

# OVERVIEW

## Introduction

1. Gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls is a central driver for achieving sustainable development. Women's empowerment, though closely related to gender equality, goes beyond it to include women's power to make choices and decisions and to have the ability to use their rights, access to and control over resources, their own bodies and their destiny. Recognizing the importance of achieving gender equality and women's empowerment, UN SDGs has one goal viz., SDG-5 specifically on this. SDG 5 aims to achieve gender equality by ending all forms of discrimination, violence and any harmful practices against women and girls in the public and private spheres. It also calls for the full participation of women and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of political and economic decision-making. Besides, the goals on poverty, nutrition, health and education also include indicators disaggregated by sex.

2. Gender equality is enshrined in the Indian constitution in its Preamble, Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles. Article 15 of the Constitution prohibits discrimination on the grounds of sex. Our constitution not only guarantees gender equality but also allows positive discrimination in favour of women. The Government has been taking various steps in the form of laws, policies, schemes etc. to improve the status of women.

3. To measure and monitor the outcome of the government initiatives towards reducing differences and inequalities in the situation of women and men in all areas of life, data disaggregated by sex are needed. Gender statistics are interdisciplinary by nature and include data disaggregated by sex, as well as measures that reflect the specific needs and experiences of women and girls such as access to education, health, economic assets, political opportunity and freedom from coercion and violence. Gender data are essential for assessing gender-equitable outcomes among children and for understanding how the intergenerational effects of gender inequality impede the well-being of both girls and boys. Gender statistics also plays a crucial role in mainstreaming gender into policies and programmes of the government. To cater to all these, gender statistics should include time series data to understand the changes over time and latest data comparing position of women vis-à-vis men as also among states & UTs and between rural and urban areas. Consequently, taking gender issues into account in both surveys and official statistics is extremely important to monitor gender concerns.

4. This publication, 23<sup>rd</sup> in series, has been prepared with the objective to provide variety of available gender statistics at one place to serve as a single platform for accessing gender statistics by users. The sex-disaggregated statistical tables on the indicators presented in the publication provide a footprint of progress of the country in the area of promoting gender equality. Attempts have been made to cull out data on different aspects of gender which also provides crucial information to monitor the progress of India's position on gender related Global Indices recognized by Government of India.

## Organization of the chapters

5. The publication is divided into six chapters: Population and related statistics, Health, Education, Participation in economy, Women in decision making, and Impediments in empowerment. Efforts have been made to put together all data that is available disaggregated by sex and included in the respective chapters.

- i. **Chapter-1: Population and Related Statistics** gives the information about population and related statistics from the gender perspective.
- ii. **Chapter-2: Health Statistics** includes data on mortality, fertility, reproductive health, access to health services, nutritional status and age-at-marriage
- iii. **Chapter-3: Education** provides data on literacy status, enrolment in all levels of education, drop out, availability of teachers
- iv. **Chapter-4: Participation in Economy** provides information on labour force participation, worker population, unemployment, employment status, wage earnings, time use, women in senior positions at work place.
- v. **Chapter-5: Participation in Decision Making** includes data on men and women in legislatures, local bodies, judiciary, police, managerial positions
- vi. **Chapter-6: Impediments in Empowerment** provides data on violence against women, men & women with disability, early marriage and adolescent fertility.

Minimum Set of gender indicators are provided in **Chapter-7**. Concepts and definitions for the terms used in the publication have also been included as **Appendix-I**.

## Chapter-wise Highlights

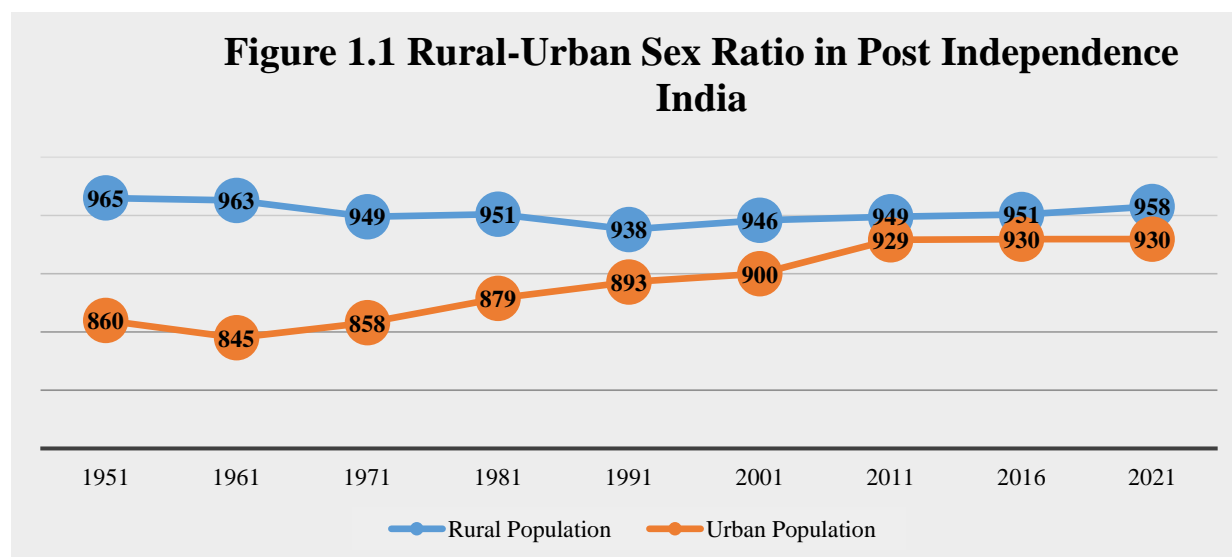
### Population and Related Statistics

6. Demographic indicators for a country inform population size, composition, geographic distribution and growth which also exhibits their relationship with social, economic and behavioral factors. Demographic indicators can be divided into two parts: Population Statistics and Vital Statistics. Population Statistics shows trend of population size and growth, sex ratio while Vital statistics depicts trend of life expectancy, Natural growth rate and vital rates viz. birth and mortality rates. In order to understand the nitty-gritty of social structure of a society and for framing policy interventions, analysis of population composition from gender perspective is needed. Using this fact, the very first chapter of the publication provides the important statistics on population characteristics from the gender perspective.

7. **Sex ratio** defined as the number of females per 1000 males in the population is an important social indicator to measure the extent of prevailing equity between males and females in a society at a given point of time. Though this ratio has increased from 933 in 2001 to 943 in 2011 and is expected to further increase to 945 in 2021, sex ratio (0-6 years) at 918 is still a matter of concern. However, the ratio for economically active persons (944) matches with the sex ratio (all ages) and that of 60+ age group (1033) is favourable to women, corroborating the higher life expectancy of females than males. At state level, as many as 20 out of 35 States and UTs (J&K was a state then) have 60+ sex ratio favourable to women. In the economically active age group,

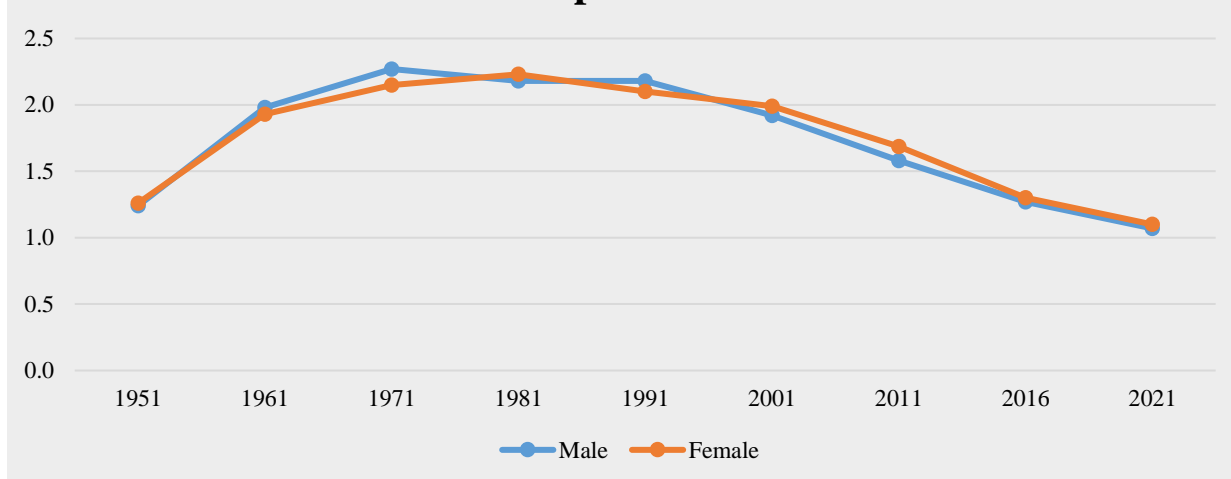
only in four states viz., Kerala, Manipur, Puducherry and Tamil Nadu the sex ratio is more than 1000. In 15 states, this ratio exceeds the all-India ratio. In as many as 9 states/UTs, the ratio for all ages is less than 900. Other highlights on population are as below.

