

Sl. No	First Naga in Various fields	Male	Female
1	Governor	Dr. Hokishe Sema	
2	Chief Minister of Nagaland	P. Shilu Ao	
3	Speaker of Nagaland Legislative Assembly	T. N. Angami	
4	Chief Secretary	L. Lungalang	Banuo Z. Jamir
5	Ambassador of India		Dr. Neichülieü Nikki Haralu
6	Members of Parliament (Lok Sabha)	Shri S. C Jamir	Smt. Rano M. Shaiza
7	Members of Parliament (Rajya Sabha Member)	Shri. Melhupra Vero	
8	Indian Administrative Service	A. Kevichüsa	Banuo Z. Jamir
9	Padmashree Awardee		Smt. Chubalemla AO
10	Member of Union Public Service Commission		Dr. P. Kilemsungla
11	Scaled Mt.Everest		Lt. Col. N. Linyü,VSM
12	Indian Police Service	Shri. Talisunup	Smt. Amongla Aier
13	Olympian	Dr. T. Ao	
14	World Outdoor Target Archery Championship		Smt. Chekrovolu Swuro
15	Editor of Daily Newspaper	Geoffrey Yaden	Smt.Monalisa Changkija
16	Doctor of Philosophy	Dr. Senka Yaden	Dr. Imti Temsula
17	M.B.B.S	Dr. Talimeren Ao	Dr. Khrielie-ü Kire
18	Graduate	Mr. A. Kevichüsa	Ms.Rosalind Sokhrieno Lungalang
19	Chief Justice of High Court	H.K. Sema	
20	Vice Chancellor	Prof. I. Yanger	
21	Chairman Village Council		Tokheli Kikon

IMPORTANT CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL PROVISIONS FOR WOMEN IN INDIA AND NAGALAND

The principle of gender equality is enshrined in the Indian Constitution in its Preamble, Fundamental Rights, Fundamental Duties and Directive Principles. The Constitution not only grants equality to women, but also empowers the State to adopt measures of positive discrimination in favour of women. Within the framework of a democratic polity, our laws, development policies, Plans and programmes have aimed at women's advancement in different spheres. India has also ratified various international conventions and human rights instruments committing to secure equal rights of women. Key among them is the ratification of the Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in 1993.

1. CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS

The Constitution of India not only grants equality to women but also empowers the State to adopt measures of positive discrimination in favour of women for neutralizing the cumulative socio economic, education and political disadvantages faced by them. Fundamental Rights, among others, ensure equality before the law and equal protection of law; prohibits discrimination against any citizen on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth, and guarantee equality of opportunity to all citizens in matters relating to employment. Articles 14, 15, 15(3), 16, 39(a), 39(b), 39(c) and 42 of the Constitution are of specific importance in this regard.

Constitutional Privileges

- (I) Equality before law for women (Article 14)
- (ii) The State not to discriminate against any citizen on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth or any of them (Article 15 (I))
- (iii) The State to make any special provision in favour of women and children (Article 15 (3))
- (iv) Equality of opportunity for all citizens in matters relating to employment or appointment to any office under the State (Article 16)
- (v) The State to direct its policy towards securing for men and women equally the right to an adequate means of livelihood (Article 39(a)); and equal pay for equal work for both men and women (Article 39(d))
- (vi) To promote justice, on a basis of equal opportunity and to provide free legal aid by suitable legislation or scheme or in any other way to ensure that opportunities for

- securing justice are not denied to any citizen by reason of economic or other disabilities (Article 39 A)
- (vii) The State to make provision for securing just and humane conditions of work and for maternity relief (Article 42)
 - (viii) The State to promote with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people and to protect them from social injustice and all forms of exploitation (Article 46)
 - (ix) The State to raise the level of nutrition and the standard of living of its people (Article 47)
 - (x) To promote harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood amongst all the people of India and to renounce practices derogatory to the dignity of women (Article 51(A) (e))
 - (xi) Not less than one-third (including the number of seats reserved for women belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes) of the total number of seats to be filled by direct election in every Panchayat to be reserved for women and such seats to be allotted by rotation to different constituencies in a Panchayat (Article 243 D(3))
 - (xii) Not less than one- third of the total number of offices of Chairpersons in the Panchayats at each level to be reserved for women (Article 243 D (4))
 - (xiii) Not less than one-third (including the number of seats reserved for women belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes) of the total number of seats to be filled by direct election in every Municipality to be reserved for women and such seats to be allotted by rotation to different constituencies in a Municipality (Article 243 T (3))
 - (xiv) Reservation of offices of Chairpersons in Municipalities for the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and women in such manner as the legislature of a State may by law provide (Article 243 T (4))

