



5th World Conference on Women

5WCW

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A call to action in support of a United Nations sponsored

Fifth World Conference on Women 5WCW

NEW DELHI, INDIA

(proposed host city)

Proposed Host City: New Delhi, India



In 1995, 189 countries signed the Platform for Action adopted at the United Nations (UN) Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing, China, that prioritized gender mainstreaming as a mechanism to achieve gender equality.

The final conclusion of Beijing Platform for Action was:
“Without the active participation of women and the incorporation of women’s perspectives in all levels of decision-making, the goals of equality, development and peace cannot be achieved.”

This agenda remains unfinished and calls for a United Nations sponsored Fifth World Conference on Women, this time in New Delhi, India – the largest democracy in the world which ironically has the lowest gender markers as well.



The Gate of India welcomes all.

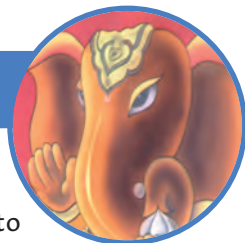
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Ten Reasons to Have 5WCW in New Delhi, India

1. India is the largest Democracy in the world.
2. English is one of the main spoken languages in India.
3. India has unparalleled security.
4. India is deeply rooted in hospitality.
5. Mass transit in the greater Delhi area is extensive.
6. India has lodging & accommodations for any financial level.
7. India has world-class medical facilities.
8. India has successful women's NGO's.
9. India has wide-ranging women's grassroots businesses.
10. India is Visa friendly to all nations.



Delhi can handle it!



Travel into and out of Delhi



Indira Gandhi International Airport, situated to the southwest of Delhi, is the main gateway for the city's domestic and international civilian air traffic. Terminal 3, which cost US\$1.5 billion to construct between 2007 and 2010, handles an additional 37 million passengers annually making it one of the busiest airports in South Asia.

Delhi is a major junction in the Indian railway network and is the headquarters of the Northern Railway. The five main railway stations are New Delhi Railway Station, Old Delhi, Nizamuddin Railway Station, Anand Vihar Railway Terminal and Sarai Rohilla.



The Delhi Metro is a rapid transit system serving Delhi, Gurgaon, Faridabad, Noida, and Ghaziabad in the National Capital Region of India. Delhi Metro is the world's 13th largest metro system in terms of length. Delhi Metro is India's first modern public transportation system, which has

revolutionized travel by providing a fast, reliable, safe, and comfortable means of transport. The network consists of six lines with a total length of 189.63 kilometers (117.83 mi) with 142 stations, of which 35 are underground, five are at-grade, and the remainders are elevated. All stations have escalators, elevators, and tactile tiles to guide the visually impaired from station entrances to trains. It has a combination of elevated, at-grade, and underground lines, and uses both broad gauge and standard gauge rolling stock.

Accommodation

In Delhi, there are numerous hotels and accommodations:

- 16,500 luxury category rooms in South Delhi
- 3,000 luxury category rooms in National Capital Region
- 8,000 rooms in budget hotels
- 6,000 rooms in non-rated hotels
- There are thousands of guest houses, non-rated hotels and home stay availability.

A Sampling of Potential Conference Facilities

Venues & Stadiums

- Sri Fort
- Jawahar Lal Nehru Stadium
- Vigyan Bhavan
- Pragati Maidan
- Sanskriti- M.G. Road
- India International Centre (Stay/Auditorium)
- Habitat Centre (Stay/Auditorium)
- Taj Palace
- Ashoka Hotel
- Tyagraj Stadium
- Talkatora Stadium
- Firozshah Kotla Ground
- Islamic Centre

Campuses & Universities

- Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU)
- University of Delhi (DU)
- Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IIT)
- TERI University
- School of Planning and Architecture
- National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT)

International events held in Delhi in recent years

- During the 2010 Commonwealth games, Delhi hosted 76,000 foreign visitors and delegates.
- 2nd Delhi International Film Festival
- 3rd BRICS International Competition Conference



About New Delhi, the Capital of India

History



The area around Delhi was probably inhabited before the second millennium BC, and there is evidence of continuous habitation since at least the 6th century BC. Through most of its history, Delhi has served as a capital of various kingdoms and empires. It has been captured, ransacked and rebuilt several times, particularly during the medieval period, and the modern Delhi is a cluster of a number of cities spread across the metropolitan region. This is why Delhi is sometimes called the “City of Cities.”

Delhi was the site of ancient Indraprastha, the mythical capital of the Pandavas during the Mahabharata. Delhi re-emerged as a major political, cultural and commercial city along the trade routes between Northwest India and the Gangetic plain during the Delhi sultanates.

In AD 1639, the Mughal emperor Shah Jahan built a new walled city named Shahjahanabad, in Delhi, which served as the capital of the Mughal Empire until 1857. In 1911, the British determined to shift the capital of India from Calcutta (Kolkata) to Delhi, and a three-member committee was formed to plan the construction of the new administrative center. The key architect on the committee was Sir Edwin Lutyens. The British moved to the partially built New Delhi in 1912 and construction was completed in 1931. When the British left India in 1947, New Delhi became its national capital and seat of the union government.



