The Women 20 (W20) is the official G20 engagement group, created in 2015 under Türkiye's Presidency of the G20, with the objective of focusing on gender equity. The primary objective of W20 is women's empowerment, advocating for the rights of women, and raising their voices in society. It was founded on the idea that domestic initiatives needed to be incorporated into an international strategy to see any appreciable changes because progress toward gender equality had been too slow and peripheral. Additionally, it aims to ensure that the G20 Leaders' Declaration includes commitments and measures that support gender equality and women's economic empowerment.

W20 India is committed to its vision “to create a world of equality & equity where every woman lives with dignity”. It is dedicated to its mission of “removing all barriers to women-led development and ensuring an enabling environment and ecosystem for women to thrive, transcend and transform their lives as well as others.”

W20 India is focused on empowering women by working on 5 key priority areas that include Women Entrepreneurship, Grassroot Women Leadership, Bridging the Gender Digital Divide, Education and Skill Development, and Climate Change.
Janbhagidari - The Journey of Empowerment

W20 Delegates Meeting - Communique and Way Forward

Inaugural Session

Inauguration of Exhibition from Grassroots Entrepreneurs of Tamil Nadu

**Session 1** - The Road to Achieving the SDGs

**Session 2** - Safeguarding our Planet through Women Led Climate Action

**Session 3** - Transformation through emerging & frontier technologies - accelerating progress and bridging the gender digital divide

**Session 4** - Call to action - Breaking the Glass Ceiling

**Session 5** - Economic empowerment through Trade and Investment

**Session 6** - Investing in services and infrastructure for an Enabling Care Economy

Closing Ceremony

**Excursion** - Coordinated by Department of Tourism, Government of Tamil Nadu
W20 India organised its Janbhagidari event on 14 June 2023, from 16.30 to 18.30 with the theme ‘Journey of Empowerment’. The event witnessed some of the transformational stories of women entrepreneurs across rural India facilitated by National Rural Livelihood Mission, Ministry of Rural Development, Govt of India and Tamil Nadu. Ms. Bansuri Swaraj, Supreme Court Advocate, W20 India Delegate chaired the event along with Smt. Bhavya (Karnataka SRLM), Smt. Radha Laxmi (UP SRLM), Smt. Shobha Rani (Telangana SRLM), Smt. Selvi (Tamil Nadu), Smt. A. Rajam (Tamil Nadu), Ms Megha Harsha- Artist and Guinness World Record holder and Ms Virginia Littlejohn- Co-HoD, W20 USA.
Ms. Bansuri Swaraj, Supreme Court Advocate, W20 India Delegate reiterated the commitment of India towards women-led development and emphasized policies and programs adopted by the Government of India focused on women's financial literacy, digital literacy, health care and sanitation, and economic empowerment for empowering women at the grassroots level. She spoke about Tamil Nadu, the land of Mahisasur Mardhini, Goddess Durga and the land of warrior queens.

Smt. Bhavya (Karnataka State Rural Livelihood Mission) shared her life journey as a farmer. She had undergone training in agriculture and trained 500 women by promoting government programs in agriculture and horticulture. She has been working as the 'Krishi Sakhi' - the link between the farmers and the government. She helped farmers learn about different govt schemes and reap their benefits.

Smt. Radha Laxmi (Uttar Pradesh State Rural Livelihood Mission) had worked as a BC Sakhi as a part of the National Rural Livelihoods Mission where she worked on spreading information about financial literacy and government schemes such as NREGA and SHGs. She is also a part of SHG Rozgaar Yojna. Now she also helps people with transactions related to Vridha pension and NREGA pension.

Smt. Shobha Rani (Telangana State Rural Livelihood Mission) shared her difficult yet inspiring journey that left the international delegates awestruck. She has worked in 21 states across India from the grassroots level to the national level as the Community Resource Manager. Under NRLM she founded the Rani Mahila Self Samhita group under which she taught, stitching and bidi rolling to women. Shared how 99% of women are a part of SHG in her village. Married at a very young age, her journey showcased the importance of promoting education and grassroots leadership for empowering women.
Tmt. Selvi (Tamil Nadu State Rural Livelihood Mission) a tribal woman, shared that she belongs to the Irula Tribal Women's Welfare Society, a matriarchal society, which focuses on imparting healthcare services. Through her SHG, she has trained 420 women and directly impacted 495 families. She received support from the government under the National Rural Livelihood Missions for sustainable marketing and branding during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Tmt. A. Rajam (Tamil Nadu) an entrepreneur, shared about her sanitary and home cleaning products called Livein. She received support and training from the MSME, which helped her establish her own industry that currently employs 24 workers. She shared that her organisation has adopted women-centric policies such as flexible working hours for women.