2. LEGAL PROVISIONS

To uphold the Constitutional mandate, the State has enacted various legislative measures intended to ensure equal rights, to counter social discrimination and various forms of violence and atrocities and to provide support services especially to working women. Although women may be victims of any of the crimes such as 'Murder', 'Robbery', 'Cheating' etc, the crimes, which are directed specifically against women, are characterized as 'Crime against Women'. These are broadly classified under two categories.

- (1) The Crimes Identified Under the Indian Penal Code (IPC)
 - (i) Rape (Sec. 376 IPC)
 - (ii) Kidnapping & Abduction for different purposes (Sec. 363-373)
 - (iii) Homicide for Dowry, Dowry Deaths or their attempts (Sec. 302/304-B IPC)

- (iv) Torture, both mental and physical (Sec. 498-A IPC)
- (v) Molestation (Sec. 354 IPC)
- (vi) Sexual Harassment (Sec. 509 IPC)
- (vii) Importation of girls (up to 21 years of age)
- (2) The Crimes identified under the Special Laws (SLL)

Although all laws are not gender specific, the provisions of law affecting women significantly have been reviewed periodically and amendments carried out to keep pace with the emerging requirements.

Some acts have special provisions to safeguard women and their interests like

- (i) The Family Courts Act, 1954
- (ii) The Special Marriage Act, 1954
- (iii) The Hindu Marriage Act, 1955
- (iv) The Hindu Succession Act, 1956 with amendment in 2005
- (v) Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956
- (vi) The Maternity Benefit Act, 1961 (Amended in 1995)
- (vii) Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961
- (viii) The Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, 1971
- (ix) The Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1976
- (x) The Equal Remuneration Act, 1976
- (xi) The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006
- (xii) The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 1983
- (xiii) Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986
- (xiv) Commission of Sati (Prevention) Act, 1987
- (xv) The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005

3. SPECIAL INITIATIVES FOR WOMEN

- (I) **National Commission for Women** : In January 1992, the Government set-up this statutory body with a specific mandate to study and monitor all matters relating to the constitutional and legal safeguards provided for women, review the existing legislation to suggest amendments wherever necessary, etc.
- (ii) **Reservation for Women in Local Self Government**: The 73rd Constitutional Amendment Acts passed in 1992 by Parliament ensure one-third of the total seats for women in all elected offices in local bodies whether in rural areas or urban areas.
- (iii) **The National Plan of Action for the Girl Child (1991-2000)** : The plan of Action is to ensure survival, protection and development of the girl child with the ultimate objective of

building up a better future for the girl child. National Policy for Children-2013 was adopted by the Government of India on 26th April 2013. National Plan of Action for Children 2016 is in Draft Format.

- (iv) **National Policy for the Empowerment of Women, 2001** : The Department of Women & Child Development in the Ministry of Human Resource Development has prepared a “**National Policy for the Empowerment of Women**” in the year 2001. The goal of this policy is to bring about the advancement, development and empowerment of women. **National Policy for the Empowerment of Women, 2016** is under draft stage.

4. WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT AND INITIATIVES FOR THE STATE OF NAGALAND

- (i) The **Nagaland State Commission for Women** is a statutory body, constituted by the State Government under the Nagaland Women Commission Act 2006 to investigate and examine all matters relating to Women issues and also to safeguard the women provisions which was provided for women under the Constitution and other laws.
- (ii) **The Naga Mothers Association (NMA)** was formed in 1984 in response to the drug and alcohol addiction ravaging Nagaland at the time. However during the 1980s and 1990s, NMA addressed the violence that tore Nagaland apart: atrocities by the Indian army against Naga groups and civilians, and then years of fratricidal killings between various Naga factions. Over the past two years, NMA's been fighting for women reservation in municipal bodies.
- (iii) **Maternity Leave Benefit**, The State Government through an Office Memorandum, dated- 3rd April,2017 has enhanced the existing ceiling of 90 days of maternity Leave under CSS (Leave) Rules,1792 to 180 days for the female State Government Employees.
- (iv) **Nagaland Vision 2030**. In the vision 2030 document, specific chapters caption as “Gender Mainstreaming” has been included highlighting gender-based disadvantages issues and suggesting various steps for empowerment of women especially steps for ensuring participation of women in decision making and in leadership roles.