- India’s projected population in 2021 is 136.3 Crore with 48.6% female population. The average annual exponential growth rate of population which was 1.63 in 2011 is projected to decline to 1.28 in 2016 and further to 1.08 in 2021. During this period, similar trend is projected for female and male population. **(Table 1.1)**
- Notable improvement over last 10 years (from 2001 to 2011) in the sex ratio has been recorded in Delhi (5.7%), Chandigarh (5.3%) and Arunachal Pradesh (5.0%). Contrary to this, Daman & Diu has recorded decline of 13% followed by Dadra & Nagar Haveli (4.7%) in sex ratio. **(Table 1.2)**
- In 2011, highest sex ratio in the age group 0-6 years has been observed in Arunachal Pradesh (972) and lowest in Haryana (834). **(Table 1.4).**
- In 2011, sex ratio for adolescent (10-19 years), youth (15-24 years) and reproductive age (15-44 years) was 898, 908, and 945 respectively. **(Table 1.5)**
- As per SRS, sex ratio at birth was 904 in 2017-19 against 899 in 2016-18. In rural areas, the ratio was 904 in 2017-19 as compared to 900 in 2016-18 and in urban areas it was 906 in 2017-19 as compared to 897 in 2016-18. **(Table 1.8)**



Source: Office of the Registrar General, India.

**Figure 1.2 Average annual Exp growth rate of Population**



Source: Office of the Registrar General, India.

## Health Statistics

**8.** Health is not the mere absence of disease or infirmity. According to the World Health Organization, it is the complete physical, mental and social well being. Good Health confers on a person freedom from illness and the ability to realize one's potential. Health is therefore best understood as the indispensable basis for defining a person's sense of wellbeing. Also, better health makes an important contribution to economic progress and overall development as healthy population is more productive. True that maintaining good health is important for both men and women but health of women and girls is of particular concern because a healthy woman only can give birth to a healthy child. However, both biological and gender related differences have a significant differential impact on the health of a man and a woman. Vital statistics & Health related statistics disaggregated by sex play a very important role in assessing the impact of these services and framing various policy interventions across various sectors. Data on various health indicators and women specific health indicators are examined in this chapter.

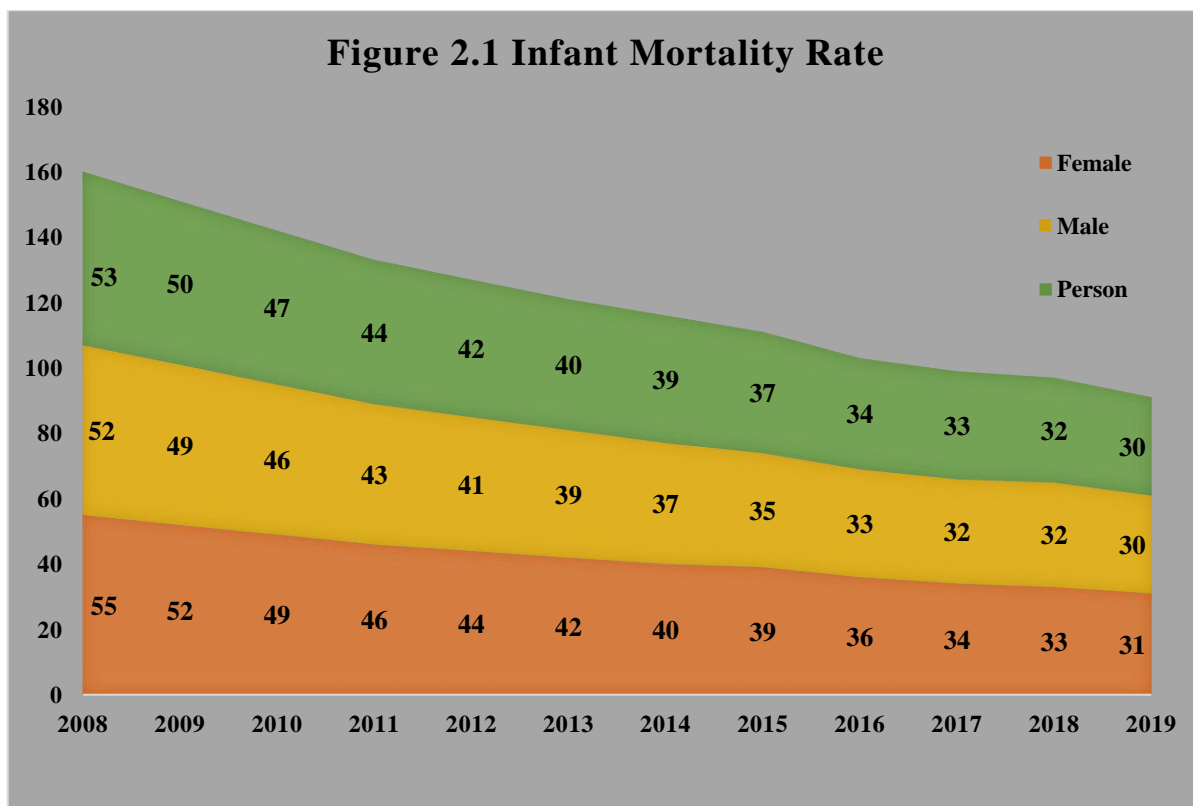
**9.** It is prevalent that majority of women go through life in a state of nutritional stress – they are anaemic and malnourished. Early marriage, malnutrition and lack of health care during pregnancy are the major reasons for both maternal and infant mortality. Hence data on nutritional status and age at marriage have also been included in this chapter to understand their probable impact on women's health. Some highlights are below:

- Life Expectancy at birth for the period 2014-18 was 68.2 years for males and 70.7 for females. This is one parameter where women have always been faring better than men. **(Table 2.1(b))**
- In 2019, Crude Birth rate (CBR) came down to 19.7 from 20.4 in 2016. In Rural and Urban India, it has decreased from 22.1 and 17.0 in 2016 to 21.4 and 16.4 in 2019 respectively. **(Table 2.2)**

- At all India level, Maternal Mortality ratio (MMR) has decreased from 113 in 2016-18 to 103 in 2017-19. However, the MMR in the states of Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal is still higher than the country level during the period 2017-19. **(Table 2.7)**
- Women's mean age at marriage at all India level in 2019 was 22.1 years which showed a decrease of 0.2 years from 2018. In both rural and urban areas, women's mean age at marriage at all India level decreased by 0.1 years in 2019 from. **(Table 2.8)**
- Percentage of mothers who received postnatal care from a doctor/nurse/LHV/ANM/midwife/ other health personnel within 2 days of delivery has increased from 62.4 % in NFHS-4 (2015-16) to 78.0 in NFHS-5 (2019-21). The lowest percentage has been observed in Nagaland (43.9%) and highest in Goa (95.4%) followed by Kerala (93.3%) and Tamil Nadu (93.2%). **(Table 2.11)**
- The institutional birth at all India level has increased from 78.9% in NFHS-4 (2015-16) to 88.6% in NFHS-5 (2019-21). While A&N Islands, Goa, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Puducherry and Tamil Nadu have achieved 100% institutional deliveries, states like Nagaland (45.7%) and Meghalaya (58.1%) have still to go a long way. **(Table 2.12)**
- Anaemia among women in the age-group (15-49 years) has increased from 53.1% in 2015-16 to 57.0% in 2019-21. 22 states/UTs have contributed to this increase, with the increase being more than 10% in Assam (19), Chhattisgarh (13), Gujarat (11), J&K (17), Ladakh (14), Odisha (13) and Tripura (13). A significant decrease has been observed in A&N Islands (8.2), Chandigarh (15.6), Dadra & Nagar haveli (10.4), and Lakshadweep (20.2). In all states, anaemia prevalence has been found to be lower in Pregnant women than Non-Pregnant women except in Goa and Manipur. **(Table 2.14)**
- The total unmet need for family planning among the currently married women of age 15-49 years has decreased from 12.9% in NFHS-4 (2015-16) to 9.4% in NFHS-5 (2019-21). The total unmet need for family planning among the currently married women has been observed highest in Meghalaya (26.9%) followed by Mizoram (18%) and Bihar (13.6%) and is lowest in Andhra Pradesh (4.7%). **(Table 2.16)**
- Among adult aged 15 years and above, the current tobacco use in male has decreased from 42.4% in 2016-17 to 38.0% in 2019-21 and in female, it has decreased from 14.2% in 2016-17 to 8.9% in 2019-21. The current tobacco use among male and female in the age group 15 years and above is higher in the states of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Odisha, Mizoram and Tripura. **(Table 2.18)**
- The proportion of adult male who are obese has increased from 18.9% in NFHS-4 (2015-

