates were 1555, out of them 64.57 percent were male and 35.43 percent were female. Among 1555 candidates, 355 candidates are elected, and out of them, 60.56 percent are male and 39.44 percent are female.

Among the six local government institutions, Mahalaxmi municipality is highest in which (42.31%) female are elected, and Godawari municipality, Bagmati Gaunpalika, Mahankal Gaunpalika have more or less the same (around 40 %) female are elected. Lalitpur metropolitan city is the lowest where only 37.5 percent female are elected but it is not less than allocated (33%) by the national constitutions 2015, and election manifesto, 2017 of different political parties. However, comparatively among the election area, the Lalitpur metropolitan city is lowest and Mahalaxmi Municipality is highest in women inclusion (table 12).

Table 12: Distribution of contested Candidates and Elected Candidates by sex and Local Government Institution of Study Area (Jhapa District) Local Election 2017

S.N	Name of Local Government Institutions	Contested Candidate			Elected Candidates		
		Male %	Female %	Total	Male %	Female %	Total
1	Arjundhara M.	60.14	39.86	286	59.65	40.35	57
2	Damak M.	60.94	38.06	289	59.62	40.38	52
3	Gauradaha M.	60.55	39.45	218	55.32	44.68	47
4	Kankai M.	62.05	37.95	195	59.57	40.42	47
5	Bhadrapur M.	60.62	39.38	292	55.77	44.23	52
6	Mechi M.	61.80	38.2	377	58.44	41.56	77
7	Birtamod M.	59.68	40.32	253	57.69	42.31	52
8	Shivasatakshe M.	60.09	37.91	277	59.65	40.35	57
9	Kachankabal R.M.	63.13	36.87	179	61.11	38.89	36
10	Kamal. R.M.	60.4	39.56	182	59.46	40.54	37
11	Gauregunj R.M.	62.71	37.29	177	59.38	40.63	32
12	Jhapa R.M.	67.1	32.90	155	59.46	40.54	37
13	Baraganshi R.M.	61.27	38.73	173	59.46	40.54	37
14	Buddhasanti R.M.	60.02	35.97	164	59.46	40.54	37
15	Huldhibari R.M.	60.98	39.02	123	59.26	40.74	27
Total	(8 M.)(7 R.M.)=15	61.71	38.29	3340	58.77	41.23	684

Source: Election Commission of Nepal, 2074. {M= Municipality, RM = Rural Municipality (Gaunpalika)}

In the study area of Jhapa, there are eight Municipalities and seven Rural Municipalities. Among the elected candidates, Gauradaha is highest (44.68%), Bhadrapur is second highest (44.23%), Birtamod is third highest (42.31%), Mechi is fourth highest (41.56%), Arjundhara Municipality, Damak, Kankai, Sivasatakshe, Kamala Gaunpalika, Gauregunj Gaunpalika, Jhapa Gaunpalika, Baraganshi Gaunpalika, Buddhasanti Gaunpalika, and Huldhibari Gaunpalika are fifth highest where around 40 percent female are elected for local government. Kanchankabal Gaunpalika is sixth or lowest position where only 38.89 percent female are elected in local government. However, more females are elected than allocated (33%) by national constitutions 2015, laws and legislatures of Nepal and as well as election manifestos 2017 of different political parties (table 13).

Table 13: Elected Members for Local Government of Study Area (Jhapa District), 2074 Election (in Number)

S.N.	Name of R.M. (Gaunpalika)/Municipality/	Mayor/Chairman		Deputy Mayor		Ward president		Members	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Jhapa									
1	Gauradaha Municipality	1	0	0	1	9	0	20	20
2	Gaurejung Gaunpalika	1	0	1	0	6	0	13	17
Lalitpur									
1	Lalitpur Metropolitan city	1	0	0	1	29	0	67	54
2	Godawari Municipality	1	0	0	1	14	0	31	33
3	Konjosom Gaunpalika	1	0	0	1	5	0	12	14
Total		5	0	1	4	63	0	143	139

Source: Election Commission of Nepal, 2074.

Note: - * Two Municipality, * Two Gaunpalika and * One Metropolitan City

As analysis of elected Mayor, Deputy Mayor, ward president and members in the study area (Jhapa), 2 male are elected in Mayor Posts. Likewise; one male and one female are elected in Deputy Mayor, 14 male are elected in ward president but no female are elected. However, 33 male and 37 female elected as members. It seems that, majority of males elected in the major post and majority of females elected in minor post. The gender inclusion seems like equal but females not elected in the major post like Mayor and ward chairperson. Therefore, it is the gap and questionable representation that, why females not elected in those posts as required (33%).

While analyzing the study area of Lalitpur, Nepal, three males elected in Mayor and no female elected. It is interesting that three females elected in Deputy Mayor but no male elected. Same way 48 males elected in ward president but no females. 110 males and 101 females elected in ward members. There seems that female is elected only in minor post not in major post like Mayor and ward-chairman. Here, gender inclusion seems equal but females not elected on major post. So, it is the gap and questionable representation why female are not elected in major post as required (33%) (Table 14).

