

Women's Empowerment in India Need of the Day



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Abstract

Education is the all around development of the society. Education is the key factor for women empowerment, prosperity, development and welfare. Empowerment of women is essentially the process of upliftment of economic, social & Political Status of women in the society. According to the census department in 2011 the literacy rate has been 65.46 % where the male literacy rate has been over 80%. This research paper analyzed the impact of literacy & education on empowerment of women in the society. This research paper also advocated status of education; Employment & change in social structure are only the factors of women. In ancient India women called Devi as Gargi Apala, & Savitri. We respect this theory of women but in 21st century we forget it. We know that without education we cannot solve any problem of society. So Education is the most important tool of our society.

Keywords: Women Empowerment, Education, Economic Empowerment, Status of Women.

Introduction

Empowerment of women is essentially the process of upliftment of economic social and political status of women. Women empowerment must involve the building up of a society. So education is the most important requirement of our society. In previous time the status of women in India was inferior than men in the practical life. They are considered as the perfect home maker in the world. Indian women are completely devoted to their families. Empowerment means that economic, social, political and health status is a highly important itself. The participation and partnership of both women & men is required in productive & re productive life. In all parts of India women are facing threats to their lives, health and social status. Swami Vivekananda one of the greatest so of India, quoted that "There is no chance for the welfare of the world unless the condition of women is improved, It is not possible for a bird to fly on only one wing". Women empowerment as one of the primary goals of the society. India needs to transform its colossal women force into an effective human resource and this is possible only through the empowerment of women.

Aim of the Study

1. To know the need of women empowerment.
2. To identify the hindrances in the path of women empowerment.
3. To assess the awareness of women empowerment in India.
4. To offer useful suggestions in the light of findings.
5. To know the need of government schemes for women empowerment.
6. To assess the women's work participation.
7. To study the current status of women, empowerment and transformation socially, political & economically.

Review of Literature

According to Kabir (2001) Empowerment refers to the expansion in people's ability to make strategic life choices in a context where this ability was previously denied to them. The second dimension of empowerment relates to agency which acts as the process of environment. Kabir (2001) refers to as outcome of empowerment constitute the potential that people have for living the life they want.

Viswanathan (2001) has critically the implication of human development index and gender development index in Indian context with special reference of Karnataka. She has explained that most of the indicators for gender development of India. Application of the gender empowerment measure in India has also been criticized. This study also suggested that for assessing the political participation of women in local politics. National

human rights commission the national and state women commission a large women is suffering from the problems of domestic violence.

The study of Agarwal (2003) has suggested a technological model for empowering rural women. Women employment through technological improvement are needed to improve their lives. This would insure a sustainable future for rural India Technological model described how scientific and technical inventions could improve the quality of life of women in rural area.

Verma (2009) has tried to conceptualise the concepts needs and context of whole issue of empowerment and has reviewed the various approaches of empowerment of women. He has defined empowerment as a process of gaining .Analysis the earlier literature he argued the empowerment is a process of capacity building and skill development. cording to author empowerment may help the women to participate more effectively at different socio-political forum. This study has presented a critical assessment for women's development. Erma(2009) has found the social work approach to women's empowerment is suitable in this respect.

Sarkar (2010) has reported the prevalence ,characteristics and reasons of domestic violence .This study is related in Singur block of district Hooghly West Bengal. The study has found that 23.4% of sample women were exposed to domestic violence in the past year.Maxium prevalence of domestic violence was observed among 30-39 years age group, illiterate and unmarried females. This study has explored that the prevalence of domestic violence was found to be higher among the Muslims than hindu.Majority Of the respondents opined the opportunity of education, being economically productive and better family income would help them to overcome the problem of domestic violence.

Ray,et al (2012) have recorded the prevalence of different types of life time violence against the women under the reproductive age in two urban wards in Siliguri Municipal Corporation.They have found that more than fifty percent of sample women had ever face physical violence.

Rama Devi.T (2017) volume 6 issues 9 Global general for research analysis has the objectives of the study 1. To understand the level of equqlity among the girls and boys in primary and secondary education, higher education.2.To know the gender equality and share of women in economic participation and opportunity.3 To identify the gender equality and women empowerment in political field. The findings of the study are 1.Child marriage which is still prevalent in our society must be stopped. This is because early age of marriage of women is an indicator of the low status of women in the society.2.A women needs to be physically healthy so that she is able to take challenges of equality.3.Violence against women must be eradicated from the society.Gender sensitization and gender training programmes are also important.

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research journal "Women empowerment in new India: An Analytical observation has the findings of the study 1.Women's empowerment has to be multi-dimensional and negative.2.Making women's contribution to society visible.3.Creating a social environment which gives women self-esteem and self confidence.4 Providing opportunities for girls and women to realize their full potential and to have choices and to be pushed into only a few traditional roles and occupations.5.Making facilities and resources available to women to meet their basic needs of food, clothing,shelter and their special needs in healthy and security.

From the literature it is clear that women's empowerment affects a wide range of house hold welfare indicators. So we need review the literature that help us understand determinants of women empowerment.

What is Empowerment?

Empowerment is a multidimensional process which should be enable women or group of a women to realize their full identity and power in all spheres of life. It consist of greater access to knowledge and resources greater autonomy in decision making .Empowerment comes from women's group who seek to empower themselves through great self reliance. They have right to determine their on choices in life. So Empowerment is process which helps people to gain control of their lives through raising awareness taking action and working in order to exercise greater control.

