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# Women's Inclusion in Local Government of Nepal

Dipendra Bikram Sijapati<sup>1</sup>, Prof. Govinda Subedi<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1, 2</sup>PhD, Tribhuvan University, Nepal

**Abstract:** *The central purpose of this article is to analyze the magnitude of women's Inclusion in Local Governments of Nepal. The Government of Nepal held Local Levels elections in 2016 in three phases which elected Local Governments across the country.*

*This paper is based on secondary sources of information, data published by Nepal Election Commission 2017. Findings of this article suggest show that in national election 2016, the female elected members in local government are almost 40 percent in the districts of Nepal and this figure is more than one-thirds of women's mandatory Inclusion as envisioned 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.*

**Keywords:** *Women's Inclusion, Local Government, Policy, Equity and equality*

## I. SETTING THE CONTEXT

The Constitution of Nepal 2015 envisions three layers of Governments in Nepal: the Federal Government, the Province Governments and the Local Governments. The sovereignty of power is endowed with each level of the Government in their geographical jurisdiction.

Accordingly, there are 7 Provincial Governments and 753 Local Levels Governments in Nepal. The Government of Nepal held local elections in 2016. The election was historically important in the sense that it was held after almost 20 years stagnant of Local Bodies without representatives in Nepal, and the election was also important that it was being conducted under the new Constitution which made it mandatory provision that at least 33% of women to be represented in the Local Levels. Local Governments have been classified at four levels: Metropolis, Sub-Metropolis, Municipalities and Rural Municipalities. And each level, the following authorities are elected: Mayor, Deputy Mayor (in case of rural Municipalities – they are called Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson), Ward Chairperson, and Ward members. It has been made mandatory that the Political Party shall give their candidate least one woman as Mayor/Chairperson or Deputy Mayor/Deputy Chairperson. Further, among the four members in a ward, there shall be one female member and one Dalit female member. Thus, in each ward of a Municipality/Rural Municipality, there must be at least two women as members.

In this social and political context, this article examines the extent of women's Inclusion in Local Governments in Nepal. It also goes on examining the magnitude of Inclusion in each of Provinces of Nepal and among the districts with a Province.

## II. DATA AND METHODS

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

## III. RESULTS

There are a total of 753 Local Levels in the country. Of them, there are 293 Municipalities (Metropolis, Sub-Metropolis and Municipalities) and 460 Rural Municipalities and 4267 Wards in the country. In these Local Levels, a total of 35,224 representatives have been elected. Among them, 41 percent are females and rest 59 percent are males. Female Inclusion is considerably high in Metropolis (51%) while there Inclusion is only 38 percent in Sub-metropolis and around 40 percent in municipalities and rural municipalities.

Table 1 Distribution of Local Representatives by Types of Local Levels and Sex, Nepal, 2016

Types of Local Levels	Number			Percent		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Metropolis	427	440	867	49.3	50.7	100.0
Sub-Metropolis	801	490	1,291	62.0	38.0	100.0
Municipality	9,482	6,587	16,069	59.0	41.0	100.0
Rural Municipality	10,072	6,925	16,997	59.3	40.7	100.0
Total	20,782	14,442	35,224	59.0	41.0	100.0

There are 293 Mayors, 293 Deputy Mayors, 460 Rural Municipality Chairpersons, and 460 Rural Municipality Deputy Chairpersons, 4267 Ward Chairpersons, and 13458 male ward members and 13309 female ward members in the country.