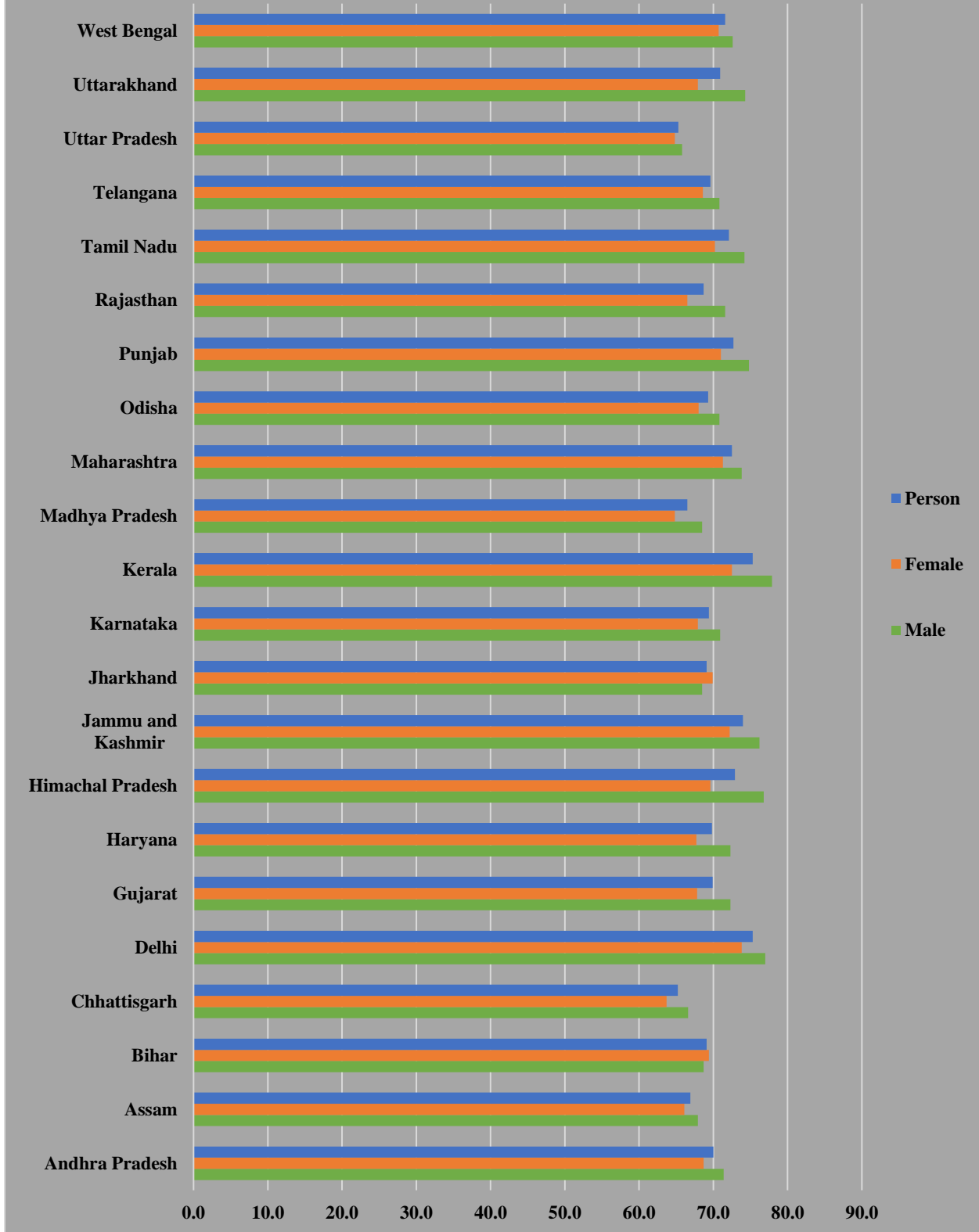
16) to 22.9% in NFHS-5 (2019-21). Similarly, in adult females also, the proportion has increased from 20.6% to 24.0% during the same reference period. As per the NFHS-5 (2019-21), highest defined as literacy rate for males minus literacy rate for females in males has been observed in Andaman & Nicobar Island (45.3%) followed by Puducherry (43.3%) and Lakshadweep (41.3%). It is lowest in Meghalaya (13.9%). Similarly, in females, highest obesity has been observed in Puducherry (46.2%) followed by Chandigarh (44.0%), Delhi (41.3%) and Punjab (40.8%) and is lowest in Meghalaya (11.05%). **(Table 2.19)**

- 10.0% Females and 8.2% Males in urban areas were reported as ailing in the last 15-days period. The respective percentage in rural areas was 7.6 and 6.1. **(Table 2.22)**



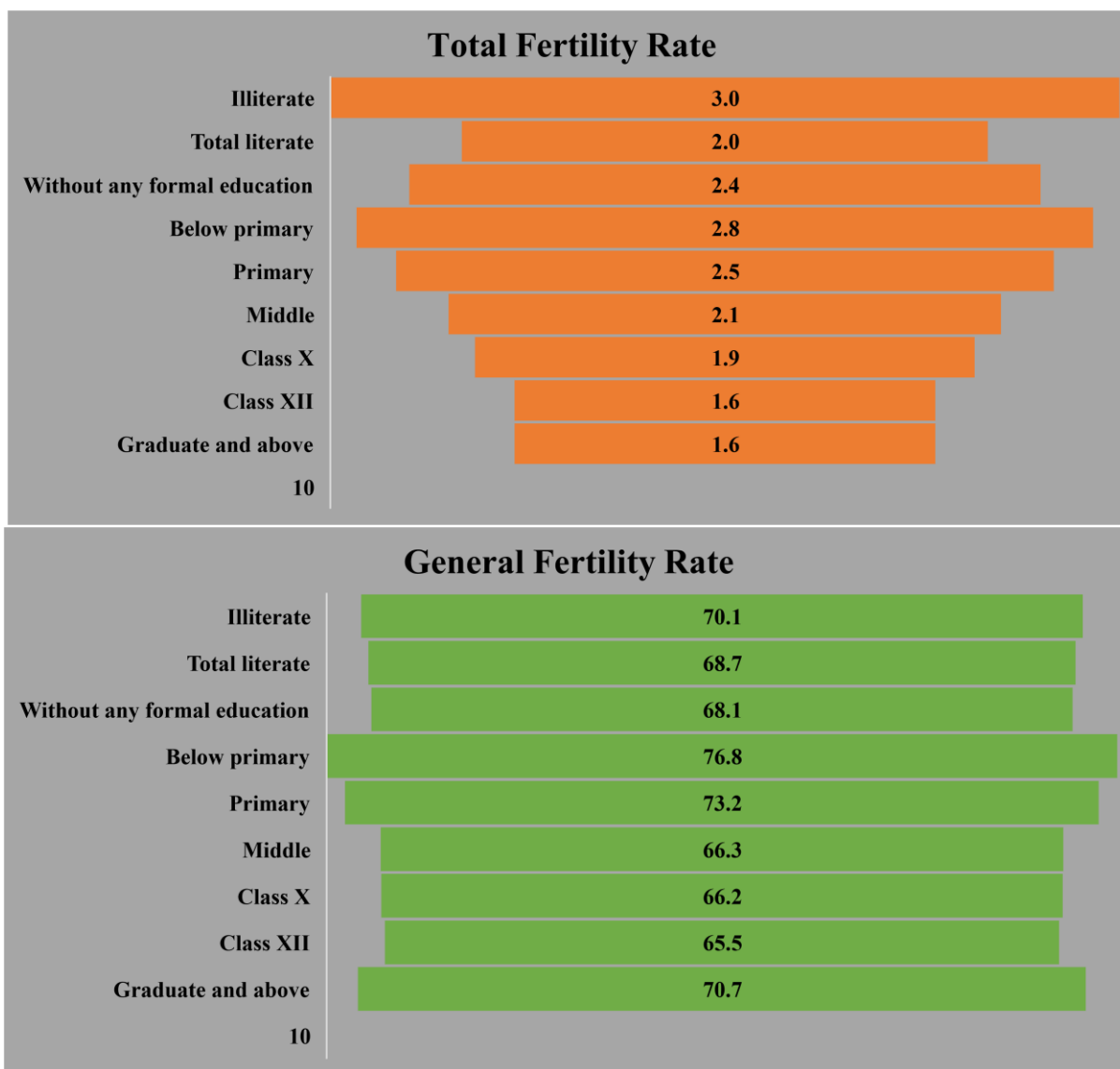
Source: Sample Registration System, Office of the Registrar General, India.

