



International Journal of Physical Education, Sports and Health

P-ISSN: 2394-1685

E-ISSN: 2394-1693

Impact Factor (RJIIF): 5.93

IJPESH 2025; 12(4): 483-489

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<https://www.kheljournal.com>

Received: 18-06-2025

Accepted: 19-07-2025

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Analysis of inequality in fees payment among male and female cricketers of India

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Abstract

Women face many challenges in sports, which can vary from country to country.

One major issue is the difference in pay between men and women. In India, male and female cricketers do not always receive the same payment. For a long time, male players were paid more than female players, even though both represent the country in cricket.

There is inequality among male and female cricketers of India. The data which is being collected in this study from 2001-2023 shows that Indian male cricketers were more encouraged if compared to the Indian female cricketers. Before 2023, Indian women's cricket team was not paid equal salary and was very less in comparison to their male counterparts whether its fees per match or annual central contract. Due to this very less women get inspired to choose cricket sports a career.

Aims: The study aims to examine the differences in salaries, match fees, and sponsorship deals between male and female national cricketers.

Materials and Methods: For the purpose of this study descriptive analysis and percentile method is used.

Results: Result shows that the Indian men's cricket team players dominate and earn much more than Indian women's cricket team players. In the meantime, the Indian Women's Cricket team are also growing.

Conclusion: Before 2023, Indian women's cricket team was not paid equal salary and was very less in comparison to their male counterparts whether its fees per match and annual central contract. Due to this very less women get inspired to choose cricket sports a career.

Keywords: Central contract, match fees, brand ambassadors

Introduction

Women face many challenges in sports, which can vary from country to country.

One major issue is the difference in pay between men and women. For example, the German men's football team earned 44 times more than the Japanese women's team, even though both teams won the World Cup in different years. In many sports, women are paid less than men, even in international competitions. In local competitions like the USA basketball league, men earn 81 times more than women, and they also receive a bigger share of the league's revenue. The highest-paid male football player in the UK makes about 220 times more than the highest-paid female player. This pays inequality not only affects wealthy athletes but also forces many women to leave sports and find better-paying jobs. As a result, women are at a disadvantage in sports and struggle to reach their goals. Jad Mowad (2019)

Cricket has become a professional sport played in over 100 countries, all recognized by the International Cricket Council. Popular international tournaments have increased people's interest in the game. Cricket has different types of matches, special roles for players, and is played in various environments, which means players need to deal with different physical challenges and a lot of pressure. With the growth of shorter versions of the game, like T20 and One-Day cricket, the idea that cricket is a slow and relaxed sport no longer makes sense. It has become much faster and more intense. (Johnstone et al, 2010).

Women's cricket began in 1973, even before the men's Cricket World Cup, which was held in 1975. However, there is still a big difference between male and female cricketers in India when it comes to the number of matches, annual contracts, media coverage, and facilities. Male cricketers play throughout the year, but female cricketers only get 2-3 series per year to

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They don't get as much attention or recognition as the male cricketers in India. Also, fewer people watch women's cricket compared to men's cricket. (Cricbuzz).

Objective of the study

- The main objective of the study is to analyze gender inequality faced by national female cricketers compared to their male counterparts.
- To examine the differences in salaries, match fees, and sponsorship deals between male and female national cricketers.

Results of the Study

The purpose of this study was to find out the gender inequality among National Indian Cricketers. Based on the data collection, the finding of the study are presented below using descriptive statistics i.e. graphical representation and pie chart.

1. Match Fees

(Fees per match across all formats i.e. Test, ODI & T20 that is paid to Indian Male & Female Cricketers).