Table 2 Distribution of Local Representatives by Positions and Sex

Position	Sex		Age groups			Total
	Male	Female	21-40	41-60	61 and above	
Mayors of (Metropolis, Sub-Metropolis and Municipality)	286	7	52	205	36	586
Deputy-Mayors(Metropolis, Sub-Metropolis and Municipality)	17	276	111	172	10	586
Chairpersonsof Rural Municipalities	449	11	112	295	53	920
Deputy Chairpersonsof Rural Municipalities	36	424	237	215	8	920
Ward Chairpersons	6691	52	2043	4051	649	13486
Ward Members	13191	13602	11159	13645	2002	53599
Total	20670	14372	13707	18575	2758	70082

Source: Election commission of Nepal 2017

Table 3 summarizes the number of local representatives by their position and age groups. Accordingly, 39 percent of the total representatives are youth that is under 40 years of age while 53 percent are in the age range of 41 and 60 years and the rest 8 percent are in the age range of 61 years and above. Considering the position of the local representatives, majority of Mayors (70%) are aged 41 – 60 years old, 58. are Deputy Mayor, 63.7 percent are Chairman and 60.8 percent are Ward president. But, among the Vice Chairman majority (51.52 %) are aged group 21-40 years old. Likewise in Deputy Mayor, 58.70 percent are aged 41.

It is evident that nearly half the female ward members are young (<=40 years of age) while the comparable figure for the male ward members is 34 percent.

Table 3: Distribution of Local Representatives by Provinces, According to Types of Local Levels and Sex of the Representatives, Nepal, 2016

Types of Local Levels/Province	Number of Districts	Number of Local Levels	Number of Local Representatives			% of females to the total
			Males	Females	Total	
Province 1	14		3609	2452	6061	41.19
Metropolitan city		1	56	41	97	42.27
Sub metropolitan city		2	118	86	204	42.16
Municipality		46	1513	1035	2548	36.57
Rural Municipality		88	1922	1290	3212	41.46
Sub-total		137				
Province 2	8		3891	2723	6614	41.15
Metropolitan city		1	95	66	161	41.0
Sub metropolitan city		3	229	157	386	40.67
Municipality		73	2451	1711	4162	41.11
Rural Municipality		59	1116	789	1905	42.38
Sub-total		136				
Province 3	13		3460	2445	5905	40.73
Metropolitan city		3	178	264	442	40.27
Sub metropolitan city		1	156	41	797	42.27
Municipality		41	1417	984	2401	40.0
Rural Municipality		74	1709	1156		40.67
Sub-total						
Province 4	11		2327	1630	3957	41.10
Metropolitan city		1	98	69	167	41.32
Sub metropolitan city		0	-	-		0
Municipality		26	967	675	1642	40.63
Rural Municipality		58	1262	1162	2424	41.22
Sub-total		85				
Province 5	12		3032	2134	5166	41.22
Metropolitan city		0	-	-		0.0
Sub metropolitan city		4	241	167	408	40.93
Municipality		32	1139	805	1944	40.17
Rural Municipality		73	1652	1162	2814	39.38
Sub-total		109				
Province 6	10		2211	1486	3697	40.0
Metropolitan city		0	-	-		0.0
Sub metropolitan city		0	-	-		0.0
Municipality		25	926	631	1557	35.29
Rural Municipality		54	1285	855	2140	42.89
Sub-total		79				
Province 7	9		2252	1572	3824	41.0
Metropolitan city		0	-	-		0.0
Sub metropolitan city		1	57	39	96	40.63
Municipality		33	1069	746	1785	40.88
Rural Municipality		54	1126	787	1913	45.45
Sub-total		88				

Source: Election Commission of Nepal, 2017.

Among 77 districts in 7 provinces, 14 districts are in province 1, 8 districts are in province 2, 13 districts are in province 3, 11 districts are in province 4, 12 districts are in province 5, 10 districts are in province 6 and 9 districts are in province 7. The highest numbers of districts are in province 1 and lowest numbers of districts are in province 7. While analysing the elected members of local government by local institutions, total number of candidates were 867 in metropolitan city out of them 49.25 percent were male and 50.75 percent were female. As a same way, total numbers 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 numbers of elected members are 16069 in municipalities of Nepal. Out of them 69 percent are male and 31 percent are female. In Gaunpalika, 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 Gaunpalika 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. But, the gender inclusion in local government is satisfactory because almost 41 percent female are elected in all local areas either those are in urban areas or in rural areas (table 3)

A. Candidates and Elected Persons

Table 4 summarizes the number of candidates vis-à-vis elected persons at the local Governments in all Local Levels of Nepal, according to Province. The ratio of candidates to elected persons is also summarized in Table.

