

Further Face of Women

Abstract

Women constitute the half of world population, but their overall position is not up to the mark, while their role is so important for family, society and the country as well. They are the first teacher of child. But Alas! They are very much neglected in manmade society. They are illiterate and dependent. They are supposed only to serve and not to have any right. Treating them as curse, they are killed at the time of birth. Now somehow the picture is altering and women are getting some honor in society. But still much is needed. Education is the base of all uplift. Especially digital education, social and economic awareness. Special laws, appropriate education and proper recognition are much needed.

Keywords : Empowerment, Counterparts, Illiterate, Subdued/Confined, Snatched, Discrimination, Illustrious, Pampered Zenith, Myth, Vigour, Acceleration, Strive, Constituents, Mobilizes

Introduction

Women, the first school of child, constitute roughly the half of the world's population. But their social economic & political status is lower than that of men in almost all countries of the world. Of course, women do enjoy better position in some societies than in other, but their overall position everywhere is lower than that of their male counterparts.

Women are much more likely than men to be poor and illiterate. They usually have less access than men to medical care, property ownership, credit, training and employment. They are far less likely than men to be politically active and far more likely to be victims of domestic violence.

In course of history, the role of women changes from time to time was depending upon the economic condition and political structure of society. It was the Mughal period specially which subdued the women. They were confined to houses and were meant to keep the houses and rear the children only. They were denied any freedom. Education and liberty were not for them. They were almost crushed physically and mentally. It did so much harm to them that their psychology becomes as if they were to serve only. Their own self was snatched away. They become totally dependent on male members of their family. They were treated as a curse to the family.

According to the reports of UNICEF there are between 40 to 50 million girls were never born or died early, because of gender discrimination, leading to further disproportion in the sex ratio in the country.

But In this contemporary world, women need to gain the same amount of power that men have. In India, women are still facing different obstacles in male-dominated cultures. The things are related to women's status and their future.

In India, the empowerment process has already begun. We are now witnessing a steady improvement in the enrollment of women in schools, colleges and even in profession institutes. Their health is better as compared to earlier decades. In this decade, women are entering into the job market in increasing numbers. They are showing their skills even in non-traditional sectors like police, defense, administration, media and research fields.

Two Indian women are the best example of women empowerment. Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw is the Chairman & Managing Director of Biocon Ltd, India's biggest biotechnology company. In 2004, she became India's richest woman. Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw is a powerhouse in India. She is awarded by Padma Shri (1989) and the ('Padma Bhushan', 2005) from the government of India. She was recently named among TIME magazine's 100 most influential people in the world. 'Kiran Bedi' is truly an icon of heroism. Kiran Bedi is an illustrious social

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activist and a retired IPS officer. In July 1972, she joined Indian Police Service and became the first woman to do so. She served in a number of tough assignments ranging from Delhi to Mizoram to Chandigarh to a United Nations delegation, where she became the Civilian Police Advisor in United Nations peacekeeping operations. In 1994, she won Ramon Magsaysay Award for her numerous reforms during her stint in Tihar Jail as the Inspector General of Prisons.

Twenty-six laws have been enacted so far to protect women from various crimes. The recent law on the 'protection of women against domestic violence' satisfies the long pending demand of the women activities. In the political field, the reservation for women is a significant step forward towards their political empowerment. When thirty-three percent reservations for women in Parliament becomes a reality, women's voice will be heard in the highest forum of democracy. Former president '**Pratibha Patil**' is the best example to motivate women and their empowerment.

The day, women of India will reach zenith in their empowerment. But a lot of work has to be done as there is a category of women (who consider themselves highly educated) that proudly accepts that they don't have digital literacy even though they own a computer, they cannot even operate bank accounts or make travel arrangements for family or handle hospital admissions even during emergencies. Even for a simple task like social visits or shopping generally they need the company of their husbands.

Women in India feel proud to display that they are well protected and pampered by their husbands without realizing that they are making themselves helpless. Such women's economic literacy is so low that they cannot play any role in family's decision regarding family's budget, savings and investments. To such women, the national budget discussion is for men only. Such women suffer a lot if something untoward happens to their husbands. This type of extreme dependency is not good for the development of women. Women should remember that they are also rational, intelligent and thinking human beings. Dependent women are not empowered women. If modern women think that they are empowered, it's a myth for them. Empowerment means to inspire women with the courage to break free from the chains of limiting beliefs, patterns and societal or religious conditions that have traditionally kept women suppressed and unable to realize their true beauty and power. . Therefore, it is essential that a planned effort should be carried out with greater vigour and sincerity, through acceleration of educational advancement for women's equality and empowerment.

Some qualities to be acquired by women to become truly empowered are awareness about risk prevailing at home, in work place, in traveling and staying outside home. They should have political, legal, economic and health awareness. They should have knowledge about support groups and positive attitudes towards life. They should get goals for future and strive to achieve them with courage. The best gift parents today can give to their daughters is education. If women choose to be ignorant then all the efforts

taken by the Government and women activists will go in vain. Even in twenty-fifth century, they will remain backward and will be paying a heavy price for their dependence, so, it is a wake-up call for women to awake from their deep slumber

Educational attainment and economic participation are the key constituents in ensuring the empowerment of women. Educational attainment is essential for empowering women in all spheres of society

The economic empowerment of women is a vital element of strong economic growth in any country. Empowering women enhances their ability to influence changes and to create a better society.

Other than educational and economic empowerment, changes in women's mobility and social interaction and changes in intra-household decision-making are necessary. Slight improvement in women's involvement in household decision-making in male-headed household, on such issues as credit, the disposal of household assets, children's education and family healthcare can work wonders

It has been experienced that financial dependence is one of the key sources of subordination of women. It is thus essential to provide support to them to have independent income. This could be possible if income generating activities are part and parcel of the educational programs provided financial facilities and arrangement skills to be self reliant.

Political empowerment mobilizes women for social changes, to make women politically active, it is essential to prepare them for collective action, they should be helped to organize themselves and wherever their organizations like Mahila Mandal exist they should be able to attain the required changes through participation in their own organization, they will play an effective role in panchayat and other legislative bodies. Women should read the biographies of great women of India and other countries to inspired themselves

Women are one of the greatest assets in our society. They are equal to men in all aspects. Women are more perfectionists in the power to create, nurture and transform.' Today, women are emerging as leaders in growing range of fields. be it aeronautics, medicine, space, engineering, law, politics, education, business. . '**Harita Kaur Deol**', the first Indian women cadet in Indian air force to perform a solo flight in an Avro craft, '**Aishwarya Rai**', the ambassador for the Eye bank association in India's nationwide promotional campaign, '**Kalpna Chawla**' who will always be remembered as the first Indian-origin woman to become an American astronaut are the best examples for inspiration to all women.

It is the duty of law enforcement agencies to prevent crimes against women but they fail to solve this scourge alone. Teamwork by people is the key to eradicating this menace. People must come forward to help in rooting out such social evils. Law enforcing agencies cannot work alone. When the people are dynamic in their drive against crimes, the police cannot remain a mute spectator though they are supposed to be the protectors of citizens. They will be forced to dispense their bounden duties. Youth should

be motivated to be socially responsible and protect women.

In the end I would like to conclude with the following words, "Women as the motherhood of the nation should be strong, aware and alert".

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