

**Dr. Malini Saba, Founder & Chairman,
Hotel Temptation and Coconut beach,
Cambodia**



Women suffer from several challenges and obstacles that obstruct their work in the hospitality sector which is one among the largest employment sectors. The premier of the challenges women face in this sector originates from the beliefs & customs, traditions, impressions and constants communicated by ages without a genuine explanation.

The women experience the poor operating conditions, inequality, discrimination, violence, sexual harassment and concerns in respect of enrolling, compensation, work moves, and advancements in this area.

Most parts of society feel that women abandon their customs and traditions while working in the hospitality industry. What are interfering in the career path of women are not only external factors such as problems of the family, lack of schooling facilities and employment but also internal factors such as self motivation and skills.

Women are successful in all industries they choose to put their souls into. They have to be bold and hold their own. It's inconceivable to succeed in a senior position in hospitality without hard work and continuous learning and developing yourself. And after all not without a passion and time investment.

You get to be creative and help people make the most out of their stay when visiting your hotel and your country. Don't underestimate yourself. Don't be terrified of speaking up and perpetually placing yourself for opportunities, whether it's leading a new project, attending an event, or conducting your initial business meeting. Stay on top of hospitality trends, what individuals like, what will make them feel comfortable when choosing your hotel. Apply yourself at everyday tasks, in spite of how simple or easy they seem. But most importantly, keep on gaining knowledge by participating in seminars, workshops, and conferences. That will help you exchange knowledge with peers, provide you a new perspective, and make you an important asset for the hotel.

Be ready to work hard to make steps in your hospitality career, earn the respect of your teammates and develop your leadership skills. Don't ever feel you have to succumb yourself to harassment of any kind from guests, clients or a co-employee.