


## Women and development in Maldives – Some facts

2011		❖ The first woman judge was appointed to the high court <sup>9</sup> .
2010	   	❖ Out of the 40% women employed in Education Sector 25% were working at the higher pillar/decision making level. The upper pillar here are Minister, State Minister, Directors, Deputy Directors, Director Generals, Deputy Director Generals, Assistant Directors, Academic Counselors, Principals, Deputy Principals, Chief Executive Officers, Education Development Officers and Education Development Coordinators <sup>5</sup> . ❖ Proportion of girls to boys who had completed O'level exams is 3654:3266 <sup>4</sup> and proportion of girls to boys who had completed A'level exams. 1503:1225 <sup>4</sup> . ❖ 57 out of 1091 island level Councilor seats are filled by women and 5 out of 77 Parliament members are women <sup>8</sup> . ❖ Out of the Health Sector employees 66% employees were women <sup>6</sup> .
2008		❖ Gender portfolio changed to the Department of Gender and Family Protection Services
2007		❖ The first woman judge was appointed <sup>9</sup> .
2006	  	❖ 14 to 15 year old girls attending schools were 95.1% in Male' and 93.3% in the atolls <sup>2</sup> ❖ Out of the Education Sector employees 72% employees were women <sup>2</sup> . ❖ Maldives ratified the CEDAW Optional Protocol <sup>5</sup> .
2005	 	❖ Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Welfare was renamed as Ministry of Gender and Family <sup>3</sup> . ❖ 14 to 15 year old of girls attending schools were 97.2% in Male' and 95.8% in the atolls <sup>2</sup> ❖ Out of the Education Sector employees 72% employees were women <sup>2</sup> .
2002		❖ The first woman high commissioner, high commissioner for Sri Lanka was appointed <sup>3</sup> .
2001		❖ The first woman Atoll Chief was appointed <sup>1</sup> .
2000		❖ The first woman island chief was appointed <sup>1</sup> .
1999	 	❖ Out of the Health Sector employees 67% employees were women <sup>6</sup> . ❖ 2 out of 50 members at the parliament were women excluding 3 women appointed by the president <sup>6</sup> .
1998		❖ Ministry of Youth Women Affairs and Sports was renamed as Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Security <sup>3</sup> .
1997	 	❖ Ratio of men to women who had post graduated at Masters level is 108:41 <sup>1</sup> . ❖ Ratio of men to women who had post graduated above Masters level is 16:3 <sup>1</sup> .
1996		❖ Ministry of Youth Women Affairs and Sports was renamed as Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Welfare <sup>3</sup> .
1995		❖ 123 out of every 1000 girls and 117 out of every 1000 boys attained primary education <sup>1</sup> .
1995		❖ Out of the Health Sector employees 53% employees were women <sup>6</sup> .
1993	  	❖ Ministry of Youth Women Affairs and Sports was established <sup>3</sup> . ❖ 8% of Government decision making level comprised of women. At the level of decision making here are CEO, Director General, Director, Assistant Director. And above the level of Directors, women occupied 3% <sup>2</sup> ❖ Maldives ratified The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) <sup>5</sup> .
1989		❖ Office for Women Affairs was changed to Department of Women Affairs <sup>1</sup> .
1986		❖ National Women's Committees were changed to Office for Women Affairs and was brought under the supervision of President Office <sup>3</sup> .
1985	 	❖ 434 out of every 1000 girls and 425 out of every 1000 boys attained Primary Education <sup>1</sup> . ❖ 53 out of 1000 girls compared to 49 out of 1000 boys attained Secondary Education <sup>1</sup> . ❖ Ratio of girls to boys attained first degree and above is 29:149 <sup>1</sup> .
1984		❖ Women's Committees were formed at Island level <sup>3</sup> .
1983		❖ Ratio of boys to girls graduated from Tertiary Institutes is 46:54 <sup>1</sup> .
1981		❖ Women Preparatory Committee that was formed in 1979 was officially changed to National Women's Committee <sup>3</sup> .
1979		❖ Women's Committees were formed at Male' district level <sup>3</sup> .
1977		❖ Ratio of women to men in Labor force participation is 38:62 <sup>1</sup> .
1970		❖ The first women minister was appointed as Minister of Health <sup>1</sup> .
1960		❖ Government began awarding overseas scholarships to girls <sup>1</sup> .
1950	 	❖ The first parliament was formed with 9 women out of 45 total members <sup>1</sup> . ❖ The first political party was formed with 1580 women out of 4741 total members <sup>1</sup> .
1944		❖ General Education for girls opened up for the first time <sup>1</sup> .
1932		❖ First girls school was established which later became an extensive girl school <sup>1</sup> .

<b>Key</b>		<b>Health</b>
		<b>Institutions/mechanisms</b>
		<b>Education</b>
		<b>Employment</b>

Sources: <sup>1</sup>Husna.R (1999A review of Twenty Years 1979 -1999", Gender and Development in the Maldives.<sup>2</sup>Analytical Report (2006), Ministry of Planning and National Development. <sup>3</sup>Ministry of gender and Family (2011). <sup>4</sup>Statistical Data (2011), Ministry of Education. <sup>5</sup>The Convention of Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against women. Available at <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/>(Accessed on 08<sup>th</sup> March 2012), <sup>6</sup>Statistical Data (2011) Ministry of Health & Family. <sup>7</sup> Statistical Data (2011).Local Government Authority. <sup>8</sup>Crime Records Statistics (2010), Maldives Police Service