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**EDUCATION: A TOOL FOR WOMEN EMPOWERMENT**

**AMANDEEP KAUR**  
**ASST. PROFESSOR**  
**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE & MANAGEMENT**  
**GURU NANAK COLLEGE**  
**BUDHLADA**

**ABSTRACT**

*Women is pillar of relatives, society, nation. if they empowered society, nation, economy empowered automatically. Indian Government taken various step to uplift them for development of society, nation. Earlier studies shown us the status of females as gender discrimination, illiteracy etc. but in modern India they can see the changing face of society. Society must take initiative to generate a climate in which there is no gender discrimination and Females have full opportunities of Self decision making and participating in the Social, Political and Economic life of the Country with a sense of equality.*

**KEYWORDS**

women Empowerment, women education.

**INTRODUCTION**

Medic period has witnessed equal rights for ladies in the field of schooling, religion, politics, property & inheritance. In the work of the medieval period society had become patriarchal & men- ladies difference was evident. Men-women role was decided on the basis of sex. Ladies were consigned inside the four venue of home. It was thought about to be the worst period in the history. In the work of the modern period lots of social reformers felt the necessity to emancipate ladies & tried to establish a justified place for them in the relatives & society. The thinkers & social reformers realized that unless the condition of 50% of Indian population is improved Indian society cannot progress. But some areas obtain the success for their holistic development.

**EMPOWERMENT**

**Empowerment** refers to increasing the economic, political, social, educational, gender, or spiritual strength of an entity or entities. Empowerment is the process of obtaining basic opportunities for marginalized people, either directly by those people, or through the help of non-marginalized others who share their own access to these opportunities. It also includes actively thwarting attempts to deny those opportunities.

**TRENDS OF EMPOWERMENT**

Through the different trends of empowerment economy achieve holistic development.

**AT TOP DEGREE:** societal or society up gradation is needed to achieve the economic and social objective of economy. Under this trend society give Equal access to participation and decision making of women in social, political and economic life of the nation Equal access to women to health care, quality education at all levels, career and vocational guidance, employment, equal remuneration, occupational health and safety, social security and public office etc.

**AT MIDDLE DEGREE:** Group level empowerment is needed to uplift women. With the help of different groups women achieve potential to face social problem which are not faced by them alone. various group exist for:

Engendering Policies and Strategies, Violence against Women, providing financial help, provides training for projects, technical know-how, competitive skills etc.

**AT LOWER DEGREE:** Women are the pillars of creation, existence & sustainability of a mankind & their empowerment ought to start from the micro level. empowerment as building confidence, insight & understanding, & developing personal skills, for example, being able to analyze situations & communicate more effectively with others. Being empowered presupposes some level of common sense & emotional maturity & access to appropriate knowledge & know how; it also implies someone who cares about others & is tolerant of other's views & behavior.

Female empowerment is thus concerned with changing the power relations between individuals & groups in the society & involves awareness raising building of self-confidence, expansion of choice, involvement in decision making & increased access to & control over resources unless they themselves become aware of the oppression met out to them & show initiative both to push forward. It can generate a chance to alter their status much. A quantity of the empowerment could be identified as follows-

- Literacy & higher schooling.
- Better health takes care of her.
- Higher age of marriage.
- Greater work participation in modernized sector
- Necessary financial & service support for self-employment.
- Opportunities for higher position of power.
- Complete knowledge of her rights & above all.
- Self-reliance, self-respect & dignity of being females.

**SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC WAYS FOR EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN**

The objective of many countries to increased female literacy and enrolment rates, upgrade gender equality in education, turn down infant and child mortality rates, maternal mortality rates and betterments in health of women. The participation of women in formal economic activities has also acknowledged.

**1. PARTICIPATION IN ECONOMIC AFFAIRS**

Economic empowerment constitutes of the essential building blocks in efforts towards the general empowerment of ladies. Participation in formal economic activities on terms and conditions which reflect the productive capacity of ladies, and their control over their own incomes, are a quantity of the important dimensions of economic empowerment. Although the increasing work participation of ladies has been viewed as part of the general employment boom created by the export-led economic expansion, female labour-force participation rates have tended to increase over those for men in the Asian and Pacific region, proposing that women economic participation has been a critical feature of the region quest for the economic empowerment of ladies.