HIGHLIGHTS

POPULATION AND RELATED STATISTICS

- As per Census 2011, the population of Nagaland is 1978502. Female population consists of 953853 which accounts for 48.21% to total population. There are 931 female per 1000 males.
- Districts of Zunheboto, Wokha, Phek and Kiphire have higher sex ratio as compared to districts of Mon, Longleng and Peren which have lower sex ratio.
- Over the last 40 years, the sex ratio of Mokokchung, Kohima and Dimapur have improved substantially, but sex ratio has declined in districts like Mon, Zunheboto, Peren and Wokha.
- The child sex ratio (age-group 0-6 years) as per 2011 census is 943 with districts of Kohima, Dimapur and Wokha having higher child sex ratio than Mon, Longleng and Phek.
- The Sex Ratio of Girl Child (0-19 Years), Reproductive Age (15-45), Economically Active (15-59 Years) and Old Age (60+) is 937, 957, 936 and 875 per 1000 males respectively.
- Sex ratio at birth during 2011 was 873 which increased to 952 during 2016.
- As per census 2011, females in the age groups of 15-29 years and 30-59 years who never married were 35.55 % and 4.90 % respectively whereas 28.18% and 63.98% in the same age group were married.

HEALTH

- During 2014, the female Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) was 0.15 as compared with the male IMR of 0.19 and the overall IMR was 0.17. IMR has reduced substantially from 1.58 in 2011 to 0.17 in 2014, indicating improvement in health mechanism for infants. However, Nagaland has lower IMR as compared with the national IMR.
- Registration of Live Birth for female and male was 21282 and 24387 respectively during 2011 which increased to 31192 and 32773 during 2016.
- During 2011, registration of death for female was 3134 and 3822 for male which declined to 591 for female and 1553 for male during 2016 possibly due to lesser reporting of death events.

- There have been no significant changes in the Maternal Mortality Ratio over the years. Maternal death reported during 2011, 2012 and 2013 was 25, 28 and 24 respectively. There was no report during from 2014 to 2017.
- Districts of Kohima, Dimapur and Mokokchung have higher institutional deliveries as compared to districts of Wokha, Tuensang and Mon which has lower institutional deliveries. It is interesting to note that the districts of Wokha, Phek and Mokokchung have higher percentage of deliveries at home conducted by skilled health personnel than the districts of Tuensang, Kiphire, Longleng, Peren, Kohima and Dimpaur.
- Districts of Dimapur, Peren, Kiphire and Mon have higher prevalence of Anaemia in Women in the age group of 15-49 years. Whereas, districts of Peren, Kiphire and Mon have higher prevalence of severe anaemia among pregnant women in the same age group.
- Under family planning method, people opting for C.C users were reported to be the highest at 168705 followed by oral pill users (18631).
- Number of contraceptive use prevalence among women who are married or in union is higher in the districts of Dimapur and Kohima and lower in the districts of Longleng and Wokha.
- As per Nagaland State AIDS control Society (NSACS) during 2017, number of female clients tested for HIV at ICTC Centers was 44220 and male clients tested was 46016. Out of which, 899 number of female and 902 number of male were tested HIV +ve.

