



TV

UNITED NATIONS NATIONS UNIES

UN IN ACTION

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WOMEN GAIN SEATS IN NEPAL'S ELECTION

VIDEO

AUDIO

WOMEN VOTE

NARRATION

Nepal turned a corner in April this year when voters peacefully chose delegates to create a new political system. Women had a big stake in the outcome and took part in record numbers. About one-third were elected. (13")

VOTER INSTRUCTION

Community activists like Srijana Shreshta worked in Kirtipur, outside Kathmandu, to ensure that women knew why it was important to vote. (9")

SRIJANA SHRESHTA AT HOME

During Nepal's civil war, thousands of women on both sides lost their husbands. Srijana's was shot by Maoist rebels as she and her children looked on. (10")

Widows in Nepal are typically denied property and often brutally mistreated. Srijana and her peers are looking for protection under the new legal system. (10")

SHRESHTA ON CAMERA

SHRESHTA: (Nepalese) **F**
“It is important for women to realize that they have a say in the new constitution.” (5”)

GROUP MEETING

NARRATION
In another village, Ram Devi Tamang also helped to educate female voters. After Ram Devi’s husband died in a motorcycle accident, her in-laws beat her. Now, as an activist, she helps fellow widows gain the support and respect they deserve. (16”)

WOMEN FARMERS

TAMANG: (Nepalese) **F**
“The current constitution does not properly address the rights of women. So it’s important for all women to voice their rights.” (7”)

TAMANG ON CAMERA

NARRATION
Agencies like the United Nations Population Fund support voter education activities as part of a broader effort to involve women in the peace-building process. To facilitate a fair and peaceful vote, the UN sent a special mission, led by Ian Martin. (16”)

STREET THEATRE

MARTIN: (English) **M**
“The United Nations, the international donor community is ready, must be ready to come in and enable whatever government is now formed for the period while the constituent assembly is sitting to show the people of Nepal there really is a peace dividend, and that it’s a peace dividend

MARTIN ON CAMERA

that reaches previously marginalized groups, including women.” (21”)

NARRATION

SRIJANA VOTES

By casting ballots, voters hope that a ‘new Nepal’ would bring jobs and social justice. The

DEMONSTRATION

victorious Maoists will now lead the complex effort to replace Nepal’s monarchy with a more equitable government. Women like Srijana will be watching closely. (17”)

UN LOGO

This report was prepared by William Ryan and Marc Westhof for the United Nations.