**2. SOCIAL EMPOWERMENT**

Social empowerment is understood as the system of developing a sense of self-confidence and self-achievement, and acting individually and in group to adjust social relationships. It covered the ability of individual as human such as nice health and schooling, social such as social belonging, a sense of identity, leadership relations and psychological self-esteem, self-confidence, the ability to imagine and aspire to a better future. Changes in women's attitudes are among the most critical factors in driving progress and economic empowerment.

**3. ANALYZE TO INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

Promoting access to productive resources & social support systems constitutes of the essential building blocks in efforts to empower females in the region. Access to productive resources such as credit, expertise, infrastructure, promotion links & networking facilities can significantly enlarge opportunities for females to



engage in formal economic activities & improve their social status. In that regard, promoting access to new & emerging technologies, including information & communication expertise, has become a powerful tool for women's empowerment.

### A LOOK AT WOMEN EDUCATION SCENARIO

Gender discrimination has been a major hindrance in granting equal opportunity for females in Higher Schooling. It's been identified as an important section & deserves attention in the education-equality paradigm. Today, women's schooling has become an issue of debate within which it is now necessary to shift the focus from women's intellectual development to women's autonomy in decision-making, freedom of expression & control over resources. Empowerment is the manifestation of a redistribution of power that challenges patriarchal ideology, transforming the institutions that reinforce or perpetuate gender discrimination. The parameters of empowerment have been identified as

- One. Developing ability for critical thinking;
- Two. Fostering decision-making & action through collective processes;
- Three. Ensuring equal participation in developmental processes;
- Four. Enhancing self-esteem & self-confidence in females.

TABLE 1

YEAR	Rural			Urban			Combined		
	Female	Male	TOTAL	Female	Male	TOTAL	Female	Male	TOTAL
1951	4.87	19.02	12.1	22.33	45.6	34.59	8.86	27.15	18.32
1961	10.1	34.3	22.5	40.5	66	54.4	15.35	40.4	28.31
1971	15.5	48.6	27.9	48.8	69.8	60.2	21.97	45.96	34.45
1981	21.7	49.6	36	56.3	76.7	67.2	29.76	56.38	43.57
1991	30.17	56.96	36	64.05	81.09	67.2	39.29	64.13	52.21
2001	46.7	71.4	59.4	73.2	86.7	80.3	53.67	75.26	64.83
2011	58.75	78.57	67.8	79.92	89.67	84.1	65.46	82.14	74.04
% increase in 2011 over 2001	26%	10%	14%	9%	3%	5%	22%	9%	14%

But Nowadays As per 2011 census, literacy rate in India has been reported as 74.04% with a 14% increase to that in 2001, whereas the hike is maximum for rural women at 26% in the last decade, which may be attributed to literacy mission of Government of India. Overall female literacy rate in India much lower than that of male literacy rate. The female literacy levels according to the Literacy Rate 2011 census are 65.46% whereas the male literacy rate is over 80%. The Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) for females at the primary level stood at 102.65 compared with 100.20 for males in 2013-14. At the middle class level, the GER for females has been reported as 92.75 against 86.31 for males and at the higher secondary level, 51.58 and 52.77 is the Gross enrolment ratio for females and males during 2013-14.

### LITERACY RATES IN POST INDEPENDENT INDIA

TABLE 2: STATE-WISE LITERACY RATES OF FEMALE IN LAST 3 DECADES

States	1991	2001	2011
A & N Islands	65.5	75.2	82.4
Andhra Pradesh	32.7	50.4	59.1
Arunachal Pradesh	29.7	43.5	57.7
Assam	43.0	54.6	66.3
Bihar	22.0	33.1	51.5
Chandigarh	72.3	76.5	81.2
Chhattisgarh	27.5	51.9	60.2
D & N Haveli	27.0	43.0	64.3
Daman & Diu	59.4	70.4	79.5
Delhi	67.0	74.7	80.8
Goa	67.1	75.4	84.7
Gujarat	48.6	58.6	69.7
Haryana	40.5	45.7	65.9
Himachal Pradesh	52.1	67.4	75.9
Jammu & Kashmir	NA	43.0	56.4
Jharkhand	-	38.9	55.4
Karnataka	44.3	56.9	68.1
Kerala	86.1	87.9	92.1
Lakshadweep	72.9	80.5	87.9
Madhya Pradesh	29.4	50.3	59.2
Maharashtra	52.3	67.0	75.9
Manipur	47.6	60.5	72.4
Meghalaya	44.9	59.6	72.9
Mizoram	78.6	86.8	89.3
Nagaland	54.8	61.5	76.1
Odisha	34.7	50.5	64.0
Puducherry	65.6	73.9	80.7
Punjab	50.4	63.4	70.7
Rajasthan	20.4	43.9	52.1
Sikkim	46.7	60.4	75.6
Tamil Nadu	51.3	64.4	73.4
Tripura	49.7	64.9	82.7
Uttar Pradesh	24.4	42.2	57.2
Uttarakhand	41.6	59.6	70.0
West Bengal	46.6	59.6	70.5
India	39.3	53.7	65.5