The ratios of candidates to elected persons are 23 for males and 24 percent for females. This suggests the fact that there were almost equal chances of being elected in the election between males and females candidates. This is obvious when the election is held between the political parties and voting patterns seems go in the political party basis rather than election of the particular candidate based on sex. Thus, it appears that female candidates may not have gained the sympathy female votes in Local Levels election in Nepal.

Table 4: Distribution of number of candidates and elected members at the Local Governments, by Sex according to Provinces of Nepal, 2016

Provinces	No of Local Levels	Candidates				Elected				Ratio of Candidate to Elected	
		Male	Female	Total	% of female	Male	Female	Total	% of female	Males	Females
Province 1	137	15254	9812	25066	39.1	3554	2482	6036	41.1	23.3	25.3
Province 2	136	22861	14387	37248	38.62	3895	2723	6618	41.15	17.0	18.9
Province 3	114	14726	8887	23613	37.64	3433	2359	5792	40.73	23.3	26.5
Gandaki Province	85	7598	5057	12655	39.96	2317	1617	3934	41.10	30.5	32.0
Province 5	109	14024	9010	23036	39.11	3017	2116	5133	41.22	21.5	23.5
Karnali Province	79	7554	4848	12402	39.1	2211	1476	3687	40.0	29.3	30.4
SudurPaschimanchal Province	88	8502	5841	14343	40.72	2262	1572	3834	41.0	26.6	26.9
Nepal	748	85077	63284	148363		19617	15417	35034		23.1	24.4

Source: Election commission of Nepal 2017

While analyzed the ratio of candidate to elected in all provinces, female ratio are more than male in all provinces, i.e 23.3 male in province No.1, 17 male in province No.2, 23.3 male in province No.3, 30.5 male in Gandaki province, 21.5 male in province No. 5, 29.3 male in Karnali province, 26.6 male in Sudur Paschimanchal province are elected out of 100 male. Like wise, 25.3 female in province No.1, 18.9 female in province No. 2, 26.5 female in province No.3, 32 female in Gandaki province, 23.5 female in province No.5, 30.4 female in Karnali province and 26.9 female in Sudur Paschimanchal province are elected out of 100 female (table 4)

Table 4: Distribution of number of candidates and elected members at the Local Governments in Province 1 by districts and Sex

Districts	No of Local Levels	Candidates				Elected				Ratio of Candidate to Elected	
		Male	Female	Total	% of female	Male	Female	Total	% of female	Males	Females
Ilam	10	987	605	1592	38.0	251	174	425	40.9	25.4	28.8
Udhypur	8	940	645	1586	40.7	227	164	391	41.9	24.1	25.4
Okhaldhunga	8	764	518	1282	40.4	230	161	391	41.2	30.1	31.1
Khotang	10	953	615	1568	39.2	246	169	415	40.7	25.8	27.5
Jhapa	15	2061	1279	3340	38.3	402	282	684	41.2	19.5	22.0
Taplajung	9	644	367	1011	36.3	191	130	321	40.5	29.7	35.4
Terathum	6	489	284	773	36.7	134	93	227	41.0	27.4	32.7
Dhunkuta	7	713	477	1190	40.1	182	131	313	41.9	25.5	27.5
Pachthar	8	770	478	1248	38.3	184	123	316	38.9	23.9	25.7
Bhojpur	9	808	539	1347	40.0	247	175	422	41.5	30.6	32.5
Morang	17	2653	1698	4351	39.0	487	342	829	41.3	18.4	20.1
Sankhuwasava	10	826	532	1358	39.2	233	163	396	41.2	28.2	30.6
Sunsari	12	2074	1404	3478	40.4	380	264	644	41.0	18.3	18.8
Solukhumbhu	8	572	371	943	39.3	160	109	269	40.5	28.0	29.4
Total	137	15254	9812	25066	39.1	3554	2482	6036	41.1	23.3	25.3