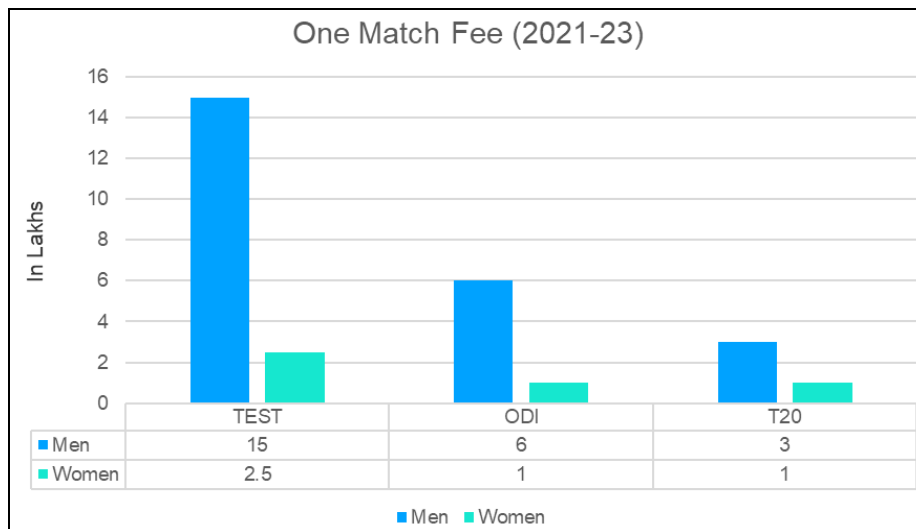


Fig 1: Fees per match (Test, ODI & T20) in 2021-23. (ESPNcricinfo).

- Indian male cricketers were paid 15 lakhs for a test match whereas Indian Women cricketers were paid only 2.5 lakhs per test match during the session 2021-2023.
- In ODI, Indian male cricketers were paid 6 lakhs per match where women cricketers of India were paid only 1 lakh per match during the session 2021-2023.
- In T20, Indian male cricketers were paid only 3 lakhs per match where women cricketers of India were paid only 1 lakh per match during the session 2021-2023.

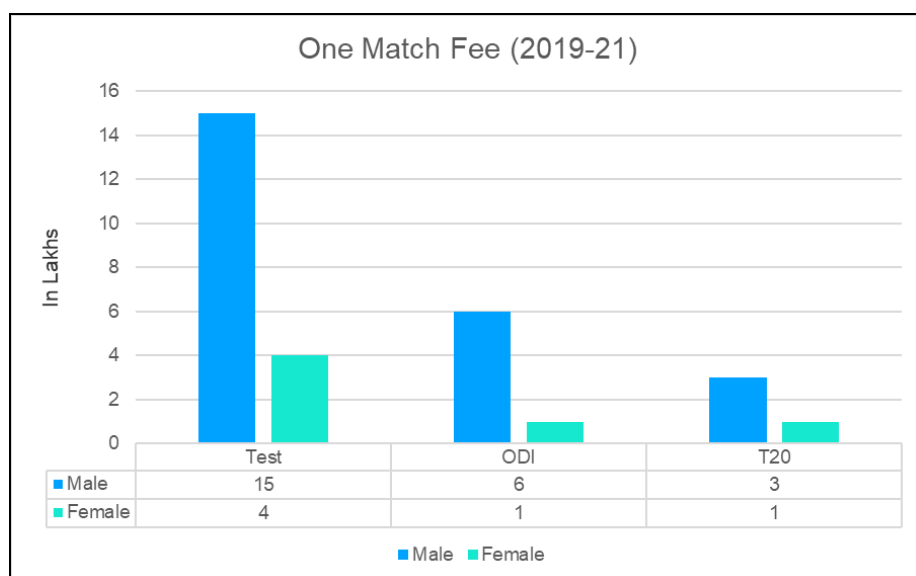


Fig 2 Fees per match (Test, ODI & T20) in 2019-21.

- Indian male cricketers were paid 15 lakhs for a test match whereas Indian Women cricketers were paid only 4 lakhs per test match during the session 2019-2021.
- In ODI, Indian male cricketers were paid 6 lakhs per match where women cricketers of India were paid only 1 lakh per match during the session 2019-2021.
- In T20, Indian male cricketers were paid only 3 lakhs per match where women cricketers of India were paid only 1 lakh per match during the session 2019-2021.

