

Global Gender Gap 2025

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Global Gender Gap 2025: A Reality Check for India

Context:

- India has slipped to the **131st position** out of **148 countries** in the **Global Gender Gap Report 2025**, released by the **World Economic Forum (WEF)**.
 - The report highlights **persistent gender inequalities** in key areas such as **political empowerment** and **economic participation**, drawing attention to India's slow progress toward gender parity.
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About Global Gender Gap Report 2025

- Published annually by the **World Economic Forum (WEF)**
- Tracks and compares **gender parity across countries** to assess how nations are progressing toward closing gender-based gaps.
- The **19th edition** of the report covers **148 economies**.
- It measures gender gaps in four key dimensions:
 - **Economic Participation and Opportunity**
 - **Educational Attainment**
 - **Health and Survival**
 - **Political Empowerment**

- In 2025, the global gender gap was reported as **68.8% closed**.
 - At the current rate, **full global parity is expected in 123 years**.
 - The report uses a **parity score (0-100%)**, where 100% represents full gender equality.
 - The aim is to **guide public policy** by identifying both progress and setbacks in gender equality.
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India's Performance in the 2025 Report

- India ranked **131st out of 148 countries**, slipping from **129th position in 2024**.
 - India's overall **parity score** is **64.1%**, which is **one of the lowest in South Asia**.
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India: Sector-wise Performance

Economic Participation and Opportunity

- Score improved by **0.9 points**, reaching **40.7%**
- **Earned income parity** rose to **29.9%**

Educational Attainment

- Score reached **97.1%**
- Driven by better **female literacy rates** and increased **tertiary enrolment**

Health and Survival

- Improved due to **better sex ratio at birth** and **increased healthy life expectancy**

Political Empowerment

- Declined for the **second consecutive year**
 - **Female MPs** dropped from **14.7% to 13.8%**
 - **Women ministers** reduced from **6.5% to 5.6%**
 - Indicates weakening representation of women in **public leadership roles**
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Regional Comparison in South Asia

- **Bangladesh** is the best performer in South Asia, ranked **24th globally**
- **Bhutan**: 119
- **Nepal**: 125
- **Sri Lanka**: 130
- **India**: 131
- **Maldives**: 138
- **Pakistan**: 148 (**last globally**)