Source: Election Commission of Nepal, 2017

In Province No.1, there are 14 districts, and 137 local government institutions. Ilam district occupied 10, Udayapur district occupied 8, Okhaldhunga district occupied 8, Kotang district occupied 10, Jhapa occupied district occupied 15, Taplejung district occupied 9, Terathum district occupied 6, Dhankuta district occupied 7, Panchthar district occupied 8 district, Bhojpur district occupied 9, Morang occupied 17, Sankhuwasabha district occupied 10, Sunsari occupied 12 and Solukhumbhu district occupied 8 local government institutions i.e. Gaunpalikas, Municipalities, Sub-metropolitan and Metropolitan cities. Among of 14 districts, highest local government institutions contained in Morang (17), second highest contained in Jhapa district ( 15), thrid highest contained in Sunsari (12), fourth highest contained in Ilam, Khotang and Sankhuwasabha (each have 10), fifth highest contained in Taplejung and Bhojpur (each have 9), sixth highest contained in Udayapur, Okhaldhunga, Panchthar and Solukhumbu (each have 8), seventh highest contained in Dhankuta (7) and eighth highest contained in Terathum (6) local government institutions.

In province No 1, total number of candidates were 25066 . Among of them 60.86 percent were male and 39. 14 percent were female. Among of 25066 candidates, 6036 candidates were elected. Among of them 58.88 percent were male and 41.12 percent were female.

The percent of female candidates in province No. 1 seems fluctuation 29 percent to more than 40 percent and same in elected members too because there is also fluctuation 31 percent to more than 42 percent. But, however the gender inclusion in province No. 1, is quite satisfactory because as a whole in both female candidate and female elected members almost or more than 33% as allocated by the national constitutions 2072 and election manifesto of different major political parties. While analyzed the ratio of candidate to elected, female ratio are more than male in all district of province No.1 (table 5)

**B. Number of Candidates vs. Elected: the Case of Province 2**

**Table 5: Distribution of number of candidates and elected members at the Local Governments in Province 2 by Sex, (in Number)**

S. N	District	No of Local Levels	Number of Candidates				Elected members				Ratio of Candidate to Elected	
			Male	Female	Total	Female %	Male	Female	Total	Female %	Male	Female
1	Dhanusha	18	3034	1775	4809	36.91	520	360	880	40.9	17.14	20.28
2	Parsa	14	2221	1312	3523	37.24	348	238	586	40.61	15.67	18.14
3	Bara	16	2890	1900	4790	39.37	506	359	865	41.5	17.51	18.9
4	Mahotari	15	2665	1626	4291	37.89	425	295	720	40.97	15.95	18.14
5	Rautahat	18	2810	1618	4428	36.54	486	334	820	40.73	17.30	20.64
6	Saptari	18	3226	2293	5529	41.47	496	359	855	42	15.38	15.66
7	Sarlahi	20	3229	1984	5213	38.1	609	430	1039	41.39	27.32	21.67
8	Siraha	17	2786	1879	4665	40.28	505	348	853	40.8	18.13	18.52
Total		136	22861	14387	37248	38.62	3895	2723	6618	41.15	17.04	18.93

Source: Election Commission of Nepal, 2017.