Megha Harsha, Artist & Guinness World record holder emphasised the transformational power of art in shattering gender stereotypes and the importance of empowering women through art. She shared about her conscious choice of depicting UN SDGs and climate goals through her world record-breaking art piece.

Virginia Littlejohn, Co-HoD W20 USA spoke about the Women Entrepreneur (WE) Act and the Women Entrepreneur Finance Initiative (WE-Fi). She stressed the importance of capacity building for SHGs so that they can work with the regional development banks. She also emphasised the importance of boosting green business and the care sector for women empowerment.

Dr. Sandhya Purecha, Chair W20 2023 thanked and felicitated all the panellists for sharing their valuable insights and emphasised the importance of the outreach programs conducted by W20 in achieving its agenda of women empowerment.
The W20 Chair welcomed all delegates and thanked them for the consensus on the W20 2023 Communique. The five task forces after many discussions and deliberations had prepared policy recommendations which were submitted to the W20 Secretariat. The Secretariat compiled all recommendations and shared with the drafting committee. The Drafting Committee incorporated all the recommendations and it was shared with all the Heads of Delegations by the Chief Coordinator. Feedback received was shared with the drafting team which incorporated them and final negotiations were done with all Delegations by the Chief Coordinator. Consensus was achieved and the W20 2023 Communique was ready to be released during the inaugural ceremony of the W20 Summit 2023.

W20 Indonesia presented its progress report of its achievement of the W20 Indonesia action plans. The Chief Coordinator explained the next steps for the 20 India Communique’s Action Plan and sought all delegates cooperation in preparing it.
W20 India Summit was held on 15 June 2023 in Mahabalipuram, Tamil Nadu. The inaugural session was attended by over 150 delegates comprising of W20 delegates from the G20 countries, representatives from International Organisations and knowledge partners of W20 India. Among notable guests who inaugurated the event were Smt Smriti Irani, Minister of Women and Child Development, Shri Amitabh Kant, Sherpa G20 India, Dr Sandhya Purecha, Chairperson of the Sangeet Natak Academy and Chair of W20 India, Dr. Shombi Sharp, UN Resident Coordinator for India, Dr Shamika Ravi, Member of Prime Minister of India's Economic Advisory Council and lead of the W20 communique drafting committee, Ms Dharitri Patnaik, entrepreneur and philanthropist and Chief Coordinator of W20 India, along with an audience of incredible women leaders from across the world.
The inaugural session witnessed the release of the W20 Communique. The Communique is a culmination of several months of multi-stakeholder collaboration, cooperation and communication that synthesizes the collective analysis, prioritization and vision of a diverse and influential group of women leaders from G20 countries. The W20 Communique 2023 proposes policy solutions in the area of women entrepreneurship, women leadership at the grassroot level, bridging the gender digital divide, education and skill development and climate change, all while encapsulating the spirit of women leading the change towards One Earth, One Family and One Future.
Dr Sandhya Purecha, Chair of W20 India welcomed the delegates to Mahabalipuram. Her address highlighted W20 India's initiatives which engaged with over 1 lakh women through public outreach programs conducted over 15 states and union territories across India. W20 India also hosted various knowledge building seminars and awareness campaigns in association with various organizations, universities, knowledge partners and stakeholders to tap into the repository of knowledge from various women to bridge the gender digital divide. The team also launched the unique Mission Digital Women - a digital women's program to provide women financial and digital literacy. W20 also organized a side Event in New York in collaboration with India at United Nation with support of UN Woman in the presence of a houseful audience on how technology and digital knowledge economy is transforming the lives of women and girls at the grassroot level.