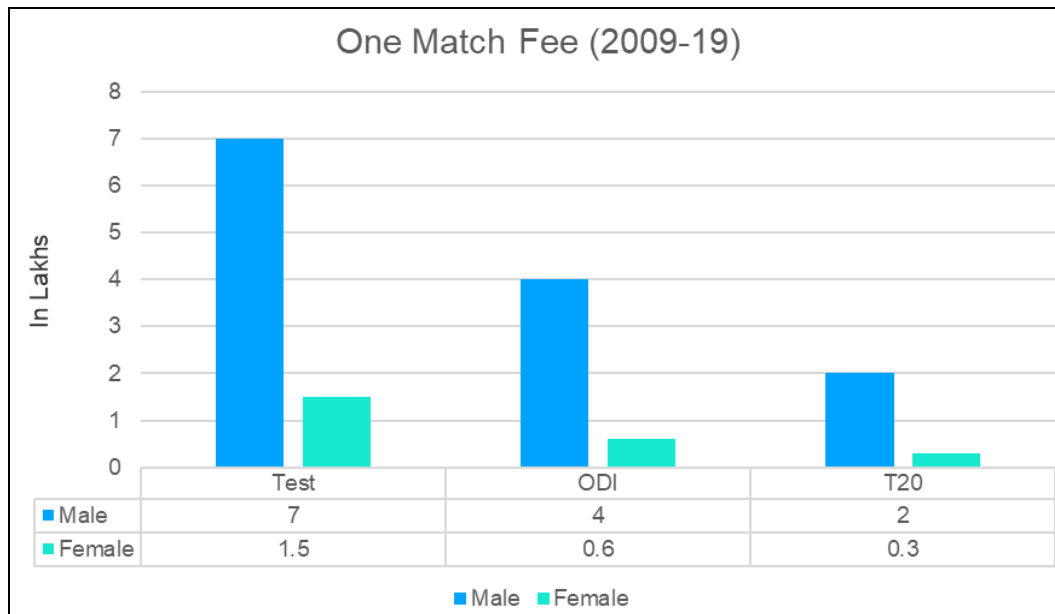


Fig 3: Fees per match (Test, ODI & T20) in 2009-19.

- Indian male cricketers were paid 7 lakhs for a test match whereas Indian Women cricketers were paid only 1.5 lakhs per test match during the session 2009-2019.
- In ODI, Indian male cricketers were paid 4 lakhs per match where women cricketers of India were paid only 60 thousand per match during the session 2009-2019.
- In T20, Indian male cricketers were paid only 2 lakhs per match where women cricketers of India were paid only 30 thousand per match during the session 2009-2019.

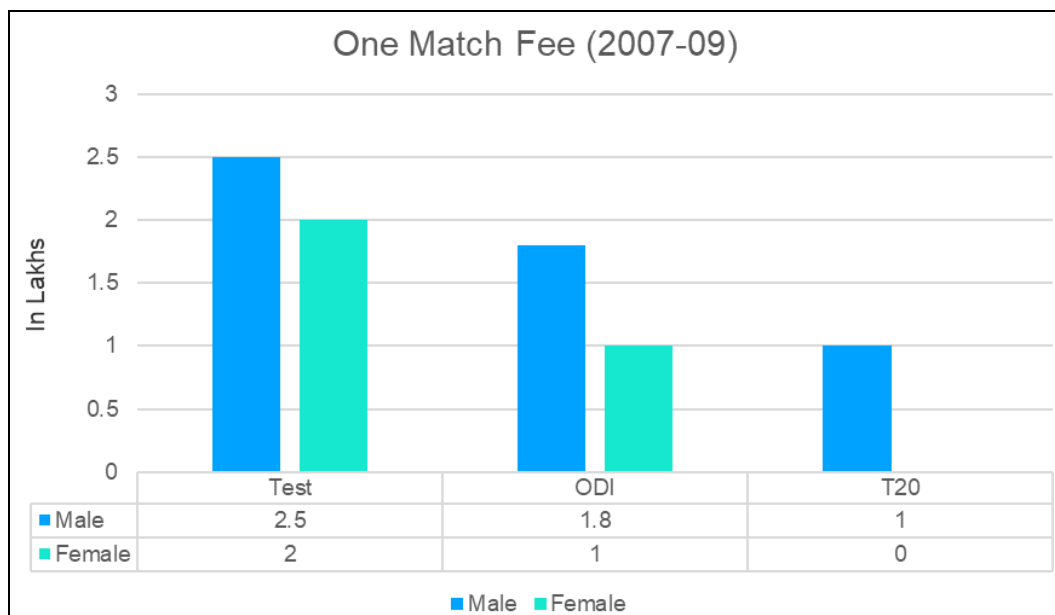


Fig 4: Fees per match (Test, ODI & T20) in 2007-09.

- Indian male cricketers were paid 2.5 lakhs for a test match whereas Indian Women cricketers were paid only 2 lakhs per test match during the session 2007-2009.
- In ODI, Indian male cricketers were paid 1.8 lakhs per match where women cricketers of India were paid only 1 lakh per match during the session 2007-2009.
- In T20, Indian male cricketers were paid only 1 lakh per match where women cricketers of India were not playing any T20 International match during that time.

