

Research Topic - Women Empowerment through Higher education

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Abstract: *Women empowerment is a debatable subject. At earlier time they were getting equal status with men. But they had faced some difficulties during post-Vedic and epic ages. Many a time they were treated as slave. From early twenty century (national movement) their statuses have been changed slowly and gradually. In this regard, we my mentioned the name of the British people. After then, independence of India, the constitutional makers and national leaders strongly demand equal social position of women with men. Today we have seen the women occupied the respectable positions in all walks of the fields. Yet, they have not absolutely free some discrimination and harassment of the society. A few number of women have been able to establish their potentialities. Therefore, each and every should be careful to promote the women statuses. Being a traditional patriarchal society, women have been given a secondary status which is reflected in the economic, social and political spheres. However, women equality and empowerment has always remained a priority area and has been taken utmost care by stake holders. The paper critically investigates the Indian status among other countries and tries to find out preparedness to achieve Sustainable development Goal -5 of the United Nations. The paper develops argument on the basis of secondary sources as review of existing literature published in journal, books, reports of various, NGOs, Government and international organizations and websites. The paper critically examines women empowerment through higher education in India, various models and dimensions.*

Keywords: Women empowerment, British people, organizations, NGO

I. INTRODUCTION

The concept of empowerment flows from the power. It is vesting where it does not exist or exist inadequately. Empowerment of women would mean equipping women to be economically independent, self-reliant, have positive esteem to enable them to face any difficult situation and they should be able to participate in development activities. The empowered women should be able to participate in the process of decision making. Higher education has been found to have significant relationship with the human development. India and also the Gender Development Index is significance is especially apparent for rural development. Access to higher education for women as reflected by the Gross Enrollment Ratio (GER) is an issue of great concern. It reflects the inequality persisting among women within Indian society. The present paper looks at the women empowerment through higher education in India. Education especially higher education is very effective weapon for women to fight against change the world she lived.

1.1 Objective of the Study

The main objectives of this paper are:

- To know the relevance of higher education in women's life
- To know the various schemes related to women education
- To study the impact of education on empowerment of women
- To study the challenges and changes from education on women empowerment
- To understand the position of educated women in the work participation.
- To analyze the need of women empowerment.
- To induce the feeling of self dependence amongst women.

II. CONCEPT AND DEFINITIONS OF WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

“Women Empowerment” is a burning issue all over the world. “Women empowerment” and “women equality with men” is a universal issue. Women Empowerment refers to the creation of an environment for women where they can make decisions of their own for their personal benefits as well as for the society. Women Empowerment refers to increasing and improving the social, economic, political and legal strength of the women, to ensure equal-right to women, and to make them confident enough to claim their rights, such as:

The Oxford American dictionary defined “empowerment as to make stronger and more confident up in controlling their life and claiming their rights”

Definitions According to Moser (1989) empowerment is the capacity of women to increase their self-reliance and internal strength. This is identified as the right to determine choices in life and to influence in direction of change through the ability to gain control over material and non-material resources. In the words of clothes but CK and Stuart (1992) we need not “empowerment women but “power man”.

According to Pillai (1995) “Empowerment is an active multi dimensional process which enables women to realize their full identity and powers in all spheres of life.

III. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Hoshemi (1996) developed five indicators to measure women’s empowerment: mobility, economic security, ability to make larger purchases, realize freedom from domination within the family and political and legal awareness and involvement in political campaigning and protests with this in mind. An attempt is made in the following situation to measure empowerment of women respondents.

Tathapi (UGC Care Journal) ISSN:2320-0693 Vol-19-Issue-44-June-2020 P a g e | 229 Copyright © 2020 Author family, participation in decision making) and internal qualities (self awareness and self confidence) Human Development in South Asia (2000) (Mathew, 2003). United Nations Development Fund for Women has been re-branded as the UN Entity for Gender Equality and the empowerment of Women.