**Figure 2.2 Life Expectancy at Birth (2014-18)**



Source: Sample Registration System, Office of the Registrar General, India.

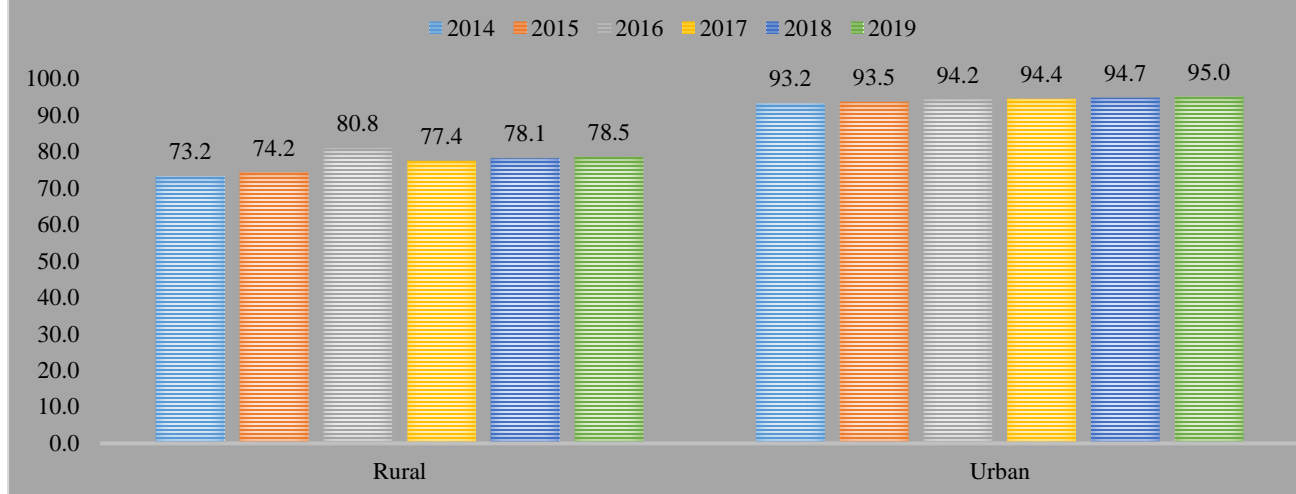
**Figure 2.3 Fertility indicators by level of education of women (2018)**



*Source: Sample Registration System, Office of the Registrar General, India.*



**Figure 2.4 Percent of Live Births Where the Mothers Received Medical Attention at Delivery**



Source: Sample Registration System, Office of the Registrar General, India.

## Education

**10.** Education is universally acknowledged to benefit individuals and promote national development. Educational attainment is the first and foremost step towards improving quality of life, awareness level and also level of skill of people in the society. Better literacy and educational level definitely have a positive impact on overall development and productivity. It acts as a catalyst for social upliftment, enhancing the returns on investment made in almost every aspect of development effort, be it population control, health, hygiene, environmental degradation control, employment of weaker sections of the society. Educating females and males expands future opportunities and choices. However, educating girls produces many additional socio-economic gains that benefit entire societies. These benefits include increased economic productivity, higher family incomes, delayed marriages, reduced fertility rates, and improved health and survival rates for infants and children. Thus, it is believed that if the mother is educated, the entire family becomes educated.

**11.** Recognizing this, the Government has been taking steps to improve the presence of children in school, the most important being the Right to Education Act. This has resulted in a very high enrolment of children in the elementary level of education (ANER of 94.4% in 2019-20) with more girls enrolled than boys. However, as one goes up the level, the rate falls drastically. The ANER for the higher secondary level was 33.3 % for girls and 31.4% for boys in 2019-20. GER of higher education further fell to 27.1% during that year. Though the enrolment ratio has been falling with level for both boys and girls, still at every level girls are faring better than the boys. Some, further, data highlights are listed below:

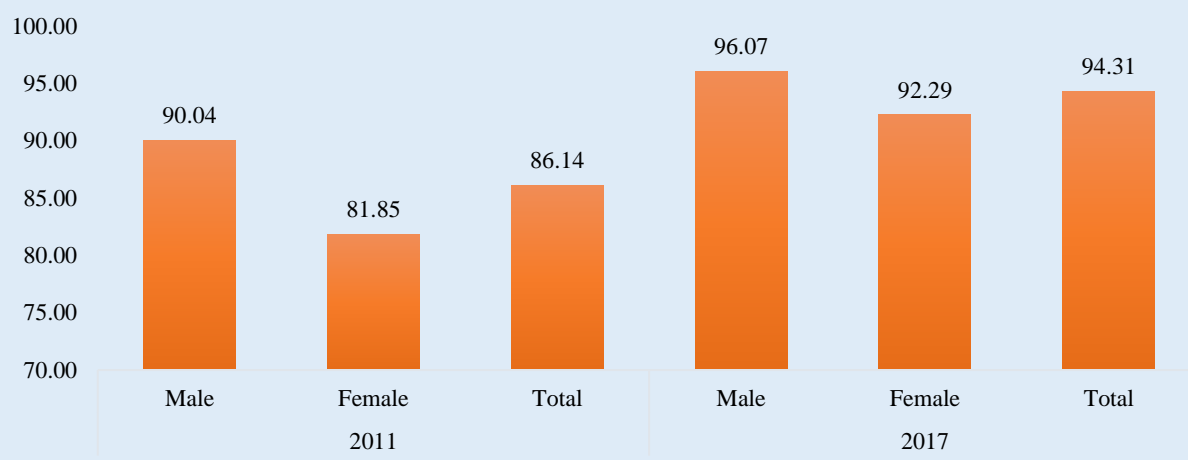
- The literacy rate has shown an increasing trend at all India level since independence. It has steadily increased from 18.3 in 1951 to 73 in 2011 as per population census. In continuation of the trend, literacy rate has further increased to 77.7 in 2017. A similar trend

has been observed in the literacy rate for females and males which was at 70.3 and 84.7 respectively in 2017. Literacy rate of females has grown at a faster rate than that of males during the period 1951 to 2017. **(Table 3.1)**

- The literacy rate for persons of age 7 years and above has increased from 67% to 73.5% in rural areas and in urban areas, it increased from 84.3% to 87.7% during 2007-08 to 2017-18. The gender gap defined as literacy rate for males minus literacy rate for females in literacy rate has shown a decreasing trend in both urban and rural areas. During the same period, the gender gap decreased in rural and urban areas from 20.3 to 16.5 and from 18.0 to 14.4 respectively. **(Table 3.2)**
- The Gender gap was the highest for Rajasthan (23.2), followed by Bihar (19.2) and Uttar Pradesh (18.4). In urban areas, the highest gender gap was observed in Bihar (20.2) followed by Rajasthan (16.5). In rural areas, the highest gender gap was observed in Rajasthan (25.0) followed by Uttar Pradesh (20.1) and Bihar (19.9). Only urban areas of Assam experienced a negative gender gap of 5.1%. **(Table 3.3)**
- Though the gender gap was wide when the literacy was compared between males and females of all ages, it is heartening to note that it was not true of the 15-24 years age group. Female literacy rate in this age group was 81.85%, just around 8% points lower than that of males. The literacy rate of Female in the age group 15-24 years was the highest for Kerala (99.03), followed by Lakshadweep (98.31) and Puducherry (97.08) as per 2011 population census. However as per NSS 75<sup>th</sup> round (2017-18), the literacy rate of female youth in the same age group reached to 100% in Goa, Mizoram, Sikkim, A&N Islands, Daman and Diu and Lakshadweep and lowest in Bihar (81.73%) followed by Rajasthan (84.11%), Uttar Pradesh (87.74) and Arunachal Pradesh (88.53). **(Table 3.4)**
- Gender Parity Index is defined as the quotient of number of females by the number of males enrolled in a given stage of education. The index ideally should be between 97 and 103. Though, the index for literacy in adults aged 15 years and above has been increasing over years (from 32 in 1961 to 75 in 2011), yet it was much below the desired level. **(Table 3.5)**
- Adult literacy rate for both males and females was lower in rural areas in comparison to urban areas. However, the difference was much wider among females as indicated by the Residence Parity Index of 84 and 66 for males and females respectively. **(Table 3.6)**
- Gender Parity Index (GPI) in Higher Education increased from 0.97 in 2017-18 to 1.01 to 2019-20. In 2019-20, at the state-level, the Gender Parity Index was highest in the states of Lakshadweep (3.24), Daman and Diu (2.58) and Ladakh (2.25). Similarly, the GPI was lowest in the states of Tripura (0.80), Sikkim (0.81) and Bihar (0.83). **(Table 3.17)**

