

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT, ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND EMPOWERMENT

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WOMEN EMPOWERMENT THROUGH EDUCATION

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Abstract

Women education in India has a major preoccupation of both the government and civil society as educated women can play a very important role in the development of the country. Education is milestone of women empowerment because it enables them to responds to the challenges, to confront their traditional role and change their life. So that we can't neglect the importance of education in reference to women empowerment and India poised to becoming superpower in recent years. Education of women is the most powerful tool to change the position in society. Women education in India has been a need of the hour, as education is a foundation stone for the empowerment of woman. Education also brings a reduction in inequalities and functions as a means of improving their status within the family and develops the concept of participation.

Keywords: Education, Preoccupation, Milestone, Empowerment, Participation.

Introduction

Education is milestone of women empowerment because it enables them to responds to the challenges to confront their traditional role and change their life .Now just some year away, this can become reality only when the women of this nation became empowerment .Education enables a women to become strong physically by giving her knowledge about good physical health, which would ultimately benefit her mental health Agrawal and Salve (2013).Each and every field like teaching, Nursing care, Social work,medicine,Women proved to be better than men. Women's power is crucial to economic, educational, family, spiritual moral and aesthetic growth. Education and literacy empowers women. The only way a society or aspire to economic growth and development is to just through education but especially education among the women's citizens. Education is considered as a basic requirement and a fundamental right for the citizens of ay nation. It is a powerful tool for reducing inequality as it can give people the ability to become independent. Women, who come across discrimination in any spheres, have particular needs of this. Education is regarded as an important millstone of women empowerment because it enables them to face the challenges, to confront their traditional role and change their life. Education of women is the most important tool of change their position in the society.

Objectives of the Study

- ❖ To understand the status of women ancient, medieval and modern times.
- ❖ To study the special laws, rights and provisions for women in Indian constitution.
- ❖ To understand the various schemes for women empowerment in India.

- ❖ To study the recent developments in women.

Importance of Women Education in India

Women education in India plays a very important role in the overall development of the country. It not only helps in the development of half of the human resources, but in improving the quality of life at home and outside. Educated women not only tend to promote education of their girl children, but also can provide better guidance to all their children. Moreover educated women can also help in the reduction of infant mortality rate and growth of the population.

Women Empowerment Through Education

Women Empowerment is a global issue and discussion on women political right are at the fore front of many formal and informal campaigns worldwide. The concept of women empowerment was introduced at the international women conference at NAROIBI in 1985. Education is milestone of women empowerment because it enables them to responds to the challenges, to confront their traditional role and change their life. So that we can't neglect the importance of education in reference to women empowerment India is poised to becoming superpower, a developed country by 2020. The year 2020 is fast approaching; it is just 13 year away. This can became reality only when the women of this nation became empowerment. India presently account for the largest number no of illiterates in the world. Literacy rate in India have risen sharply from 18.3% in 1951 to 64.8% in 2001 in which enrolment of women in education have also risen sharply 7% to 54.16%. Despite the importance of women education unfortunately only 39% of women are literate among 64% of the man. Within the framework of a democratic polity, our laws, development policies, plan and programmes have aimed at women's advancement in difference spheres. From the fifth five year plan (1974 – 78) onwards has been a marked shift in the approach to women's issues from welfare to development. In recent years, the empowerment of women has been recognized as the central issue in determining the status of women. The National Commission of Women was set up by an Act of Parliament in 1990 to safeguard the right and legal entitlements of women. The 73rd and 74th Amendments (1993) to the constitution of India have provided for reservation of seats in the local bodies of panchayats and Municipalities for women, laying a strong foundation for their participation in decision making at the local level.

Value of Women Empowerment

Empowered women contribute to the health and productivity of whole families and communities and to improved prospects for the next generation. According to Sushama Shay (1998) Women Empowerment is a process which helps women to change other women's consciousness through creating awareness. The dignity and culture of a society can be detected from the status of women in that society. According to Rameshwari Pandya (2008) empowerment has become the key solution to many social problems. "If

you educate a man you educate an individual, however, if you educate a woman you educate a whole family. Women empowered Hence a special focus should be laid on empowering girls and women, since it will lead to a change in the society which would be sustainable and will be in effect for ages to come. A united approach must be followed while empowering women and it is society's constitutional, moral and social responsibility to confirm women's progress giving women equal opportunities and rights. India is poised to emerge as one of the most developed nations by 2020, more literate, knowledgeable and economically at the forefront. No doubt, women will play a vital role in contributing to the country's development. Women power is crucial to the economic growth of any country. In India this is yet to meet the requirements despite reforms. Little has been achieved in the area of women empowerment, but for this to happen, this sector must experience a chain of reforms. Though India could well become one of the largest economies in the world, it is being hindered due to a lack of women's participation.

Education of women enhances the women empowerment in the following ways:

An education of women can bring change in the attribute of family members and society. It also helps in removing mal-traditions like Sati-Pratha, Early marriage, Dowry etc. Education plays an important role in removing economic poverty by opening various job avenues for her so that she can work hand in hand with man and give support to the family. Education promotes team work rather than making a woman individualistic. Education makes her an opportunity to choose a career which is best suited for her.

Every woman has got her own aspiration which may be high or low, but education helps to maintain a balanced aspiration knowing her interest, ability and potential which further helps her to choose a correct field of her work.

Education helps in balanced personality development by giving due weight to various aspects of personality.

Education of women also plays an important role in teaching her expression of feeling or through effective communication which can solve disputes and adjustment problems of any level.

An educated women is a guiding light for the children, family members, society and nation, she knows how to have a happy family and balanced and healthy relations with others.

Education gives power to a women to become strong physically by giving her knowledge about sports, exercise, health- related aspects and good physical health; this will definitely benefit her mental health.

Education helps to improve the sex ratio and in controlling population.

Education encourages women especially the rural women to take advantage of the various schemes like Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Operation Black-Board, and Total Literacy Programmes etc.

Five Major Components of Women's Empowerment

Some interesting components of women empowerment;

- ❖ Women's sense of self-worth;
- ❖ Their right to have and determine choices;
- ❖ Their right to have access to opportunities and resources;
- ❖ Their right to have the power to control their own lives, both within and outside the home; and
- ❖ Their ability to influence the direction of social change to create a more just social and economic orders, nationally and internationally.

Conclusion

According to the Country Report of the Government of India, "Empowerment means moving from a weak position to execute a power." Education of women in the education of women is the most powerful tool of change of position in society. Education also brings a reduction in inequalities and functions as a means of improving their status within the family. To encourage the education of women at all levels and for dilution of gender bias in providing knowledge and education, established schools, colleges and universities even exclusively for women in the state. To bring more girls, especially from marginalized families of BPL, in mainstream education, the government is providing a package of concessions in the form of providing free books, uniform, boarding and lodging, clothing for the hostilities midday meals, scholarships, free circles and so on.

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