In Province No. 2, there are 8 district and 136 local government institutions. Among of 8 districts, Dhanusha contained the 18, Parasa contained 14, Bara contained 16, Mohotari contained 15, Rautahat contained 18, Saptari contained 18, Sarlahi contained 20 and Siraha contained 17 local government institutions. Out other them, 1st highest local government institutions contained in the Sarlahi district (20), 2nd highest contained in the Dhanusha, Rautahat and Saptra districts (each contained 18), 3rd highest contained in the Siraha district (17), 4th highest contained in the Bara district (16), 5th highest contained in the Mahotari district (15) and last and 6th highest contained in the Parsa district. In the province No. 2, there were 37248 candidates for local election 2074. Out of them 61.38 percent male and 38.62 percent were female. Among of them 6618 candidates are elected and out of them 58.85 are male and 41.15 percent are female. As a whole, the situations of female elected members are highly satisfactory because it is the higher than allocated by the national constitution 2072 and election manifesto of political parties (33%). While analysed the ratio of candidate to elected, the female ratio are more than male ratio in all districts except Sarlahi of province No.2 (table 5)

**C. Number of Candidates vs. Elected: the Case of Province 3**

**Table 6: Distribution of number of candidates and elected members at the Local Governments in Province 3 by Sex, (in Number)**

S. N	District	No of Local Levels	Number of Candidates				Elected members				Ratio of Candidate to Elected	
			Male	Female	Total	Female %	Male	Female	Total	Female %	Male	Female
1	Kathmandu	11	2165	1281	3446	37.17	408	297	705	42.13	18.85	23.19
2	Kavrepalanchowk	13	1696	991	2687	36.88	414	281	695	40.43	24.41	28.36
3	Chitwan	7	1301	902	2203	40.94	291	210	501	41.92	22.37	23.28
4	Dolakha	9	797	440	1237	35.57	232	155	387	40.1	29.11	35.23
5	Dhading	13	1309	753	2062	36.52	323	220	546	40.29	24.68	29.22
6	Nuwakot	12	1195	727	1922	37.83	272	190	462	41.13	27.76	26.13
7	Bhaktapur	4	649	323	972	33.23	117	72	189	38.1	18.03	22.29
8	Makwanpur	10	1346	859	2205	38.96	312	218	530	41.13	23.18	25.38
9	Rasuwa	5	329	183	512	35.74	85	54	139	38.85	25.84	29.51
10	Ramechhap	8	766	488	1254	38.92	198	138	336	41.1	25.85	28.28
11	Lalitpur	6	1004	551	1555	35.43	215	140	355	39.44	21.41	25.41
12	Sindhupalchowk	12	1301	821	2122	38.69	320	217	537	40.41	24.60	26.43
13	Sindhuli	9	868	568	1436	39.55	246	167	413	40.44	28.34	29.40
Total		114	14726	8887	23613	37.64	3433	2359	5792	40.73	23.31	26.54

Source: Election Commission of Nepal, 2017.

In a province 3, there are 13 districts and 114 local government institutions. Out of 114 local government institutions, 11 are in Kathmandu district, 13 are in Kavrepalnchowk district, 7 are in Chitwan district, 9 are in Dolakha district, 13 are in Dhading district, 12 are in Nuwakot district, 4 are in Bhaktapur district, 10 are in Makwanpur district, 5 are in Rasuwa district, 8 are in Ramechhap district, 6 are in Lalitpur district, 12 are in Sindhupalchowk district and 9 are in Sindhuli district. Among of 13 districts, highest local government institutions are in Kavrepalanchowk, Dhading, Nuwakot and Sindhupalchowk, 13, 13, 12 and 12 respectively. Almost 40 percent female are elected in all the district of province No. 3. So gender inclusion is quite satisfactory because female are elected more than allocated by the national constitution 2072 and election manifesto of different political parties ( at least 33 percent female members)

It is interesting that more than 40 percent female are elected which is more than allocated by national constitutions 2072 and election manifesto of political parties (at least 33 percent). So gender inclusion in local government of province No. 2 is quite satisfactory. While analyzed the ratio of candidate to elected, the female ratio are more than male ratio in all districts except Nuwakot of provice No.3 (table 6)

D. Number of Candidates vs. Elected: the Case of Gandaki Province

Table 7: Distribution of number of candidates and elected members at the Local Governments in Gandaki Province by Sex, (in Number)