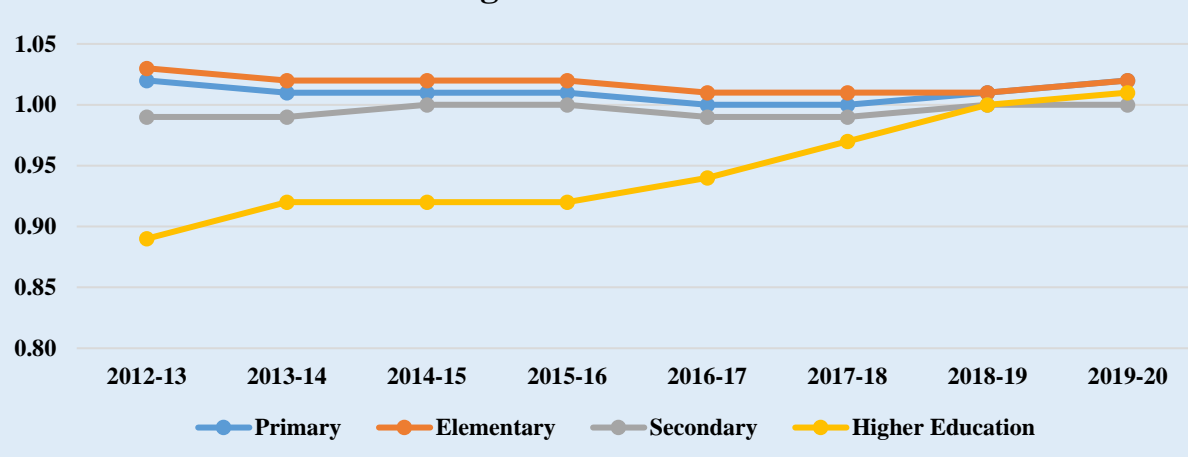
- Engineering seems to be the most opted for course among all the technical/professional courses and more so among males. 41.6% of males and 28.2% females were pursuing Engineering. **(Table 3.22)**
- The percentage of population of age 25 years and above with at least secondary education as the highest level of education successfully completed was found highest in Nagaland (78.6) followed by Mizoram (77.2) and Chandigarh (73.9). The percentage was observed as highest in Nagaland for both for males (83.5) and females (73.3). **(Table 3.27)**
- The dropout rate under secondary education among females has decreased from 20.93% in 2013-2014 to 15.05% in 2019-20. Similarly, for males also, it has decreased from 20.35% to 17.01% during the same reference period. **(Table 3.34)**
- Among the never enrolled persons of age 3 to 35 years, 13.6 % females and 14.9 % males were never enrolled in education due to financial constraints whereas, 11.7% females and 1.5% males were never enrolled due to their engagement in domestic activities. Similarly, 19.3% and 19.9% males and females respectively were not interested in education and 16.6% of females and 11% of males were never enrolled in education at all India level. **(Table 3.35)**
- Among ever enrolled persons in the age group 3 - 35 years, 30.2 % of females were currently not attending education due to engagement in domestic activities followed by Financial Constraints (17.7%). 36.9 % of ever enrolled males in the 3 - 35 years' age group were not attending education due to engagement in economic activities followed by financial constraints (24.3%). **(Table 3.36)**

**Figure 3.1 Literacy Rate of Youth in the Age Group of 15-24 Years**



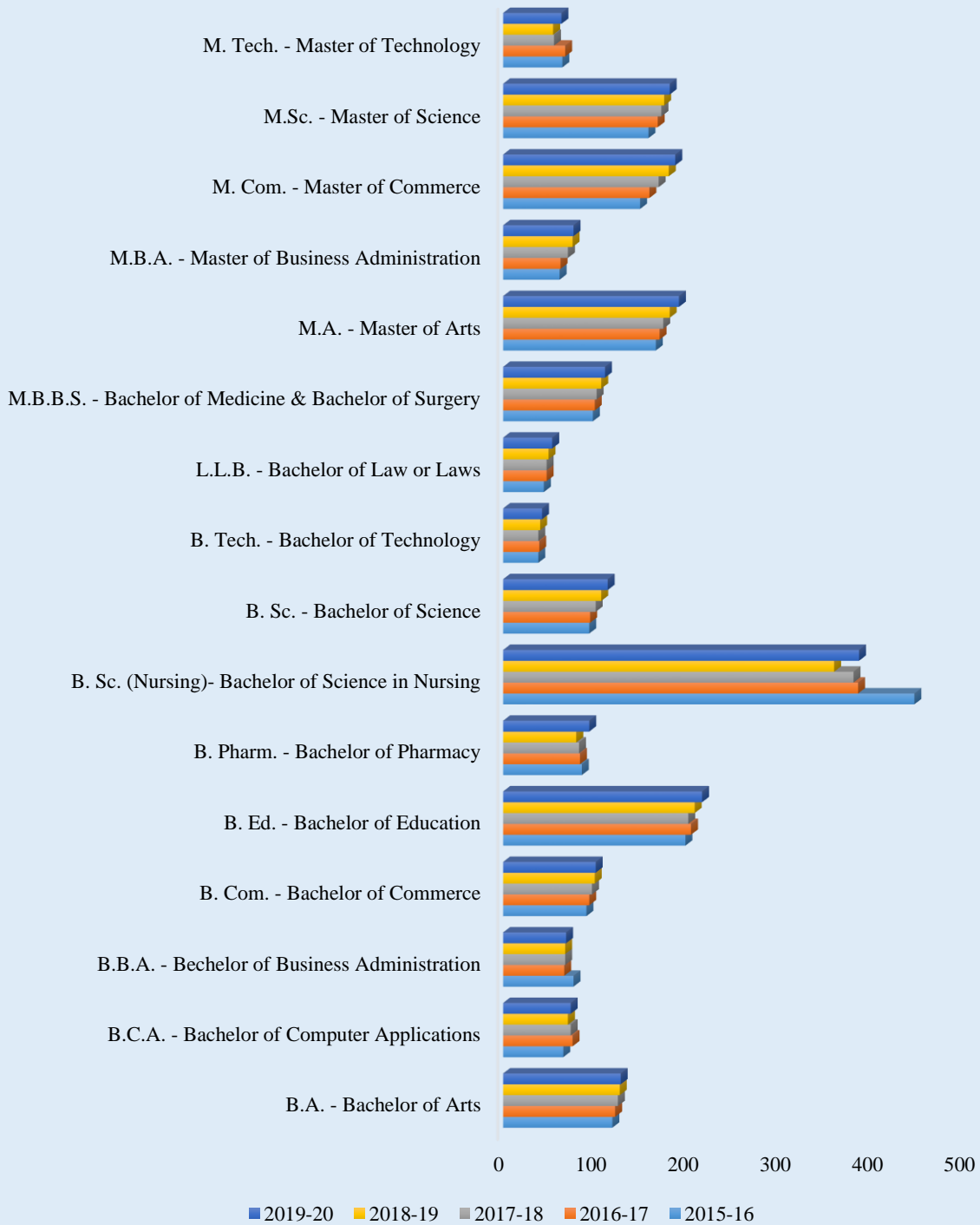
Source: Census 2011, Office of the Registrar General, India and NSS 75<sup>th</sup> Round July, 2017-June, 18, NSO, MoSPI.

**Figure 3.2 Year-wise Gender Parity Index (GPI) for all Categories of Students**



Source: UDISE+ and All India Survey on Higher Education, Ministry of Education.

**Figure 3.3 Female per 100 Male Students in important Programmes at Under Graduate & Post Graduate Level in Regular mode of Education**



Source: All India Survey on Higher Education, Ministry of Education.