Dr Shombi Sharp, UN Resident Coordinator, India advocated for increased women participation in politics emphasising that increased involvement of women in decision-making bodies is positively correlated to better climate action policies and increased investment in healthcare, education. He applauded India's W20 theme of women-led development. Advancing progress on gender equality and women's progress is the single greatest multiplier to achieve all aspirations. He emphasised the need for increasing employment opportunities for women and the need to work on greater investments in women led enterprises and SHGs. He also stressed on the need to invest in the care economy. He talked about India's commitments towards sustainability and climate action and the importance of financial inclusion for empowering women. He noted that India was among the first few countries which brought women into UN peacekeeping.
Shri Amitabh Kant, Sherpa G20 emphasised removing all obstacles that hinder the progress and empowerment of women globally. He applauded the W20 Communique 2023 for being progressive, inclusive, forward-looking and proposing a national gender strategy based on data. He emphasised the need for the annual G20 reporting and reviewing mechanism and he stressed that women need to be at the heart of climate action. He emphasised adopting radical economic policies to bring about women's economic empowerment and achieve gender equality within a decade. He stressed the importance of ensuring women occupy leadership roles. He showed his support towards the tax break for women led technology or tech enabled startups suggested in the W20 Communique.

Dr Shamika Ravi, lead of the Drafting committee highlighted how women led development as a theme percolated through each of the five focus areas. She called for all member countries to develop and improve a national gender strategy funded and tracked using gender sensitive and gender disaggregated data. The W20 community has placed a great deal of emphasis on putting together data which pertains to women's well-being, creating an annual G20 report and review mechanism to track the implementation. On entrepreneurship, it is said that women entrepreneurs play a crucial role in driving national economies by boosting GDP, creating jobs, and providing essential goods and services. But women, particularly in rural areas continue to face multiple legal policy, procedural, regulatory, social and societal barriers as well as lack of access to capital and financial services. One of the core areas that the drafting team was particularly passionate about was grassroot women leadership and the systemic change necessary for women to exercise that leadership. Governments, organizations and individuals were called upon to promote grassroot leadership of women. And finally, she emphasized that for peaceful, equitable and prosperous societies it is necessary to educate girls and women. The recommendation of the Communique in each section therefore, pertains to the overall objective of building resilient women-led societies.
Smt Smriti Zubin Irani, Honourable Minister of Women and Child Development, Government of India welcomed all the W20 delegates to the culturally and historically rich town of Mahabalipuram, Tamil Nadu and shared its rich history with them. She applauded the W20 Communique Drafting Committee for drafting an ambitious yet attainable Communique and reflected on the 3 key pillars of the efforts undertaken by W20. Recalling her remarks at the inception meeting of W20 earlier this year, she reiterated the importance of centralising the need of women and children amidst climate change. Honourable Minister elaborated on the linkage between women and climate change and stressed the need for women-led development, stating that “it is better that we lead with calamity now than to ensure that all humanity leads to disaster”.

She spoke about bridging the gender digital divide, a key priority area of W20, and emphasised that there is a need to enhance the conversation around gender-biased coded technology and technological products. She also highlighted the potential of the care economy services segment in terms of the economic opportunities that it can create for women. She stressed that to seek more opportunities for women in economies around the world where the use of technology in administration is rising, we need to break the language barrier in access to technology. Honourable Minister told that AI should be looked upon from a gendered lens, and discussions on technology should be focussed on what AI brings for women across the world. She then reiterated the words of the G20 Sherpa and called out men to support and be a part of this change to “Women-led development”. She also affirmed her faith in the communique drafted by W20 India and called it not only formidable but also attainable, and an instrument that would make G20 future ready.
Ms Dharitri Patnaik, Chief Coordinator, W20 proposed the vote of thanks. She thanked Smt. Smriti Irani and G20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant for their continued support of the W20. Ms Patnaik expressed her immense gratitude towards Dr Sandhya Purecha for her leadership and guidance to the Women 20. She also thanked the various stakeholders of W20, the delegates from G20 and guest countries, the Communique drafting team, international organizations, Ministry of WCD, Government of India, G20 Secretariat, State Government of Tamil Nadu, media, and others. She acknowledged the immense contributions of 21 knowledge and network partners in conducting 151 Jan Bhagidaris (citizen outreach programs) and supporting the Task Forces. She also mentioned that W20 India will come up with an Action Plan as per the policy recommendations and the progress can be monitored, reviewed and reported in the next Presidency as W20 Indonesia did this year.

The W20 2023 Communique was released. The Communique has key recommendations on the five priority areas of W20 for the G20 Leaders to consider and incorporate in the Leaders’ Declaration.

