

Status of Women's Rights in Gomti Nagar Area of Lucknow Metropolitan City

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Abstract: Gomti Nagar in Lucknow city is a standard habitat of humans with global standards therefore it is imperative to outline the various characteristics of this area in view of global parameters. The status of women is an important parameter to portray any area as developed. Therefore the researcher decided to assess the status of women's rights in this high end habitat of modern Lucknow. The presented research work was carried out by the descriptive research method and a sample based door to door survey was done for the data collection. The sampling was done by a convenient sampling method and data was collected from 2000 respondents with the help of a questionnaire prepared by researchers. The questionnaire consisted of 15 questions, with yes and no as answers, based on the rights of women. After analysis of data it was found that Women are not properly aware about their civil, legal, constitutional or other rights in Gomti Nagar area of Lucknow metropolitan city. The lack of awareness about certain women's right in Gomti Nagar is serious because Gomti Nagar is the apex in development of all material kinds viz. schools, colleges, infrastructure, service sector, market etc. Despite of high socio-economic-educational status of the Gomti Nagar area of Lucknow metropolitan city range of lack of awareness varies from 70% to 35%, which is of grave concerns.

Keywords: women's right, Lucknow, Gomti Nagar, status of awareness.

I. INTRODUCTION

Women's rights are theory based, but discussion of general experience and research findings tells a different story. What often happens to women, whether in peacetime or wartime, at home or outside, in private or in public, is the neglect of their rights. As a result, women all over the world have to face violations of their rights, the causes and consequences of which may vary from country to country, but prejudice and discriminatory attitudes towards women continue to be widespread.

In India, gender disparities among young men and women are manifested in the expectations available to them of their education, nutrition, health, wealth, career opportunities, freedom of decision, and the overall set of decisions that affect their future. India's most populous state, Uttar Pradesh (UP) has a sex ratio (871 young females per 1000 young males) while gender disparities in the age group 15–24 years show a wide pattern and history of inequalities. For example, only 76% of young women in the region can read, compared to 87% of young men (United Nations Population Fund, 2011). Despite laws prohibiting marriage before the age of 18, UP 21.1% of girls aged 20–24 in the United States are married before the age of 18 (International Institute for Population Sciences, 2017). Adolescents' sexual experiences have long-term effects on their education, economic attainment, nutrition, and health (Sen, Ostlin, & Asha, 2007). Hussainpour et al. (2012) analyzed data from over 10,000 men and over 12,000 women from different countries in the 2002–2004 World Health Survey and concluded that women reporting poorer health than In order to be 'explained' by social determinants, it was found that because employment opportunities were only 38.5% of women as compared to 75.5% of men reported paid jobs. Women reported being a homemaker or working as a homemaker and taking care of the family as their primary reasons for unemployment. Educational level was also found to contribute to health disparities. Attainment of higher education is significantly correlated with women's and girls' health, sexual health and reproductive health outcomes such as increased use of contraceptives, delayed age at marriage and first childbirth, increased access to antenatal care, infant Lower mortality rates and higher child immunization rates, etc. are not only

influenced by their educational level and all these factors were found to be influenced by the educational level of women (Grossman, & Joyce, 2010; Currie & Moretti, 2003; Mamari & Sabharwal, 2013).

There are various rights that are being provided to women by the constitution of India viz. Right against discrimination to any citizen of India on the ground of sex (Article 15), states power for enacting special provision for women (Article 15,c), Right to employment (Article 16,b), Right against human trafficking and forced labor (Article 23,a), Right of equal opportunity of an adequate means of livelihood (Article 39,a), Right to equal pay for equal work for men and women (Article 39,d), Right to humane conditions of work and maternity relief (Article 42), Right to dignity of women (Article 51-A,e), right to One-third of the total number of seats in every Panchayats and Municipality (Article 243-D) etc.

There are some Legal Rights for Women such as Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act (2005), Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act (1956), Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act (1986) Commission of Sati (Prevention) Act (1987) Dowry Prohibition Act (1961), Maternity Benefit Act (1961), Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act (1971), Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act (1994), Equal Remuneration Act (1976), Dissolution of Muslim Marriages Act (1939), Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Divorce) Act (1986), Family Courts Act (1984), Indian Penal Code (1860), Code of Criminal Procedure (1973), Indian Christian Marriage Act (1872), Legal Services Authorities Act (1987), Hindu Marriage Act (1955), Hindu Succession Act (1956), Minimum Wages Act (1948), Mines Act (1952) and Factories Act (1948) prohibits the employment of women between 7 P.M. to 6 A.M. in mines and factories, State Insurance Act (1948), Employees' State Insurance Act (1948), Plantation Labour Act (1951), Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act (1976), Legal Practitioners (Women) Act (1923), Indian Succession Act (1925), Indian Divorce Act (1869), Parsi Marriage and Divorce Act (1936), Special Marriage Act (1954), Foreign Marriage Act (1969), Indian Evidence Act (1872), Hindu Adoptions and Maintenance Act (1956), National Commission for Women Act (1990), Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redress) Act (2013).

