

WOMEN'S LAND OWNERSHIP IN NEPAL

Access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property is one of the means to achieve gender equality and empower women and girls.

KEY GOVERNMENT PROVISIONS ON WOMEN LAND OWNERSHIP IN NEPAL

TAX EXEMPTION

- Depending on the region, women receive 25% to 50% exemption in the land registration taxes.
- When transferring the land within three generations, women receive 50% tax exemption.
- Single women receives 35% tax exemption in land transferration taxes.
- Similar tax exemption applies when transferring land jointly in the name of husband and wife.

EQUAL RIGHTS TO INHERITANCE

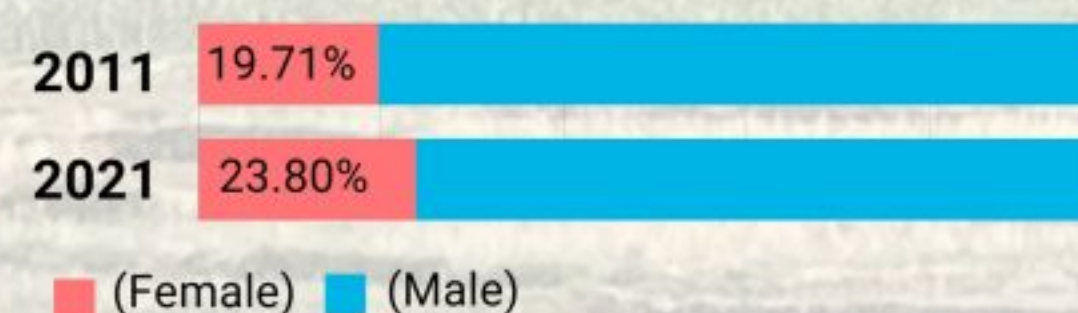
- Women have equal ancestral rights without any gender-based discrimination.
- Daughters have equal claim on parental properties as sons. (After the new constitution in 2015 and the legislation revision dated: September 2015).
- A widow is fully entitled to inheritance of share in property.

JOINT OWNERSHIP ON LAND

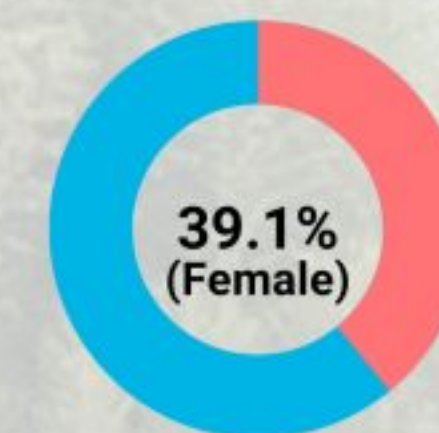
- Joint land ownership certificate can be obtained with a minimal fee of around NRs 100 to NRs 500 depending on region.
- An individual ownership which was previously registered either in the name of wife or husband can also be transferred into joint ownership certificate with nominal fee of NRs 100 to NRs 500 depending on region.
- The land provided by the State will be given jointly in the name of both spouses.

STATUS OF WOMEN LAND OWNERSHIP IN NEPAL

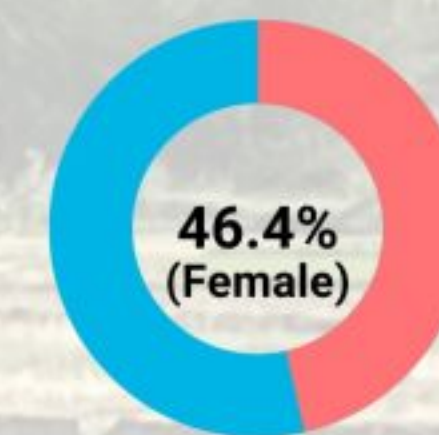
According to the 2011 National Census, 19.71% of households had women ownership. In 2021 it has increased to 23.80% of households having land or house registered under a female household member. The Sustainable Development Goals roadmap aims to raise this figure to 40% by 2030.



Women hold a lower share of individual landowners. In 2019, they accounted for 39.10% of the country's 10.9 million landowners.



However, in 2023, nearly 46.43% out of 42,062,353 parcels nationwide are owned by women. This indicates few female landowners often hold multiple small parcels mostly in urban and peri-urban areas.



Legend: (Female) (Male)

WOMEN IN LAND GOVERNANCE



- **Reservation for female students at academic or training courses in surveying and land administration, especially in the courses run by or in collaboration with the Government of Nepal.**
- **Women's representation is mandatory in the following institutions:**
 - Land Issues Resolving Commission
 - Land Use Councils
 - Land Related Committees at local level
- **Reservation in the Recruitment by the Public Service Commission:**
 - In 2023, the share of the female workforce in Surveying and Land Administration is more than 20%, which was negligible 20 years ago.