*Please visit [www.w20india.org](http://www.w20india.org) to download the Communique.*
The inauguration of exhibition of Grassroots Entrepreneurs of Tamil Nadu organised and coordinated by the Department of Rural Development, Tamil Nadu, was done by Smt. Smriti Irani, Minister of Women & Child Development, Government of India. The exhibition also included stalls from W20 Argentina and W20 Indonesia which showcased organisations working on grassroots entrepreneurship. Products sold included herbal and food products, millets, embroidery works, ornaments, paintings, and stone sculptures from local women entrepreneurs.

The exhibition of Grassroots Entrepreneurs of Tamil Nadu (SHGs) was from the following places in Tamil Nadu: Chengalpattu, Tiruvannamalai, Kanchipuram, Villupuram, Kallakurichi, Cuddalore, Perambalur, The Nilgiris, Thanjavur, and Ramanathapuram.
Session 1 - The Road to Achieving the SDGs
The intersection between Women's Health, Gender Equality, and Socioeconomic Development

Session Objectives:
- Explore the linkage between Women's Health, Gender Equality and Socioeconomic development and their role in achieving SDGs
- Review the existing policy framework on women's health at national and global level
- Discuss policy recommendations to promote women's health and gender quality
- Share best practices to promote women's health and gender equality

Moderator:
Lauren Power, Founder & Advisor, Young Professionals in Foreign Policy, Tokyo & W20
USA Delegate moderated the session and beginning the panel discussion by stressing on the unmet need for family planning and adopting a human rights approach to women's health.

Panelists:
- Ms Noha Salem, Global Women’s Health Lead, Organon
- Ms Andrea Wojner, Country Representative, UNFPA India
- Ms Aparajita Gogoi, National Coordinator, White Ribbon Alliance – India
- Dr Mabel Bianco, Founder, Foundation on Studies and Research on Women & W20
  HoD, Argentina
Need for better communication of research results and evidence on women’s health and gender equality

Call for breaking the silos and working collaboratively with traditional and non-traditional partners for women empowerment

Greater involvement of feminist groups and other women groups in policies relating to women health.

Call for recognition that penetration is not the only form of sexual abuse as currently different countries have differential laws on sexual abuse.

Greater coordinated role of NGOs in implementation and supporting of family planning policies

Key Recommendations:
Session Objectives:

- Review the existing framework on women-led climate action
- Mainstream gender in climate mitigation, technology adaptation, and capacity development
- Discuss policy solutions for fostering women-led climate action
- Discuss challenges and obstacles faced by women in climate action
- Share best practices in the sphere of women-led climate action

Moderator:
Ms Lemoña Chanda, McCain Global Leader, Founder, Our Cause & W20 UK Delegate

Panelists:
- Ms Priya Agarwal Hebbar, Non Executive Director, Vedanta & Chairperson, Hindustan Zinc Ltd
- Ms Maria Damanaki, Founder and Leader of the Leading Women for the Ocean (LWO), Formerly European Union Commissioner for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, Greece
- Ms Vere Shaba, Founder & Director at Greendesign Africa, ESG & Climate & Carbon & Circularity Advisor & Investment Committee, South Africa
- Ms Pratibha Vuppuluri, Managing Partner at Unreasonable Collective, New York, United States
- Ms Joanita Babirye, Co-Founder and Director for Girls for Climate Action, Uganda
- Ms Aradhana Khowala, CEO & Founder, Aptamind Partners, United Kingdom
Key Recommendations:

- Call for women leadership in public, private, technical and all areas
- Need for decision grade data to understand the differential impact on women owing to climate change
- Emphasis on the need for political will to bring transformational policies addressing gender and climate change
- Shift from sustainable to regenerative tourism that benefits all
Session 3 - Transformation through emerging & frontier technologies-accelerating progress and bridging the gender digital divide

Session Objectives:
- Discuss the potential use of emerging and frontier technologies in bridging the gender digital divide
- Review the existing policy framework on digital transformation and bridging the gender digital divide
- Address challenges and barriers faced by policymakers in bridging the gender digital divide.
- Share best practices being followed around the world in the domain of digital transformation.