Source: Office of Registrar General, India.

This data shows the empowerment of women in education field as per education women empowered through another ways:

#### **EMPOWERING WOMEN IN BUSINESS**

The government of India set aside some reasonable amount of money which females who have business ideas can borrow in order to start businesses. Females are encouraged to start tiny business in order to have their own source of income thus they become independent. Various non-governmental organizations also offer financial support to females in India & encourage & teach them how they can be making their own money by beginning various business activities. The status of the females in India has greatly improved & there's lots of females who are holding high position in the government offices. This has proved that females can be even better than men in the event that they are given a chance. Females are given equal opportunity like their male counterparts by the government.

#### **GLOBLISATION AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT**

Globalization is that it's opened up broader communication lines & attracted more companies as well as different organizations in to India. This provides opportunities for not only working men, but also females, who are becoming a bigger part of the workforce. With new jobs for females, there's opportunities for higher pay, which raises self-confidence & brings about independence. This, in turn, can promote equality between the sexes, something that Indian females have been struggling with their whole lives. Globalization has the power to uproot the traditional treatment towards females to afford them an equal stance in society.

#### **WOMEN EMPOWERMENT THROUGH SELF HELP GROUPS**

The female's empowerment through SHGs in india. It is found that the income of the females has been increased after joining the SHGs. So that every month household expenditure also has been raised considerable level. But the savings is increasing at slow rate, because the incremental expenditure is higher. Mostly they are spending for present consumption. The members ought to alter it. The nice practice of the females SHGs in the study area is repayment of the loan in time. they may conclude that the economic activities of SHGs are success.

#### **WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE**

The ladies are the backbone of agricultural workforce but worldwide her hard work has mostly been unpaid. They does the most tedious & back-breaking tasks in agriculture, animal husbandry & homes. The research efforts at the ICAR institutes have been tried to relieve her of the drudgery by providing time & labour saving tools. Vocational trainings are also being conducted, to impart skills to undertake different avocations. In extension activities the ladies is now the centre point & activities are being planned keeping her in view. Her enlightenment will change the face of rural India. Several programmes started at the National Centre for Ladies in Agriculture & Krishi Vigyan Kendras, are the right steps in this direction. Women comprise an average of 43% of the agriculture labour force in developing countries.

#### **MAIN GOALS OF 12<sup>TH</sup> FIVE YEAR PLAN IN INDIA TOWARDS WOMEN**

- Creating greater freedom to choice for females by generating awareness & generating institutional mechanisms to help females query prevalent patriarchal beliefs that are detrimental to their empowerment.
- Improving health & schooling indicators for females like maternal Mortality, kid mortality, nutrition levels, enrolment & retention in Primary, secondary & higher schooling.
- Reducing the incidence of violence against females & providing quality care Services to the victims.
- Improving employability of females, work participation rates in the Organized sector & increased possession of assets & control over Resources.
- Increasing women access to public services & programs through Establishing & strengthening convergence mechanisms at multiple levels, Creation of physical infrastructure for females & improving the capacity of Women organizations & collectives.
- Ensuring that the specific concerns of single & disadvantaged females are addressed.

#### **CONCLUSION**

Women is pillar of relatives, society, nation. if they empowered society, nation, economy empowered automatically. Indian Government taken various step to uplift them for development of society, nation. Earlier studies shown us the status of females as gender discrimination, illiteracy etc. but in modern India they can see the changing face of society. Society must take initiative to generate a climate in which there is no gender discrimination and Females have full opportunities of Self decision making and participating in the Social, Political and Economic life of the Country with a sense of equality.

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