Batliwala, 1993; Kabeer, 1994; Rowlands, 1997; Sen, 1997). They highlight the complex reciprocal relationship between women’s self-understanding and capacity for self-expression as well as women’s access to and control over material resources. The decade of nineties may be considered as an impertinent phase for women empowerment throughout the world as most of the world conferences highlighted towards seizing the opportunities. It accentuated issues of reproductive and sexual rights, violence against women and gender inequality.

Rupali Sharma, Zia Afroz (2014), stated in their paper that India holds second position in having largest population in world. It is essential to empower women, through higher education.

Khushboo Singh (2016), in her paper discussed about the impact of education on the. It does not mean making them literate but also educating them to know their rights and duties. empowerment of women as well as the challenges that we must have to deal with during the process. The educational and other policies for women empowerment should be implemented in D.C. Agarwal reality for empowering women in the world.

AnkuKukerJi (2016), For development of country Women Empowerment is must. It can be done through increasing females literacy roots and to provide them higher education so women can become self dependent, confidence & help in raising status in the family & society. Women’s can make their own decision & able to differentiate between good and bad, if they are educated. So government should make plans & policies regarding women empowerment.

IV. METHODOLOGY

The study is based on the secondary data sources. The necessary information about the women Empowerment through higher education in India and its various components are collected from various books, journals, internet source of related topics.

4.1 Higher Education

Knowledge is life of every Indian women. It results with the experience that women gains from environment and the supporting world around her, which allow her to live as knowledgeable productive members of the society. Critical thinking and analysis will make the children better members of society. To educate someone is to deliberately teach them something

new and higher education for women is most powerful means to evolve through current economical and social crises in India and to teach her children the art of thinking and analysis before entering the school for education.

4.2 Higher Education Leads a Women with

- Self-confidence
- Necessity of life
- Family welfare
- Involvement in Social and political activities
- Complete living

4.3 Empowerment of Women Role of Universities

Universities should play a vital role in order to achieve the target of per cent literacy in women population even though legislation and policy changes were important to consider women as the equal partner for development of a the nation. Yet therefore certain other Factors are still too achieved to fulfill the objectives and goal.

At university level, Major roles may take place which are highlighted below.

- **Short term courses for women**-Universities should offer new short term courses for women like yoga, education, nursing, cutting, and stitching etc. These courses will help them to start work at their own for their economic independence.
- **Scholarship**- Universities should start giving scholarships to the outstanding girls in different disciplines their classmates.
- **New Professional Courses for Women**- Universities should keep on introducing new professional courses for women which they can join after completing senior secondary education. These courses should be from those areas which are job oriented. After doing these courses either they can go for jobs in offices or they can do work on their own the courses like interior decoration computer hardware, technical know how of electronic gadgets etc.
- **Interaction with Girls School**- Universities should arrange seminars and extension lectures of experts in girls school in different areas these experts will share with girls students the possibilities of new areas where they can seek admission. They can conduct the interviews with the girl students and provide guidance for future studies on the basis of their abilities.
- **Reservation of Seats for Girls**- Universities should suggest amending of law to provide the provision of seats for girls in different disciplines as there is reservation for SC and ST candidates.
- **Relationship of Industries and Universities**- Universities should establish the relationship with different industries. By doing so, the university authorities should understand the type of jobs in different areas. They can start such courses with the help of different a industries. Also these industries will provide placement to the girls students.
- **Resource Centers for Women**- University can also serve as the resource center for women at the state level with an aim to strengthen institutional capacity of the department of social welfare in the state and for the holistic development of women.
- **Women Reproductive Health and Child Care**- Rural development can be achieved only if women enlightened and empowered this is an unchallenged experience, and need to be given special attention by the universities.

V. CONCLUSION

In the words of Mahatma Gandhi “if you educate the man, you educate the person but if you educate the woman, you educate the nation” One of the most significant transformation in education in India over past several decades is the drastic increase in women’s access to college and universities. In order to really bring women empowerment in the Indian society, it needs to understand and eliminate the main cause of the ill practices against women which are patriarchal and male dominated system of the society. It needs to be open-minded and change the old mind set against women together with the constitutional and other legal provisions. Thus In India so many schemes for women empowerment.

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