Moderator:
Ms Suma Chander, Principal & Head Digital Transformation, PKF OD, USA

Panelists:
- Ms Mariagrazia Squicciarini, Director of Social Policy AI Social and Human Sciences Sector at UNESCO
- Ms Dorothy K Gordon, Board Member, UNESCO Institute for Information Technologies in Education & W20 UK Delegate
- Ms Laureline M Josset, Associate Research Scientist, Columbia University, USA
- Ms Simonetta Zarrilli Traeger, Chief of Trade, Gender and Development Programme of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
- Ms Ifoema Nwakwesi Uddoh, Founder-CEO, Shecluded, Nigeria
- Ms Veronica Kamanga-Njikho, Regional Gender Advisor, UNICEF
Key Recommendations:

- Call for technology innovators, policymakers and professionals from humanitarian sector to work together to develop technologies that are gender inclusive
- Call for ethical Artificial Intelligence framework by placing women at the forefront of conceiving AI, developing AI and implementing AI
- Reinvigorated the need for changing mentalities to deliver better societal outcomes
- Need for an intersectional approach to development and use of technology
- Emphasis on increased participation of women in the open source community
- Greater women's participation in e-commerce and also benefit from it
- Call for addressing financial challenges faced by women and women entrepreneurs in tech industry
- Need for companies promoting technology based solutions to factor in policies addressing cyber bullying constituting gender based violence
Smt Vanathi Srinivasan, MLA and National President of the Women’s Wing of the Bharatiya Janata Party elaborated on her experience in empowering women through policymaking and political representation. She highlighted the link between house ownership and domestic violence and how ownership in the name of women has led to a reduction in domestic violence. She shared about government initiatives such as SHGs, PM Mudra Scheme and GeM portal which allow women access to market and finance.
Session Objectives:

- To raise awareness about the importance of diversity and inclusion in leadership positions and their role in promoting gender equality
- To explore strategies for overcoming gender bias and stereotypes and promoting women’s leadership through mentorship and sponsorship
- To discuss existing policy frameworks in place to promote women to leadership positions
- To deliberate on gender bias practices and stereotypes that restrict the growth of women’s careers

Moderator:

Prof Dr Neeta Inamdar, Jean Monnet Chair, Head, Manipal Centre for European Studies, Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE), India

Panelists:

- **Ms Bharati Ghosh**, Former Indian Police Official, Award-winning UN official, and National Spokesperson for BJP
- **Ms K. Ratnaprabha**, Founder President, Ubuntu Consortium - A platform for Women Entrepreneurs Associations, Retired IAS and Former Chief Secretary of Karnataka
- **Ms Sanjam Sahi Gupta**, Director, Sitara Shipping, Founder, Maritime SheEO, Top 100 Women in Shipping by All About Shipping UK, Executive Board member - World Maritime University
- **Dr Nursem Keskin Aksay**, Asst Prof, Ibn Haldun University, Department of Sociology, Executive Board Member, KADEM, W20 Head of Delegation, Turkey
- **Ms Adriana Caravalho**, CEO of Generation Brazil and Co-Head, W20 Brazil
Key Recommendations:

- Call for gender powered instead of gender-inclusive responses
- Mandating gender audits for every organisation and ranking based on gender friendliness
- Mandatory gender quotas in all organisation to ensure women representation
- Need for creating women mentors
- Governmental training programs in collaboration with NGOs and organizations must be brought for the staff, and families holistically
- Need to accelerate the pace of change to Women-led businesses, women-led development of countries, and women-led civil societies.
- Need to pay attention to the intersectionality of women in the workforce as well as leadership and make sure we leave no one behind
- Call for qualitative data in addition to quantitative data for a comprehensive understanding of gender biases in the society
Session Objectives:
- To raise awareness about the importance of gender-sensitive trade policies and their role in promoting women's economic empowerment
- To explore the role of investment in promoting women's entrepreneurship and creating opportunities for women-owned businesses to access finance and markets
- To provide a platform for women entrepreneurs and business leaders to share their experiences and insights on how trade and investment can help overcome the barriers and challenges they face in the global economy

Moderator:
Ms Jahnabi Phookan, Director, JTI Group, Assam, India

Panelists:
- Dr Shamika Ravi, Member of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister, Lead -W20 2023 Communique Drafting Committee
- Ms Anoush Der Boghossian, Head of the WTO Trade and Gender Office
- Ms Bansuri Swaraj, Advocate Supreme Court of India & W20 India Delegate
- Dr Stephanie Oestreich, Board Member of the Harvard Kennedy School Women's Network and Chief Business Officer for Galecto
- Dr Marina K Glazatova, Advisor to the Scientific Director of the National Research University Higher School of Economics (HSE) and Deputy Director of the HSE Institute of Trade Policy in Russia
Key Recommendations:

- Policies, particularly financial and economic, must push for level playing field, thus creating equal opportunity
- Create a dashboard of gender disaggregated data to measure economic empowerment of women
- Carry out impact assessment for all policies to measure how these policies impact women
- Governments, associations, industries, and even corporate individuals to mandate certain minimum procurement from women-owned and women-led enterprises
- Increase support to women entrepreneurs in high-market sectors in national and international markets through innovation
- Create inclusive Startup ecosystem - tax exemption on capital gains and tax exemption upto 3 years to encourage seed investment from women entrepreneurs
- Promote incentives such as tax incentives should be provided to investors who are investing in women-led businesses
Day 2: 16th June

Session 6 - Investing in services and infrastructure for an Enabling Care Economy

Session Objectives:
- To raise awareness about the importance of care work for economic growth and development and its disproportionate impact on women
- To explore strategies for valuing and recognizing care work and investing in services and infrastructure that support an enabling care economy for women
- To discuss existing infrastructure and policy framework in the care economy sector
- To suggest policy solutions for building infrastructure and services in the care economy sector

Moderator:
Ms Kelsey Harris, Interim Deputy Director of Policy and Advocacy, International Center for Research on Women (ICRW)

Panelists:
- Ms Aditi Das Rout, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Women & Child Development, Government of India
- Ms Aya Matsuura, Gender Specialist, ILO Decent Work Technical Support Team, South Asia
- Ms Esther Achumi Dennis, Former Service & Support Administrator, Summit County Board of Developmental Disabilities, Department of Developmental Disabilities, Ohio, USA
- Ms Mitali Nikore, Founder & Chief Economist, Nikore Associates
- Ms Chiou See Anderson, Australian Women Economic Equality Taskforce within Prime Minister of Australia’s cabinet
Need for holistic and transformative care policies and significant investment in care-related infrastructure that can reduce the global gender pay gap by 8.6% as well as help in bridging the gender employment gap.

Call for qualified and trained crèches workers across G20 countries in the next two years.

Recognition of organisations across G20 countries that have progressive parental leave policy and are family friendly.

Develop care entrepreneurs to address the challenges of working women.

Recognize, reduce and redistribute paid care work, governments must look at national statistics to form these policies and keep track of unpaid care work.

Invest in quality care services and income security in care work.

Build the actual infrastructure that would require the private-public partnership.

Data collection systems as the first step is to start measuring unpaid care work.

Increase public-private partnerships and develop a common framework for G20 countries.

Key Recommendations:
DAY 2: 16TH JUNE

Closing Session - Celebrating the power of Women Empowerment

- **Ms Bharati Ghosh**, Former Indian Police Official, Award-winning UN official, and National Spokesperson for BJP
- **Ms Gulden Turktan**, Chair W20 Turkey 2015
- **Ms Linda Laura Sabbadini**, Chair W20 Italy 2021, Director of the Department of Methods and New Technologies of National Statistical Institute
- **Ms Uli Silalahi**, Chair W20 Indonesia 2022
- **Prof Narnia Bohler Muller**, Divisional Executive in the Human Science Research Council (HSRC)
- **Dr Sandhya Purecha**, Chairperson, Sangeet Natak Akademi, Chair W20
- **Sri Thiru Thangam Thennarasu**, Honourable Minister of Finance and Human Resource Management, Government of Tamil Nadu
Ms Bharati Ghosh shared about India’s rich cultural history of women empowerment and the Indian historical roots of women empowerment and women-led development. She thanked Dr Gulden Turktan for establishing the W20 engagement group. She elaborated on the journey of W20 from its establishment till date and the learnings along the way. She welcomed all the w20 delegates and thanked them for their presence at this momentous event.

Dr. Gulden Turkten emphasised on the impact of covid on women empowerment. She emphasised that sustainability is the growth of a country and women need to be a part of the economy to ensure sustainability. She emphasised on the agendas of G20 Italy of people, planet and prosperity.

Ms Uli Silalahi thanked W20 India for continuing W20 Indonesia’s Communique and agendas, especially grassroots-level women empowerment. She shared Indonesia’s best practices including W20 Sispreneur which was established during Indonesia’s G20 presidency. This program was created as an incubation to empower women MSMEs. There are 1081 MSMEs who were selected to receive training on digital awareness, financial strength and transparency. 10 women out of them received funding to level up their startup. She also stressed on the importance of developing an impactful action plan.