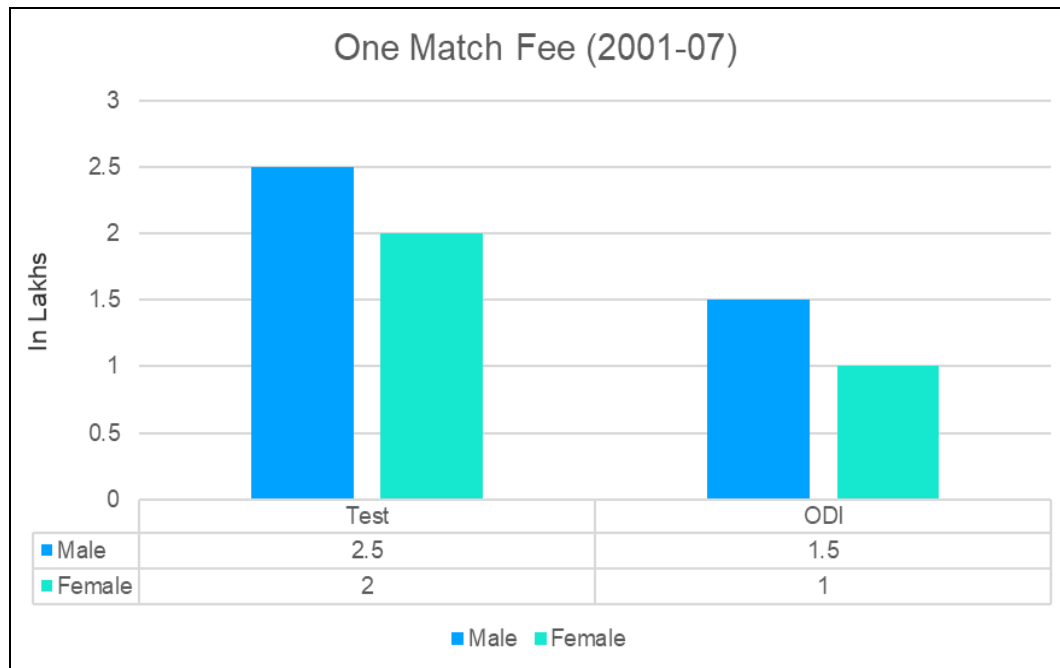


Fig 5: Fees per match (Test, ODI & T20) in 2001-07.

- Indian male cricketers were paid 2.5 lakhs for a test match whereas Indian Women cricketers were paid only 2 lakhs per test match during the session 2001-2007.
- In ODI, Indian male cricketers were paid 1.5 lakhs per match where women cricketers of India were paid only 1 lakh per match during the session 2001-2007.

2. Central Contract

(Indian Male & Female Cricketers are paid annually through Central Contract by BCCI (Board of Control for Cricket in India))

