

APPROACH FOR WOMEN DEVELOPMENT: FIVE YEAR PLANNING AND WOMEN DEVELOPMENT

- Women's movement has been widely influenced by these broad socio-economic and political processes of this period. The most important of these pertain to the constitutional provisions and social legislation for women and planned economic development.

Five Year Plan (1951-56)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It mainly contemplated welfare measures for women. The Central Social Welfare Board (CSWB) was established to address the problems of women and implement welfare measures. CSWB undertook a number of welfare measures through the voluntary sector. The programmes for women were implemented through the National Extension Service Programmes through Community Development Blocks. Women were organised into Mahila Mandals as an approach to community development.
Second Five-Year Plan (1956-61)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued to lay emphasis on welfare aspect Recognised women as workers- Focussed on protection against injuries at work, maternity benefits and crèches for their children. Suggested immediate implementation of the principal of equal pay for equal work Also suggested provision for training to enable women to compete for higher jobs
Third Five Year Plan (1961-66)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognised the greater importance of education for women. Maternal and child welfare programmes were proclaimed.
Fourth Five Year Plan (1969-74)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emphasis on women education continued The outlay on family planning was stepped up to reduce the birth rate through education. Supplementary feeding for children, nursing and expectant mothers were also introduced.
Fifth Five Year Plan (1974-79)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This plan coincided with the International Women's Decade and the submission of a Report of the Committee on the Status of Women in India. In 1976, Women's welfare and Development Bureau was set up under the Ministry of Social Welfare This plan emphasized on the training of women who were in need of income and protection. The primary objective of the health programmes was to provide minimum public health facilities integrated with family planning and nutrition for vulnerable groups, children, pregnant and lactating mothers.
Sixth Five Year Plan (1980-85)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From the Sixth Plan onwards, a marked shift took place "from the Welfare to a Development approach". It marked a landmark in the history of women's development by including a separate chapter and adopting a multi-disciplinary approach with the three-pronged thrust on health, education and employment. It reviewed the status and situation of women in general and came to the conclusion that in spite of legal and constitutional guarantees, women had lagged behind men in all sectors. For the first time, it clearly spelt out that economic independence would accelerate improvement in the status of women and suggested the setting up of cells at the district level for increasing women's participation through self-employment. Emphasized need for increasing enrollment of the girls at the elementary level, thus encouraging the promotion of education for women in backward areas.
Seventh Five Year Plan (1985-1990)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The main objectives of the programmes in the 7th Plan were to raise women's economic and social status in order to bring them into the mainstream of national development. The focus on generation of both skilled and unskilled employment through proper education and vocational training continued The plan emphasized on "Beneficiary Oriented Schemes" (BOS) in various development sectors which extended direct benefits to women.