CONCLUSIONS

Like in the parliament of Nepal, in all the local levels, women participation is in highly increasing order. In national and local election 2017, almost around 40 and more than 40 percent female from all districts are elected in same ratio throughout the country. The Constitution of Nepal 2015, Election Commission Act, 2017 and election manifestos, 2017 of major political parties, can claim the gender inclusion by the observation of the following data as very high in local government as allocated (33% minimum).

The total number of female contested and elected female members of local government of Jhapa and Lalitpur districts are more than (33%) allocated by the national constitutions, 2015 and election manifestos (2017) of political parties i.e. Nepali congress, CPL UML and other major parties. It seems gender inclusions in local government are much satisfactory in all election areas of Lalitpur districts.

Overall policies, contemporary policies and acts, development policies and plans of Nepal and international common policies and acts like MDGs, SDGs, Beijing Declaration related to gender inclusion, Cairo Conferences and other relevance, are review to analyse the policies and act status of gender inclusion of national, international and overall global scenario. Researcher found that the act and policies are emphasize in gender inclusion of Nepal as well as in federal structure and local government.

The researcher analysed the different data of elected members like Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chairman, and Deputy Chairman, ward president and members in all local institutions as well as study area of Jhapa and Lalitpur District. It is establish that male candidates elected on major post like Mayor, Chairman, Ward Chair, but females elected in only second position i.e. in Deputy Mayor, Vice- Chairman and Ward member. However, gender inclusion in local government seems equal but females not voted on the major post like Mayor, Chairman and

ward chair. Therefore, the researcher tries to find out the reasons for non-election of females on those major posts in the study area.

REFERENCES

- Cambridge University, Gender Bibliography. Department of Gender Study. Cambridge University press, 2017
- Carmichael, S.; Dilli, S.; R., Auke, "Women in Parliaments: World and Regional Averages". Cambridge University, 2017
- Carmichael, S.; Dilli, S.; Rijpma, A. "Women in Parliaments: World and Regional Averages". Cambridge University. 2013
- CBS, Population Census report. National Planning Commission Secretariat, Ramshah Path, Kathmandu, 2011
- Ghimere D., Women's Political Participation and Challenges. Gender and Democracy in Nepal. Center Department of Home Science Women's Studies Program, Tribhuvan University, 2001
- Government of Nepal (2074). Social Security on the Basis of Contribution Act, 2074. Council of Ministry, Singhadarbar, Kathmandu.
- Government of Nepal, (2028). Marriage Registration Act 2028. Amendment, 2072. Council of Ministry, Singhadarbar, Kathmandu.
- Government of Nepal, (2048). Child related Act, 2048. Ministry of Child and... Singhadarbar, Kathmandu.
- Government of Nepal, (2063). Karmachary Sanchayakosh Act Amendment, Ministry of Finance. Singhadarbar, Kathmandu.
- Government of Nepal, (2063). Muluki Ain, 11th amendment, 2063. Singh Durbar, Kathmandu.
- Government of Nepal, (2064). Human Trafficking and Transportation Control Act, 2064. Ministry of Home and Affaires. Singhadarbar, Kathmandu.
- Government of Nepal, (2064). Upper House Parliament Members Secretariat Office Related Act 2064. Council of Ministry, Singhadarbar, Kathmandu.
- Government of Nepal, (2064). Upper House Parliament Secretariat Related Act 2064. Council of Ministry, Singhadarbar, Kathmandu.
- Government of Nepal, (2068). Civil Rights Act 2012 (ammmendmed in 2068). Ministry of Home and Affairs. Singhadarbar, Kathmandu.
- Government of Nepal, (2072). Amendment of Kamaiya Elemination Act, 2072. Ministry of Labour and Sighdurbar, Kathmandu.
- Government of Nepal, (2072). Gali and Beijoti Act 2016 (Amendment, 2072). Ministry of Home and Affair. Singhadarbar, Kathmandu.
- Government of Nepal, (2072). Jail Act Amendment, 2072. Ministry of Home and Affair. Singhadarbar, Kathmandu.
- Government of Nepal, (2072). Public Act (Criminal and Punishment Act, 2027) amendment, 2072. Ministry of Home. Singhadarbar, Kathmandu.
- Government of Nepal, (2073). Local Level Election Act, 2073. Council of Ministry, Singhadarbar, Kathmandu.
- Government of Nepal, (2073). Election Commission Act, 2073. Article 42. Council of Ministries. Singhadarbar, Kathmandu.
- Government of Nepal, (2073). Political Parties Related Act, 2073. Council of Ministry. Singhadarbar, Kathmandu.
- Government of Nepal, (2074). Local Election, 2074: Election Result Book. Province No. 1. Election Commission of Nepal, Kantipath, Kathmandu.