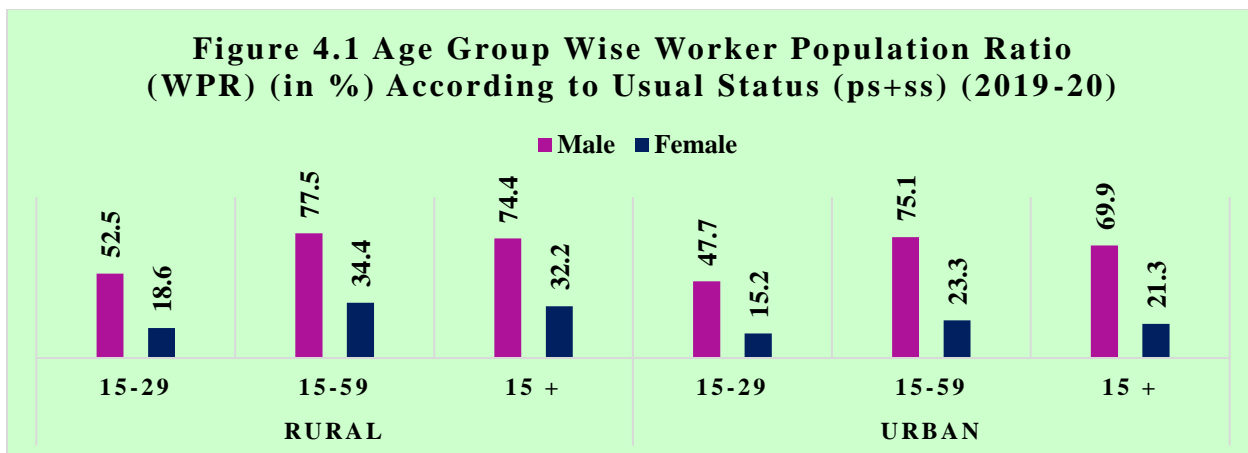
## Participation in Economy

**12.** Economic empowerment is the capacity of women and men to participate in, contribute to and benefit from growth processes in ways which recognize the value of their contributions, respect their dignity and make it possible to negotiate a fairer distribution of the benefits of growth. The economic empowerment of women is a prerequisite for sustainable development. Gender equality and empowered women are catalysts for multiplying development efforts. Reducing gender gap in participation in economic activities contributes towards many other benefits of economic prosperity such as improvement in child survival, overall family health, reduction in fertility etc.

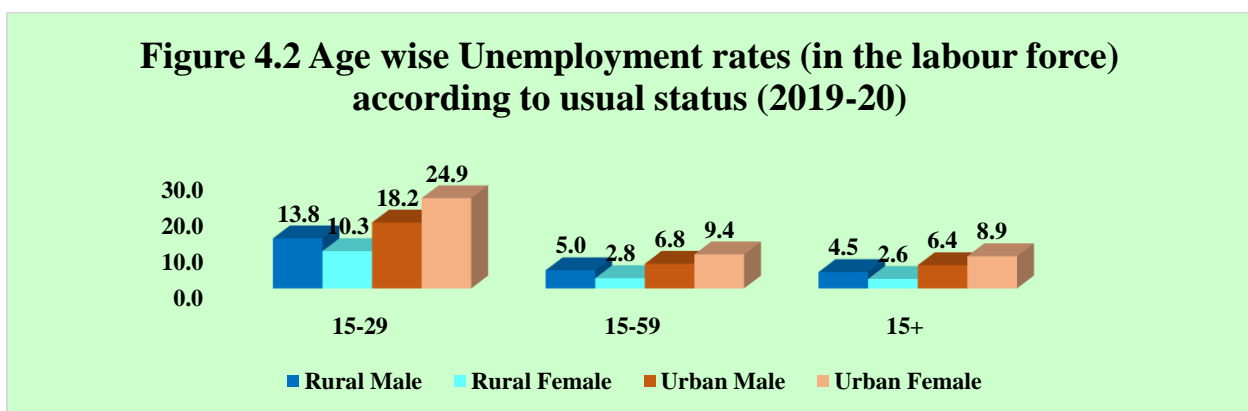
**13.** The economic activities are broadly classified as organized and unorganized, each of which may be in the formal or informal sector. Participation of women in economic activities in formal sectors of industries, services and agricultural sector is measurable, but activities of women in informal sectors such as house works, training and education of children and household services are still not measured. MoSPI conducted a Time-use survey (TUS) during the period January to December 2019 to measure participation of men and women in paid and unpaid activities. TUS is an important source of information on the time spent in unpaid care giving activities, volunteer work, unpaid domestic service producing activities of the household members and thus provides an insight into the extent of women's activities that go unaccounted for. As per this survey, while 57.3% of males participated in employment and related activities against 18.4% only for females, this percentage jumps to 81.2 in case of unpaid domestic services for household members spending on an average 243 minutes per day.

- Worker Population Ratio (WPR) among females in rural areas has increased from 19.0% in 2018-19 to 24.0% in 2019-20. Similarly, WPR for females in urban areas, it has also increased from 14.5% to 16.8% during the same reference period. WPR for males for both the years is more than 50% in both rural and urban areas. Maximum increase in the ratio is observed among rural females, a rise of 5%. **(Table 4.1)**
- WPR for females aged 15 years and above is much lower than males in both rural and urban areas. **(Table 4.2)**
- Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) for female population in Rural area is evidently higher than that in Urban Areas in all the years namely 2017-18, 2018-19, and 2019-20. The difference in LFPR is the widest in Dadra & Nagar Haveli followed by Himachal Pradesh and Chhattisgarh in 2019-20. However, in 6 states/UTs viz. Assam, Daman & Diu, Goa, Haryana, Manipur, West Bengal the trend is reversed. **(Table 4.4 & 4.5)**
- Majority of the females (63.0%) and males (58.4%) workers in usual status (ps+ss) are self-employed in so far as rural area is concerned, whereas majority of females (54.2%) and males (47.2%) were regular wage/salaried employee in urban area. Casual labour among the female workers and male workers were still high in rural area as compared to urban area. **(Table 4.7)**

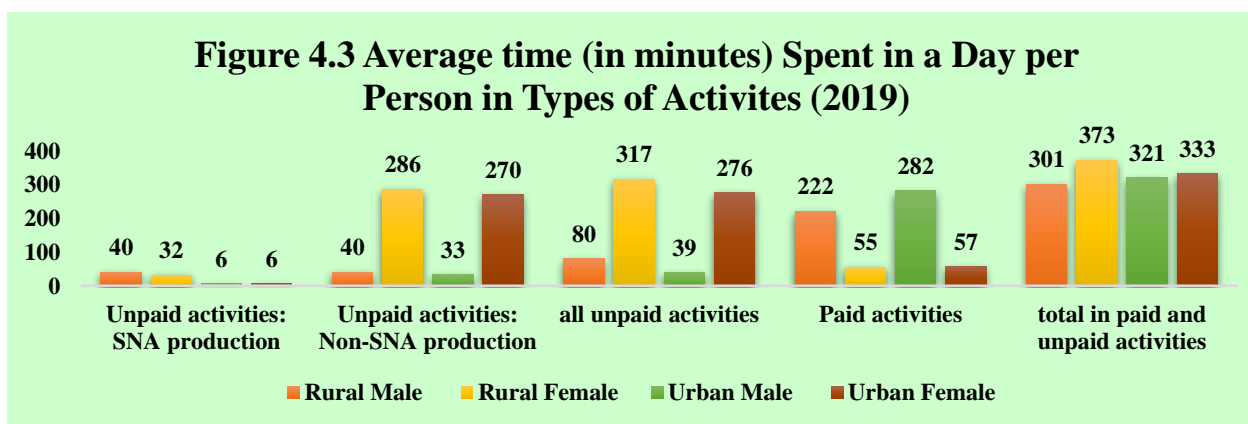
- A declining trend is seen in the share of workers in Agriculture Sector since 43rd round of NSS (1987-88) to PLFS (2018-19) and then a slight increase in 2019-20. In the Trade, Hotel & Restaurant sector, on the other hand, the share of workers in rural areas has shown an increasing trend till 2018-19 and then a decrease in 2019-20. The trend is similar for both male and female. **(Table 4.9)**
- From PLFS 2017-18 to 2019-20, Unemployment rates for females have declined from 3.8 to 2.6 and 10.8 to 8.9 in Rural and Urban Sector respectively. Similarly, for Males, the rate has declined from 5.8 to 4.5% and 7.1 to 6.4% in Rural and Urban areas respectively. **(Table 4.11)**
- At All India level, the average earning of casual worker in works other than public works, both female and male, shows an increasing trend over first 3 quarters but declined in 4th Quarter. The earnings of female worker continued to lag behind that of male worker. **(Table 4.15.1 to 4.15.4)**
- As per Time Use Survey Report 2019, at All India level, females spent in a day on an average 243 minutes on “Unpaid domestic services for household members” and 61 minutes on “Employment and related activities” whereas average time spent by males was 25 minutes per day and 263 minutes per day respectively on the same activities. Similarly, males spent in a day on an average 102 minutes on “Learning” against the females spent on an average 84 minutes on the same activity. **(Table 4.29)**
- As per Time Use Survey Report 2019, at All India level, on an average 134 minutes were spent in a day by females for “Unpaid care giving services for household members” against 76 minutes spent by males on the same activity. **(Table 4.34)**
- As per Time Use Survey Report 2019, males in the age-group 15-29 years and working age group 15-59 years were spending more time in paid activity in both rural and urban areas whereas females were spending more time in unpaid activity in both rural and urban areas. **(Table 4.38)**



Source: Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS, July 2019- June 2020), NSO, MoSPI.