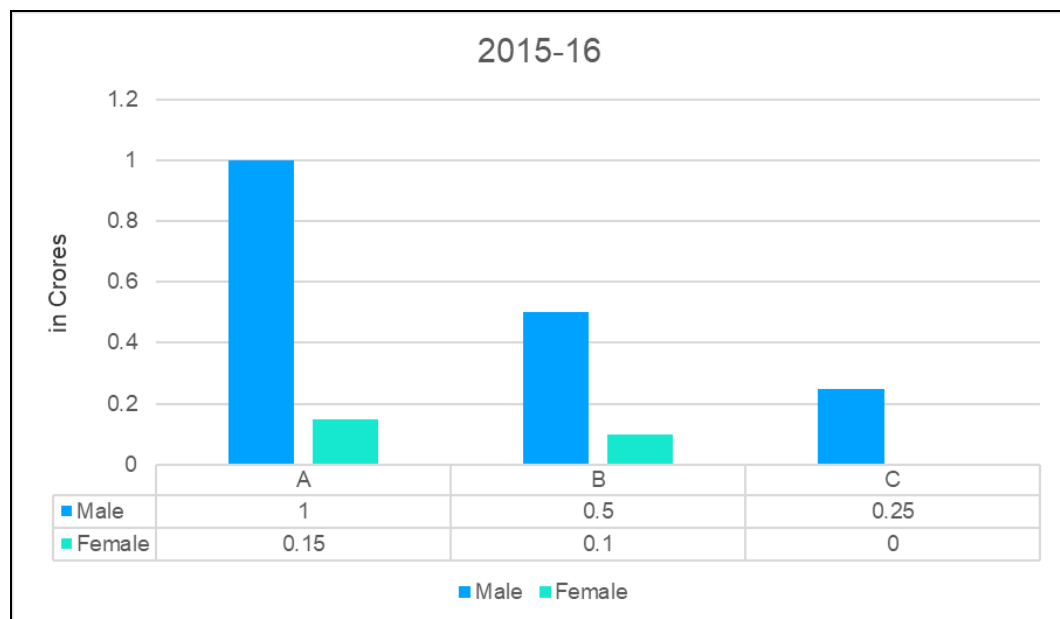


Fig 6: Representation of Grade-wise Central Contract given to Indian Male & Female Cricketers during the session 2015-2016. (BCCI).

- Indian male cricketers falling in grade A were paid 1 crore annually whereas Indian female cricketers of A grade were paid only 15 lakhs annually during the session 2015-16.
- Indian male cricketers falling in grade B were paid 50 lakhs annually whereas Indian female cricketers of B grade were paid only 10 lakhs annually during the session 2015-16.
- Indian male cricketers falling in grade C were paid 25 lakhs annually whereas Indian female cricketers were not having grade C during the session 2015-16.

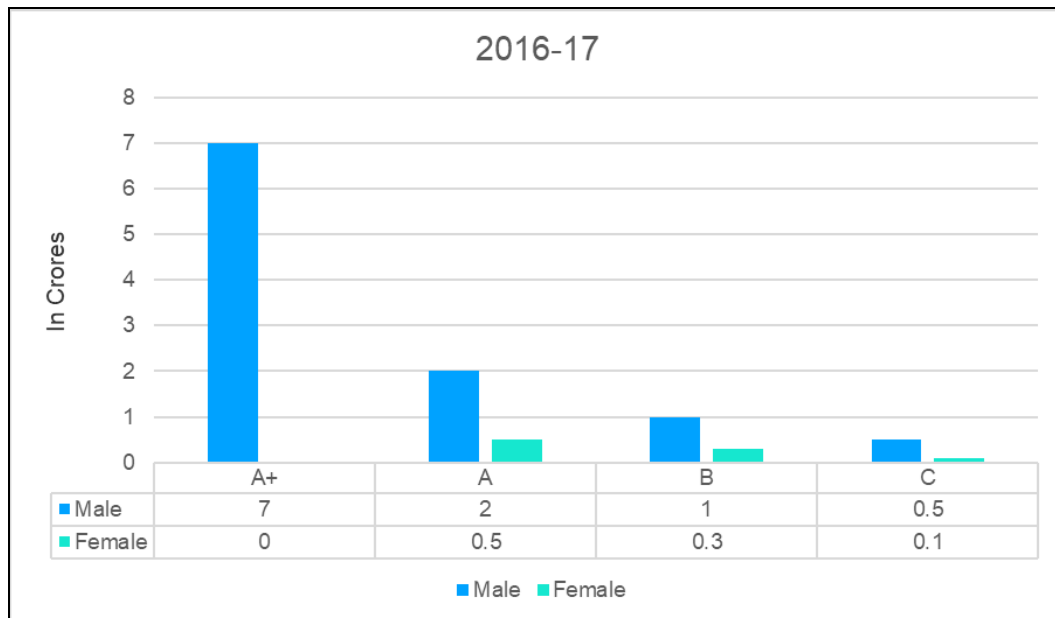


Fig 7: Representation of Grade-wise Central Contract given to Indian Male & Female Cricketers during the session 2016-17.

1. Indian male cricketers falling in grade A+ were paid 7 crores whereas Indian female cricketers were not having Grade A+ during the session 2016-17.
2. Indian male cricketers falling in grade A were paid 2 crores annually whereas Indian female cricketers of a grade were paid only 50 lakhs annually during the session 2016-17.
3. Indian male cricketers falling in grade B were paid 1 crore annually whereas Indian female cricketers of B grade were paid only 30 lakhs annually during the session 2016-17.
4. Indian male cricketers falling in grade C were paid 50 lakhs annually whereas Indian female cricketers of grade C were paid 10 lakhs during the session 2016-17.

