
Women Empowerment: Need and Challenges

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ABSTRACT

This study addresses the theoretical and methodological issues related to women empowerment. Today women empowerment is most important topic in 21st century. This as an agenda has been on top of the lists of most government plans & programs as well as Efforts have been completed on a regular basis across nations to address this issue and enhance the socio-economic status of women. This paper goes to understand the role of women and discusses the various challenges of women empowerment in India. The purpose of the paper is defining the need of women in economic development, sustainable development and role of women in the political decision-making. Need for women empowerment in modern context. The study is based on purely from secondary sources.

Key Words: women empowerment, economic and sustainable development and education.

as well as social benefits .its refers to increasing social, economic, political and legal strength of women to ensure equal right to women, its make to confidence to claim their rights. Women have social status equal to men in society; equal opportunity for education, equal employment opportunity and safe and comfortable working environment and women want to complete control of their life within and outside of their home and workplace. A women have Active participation in economic activities and decisions, would contribute towards overall economic development. Empowerment of women that's mean encourage women to be self-dependent, economically independent, have positive self-esteem, generate confidence to face any difficult situation and motivateto active participation in various socio-political development activities. The growing conscience is to accept women as individuals capable of making rational and educated decisions about them as well as the society, increasing and improving the economic, political and legal strength of the women, to ensure equal-right as men, achieve internationally agreed goals for

INTRODUCTION

Women empowerment means where they can make decision of their personal benefits

development and sustainability, and improve the quality of life for their families and communities. The most significant aspect of social empowerment of women is the promotion of gender equality. Gender equality implies that in society women and men enjoy the same opportunities, outcomes, rights and obligations in all spheres of life. A better quality of material life, within the family as well as for the overall society, can be achieved through promotion of sustainable livelihoods like cottage industries, small entrepreneurial efforts owned and managed by women.

VARIOUS CHALLENGES OF WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

A woman has to face many challenges right from her birth till the time when she steps out of from house. She has fight against society in every step. There are many challenges face by women in society for women empowerment.

1. Finance – first is the problem of finance rising for women? Basically finance problem make handicapped a person same here it's provided a problem for women. Without finance they can't deal and convince the investors for their ideas.

2. Mainstream thinking – Indian women considered as home working women not as a businessman. The society pressures demotivate them before even starting their path towards achieving their goals.

3. Conflict between family and dreams – women have to deal with the conflict between their personal and professional life. A women how to manage their children and family and get the support their families the biggest challenge they face.

4. Marketing of products – It is difficult for a woman to promote and market their product and develop their business. A man is considered more powerful in this area. She feels difficulties in this area so a women approach a middlemen and he eat a whole part of profit.

5. Emotional instability – women are emotional and temperamental in handling a situation which may be adverse at time. Women in business are considered to be incapable taking a risk and bearing losses.

6. Leadership – leadership behavior is a challenge for women empowerment. Women as a good

leader not consider because incapable to decision making.

NEED OF WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

A society with socio-cultural values continues to affect the progress of women's empowerment in the country. Aim of Government policies should be to identify and eliminate the difference between men and women. In country fifty percent of the nation's populations are women and a whole population of women is economically dependent, without employment. A part of women are unaware of the fact that they are eligible for positions that men enjoy. The result is that the economy of the country is skewed due to underutilization of available human resources. Ascientific data provide the information women to be more adept at multi-tasking than men, they stagnant remain the second choice for employers in the country.

1. Make Equally competent and intelligent to men - Women are equally competent. Nowadays, women are even ahead of men in many socio-economic activities.

2. Encourage Talent - Women are equally talented to men. Last time women were not allowed higher education like men and her

talents were wasted. But nowadays, women allowed going for higher studies and it encourage women to show their talents which will not only benefit her individually and also whole economy.

3.For Overall development of society -The main need of Women Empowerment is that there will be a whole development of the society. The money earn by women does not only help them and or their family, but it also help develop the society.

4.For Economic Benefits -Women Empowerment also leads to more economic benefits not to the individuals but to the society as well.Lastdays when they stayed at home only and do only kitchen stuffs, nowadays, they roam outside and also earn money like the male members of the society. Women empowerment helps women are independent and also to earn for their family which grows country's economy.

5. Reduction in domestic violence - Women Empowerment helps to decrease domestic violence. Uneducated women are at higher risk for domestic violence than educated women.

6. Reduction in corruption -Women Empowerment is also helping in reduce case of corruption. Women empowerment helps

women to get educated and know their rights and duties and hence can stop corruption.

7. Reduce Poverty -Women Empowerment help to reduces poverty. From time to time, the money earned by the male member of the family is not adequate to meet the demands of the family. Then earnings of women help the family to come out of poverty.

8. National Development -Women participating in the national development process are increasing. They are making the nation proud by their outstanding performances almost every step like medical science, social service, engineering, etc.

ROLE OF WOMEN IN ECONOMIC AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Women are playing an important role in economic and sustainable development. There are following role plays by women in society and every role of women in society is precise. A woman is importance in society and in their house.