Definition of Empowerment

According P.K.B Nayar-Empowerment is an aid to help women to achieve equality with men or at least to reduce gender gap considerably. Women empowerment is not a new concept it is quite a well a well-known concept around the globe.

The Position of Women in India

The position enjoyed by women in the rig-Vedic period deteriorated in the later Vedic civilization. Women were denied the right to education and window remarriage .Many social evils like child marriage and dowry system surfaced. Dowry became an institution and sati pratha became prominent.

Total population-1.37 billion (2019)

Women population-1.35 billion as of march 14, 2019

Sex ratio – 945/1000 men

Child sex ratio:-943-980/1000

About 66% of the female population in rural area is unutilized. This is mainly due to existing social customs. In agriculture & animal care the women contribute 90% of the total work of force.

During the British Raj, many social reformers such as Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Ishwar Chandra Vidya sagar and Jotiba phule started agitations for empowerment of women in social. Economic and political life began to elevate in the Indian society.

Why is need for Women Empowerment?

In 21st century women empowerment is necessary for better society. We need women empowerment because it should be possible for everyone to have a significant role in society. Women empowerment is one way to get the underprivileged as well as the reasonably privileged women to come

to their worth and potential in the face of a male dominated in the country. Women must possess the self worth, confidence and freedom to choose what they may with regard to their private and professional choices alike. Gender bias is unreasonable and wrong on so many levels. women empowerment is essential today because Our country cannot survive in the world so Women empowerment is a compulsory taking this action.

1. Decision making power
2. Freedom of movement
3. Access to education
4. Access to employment
5. Exposure to media
6. Domestic violence

Current Scenario on Women Empowerment

At this time Indian government take the action for women empowerment; many social, economic and political provisions were incorporated in the Indian constitution. Women in India now participate in areas such as education, sports ,politics, media, art, and culture, service sector and science and technology .Even after almost are still subjected to discrimination in the social, economic and educational field .Empowering women in higher education is a high priority for the goI, which is apparent from the various schemes and programmes the government undertakes towards promoting science and technical education and bringing equity in science and technical professions.

Panchayati Raj Institutions As per the 73rd and 74th constitutional amendment act all the local elected bodies reserve one-third of their seats for women .Such a provision was made to increase the effective participation of women in politics.

Women Reservation Bill

It is a pending bill in India which proposes to reserve 33% of all seats in the Lok Sabha in all state Legislative Assemblies for women .If passed this bill give a significant boost to the position of women in politics. Women reservation bill should be applied in society for women empowerment.

Effect of education on Women Empowerment

National Development

Women are increasingly participating in the national development process. They are making the nation proud by their outstanding performance almost every sphere including science& technology.

Reduction in Corruption

Women Empowerment helps to women to get educated and know their right & duties & hence can stop the corruption.

Reduce Poverty

Women empowerment also reduces poverty. Sometimes the money earned by the male member of the family is not sufficient to meet the demands of the family. The added earning of women helps the family to come out of poverty trap.

Reduction in Domestic Violence

Mostly women are seen as only relevant in the kitchen and for procreation purpose. Women empowerment leads to decrease in domestic violence .Uneducated & illiterate women is the curse for the society. But women education in India has been a

most preoccupation of both administrative society and civil society.

Government Schemes on year 2018 for Women Empowerment

The Indian government has also recognized women issues and their contribution to the country's economy. Some of the women empowerment initiatives are:-

1. Beti Bachao Beti Padhao scheme: Launched on 22 January 2015 run by ministry of health.
2. One stop centre scheme:-It was implemented on 1st April 2015 with Nirbhaya fund.
3. Women helpline scheme
4. UJJAWALA:-A comprehensive scheme for prevention of trafficking and rescue, rehabilitation.
5. Working women hostel:-The objective of the scheme is to promote availability of safe for working women.
6. Ministry approves new projects under ujjawala scheme.
7. Nari Shakti puraskar:-The Nari Shakti Puruskars national level awards recognizing the efforts made by women.
8. Nirbhaya
9. Mahila police volunteers
10. Mahila E-haat:-It is a direct online marketing platform launched by the Ministry of women and child development to support women entrepreneurs.
11. Mahila Shakti Kendras
12. STEP:-The Support to Training and Employment Program me for women scheme aims to provide skills that give employment.

Conclusion

The women are increasingly entering the workforce particularly, women professional are creating a new India in the world. Our ex-president Smt.Pratibha Devi singh Patil is the best example of women empowerment. In professional area Chanda kocchar chief Executive officer of ICICI Bank, Indra Nooyi is an Indian American business executive as a director Amazon is the best example of women empowerment but many problems are coming for women empowerment. Women safety and security needs to be addressed by the government and ensure all levels in India. So we can say women constitute almost one-half of India's population, without their engagement and empowerment rapid economic progress is out of question. For economic growth to be really inclusive, growth to be really inclusive, women empowerment is utmost value. So the empowerment of women has become one of the most important concerns of 21st century not only at national level but also at the international level. Government initiatives alone would not be sufficient to achieve this goal .Society must take initiative to create a climate in which there is no gender discrimination and women have full opportunities of self decision making and participating in social ,political, and economic, life of the country with a sense of equality. In the end Government, civil society organizations and all other stake holders must come forward and involve in the women empowerment process is the need of the day.

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