S. N	District	No of Local Levels	Number of Candidates				Elected members				Ratio of Candidate to Elected	
			Male	Female	Total	Female %	Male	Female	Total	Female %	Male	Female
1	Kaski	5	908	612	1520	40.26	216	154	370	41.62	23.79	25.16
2	Gorkha	11	1145	762	1907	39.96	290	197	487	40.45	25.33	25.85
3	Tanahu	10	923	623	1546	40.30	259	186	445	41.78	28.1	29.86
4	NawalparasiPurba	8	981	677	1658	40.83	276	200	476	42.0	28.13	29.54
5	Parbat	7	639	406	1045	38.85	187	132	319	41.38	29.26	32.51
6	Baglung	10	820	551	1371	40.19	266	179	445	40.22	32.44	32.49
7	Manag	4	141	74	215	34.42	84	47	131	35.88	59.57	63.51
8	Mustang	5	135	90	225	40.0	77	49	123	39.84	57.01	54.44
9	Myagdi	6	363	240	603	39.80	136	101	237	42.62	37.47	42.01
10	Lamjung	8	604	382	986	38.74	230	161	391	41.18	38.01	42.15
11	Syangja	11	939	640	1579	40.53	296	211	507	42.13	31.52	32.97
Total		85	7598	5057	12655	39.96	2317	1617	3934	41.10	30.49	31.98

Source: Election Commission of Nepal, 2017.

In province No. 4, there are 11 districts and 85 local government institutions. Among of them, Kaski occupied 5 local government institutions, Gorkha occupied 11, Tanahu occupied 10, Nawalparasi Purba occupied 8, Parbat occupied 7, Baglung occupied 10, Manag occupied 4, Mustang occupied 5, Myagdi occupied 6, Lamjung occupied 8 and Syanja occupied 11 local government institutions. However, Gorkha and Syanja occupied 1st highest number of local government institutions, 11, 11 respectively. Likewise, Gorkha and Baglung occupied 2nd highest, 10, 10 respectively and Nawalparasi and Lamjung followed the third place 8,8 and other parbat is in 5th, 7, Myagdi is in 6th, 6 Mustang is in 7th and Manag is in 8th 5 and 4 respectively. In province number 4, there were total candidates 12655, out of them 60.04 percent were male and 39.96 percent were female. Among of them, 3934 candidates are elected and out of them 58.9 percent are male and 41.10 percent are female). While analyzed the ratio of candidate to elected, the female ratio are more than male ratio in all districts except Mustang of province No.4 (table7).



E. Number of Candidates vs. Elected: the Case of Province 5

Table 8: Distribution of number of candidates and elected members at the Local Governments in Province 5 by Sex,

S. N	District	No of Local Levels	Number of Candidates					Elected members				Ratio of Candidate to Elected	
			Male	Female	Sex	Total	Female %	Male	Female	Total	Female %	Male	Female
1	Arghakhachi	6	691	442	-	1133	39.0	190	127	317	40.1	27.5	28.73
2	Kapilvastu	10	2059	1078	-	3137	34.36	295	205	500	41.0	14.33	19.0
3	Gulmi	12	855	534	-	1386	38.53	291	198	489	40.49	34.1	37.01
4	Dang	10	1428	954	-	2382	40.0	304	216	520	41.54	21.29	22.64
5	Nawalparasi West	7	1048	717	1	1766	40.6	224	160	384	41.67	21.37	22.32
6	Palpa	10	788	514	-	1305	39.39	246	179	425	42.12	31.22	34.82
7	Pyuthan	9	823	558	-	1381	40.41	202	136	338	40.24	24.54	24.37
8	Bardiya	8	1138	803	-	1941	41.37	226	165	391	42.20	19.86	20.55
9	Banke	8	1383	967	-	2350	41.15	248	173	421	41.1	17.93	17.89
10	RukumPurba	3	249	164	-	413	39.71	94	67	161	41.61	37.75	40.85
11	Rupandehi	16	2801	1761	1	4563	38.59	473	334	807	41.39	16.87	18.97
12	Rolpa	10	764	515	-	1279	40.27	224	156	380	43.42	29.32	30.29
Total		109	14024	9010	2	23036	39.11	3017	2116	5133	41.22	21.51	23.49