Role of Women as a Caretaker: in the whole world women are primary caretaker of child and elders. World studies reveal that when the economy and political

organization of a social change and a women helping the family adjustments with new changes. In village women play a most important role in supporting their households and communities and helpful to achieving food and nutrition security.

Role to manage the natural resources:

In almost developing region natural resources firstly used by women. Women in rural areas spend major time of day in growing food, gathering fuel wood and cooking. Women are responsible for local food production in rural area. Women are responsible for selection of seeds, fertilizers and maintain the productive soil for food production. Women have a special relationship with natural resources. Their cultures and practices promote a balance and respectful use of natural resources.

Role of Women as Educators: The women contribution as a teacher is very important. Women is first teacher of own child. Research is shown that educated women improve the agriculture production and enhance the status of women and girl, reduce population and growth rate, encourage environmental protection and improve the standard of living. Women play an important role of as an educator in home as well as in society.

Role to manage the poverty: women are playing an important role to manage the poverty. Women work in agriculture area and other business and earn money and other resources which help to people remove poverty and increase national income. Basically women accrue less income than men over their life time for a variety of reason. They get paid less for the equally work. These gaps in women employment history reduce the amount of social security women gain. Finally we can say that women earns money and helpful in reduce poverty.

Role to manage water:In India women are the manager of water resources often walking miles to arrange the water for basic needs. In some areas in India women and children maximum time spend on arrangement of waters. Access to safe water is also an issue of increasing concern for urban women and families.

Role of Women in the Political Decision-Making: The actuality of a political system inspiring the participation of women in the political decision-making process and in governance. Indian constitution has provided the protections for gender equality in the country in the following articles:-

Article 14:Egalitarianism before law “The State shall not contradict to any person equality before the law or the equal protection of the laws within the region of India Prohibition of discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth”

Article 16 (2):Equal Opportunities “No citizen shall, on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, descent, place of birth, residence, be ineligible for, or discriminated against in respect or, any employment or office under the State”.

Article 23: prevention on childforced labour.

Article 39(a):The citizen, women and men equally have the right to an adequate means of livelihood.

Article 40 (after the 73rd Amendment): 1/3rdof seats in panchayats shall be reserved for women.

Article 42: State shall make provisions for presently and humane working conditions andmotherhood relief.

Article 51 A (e): One of the duties of every citizen is to renounce practices offensive to the dignity of woman.

Government Laws and its succeeding amendments have seen larger inclusion of women with respect to their standing in the society. The Hindu Succession (Amendment) Act 2005 stating that women get equal share in the parental property or the Equal remuneration Act, 1976, has contributed towards a better contribution in the society. The Dowry prohibition Act, 1961, Child marriage (prohibition) Act, 1929, The indecent representation of women (prohibition) Act, 1986 and the Hindu marriage Act, 1955, preventing polygamy and bigamy, and their strict enforcements has to a large extent contributed towards lessening women exploitation. A variety of government schemes like RastriyaMahilaKosh and Support to training cum Employment for women have managed to bring financial development of rural women through self-sustainable employment. The recent BetiBachao and BetiPadhao scheme as well as the SABLA scheme has been aimed at reducing female infanticide and promoting the importance of educating the girl child. A number of councils and bodies have been established for the well-being of women such as the National Commission for Women, Department of Women and Child Development and the Parliamentary

Committee on Empowerment of Women which has reviewed various laws and recommended amendments. The National Policy for Empowerment of Women 2001 is aimed at addressing all forms of violence against women including physical, mental and that arising from customs and traditions.

SUGGESTION

The suggestion for empowerment of women includes the following:

- It is very important Education through mass communication. Equally women and men should be made aware of their responsibilities to promote and practice gender-equality.
- Collect national data and identify the areas anywhere instances of violence and gender-inequality are the most. This data can be used by NGOs and field workers to raise the status of women.
- The society should be made aware that both boy and girl child are equal, and they both should have equal right to use to resources.
- From the time when socio-economic weak condition of family is reported, we should initiate educational

programmes for women as well as girl child. Involving the women and girls in these programmes it can be able to reduce children in labor and early marriage.

- We should increase the number of government girl's schools for the easy accessibility of basic education to girls.
- Sensitization of mass media along with families is necessary to create awareness about the importance of women education and empowerment among parents.

CONCLUSION

Women's empowerment is including all over the world women. Women have been challenging and changing gender inequalities. These struggles have also been supported by many men who have been irritated at discrimination against women. Women represent half the world's population and gender discrimination exists in every nation on the sphere. Now its important need of the hour is change of social attitude to women. It is essential as their thought and their value systems encourage the development of a good family, good society and ultimately a good

nation. The best way of empowerment is perhaps through inducting women in the mainstream of development. Women empowerment will be real and effective only when they are capable income and property so that they may stand on their feet and build up their identity in the society. 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 ingenuities alone would not be sufficient to achieve this goal. Society must takeingenuity 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. Empowerment of women has not achieved without educate women are taken and supported by the government with the help of people's participation. Education more important equal access to basic social services, including education and health and equal opportunity for participation in political and economic decision making. Educating women is not merely improving their life but it also helps the country to improve in various human development indicators. It has positive impact on implementation of

development plans especially at grassroots level.

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