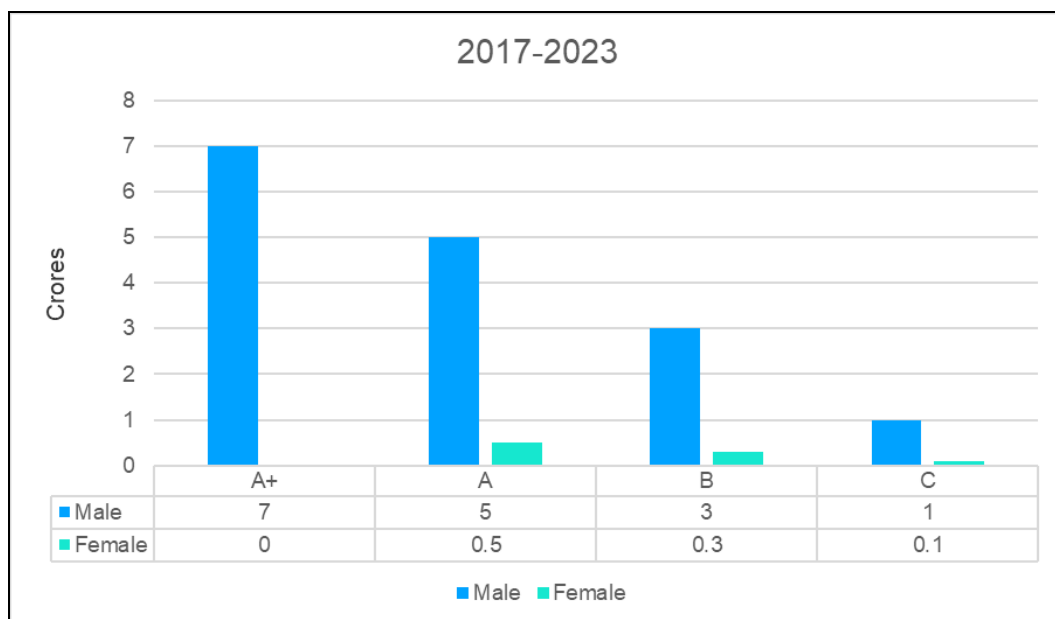


Fig 8: Representation of Grade-wise Central Contract given to Indian Male & Female Cricketers during the session 2017-23.

1. Indian male cricketers falling in grade A+ were paid 7 crores whereas Indian female cricketers were not having Grade A+ during the session 2017-23.
2. Indian male cricketers falling in grade A were paid 5 crore annually whereas Indian female cricketers of A grade were paid only 50 lakhs annually during the session 2017-23.
3. Indian male cricketers falling in grade B were paid 3 crores annually whereas Indian female cricketers of B grade were paid only 30 lakhs annually during the session 2017-23.
4. Indian male cricketers falling in grade C were paid 1 crore annually whereas Indian female cricketers of grade C were paid 10 lakhs during the session 2017-23.

3. Brand Ambassadors

(Number of Indian Male & Female Cricketers endorsing a brand over the years).