Source: Election Commission of Nepal, 2017

In province number 5, there are 12 districts and 109 local government institutions, out of 12 districts and 109 local government institutions, Arghakhachi occupied 6 local government institutions, Kapilvastu occupied 10 local government institutions, Gulmi occupied 12 local government institutions, Dang occupied 10 local government institutions, Nawalparasi west occupied 7 local government institutions, Palpa occupied 10 local government institutions, Pyuthan occupied 9 local government institutions, Bardiya occupied 8 local government institutions, Banke occupied 8 local government institutions, RukumPurba occupied 3 local government institutions, Rupandehi occupied 16 local government institutions, and Rolpa occupied 10 local government institutions. Among of them, highest number of local government institutions have in Rupandehi district, second highest is Gulmi, third highest are kapilvastu, Dang, Palpa and Rolpa each have 10 local government institutions, and 4th place is Pyuthan, it has 9 local government institutions, 5th are Banke and Bardiya each have 8 institutions, 6th is Nawalparasi west where is 7 institutions and 7th is Argakhanchi where is 6 institutions and last one is RukumPurba where is only 3 local government institutions. In province 5, there were total numbers of 23036 candidates, out of them 60.88 percent was male and 39.11 percent were female. Among of 23036 candidates, 5133 candidates are elected and out of them, 58.78 percent male and 41.22 are female. While analyzed the ratio of candidate to elected, female ratio is more than male in districts of province No.5 except Pyuthan and Banke districts (table 8).

F. Number of Candidates vs. Elected: the Case of Karnali Province

Table 9: Distribution of number of candidates and elected members at the Local Governments in Karnali Province by Sex, (in Number)

S. N	District	No of Local Levels	Number of Candidates				Elected members				Ratio of Candidate to Elected	
			Male	Female	Total	Female %	Male	Female	Total	Female %	Male	Female
1	Kalikot	9	994	639	1633	39.13	251	173	424	40.8	25.25	27.1
2	Jajarkot	7	778	512	1290	39.69	235	163	398	40.96	30.21	31.84
3	Jumla	8	700	413	1113	67.11	186	117	303	38.61	26.57	28.33
4	Dolpa	8	382	219	601	36.44	197	114	311	36.66	51.57	52.05
5	Dailekh	11	1103	737	1840	40.0	279	193	472	40.89	25.29	26.19
6	Mugu	4	395	246	641	38.38	139	91	230	39.57	35.19	37.0
7	Rukum Paschim	6	675	448	1123	39.89	223	154	377	40.81	33.0	34.38
8	Salyan	10	896	607	1503	40.39	256	178	434	41.0	28.57	29.32
9	Surkhet	9	1219	782	2011	38.89	305	208	513	40.55	25.0	26.6
10	Humla	7	412	235	647	36.32	140	85	225	37.78	33.98	36.17
Total		79	7554	4848	12402	39.1	2211	1476	3687	40.0	29.30	30.45

Source: Election Commission of Nepal, 2017

In province number 6, there are 10 districts and 79 local government institutions, among of them Kalikot occupied 9, jajarkot occupied 7, Jumla occupied 8, Dolpa occupied 8, Dailekh occupied 11, Mugu occupied 4, Rukum Paschim occupied 6, Salyan occupied 10, Surkhet occupied 9 and Humla occupied 7 local government institutions. When analysed local governments institution by district, 1st highest local government institutions (11) occupied by Dailekh, second highest occupied by Salyan (10), 3rd highest occupied by Kalikot and Surkhet (9,9), 4th highest occupied by Jumla and Dolpa (8,8), 5th highest occupied by Humla and Jajarkot (7,7) and last (6th) highest occupied by Rukum Paschim (6). In all districts, the female candidates are around 40 percent and also elected in same ratio. In overall, gender inclusion in local government seems quite satisfactory because it is quite higher than allocated by national constitution 2072 and election manifesto of different political parties (33% female compulsory inclusion). But the Table 29 is not clearly showing whether the gender inclosing is equally in all major and minor post or only in minor post. (Major post refers to Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Ward Chairman and minor post refers to ward member). While analyzed the ratio of candidate to elected, female are more than male in all districts of Karnali province (table 9)