LITERACY AND EDUCATION

- As per 2011 census, literacy rate in Nagaland stands at 79.55 as compared to 66.60 during 2001 census which is an increase of 19.44 %. The female literacy rate has increased from 61.50 during 2001 to 76.11 during 2011.
- Census 2011 report shows there were 638586 persons who were attending educational institution. Out of which, 330384 were males and 308202 were females. Out of 101687 illiterates, 51959 were males and 49728 were females. 536899 were reported to be literate, out of which 278425 were males and 258474 were females.
- District of Mokokchung has the highest female literacy rate of 91 % on the other hand district of Kiphire has the lowest female literacy rate of 64 % indicating urgent government intervention to check the imbalances in the female literacy rate.
- During 2017-18, the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) of female to male at the primary level, upper primary, elementary, secondary and higher secondary reported at 103:102, 72:70, 90:89, 64:60 and 30:28 respectively. Districts of Dimapur and Kohima has the highest GER whereas districts of Wokha and Tuensang has the lowest GER.

- The female drop-out rates in the primary level, upper primary and elementary during the year 2017-18 were 3.81, 3.24 and 3.62 as compared to male dropout rate of 4.46, 3.46 and 4.12 respectively in the same category indicating a lower female dropout rate than male. Districts of Zunheboto, Peren and Longleng has the lowest number of dropouts. Kiphire, Mon and Dimapur has the highest dropout rates.

PARTICIPATION IN ECONOMY

- As per Census 2011, the workforce participation rate for females is 44.7 % against 53.4 % for males. Rural sector has a better female workforce participation rate of 52.3% compared to urban sector which is only 25.9%. In rural sector, Longleng and Peren districts has the maximum female workforce participation rate. In Urban sector Peren district has the maximum (65.4 %) Workforce participation rate. It can be observed that there is a huge gap in rural and urban female workforce participation.
- As per census 2011 report, female main workers constitutes 67.8 % to total population which is higher than national level of 59.6 % as compared with male which has 80.8 % to total population. In the marginal worker category, female workers constitutes 29.9 % as compared with male which has only 19.2 % to total population. However, it is pretty low compared with the national level which has 40.4 % for female and 17.7 % for male.
- In the categories of workers, it is interesting to note that the percentage of female cultivators (65.2%) and agricultural labourer(7.3%) is more than their counterpart male cultivators(47.4 %) and agricultural labourer(5.8%). On the other hand, female has less percentage of workers (24.4%) in other workers category as compared with male which has 45%.
- As per 6th Economic Census 2013, DES, female employees engaged in the non agricultural activities comprised of 33.23 % and male employees comprised of 66.77 %.
- During 2016-17, percentage of female employment in the public sector constituted 23.70 % to total employment whereas in the private sector it constituted 51.80 % to total employment.
- During 2017, total female government employee comprised of 30.35% whereas male government employee comprised of 69.65%. Categories of government female employees in percentage are: Class -I = 37 %, Class - II = 31 %, Class - III = 26 % and Class - IV = 36 %.

PARTICIPATION IN DECISION MAKING

- Female participation (Voters) in State General Elections has increased from 80.51 % during the 2nd General Election in 1969 to 91.33 % during the 12th General Election in 2013.

- There were only two female contestants in the 2nd general election to the state assembly in 1969. However, there were 5 female contestants during 13th general election 2018. Till date no female contestants have been elected to the state assembly.
- In the Lok Sabha General Election, two women have contested in the 6th and 7th General Election during the year 1977 and 1980 and one managed to get elected during 1977.

SOCIAL OBSTACLES IN WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

- In the recent years, crime against women has been on the rise. Some of the prominent crimes that exist in the state are harassment, rape, Kidnapping & Abduction and murder and outraging of modesty. During 2017, there were 3 cases of harassment, 3 cases of murder, 15 cases of rape, 3 cases of kidnapping & abduction and 10 cases of modesty outraged.
- Districts of Kohima & Dimapur have the highest number of crimes registered against women in the state.
- Maximum number of women in the age group of 18-30 years and 30-50 years were arrested for crime related activities under special and local laws. Among them, cases of Immoral Traffic Act, Excise Act, NDPS Act and Explosive Act were prominent.

MISCELLANEOUS SECTION

- During 2016-17, there were 335804 numbers of female registered workers and 387943 numbers of male registered workers working under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee scheme.
- During 2016-17, 4464 nos. of widows were given pension benefits. In the same year, 51750 nos. of old age persons availed old age pension benefits, out of which 31067 nos. were female. Similarly, there were 1276 physically handicapped persons who availed pension benefits out of which 479 persons were female.