Source: Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS, July 2019- June 2020), NSO, MoSPI.



Source: TUS Report 2019, MoSPI.

### Participation in Decision Making

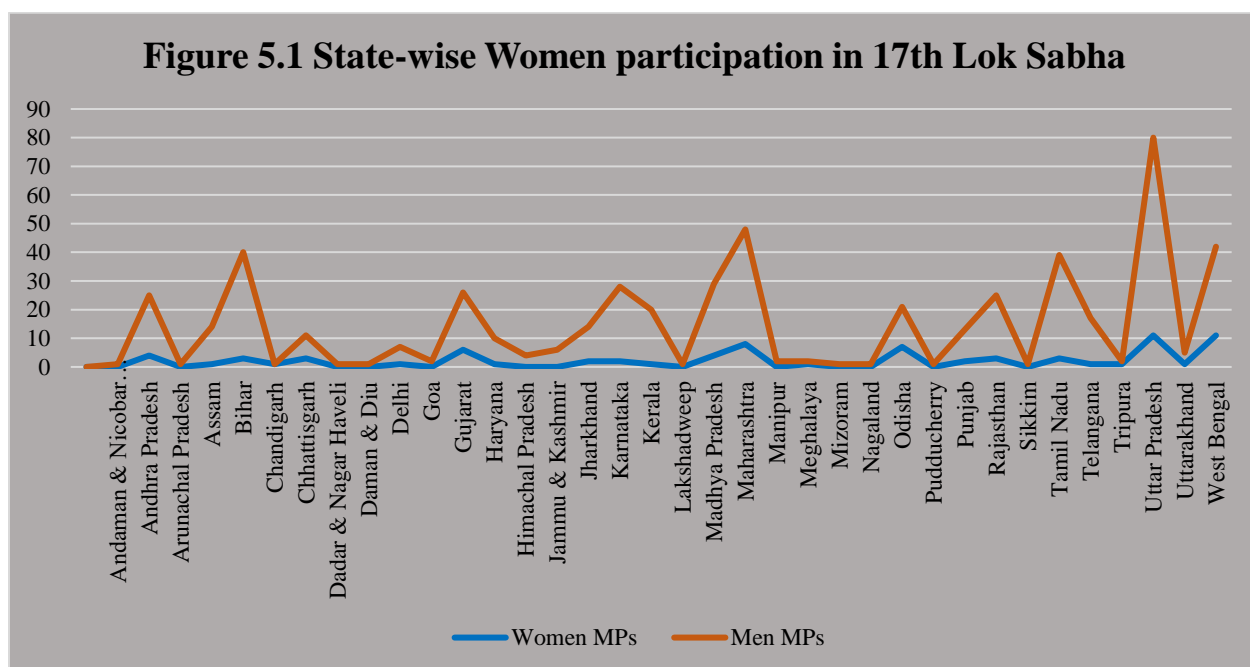
14. Every human being has the right to participate in decisions that define her or his life. This right is the foundation of the ideal of equal participation in decision-making among women and men. Women’s lack of representation in government, especially in high-level executive and legislative bodies, limits their influence over governance and public policies. Arguably, women’s



participation in decision making is essential for ensuring their equality and rights. Where women have participated actively in public policy, they have been able to raise the visibility of women's issues and work toward ending gender discrimination.

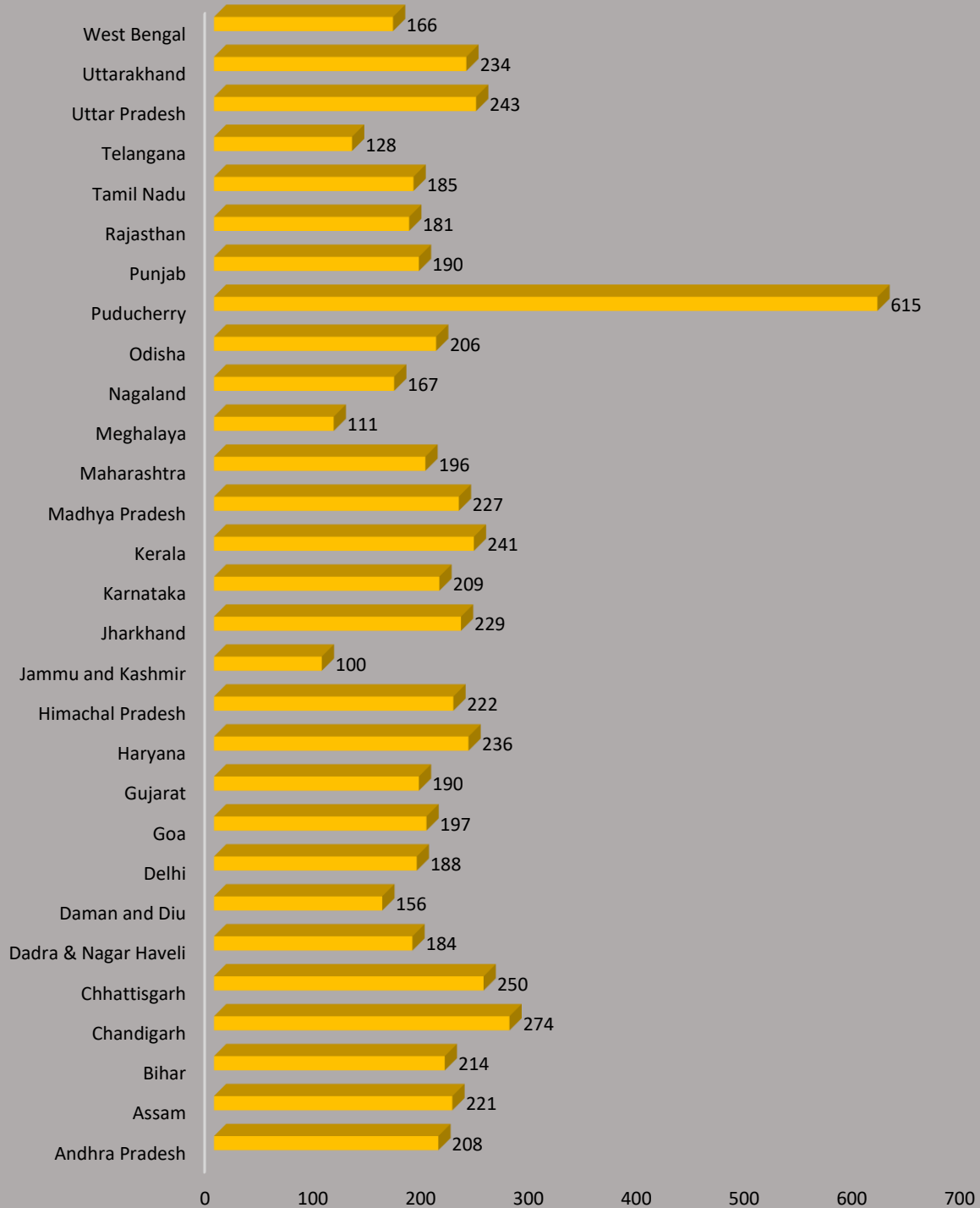
- The representation of women in Central Council of Ministers was the lowest in 1996 at 2.56%. During the period 1997 to 2021, it varied from 7.69% (2003) to 17.78% (2015). However, the proportion of women in central council of Ministers has increased from 9.26% in 2020 to 14.10% in 2021. **(Table 5.1)**
- While percentage of male electors has been in the 60-69 range, that of female electors has shown an increasing trend from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha elections. Percentage of female electors has been lower than the male electors in all the elections except in the 17<sup>th</sup> election when the female percentage was slightly more than the percentage of male electors. **(Table 5.2)**
- Percentage turnout for female voters in 2019 general elections was more than 70% in all the States/UTs except in the States/UTs of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Bihar, Delhi, Gujarat, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Punjab, Rajasthan, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand. **(Table 5.3)**
- At all India level, the women representation in the State Assemblies was 9%. Maximum participation of women in State Assemblies was observed in the States/UTs of Mizoram (26%) followed by West Bengal and Chhattisgarh (14% each), Gujarat, Jharkhand and Rajasthan (12% each). **(Table 5.5)**
- The highest women participation in Panchayati Raj Institutions was observed in the States of Rajasthan (56.49%) followed by Uttarakhand (55.66%) and Chhattisgarh (54.78%). **(Table 5.7)**
- In judiciary, the highest number of women judges is 13 in Madras High Court followed by 7 each in Punjab & Haryana and Bombay High Court as on 25.11.2021. There were no female judges in the High Courts of Manipur, Meghalaya, Patna, Tripura and Uttarakhand. Percentage of women judges to total judges was the highest in Sikkim (33%) followed by Telangana (32%), Madras & Himachal Pradesh (22%) in each. **(Table 5.8)**
- As per PLFS, 2019-20, ratio of female workers to total workers working in Managerial position at all India level was 18.7%. The highest ratio of female workers to total workers working in Managerial position was observed in the state of Meghalaya (34.1%) followed by Sikkim (33.5%), Mizoram (33.3%), Andhra Pradesh (32.3%) and Punjab (32.1%). **(Table 5.10)**