G. Number of Candidates vs. Elected: the Case of Sudur Paschimanchal Province

Table 10: Distribution of number of candidates and elected members at the Local Governments in Sudur Paschimanchal Province by Sex, (in Number)

S. N	District	No of Local Levels	Number of Candidates				Elected members				Ratio of Candidate to Elected	
			Male	Female	Total	Female %	Male	Female	Total	Female %	Male	Female
1	Achham	10	812	546	1358	40.21	284	190	474	40.0	34.98	34.8
2	Kanchanpur	9	1331	959	2290	41.88	283	195	478	40.79	21.26	20.33
3	Kailali	13	1978	1469	3447	42.62	382	273	655	41.68	19.31	18.58
4	Dadeldhura	7	614	388	1002	33.73	161	113	274	41.24	26.22	29.12
5	Doti	9	670	470	1140	41.23	202	141	343	41.10	30.15	30.0
6	Darchula	9	628	409	1037	39.44	188	132	320	41.25	29.94	32.27
7	Bajhang	12	837	559	1396	40.0	286	202	488	41.39	34.17	36.14
8	Bajura	9	610	383	993	38.57	147	215	362	59.39	34.1	56.14
9	Baitadi	10	1022	658	1680	39.17	261	179	440	40.68	25.54	27.20
Total		88	8502	5841	14343	40.72	2262	1572	3834	41.0	26.61	26.91

Source: Election Commission of Nepal, 2017.

In province No.7, there are 9 district and 88 local government institutions. Out of them Achham district occupied 10, Kanchanpur district occupied 9, Kailali district occupied 13, Dadeldhura district occupied 7, Doti district occupied 9, Darchula district occupied 9, Bajhang district occupied 12, Bajura district occupied 9 and Baitadi district occupied 10 local government institutions. Among of them highest local government institutions occupied by Kailali( 13) and second highest is Bajhang (12), third highest are Achham and Baitadi (10,10), fourth highest are Kanchanpur, Doti, Darchula and Bajura ( each have 9) and last is Dadeldhura which is occupied 7 institutions. Almost 40 percent candidates were female and elected members also in the same ratio in all districts except Bajura because 55.39 percent female are elected in Bajura district. It is exceptional case. The gender inclusion in local government is quite satisfactory because the female candidates for election and elected female candidates' percent are more than (33%) allocated by national constitution 2072 and election manifesto of different political parties (at least 33 percent). While analyzed the ration of candidate to elected in all districts of Sudur Paschimanchal province, male ration is more than in Achham, Kanchanpur, Kailali, Doti and Baitadi districts and female ratio are more in Darchula, Bajhang and Bajura districts (table 10)

#### IV. CONCLUSION

Almost 40 percent candidates were female and elected members also in the same ratio in all districts of all provinces. While analyzed the ratio of Candidate to Elected, female ratio are more than male in majority districts of all provinces. It is exceptional case. The gender inclusion in local government is quite satisfactory. Because of the female candidates for election and elected female candidates' percent are more than (33 %) allocated by national constitution 2015 and election commission act 2017 as well as election manifesto of different major political parties. Overall policies, contemporary policies & acts, development policies and plans of Nepal and international common policies and acts (MDGs, SDGs, Beijing declaration related to gender inclusion, Cairo conferences and other relevance are reviewed to analyzed the policies and act status of gender inclusion of national, international and overall global scenario. There found to be the act and policies are emphasized to gender inclusion of Nepal as well as federal structured local government.

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