Government and Politics

The National Capital Territory of Delhi has its own Legislative Assembly, Lieutenant Governor, Council of Ministers and Chief Minister. Members of the legislative assembly are directly elected from territorial constituencies in Delhi. The Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) handles civic administration for the city.

The Government of India and the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi jointly administer New Delhi, where both bodies are located. The Parliament of India, the Rashtrapati Bhavan (Presidential Palace), Cabinet Secretariat and the Supreme Court of India are located in the municipal district of New Delhi.

Geography

Delhi is located at 28.61°N 77.23°E, and lies in Northern India. The National Capital Territory of Delhi covers an area of 573 sq miles, of which 302 sq miles is designated rural. In 2003, Delhi won the United States Department of Energy's first Clean Cities International Partner of the Year Award for its "bold efforts to curb air pollution and support alternative fuel initiatives."

Arts and Culture

1,200 heritage buildings and 175 national heritage sites
Three World Heritage Sites – The Red Fort, Qutab Minar and Humayun's Tomb – are located in Delhi.

Climate

The warm season lasts from early April to early July with an average daily high temperature above 36 °C (97 °F). The cold season lasts from early December to mid-February with an average daily high temperature below 23 °C (73 °F). From March to May the weather is hot. The monsoon arrives at the end of June, along with an increase in humidity.



Status of Women in India



India is the first country where, since independence, women have the right to vote to elect representatives for the National Parliament as well as State Assemblies. The women have equal rights to contest any election subject to the fulfillment of other eligibility conditions. So far, 15 General Elections have been held for the Lok Sabha (Lower House). The percentage of women parliamentarians fluctuates between 8 and 12% in these elections. In the current Lok Sabha (Lower House), there are 60 (11.0%) women Members out of 544 (as of November 2011) and there are 26 women Members (10.8%) out of 241 in the Rajya Sabha (Upper House). The overall percentage of women parliamentarians stands at 10.96%.



The principle of gender equality is enshrined in the Indian Constitution in its Preamble, Fundamental Rights, Fundamental Duties and Directive Principles. The Constitution not only grants equality to women, but also empowers the State to adopt measures of positive discrimination in favor of women.

Within the framework of a democratic polity, our laws, development policies, plans and programs have aimed at women's advancement in different spheres. India has also ratified various international conventions and human rights instruments committing to secure equal rights of women. Key among them is the ratification of the Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) in 1993.

Even after more than six decades of independence, a significant number of women in India face disparities in access and control over resources. These disparities get reflected in important social development indicators such as health, nutrition, literacy, educational attainments, skill levels, occupational status, etc. In addition, there are a number of gender specific barriers that prevent women from gaining access to their rightful share in the flow of public goods and services. Unless these gender requirements and their felt needs are incorporated and mainstreamed in the planning and development processes of the country, it is likely that the benefits of economic growth will completely bypass a significant section of the country's population.





Educate a girl and you educate the world.



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Potential List of Partners in India



All India Dalit Mahila Adhikar Manch
Anveshi Research Centre for Women, Hyderabad
Center for Governance and Cultural Studies, Chennai
Centre for Social Equity and Inclusion (CSEI), Delhi
Centre for Women's Studies TISS
Dalit Women's Network for Solidarity
Institute of Development Studies
Forum Against Oppression Of Women
Jogini Vyavastha
Vyaireka Porata Sanghatana (JVVPs)
Krantijyoti Savitribai Phule Women's Studies Centre
National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights
National Dalit Movement for Justice
National Coalition for Strengthening SC/ST PoA Act
Partners for Law in Development
Jan Abhiyan Sanstha, Himachal Pradesh
Nagas Peoples Movement for Human Rights
Sampada Gramin Mahila Sanstha
Self-Employed Women's Association of India
Shri Mahila Griha Udyog Lijjat Papad
Womanist Party of India
United Theological College
Women in Governance
Women's Initiative for New Awakening (WINA)
Women's Research And Action Group, Mumbai Navsharan Singh
Women's Research and Action Group, Mumbai
Partner's for Law in Development
All India Federation of Women Lawyers
All India Women's Conference
Appan Samachar
Association of Theologically Trained Women of India
Bharatiya Grameen Mahila Sangh
Bharatiya Mahila Bank
Confederation of Women Entrepreneurs
Durga Vahini
Friends of Women's World Banking
Gulabi Gang
Krantikari Adivasi Mahila Sangathan
Lawyers Collective
Mahila Atma Raksha Samiti
Nari Mukti Sangh
Red Rikshaw Revolution





With special thanks to:

Pathways To Peace www.pathwaystopeace.org

Millionth Circle www.millionthcircle.org

Feathered Pipe Foundation www.featheredpipe.com



Together we can!
New Delhi, India