SDG 5.5.1- Promotion of Female Degree Awardee

Overview of Female Degree Awardees

GD Goenka University is committed to advancing gender equality in higher education in line with UN Sustainable Development Goal 5. Analysis of the complete list of degree awardees (1,393 students) demonstrates meaningful progress in the graduation and academic success of female students.

Category	Female	Male	Total	Female Share
Overall Graduates	605	895	1500	40.3%
Undergraduate (UG)	314	570	884	35.5%
Postgraduate (PG)	218	291	509	42.8%
PhD	73	34	107	68.22%

Female students constitute 40.3% of all degree recipients. The share rises to 42.8% at the postgraduate level, indicating stronger retention and completion rates among women in advanced studies.

Academic Excellence of Female Graduates

Female degree awardees significantly outperform their male counterparts on key academic metrics (after cleaning anomalous CGPA entries >10):

- Average CGPA: Female 8.30 vs Male 7.62
- Median CGPA: Female 8.36 vs Male 7.56
- Graduates awarded “First Division with Distinction” (or equivalent):
    - ✓ Female: 246 (46.2% of all female graduates)
    - ✓ Male: 182 (21.1% of all male graduates)

Female students achieve distinction at more than twice the rate of male students, demonstrating that the University not only enables women to complete degrees but supports them to excel.

Strong Female Representation Across Disciplines

Female graduates show particularly high representation in several schools and programmes:

Schools with high female share

- School of Liberal Arts – 75.0% female
- Unitedworld Institute of Design – 69.2% female
- School of Healthcare & Allied Sciences – 53.4% female
- School of Architecture & Planning – 50.0% female
- School of Law – 39.0% female
- School of Management – 38.1% female

Programmes with female majority or near-parity (≥50% female, ≥5 graduates) include:

- Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Education (100%)
- Bachelor of Design (Fashion Design) (100%)
- Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Education (100%)
- Master of Arts (Counselling Psychology) (84.6%)
- Master of Optometry (84.6%)
- Bachelor of Science (Cardiovascular Technology) (83.3%)
- Master of Science (Biotechnology) (85.7%)
- Master of Science (Microbiology) (73.7%)

- Bachelor of Physiotherapy (58.1%)
- Master of Laws (56.9%)
- Bachelor of Arts (Honours) Psychology (71.4%)

These figures illustrate successful promotion of women in education, healthcare, design, law, psychology, and life sciences fields critical to societal development.

Participation in STEM and Professional Fields

While overall STEM representation reflects national patterns, female students are present and performing strongly:

- School of Engineering and Sciences: 128 female graduates (31.0%)
- Healthcare & Allied Sciences + Medical & Allied Sciences: 122 female graduates (42.1% combined)
- Notable female achievers in B.Tech (Computer Science & Engineering), BCA, B.Pharm, B.Sc. (Biotechnology), B.Sc. (Forensic Science), and M.Tech programmes.

The higher distinction rate among women across these programmes further underscores the University's enabling environment.

Institutional Commitment Reflected in Outcomes

The data evidence GD Goenka University's effective promotion of female degree completion through:

- Supportive academic and mentoring ecosystems that enable higher average performance and distinction rates.
- Growing female participation at postgraduate level (42.8%).
- Strong outcomes in traditionally female leaning as well as professional and applied disciplines.

- Transparent tracking of gender-disaggregated graduation data, enabling continuous monitoring and improvement.

Conclusion

GD Goenka University has awarded degrees to 605 female students in the reported cohort, representing 40.3% of all graduates. These women have demonstrated superior academic performance, with a distinction rate more than double that of male graduates and higher average CGPA. Strong female representation in Liberal Arts, Design, Healthcare, Law, and selected STEM and professional programmes reflects the University's sustained efforts to promote gender equality in higher education and to empower women as degree holders ready for leadership and professional contribution.

This evidence is submitted in support of the University's application under the relevant SDG 5 indicator concerning the proportion and promotion of women receiving degrees.