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WOMEN IN PHYSICS IN INDIA

As everywhere in the world, women constitute a definite minority in the physics community in India. However, the factors contributing to this are not the same as elsewhere in the world. For example, in contrast to the “leaky pipeline” reported in Western countries, in India there are several women students up to the PhD level, followed by a precipitous drop subsequently. In recent years, there has been increasing awareness that this represents a huge loss of human resources.

The Government and the Science Academies have started various projects to combat this phenomenon, some of which I will summarize. Though there is a paucity of rigorous data on these matters, I will also present whatever data we have been able to collect.

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