- At all India level, the ratio of female workers to male workers working as Legislators, Senior Officials and Managers based on PLFS 2019-20 was 23.2%. The highest ratio was observed in the states of Manipur (51.8%) followed by Meghalaya (51.7%), Sikkim (50.4%), Andhra Pradesh (47.9%) and Punjab (47.3%). However, Bihar and Ladakh had no females working as Legislators, Senior Officials and Managers. (**Table 5.11**)
- The percentage of females (5 years and above) who used internet during the last 30 days at all India level was 12.5 % against 22.3% of males of the same age group. The highest percentage of females who used internet during the last 30 days was observed in the State of Sikkim (46%) followed by Delhi (42.9%), Goa (42.3%), Chandigarh (41.7%) and Lakshadweep (39.8%) whereas in males the percentage was the highest in Goa and Daman & Diu (54.3% each), followed by Delhi (54%), Lakshadweep (53.7%), Chandigarh (53.3%), Sikkim (48.5%), Puducherry (46.8%) and Kerala (44.9%). (**Table 5.13**)



Source: Lok Sabha Secretariat, New Delhi.

**Figure 5.2 Proportion of Women per 1000 Person Engaged in Managerial Position In Listed Companies during 2018-19**



Source: Ministry of Corporate Affairs.

## Impediments in Empowerment

**15.** Empowerment is a multi-dimensional and dynamic social process that helps people gain control over their own lives. Empowering women is a key to building a future we want, as it contributes to the well-being and efficiency of whole families and communities, thereby improving prospects for the next generation.

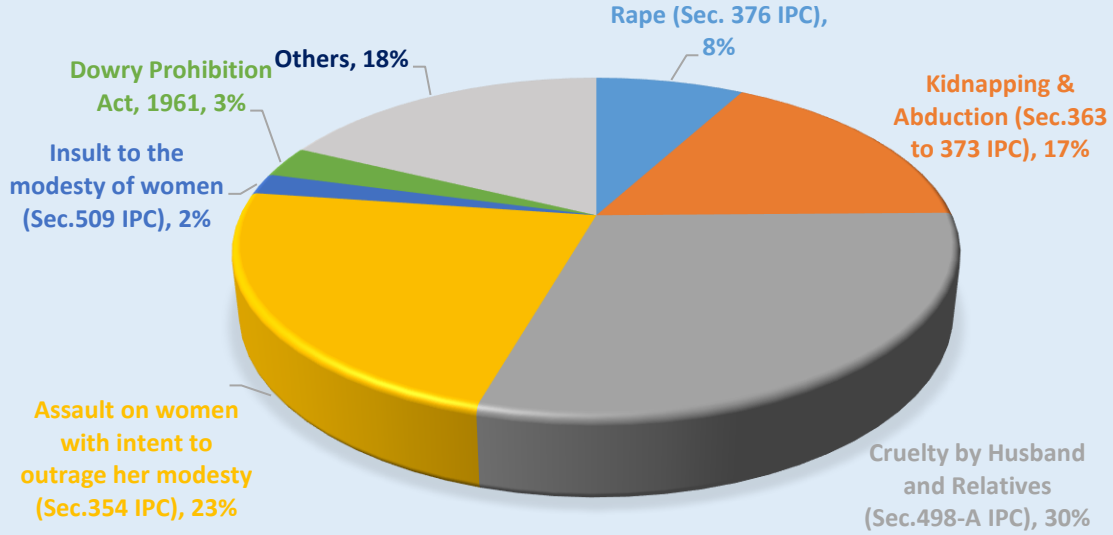
**16.** However, the growth of a society might get hampered due to many obstacles and one of the major obstacles is crime against women. This social obstacle against women is a major concern when empowerment of women is being so sought after. The empowerment of women gets jeopardized due to various crimes against them.

**17.** Several acts including provisions in IPC are in place to protect the women against violence at workplace, inside the house and stop social practices like dowry etc. In this Chapter, occurrence rates of various crimes against women have been compiled to understand the impact of the various existing legal provisions. Status of disposal of cases of crime against women by Police as well by Courts of Law has also been included. A special focus has been laid on rape victims, suicide victims and Disability.

- In 2020, three major crimes viz. Cruelty by Husband and Relatives (30%), Assault on women with intent to outrage her modesty (23%) and Kidnapping & Abduction (17%) constituted 70% of the total crime committed against women which is slightly less in comparison of 2019 (71%) (**Table 6.1**)
- During 2020, the highest share of women crime against the total women crime was observed in the states of Uttar Pradesh (13.29%) followed by West Bengal (9.81%), Rajasthan (9.3%), Maharashtra (8.60%) and Assam (7.09%). (**Table 6.2**)
- The percentage of ever married women age 18-49 years in the table who have ever experienced physical or sexual violence committed by their husband has decreased from 31.2% in NFHS-4 (2015-16) to 29.3% in NFHS-5 (2019-21). During 2019-21, Karnataka (44.4%) has reported highest percentage of ever-married women who experienced physical or sexual violence committed by their husband followed by Bihar (40%), Manipur (39.6%), Tamil Nadu (38.1%) and Telangana (36.9%). On the contrary, in Lakshadweep only 1.3% of women experienced such violence followed by Nagaland (6.4%), Himachal Pradesh (8.3%) and Goa (8.3%). (**Table 6.4**)
- Of the total cases of crime against women for investigation in 2020, 65% were disposed off. Disposed off cases were maximum in the category of “the Assault on women with intent to outrage her modesty” (71%) followed by those in categories “Attempt to commit rape (68%)”, “Rape (67%)” and “Cruelty by husband or relatives (67%)”. (**Table 6.5**)

- While total cases for investigation for 2020 was 5.73 lakh, the total cases for trial in 2020 were 18.73 lakh which is 3 times more than the cases for investigation. During the year 1.15% cases were convicted and 2.49% acquitted. These clearly indicate the high pendency in courts and the need for quicker disposal. **(Table 6.5 and 6.6)**
- As per NFHS-5 (2019-21), the percentage of women aged 20-24 years married before age 18 years has decreased from 26.8 in NFHS-4 (2015-16) to 23.3%. However, this has remained the same or decreased by less than 0.5 percentage points during the 2 NFHS periods in West Bengal, Meghalaya, Karnataka, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu and Andaman & Nicobar Islands and increased in Tripura, Punjab and Manipur. During 2019-21, West Bengal has reported highest percentage of women who married before age 18 years followed by Bihar (40.8%), Tripura (40.1%), Jharkhand (32.2%) and Assam (31.8%). On the contrary, Lakshadweep has reported only 1.3% such incidence followed by Ladakh (2.5%), Jammu & Kashmir (4.5%) Himachal Pradesh (5.4%) and Nagaland (5.6%). **(Table 6.7)**
- Adolescent fertility rate for women age 15-19 years has decreased from 51 in NFHS-4 (2015-16) to 43 in NFHS-5. During 2019-21, the highest adolescent fertility rate has been observed in Tripura (91) followed by West Bengal (81), Bihar (77), Andhra Pradesh (67) and Jharkhand (64). Similarly, the lowest adolescent fertility rate has been observed in Ladakh (2) and Lakshadweep (2). **(Table 6.9)**
- As per the National Sample Survey 76<sup>th</sup> Round on Disability conducted by M/o Statistics & Programme Implementation during July-December, 2018, percentage of differently-abled person was 1.9% for females and 2.4% for males. **(Table 6.12)**

**Figure 6.1 Share of Crimes against women in 2020**



Source: *Crime in India, National Crime Records Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs.*