

2. NUMBER OF PERSONS CONTESTED AND ELECTED IN VARIOUS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS

Sl. No.	Year	Seats Allotted	Total number contested	Average number of contestants per seat	Female			Male		
					Total number contested	Elected	%	Total number contested	Elected	%
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
1	1991	30	208	6.93	6	1	17	202	29	14
2	1996	30	270	9.00	15	1	7	255	29	11
3	2001	30	193	6.43	9	0	0	184	30	16
4	2006	30	218	7.26	12	Nil	Nil	206	30	15

Source :- Elections Department, Puducherry

Even though Indian women played a major role in the freedom movement, the participation of women in public life were less during the post independence period . Women are expected to be housewives, homemakers and caretakers and hence they are more or less economically dependent upon the males. Their choices are limited and they are not involved in decision making processes. There is a need to raise the basic standard of living of the women. Education should be universal and made accessible to both Rural and Urban women and which in turn will help them to play lead role in decision making. Government legislators must look directly at women's issues and enact laws to protect them. Economic and political empowerment only can pave way to liberation for women in India.

The above table illustrates that the number of women contestants to the Legislative Assembly is very less and elected from 1991 to 2006 elections is nil