Ms Linda Laura Sabbadini stressed the importance of gender statistics for gender mainstreaming. She stated the necessity of official gender statistics for the government. The data collected must be gender sensitive. The topics of gender stereotypes, climate, unpaid labour of women as a percentage of GD, and discrimination against women is gender sensitive data for instance. She called for developing sex-disaggregated and gender-sensitive data. Gender impact assessment of policies needs to be done to decide in a pre-emptive way the magnitude of a decision’s negative impact on women.
Prof Narnia Bohler Muller complimented India’s rich diversity. She shared that South Africa will be holding G20’s presidency in 2025 and will host W20 and looked forward to working with Brazil, India, Indonesia and all past presidencies to take W20 forward. She thanked India for its hospitality and appreciated its rich culture.

Thiru Thangam Thennarasu, Honourable Minister of Finance and Human Resource Management, Government of Tamil Nadu delivered the keynote address of the closing session. He welcomed all the W20 delegates to the scenic town of Mahabalipuram and extended his support to the vision of women-led development on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu. He applauded the W20 Communique's focus of the Communique on a national gender strategy based on gender-sensitive and gender-disaggregated data.

Dr Sandhya Purecha, thanked the W20 team and the esteemed delegates for their presence and meaningful participation in helping to deliver our honourable Prime Minister’s vision under India’s G20 Presidency.

Various Knowledge Products were released during the W20 Summit 2023. The W20 Compendium with abstracts from international experts on Women Led Development, The First Responders Framework and the Women in Education and Leadership were also released.

Video of Day 2 of W20 Summit
https://www.youtube.com/live/Pf7g2qAIhAJe?feature=share
The following places were visited by the W20 delegates and Special Invitees

- **Shore Temple**

The Shore Temple stands as a testament to the ancient architectural brilliance of the Pallava dynasty. This magnificent structure, designated as a UNESCO World Heritage site, is renowned for its rock-cut architecture and stunning coastal location. Dating back to the 8th century, the temple complex comprises three shrines dedicated to Lord Shiva and Lord Vishnu. The intricate carvings on the walls depict mythological stories, gods, and goddesses. The temple's strategic position near the Bay of Bengal provides a breathtaking backdrop of crashing waves and golden sunsets, adding to its allure as a must-visit destination for history enthusiasts and nature lovers alike.
**Five Rathas**

The Five Rathas are a group of monolithic rock-cut temples that showcase exquisite architectural craftsmanship. Each ratha represents a different style of temple architecture, including the Draupadi Ratha, Arjuna Ratha, Bhima Ratha, Dharmaraja Ratha, and Nakula Sahadeva Ratha. Despite being unfinished, these rathas offer a glimpse into the artistic genius of the Pallava dynasty. These unique structures, with their intricate carvings and distinctive shapes, are a fascinating attraction for history enthusiasts and lovers of ancient architecture.

**Arjuna’s Penance**

Arjuna’s Penance is a massive bas-relief sculpture carved on the face of a granite rock. Depicting an episode from the Hindu epic, Mahabharata, it portrays Arjuna performing severe penance to obtain Lord Shiva’s divine weapon. The intricately carved figures of gods, animals, and celestial beings beautifully capture the essence of the story. This awe-inspiring artwork stands as a testament to the skill and artistic mastery of the ancient Pallava craftsmen.
• **Krishna’s Butter Ball**
Krishna's Butter Ball is a massive natural rock formation that resembles a giant butterball balancing precariously on a slope. This unique geological wonder has become a popular tourist attraction. Despite its enormous size and seemingly unstable position, the rock has defied gravity for centuries. The name "Krishna's Butter Ball" is inspired by the mischievous nature of Lord Krishna, who was known for his love of butter.

• **India Seashell Museum**
The India Seashell Museum is a fascinating showcase of seashells from around the world. With a vast collection of over 40,000 specimens, the museum offers a glimpse into the diverse marine life and intricate beauty of seashells. Visitors can explore various shapes, sizes, and colours, learning about the fascinating creatures that once inhabited these shells and their ecological significance.
वेशुध्वेघ कुटुम्बकम्

ONE EARTH • ONE FAMILY • ONE FUTURE
Women-Led Development
Transform, Thrive, and Transcend

www.w20india.org