There are certain rights that are specially provided to Indian Women viz. Right to sharing of property by the force of Hindu Succession (Amendment) Act, 2005, Right to dignity and decency, Right against workplace harassment, Right against domestic violence (Section 498), Right to get free legal aid, Right of not to be arrested at night, Right to register virtual complaints, Right against indecent representation, Right against being stalked (Section 354D of the IPC), Right to Zero FIR.

1.1 Need and Significance of the Study

The study of humans and their socio-political characteristics are the central idea of socio-political geography. In the interdisciplinary aspect of geography the socio-cultural as well as socio-legal framework of any area must also be studied with the structural and morphological characters. Gomti Nagar in Lucknow city is a standard habitat of humans with global standards therefore it is imperative to outline the various characteristics of this area in view of global parameters. The status of women is an important parameter to portray any area as developed. Therefore the researcher decided to assess the status of women's rights in this high end habitat of modern Lucknow.

1.2 Objective

- To study the status of women's rights in the Gomti Nagar area of Lucknow metropolitan city.

1.3 Research Questions

- What is the status of awareness about women's rights in inhabitants of Gomti Nagar area of Lucknow metropolitan city?

1.4 Methodology of Research

The presented research work was carried out by the descriptive research method and a sample based door to door survey was done for the data collection. The sampling was done by a convenient sampling method and data was collected from 2000 respondents with the help of a questionnaire prepared by researchers. The questionnaire consisted of 15 questions, with yes and no as answers, based on the rights of women.

II. ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

S. No.	Item	Yes Response	Percentage	No Response	Percentage
1	Are you aware that there is equality before law for women also?	1192	59.6	808	40.4
2	Are you aware that the anti-dowry act is there to prevent dowry related exploitation of women?	1094	54.7	906	45.3
3	Are you aware that there is equality of opportunity for women in public services?	1005	50.25	995	49.75
4	Are you aware that women cannot be arrested at night?	607	30.35	1393	69.65
5	Are you aware that women cannot be interrogated alone at her home by a male police officer?	592	29.6	1408	70.4
6	Are you aware that the salary, pay or wages for Working women must be equal to the men?	1195	59.75	805	40.25
7	Are you aware that trafficking and forced labour are prohibited in India?	1287	63.35	713	35.65
8	Are you aware that there is a provision for free legal services to Indian women?	699	34.95	1301	65.05
9	Are you aware that there is provision for the termination of certain pregnancies by registered medical practitioners on humanitarian and medical grounds?	825	41.25	1175	58.75
10	Are you aware about the rights of every woman's dignity and decency?	989	49.45	1011	50.55
11	Are you aware about the Right of women against being stalked?	963	48.15	1037	51.85
12	Are you aware about the right of woman against sexual Harassment at Workplace?	763	38.15	1237	61.85
13	Are you aware about the right of women to register virtual complaints?	412	20.6	1588	79.4
14	Are you aware that there are universal equal voting rights for women in India?	1103	55.15	897	44.85
15	Are you aware about the Right of woman against indecent representation and Depiction of a woman's figure?	852	42.6	1148	57.4

From the above table it can be easily observed that 79.4% of the sample was not aware about the right of women to register virtual complaints, 70.4% of the sample did not know that any women cannot be interrogated alone at her home by a male police officer, 69.65% sample was not aware that women cannot be arrested at night, 65.05 % sample was not aware about provision for free legal services to Indian women, 61.85% of the sample was not aware about the right of woman against sexual Harassment at Workplace.

Similarly 58.75% of the sample was not aware about the provision for the termination of certain pregnancies by registered medical practitioners on humanitarian and medical grounds, 57.4% of the sample was not aware about the Right of woman against indecent representation and Depiction of a woman's figure, 51.85% of the sample was not aware about the Right of women against being stalked, 50.55% of the sample was not aware about the rights of every woman's dignity and decency.

In the same way 49.75% of the sample was not aware that there is equality of opportunity for women in public services, 45.3% of the sample was not aware that the anti-dowry act is there to prevent dowry related exploitation of women, 44.85% of the sample was not aware about universal equal voting rights for women in India, 40.4% of the sample was not aware about the equality before law for women also, 40.25% of the sample was not aware that the salary, pay or wages for Working women must be equal to the men and 35.65% of sample was not aware that trafficking and forced labour are prohibited in India.

III. CONCLUSION

From above results it can be easily propounded that-

- Women are not properly aware about their civil, legal, constitutional or other rights in Gomti Nagar area of Lucknow metropolitan city.
- The lack of awareness about certain women's right in Gomti Nagar is serious because Gomti Nagar is the apex in development of all material kinds viz. schools, colleges, infrastructure, service sector, market etc.
- Despite of high socio-economic-educational status of the Gomti Nagar area of Lucknow metropolitan city range of lack of awareness varies from 70% to 35%, which is of grave concerns.
- Above 50% Females of the sample were aware about the right of equality of opportunity for women in public services, universal equal voting rights, and equality before law, equality for the salary, pay or wages for working women and law related to prohibition of trafficking and forced labour.

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