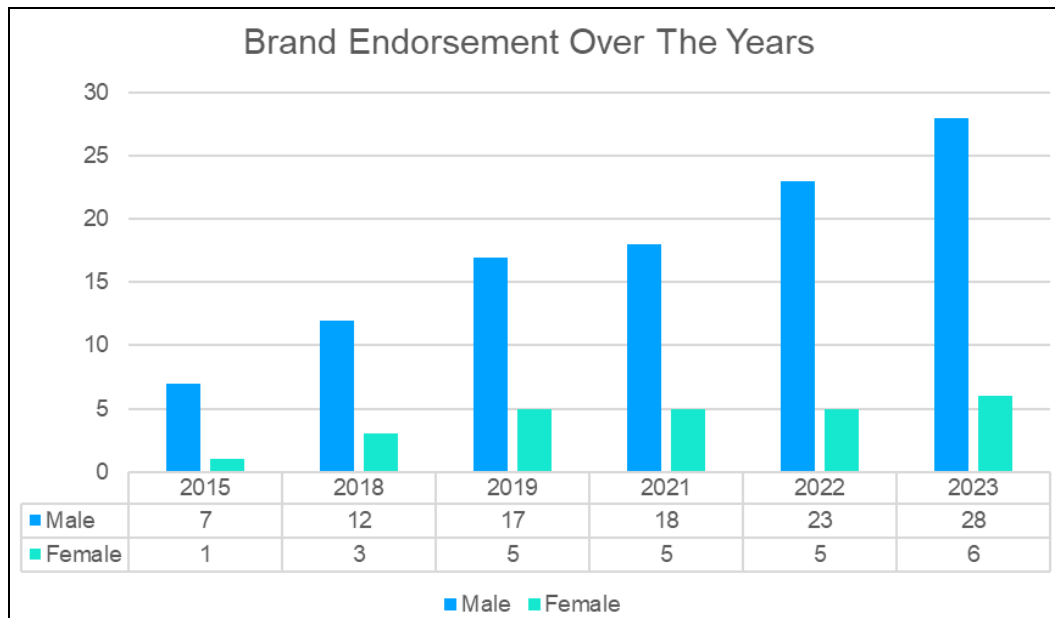


Fig 9: Brand Endorsement by Indian Male & Female Cricketers

This graph shows that over the years a greater number of Indian Male Cricketers have got a chance to endorse a brand as compared to Indian Female Cricketers. (sports keeda).

- C.K. Nayudu was the first Indian Male cricketer to endorse a brand in the year 1941.
- Indian Male Cricketers got a chance to endorse a brand

way before Indian Female Cricketers.

- In 2015 Mithali Raj became the first female cricketer to get to endorse a brand.
- Mithali Raj signed a brand endorsement deal with Jacob's Creek, a wine brand. (Forbes, India).

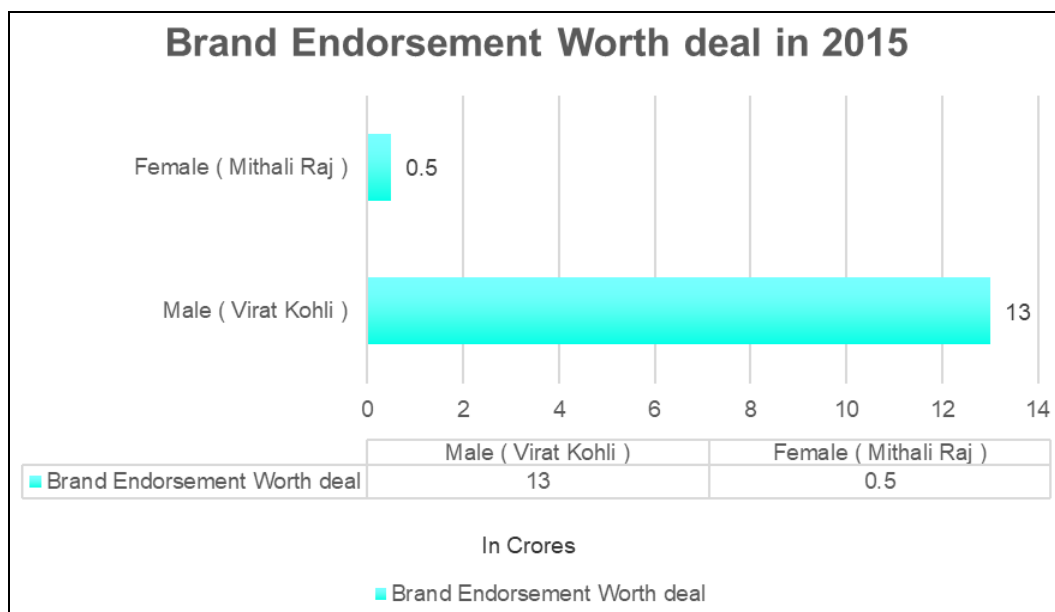


Fig 10: Brand endorsement total worth deal in 2015.

- In 2015, Virat Kohli an Indian Male Cricketer alone signed a brand deal with Audi
- India and he was paid 5 crores for an 18 months period plus he had a deal with MRF Tyers worth 8 crore per year. (Live mint).
- But Mithali Raj was paid 50 lakhs for brand endorsement deal with Jacob's Creek, a wine brand.

Conclusion

The results make it abundantly evident that there is inequality among male and female cricketers of India. the data which is being collected in this study from 2001-2023 shows that Indian male cricketers were more encouraged if compared to

the Indian female cricketers. Before 2023, Indian women's cricket team was not paid equal salary and was very less in comparison to their male counterparts whether its fees per match aur annual central contract. Due to this very less women get inspired to choose cricket sports a career.

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