- Government of Nepal, (2074). Local Election, 2074: Election Result Book. Province No. 2. Election Commission of Nepal, Kantipath, Kathmandu.
- Government of Nepal, (2074). Local Election, 2074: Election Result Book. Province No. 4. Election Commission of Nepal, Kantipath, Kathmandu.
- Government of Nepal, (2074). Local Election, 2074: Election Result Book. Province No. 5. Election Commission of Nepal, Kantipath, Kathmandu.
- Government of Nepal, (2074). Local Election, 2074: Election Result Book. Province No. 6. Election Commission of Nepal, Kantipath, Kathmandu.
- Government of Nepal, (2074). Local Election, 2074: Election Result Book. Province No. 7. Election Commission of Nepal, Kantipath, Kathmandu.
- Government of Nepal, (2074). Muluki Dewani Act 2074. Ministry of Home and Affaires. Singhadarbar, of Nepal, Interim Constitution of Nepal. Kathmandu, Nepal. 2007
- Government of Nepal, (2074). Parliamentary Council Member election 2074: Election Result Book, First Inclusive Election System. Election Commission of Nepal. Kantipath, Kathmandu.
- Government of Nepal, (2074). Province Council member election 2074: Election Result Book, First Inclusive Election System. Election Commission of Nepal. Kantipath, Kathmandu.
- Government of Nepal, (2074). Local Government Election. Election Commission, Kathmandu Nepal.
- Government of Nepal, (2074). Local Government Mobilization Act 2074. Council of Ministry, Singhadarbar, Kathmandu.
- Government of Nepal, (2074). National Women Commission Act, 2074. Council of Ministry. Singhadarbar, Kathmandu.
- Government of Nepal, Approach Paper of 14th Three-Year Plan, 2016-2019. National Planning Commission of Nepal. Singhadarbar, Kathmandu. 2016
- Government of Nepal, Inclusion of Women in Local Government. Ministry of Local Development. Sighdurbar, Kathmandu, 2007
- Government of Nepal, Interim Constitution of Nepal .Singhadarbar, Kathmandu. 2007
- Government of Nepal, Local self-governance act, (1999). National Planning Commission. Sighadurbar, Kathmandu. 1999
- Government of Nepal, Sustainable Development Goals, 2016/2030: National preliminary Report. National Planning Commission. Singhadarbar, Kathmandu, Nepal, 2015
- Government of Nepal. (1015). Constitution Bill of Nepal, Constitution Drafting Committee Constituent Assembly Secretariat, Singhadurbar. Kathmandu
- Government of Nepal. (2074). Local Election, 2074: Election Result Book. Province No. 3. Election Commission of Nepal, Kantipath, Kathmandu.
- Government of Nepal. The Interim Three Years Plan, 2007- 2010. National-Planning Commission of Nepal, Singhadarbar, Kathmandu. 2007
- Government of Spain, United Cities and Local Governments. Barcelona, Spain, 2015
- Hassim, S., "Perverse consequences: The impact of quotas for women on democratization in Africa" UK, Cambridge University press. 2010
- HMG Nepal, (2092). The Eight Five Year Plan 1992-1997. National Planning Commission of Nepal, Singhadarbar, Kathmandu.
- HMG Nepal, Sixth Five-Year Plan 1980-1985. National Planning Commission. Singhadarbar, Kathmandu. 1980

- HMG Nepal, The Seventh Five Year Plan 1986- 1990. National Planning commission of Nepal. Singhadarbar, Kathmandu. 1986
- HMG Nepal. The Ninth Five-Year Plan 1997- 2002. National-Planning Commission of Nepal, Singhadarbar, Kathmandu. 1997
- HMG Nepal. The Tenth Five Year Plan 2002-2007. National Planning Commission of Nepal. Singhadarbar, Kathmandu. 2002
- HMG, Local Self-Governance ACT, 2055 B.S. HMG, Nepal. 1999
- HMG, Local Self-Governance Regulation, 2056 B.S., Published by Nepal Gazette, 30 Dec. 1999.
- International Conference Population and Development, Eliminating Human Trafficking and Prostitution. Cairo (ICPD 1994) PP. 46.
- MOHP/HMG, "NEPAL Report on ICPD at Ten", Ministry of Health and Population, Kathmandu, Nepal. 2005
- National Planning Commission, Nepal, Three-year Interim Plan 2007-2010. Kathmandu, Nepal. 2008
- Nepal Communist Party (UML), (2074). Party Election Manifesto. Party Office, Dhumburai, Kathmandu. Nepal
- Nepali Congress Party, Party Election Manifestos: Election of Upper House parliament Members and Local Level. Party Office, Kathmandu, Nepal, 2017
- Quinn Ingrid, Women in Public Life in Maldives: Situation Analysis. UNDP, Maldives. 2010
- Rathgeber, Eva M., "WID, WAD, GAD: Trends in Research and Practice." The Journal of Developing Areas. 1990
- Razavi, Shahrashoub; Carol M. "From WID to GAD: Conceptual Shifts in the Women and Development Discourse". 1995
- Razavi, Shahrashoub; Miller, C. "From WID to GAD: Conceptual shifts in the Women and Development discourse". United Nations Research Institute, Oxford University Press. 1995
- Sanghiya Samajbadi Forum Nepal, Party Manifesto: election of Upper House and Local Level, Party Office, Balkumari, Kathmandu, 2017