

ROLE OF EDUCATION IN THE EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN IN INDIA

Aastha

Student, Green Valley College, Sahapur, Jind

Abstract

Women's education in India is a major concern for government and civil society. Women can play a very important role in national development. Education is a milestone in women's empowerment as it enables them to meet challenges, face their traditional roles and transform their lives. Therefore, we cannot ignore the importance of education in empowering women and India's promise to become a superpower in recent years. Women's education is the most powerful tool for changing social status. Women's education in India is a need of the times because education is the cornerstone of women's empowerment. Education can also reduce inequalities and serve as a means to improve their status in the family and develop the concept of participation.

Keywords: education, undivided attention, milestones, empowerment, engagement

Introduction

Empowerment can be seen as a means of creating a social environment in which people can make decisions and make individual or collective choices for social transformation. Empowerment enhances innate abilities through the acquisition of knowledge, power, and experience (Hashemi Schuler and Riley, 1996). Empowerment is the process of enabling or empowering individuals to think, act, and control their work in autonomous ways. It is the process by which a person can control his own destiny and life circumstances. Every society, every country, every nation, there are always some people in society who are deprived of their basic rights, but these people lack the awareness of rights. If we relinquish these elements from society, women would be at the top of this list. In fact, women are the most important factor in every society. Although everyone knows this fact, no one wants to accept it. As a result, the emphasis placed on women in the past is declining in today's society. The need to empower women is felt as a result of this growing tendency to underestimate women, to subordinate them in society and to

deny them their basic rights. The empowerment of women has been the focus of considerable discussion and concern around the world. Today, we enjoy the benefits of being citizens of a free country, but we do need to consider whether every citizen of our country is truly free or enjoys freedom in the true sense of the word. Inequality between men and women and discrimination against women is an age-old problem worldwide. Therefore, it is common for women to seek equality with men. Women should be equal to men in education, employment, inheritance, marriage, politics, etc. Their quest for equality spawned the formation of many women's associations and movements. Our nation's constitution does not discriminate between men and women, but our society deprives women of certain basic rights that our constitution grants them. Empowerment enables individuals to reach their full potential, increase their political and social participation, and believe in their own abilities.

The importance of women's education

"If you educate a man, you educate a man, but if you educate a woman, you educate an entire family. Empowering women means empowering mothers in India". PT. Jawaharlal Nehru. Women's education in India plays a very important role in the overall development of the country. It not only helps to develop half of the human resources, and helps to improve the quality of life at home and abroad. It would not be wrong to say that education is the key to solving all problems. Thinkers have given many definitions of education, but of these definitions, the most important one is M. Phule. According to M. Phule, "Education is to show the difference between good and evil." If we consider the above definitions, we know that no matter what revolutions have taken place in our history, education is the foundation of it. Education means behavioural changes in various aspects such as mindset, views, attitudes etc. Women tend not only to promote the education of girls, but can provide better guidance for all children. Also, educated women can help reduce infant Mortality and population growth. Barriers: Gender discrimination persists in India, and there is still a lot of work to be done in the field of female education in India. The gap between male and female literacy rates is a simple indicator. While the male literacy rate is over 84.7%, the female literacy rate is only 70.3%. These women are considered to be the only domestic wives and it is better to live at home.

Empowering women through education

The empowerment of women is a critical part of any society, state or country. is a woman

who plays a leading role in the basic life of a child. Women are an important part of our society. Education as a means Empowering women can bring about positive attitude changes. Hence, it is vital to India's socio-economic and political progress. The Constitution of India empowers the state to take affirmative action to promote ways and means of empowering women. Education dramatically changes women's lives. Women's empowerment is a global issue, and discussions on women's political rights are at the forefront of many formal and informal movements around the world. The concept of women's empowerment was introduced at the International Women's Conference held at NAROI in 1985. Education is a milestone in women's empowerment as it enables them to meet challenges, face traditional roles and transform their lives. Therefore, we cannot ignore the importance of education in empowering women. Looking at the development of women's education, India should be the world superpower on the horizon in recent years. With the rapid development of women's education, empowerment of women has been recognized as the core issue that determines the status of women. To become a superpower, we focus primarily on women's education. This will force the empowerment of women. According to the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the term women's empowerment means:

- Gain knowledge and understanding of gender relationships and the ways in which they can be altered.
- Develop a sense of self-worth, believe in your ability to effect desired changes, and have control over your own life.
- Gain the ability to generate choices to exercise bargaining power.
- Develop the ability to organize and influence the direction of social change to create a more just social and economic order, both domestically and internationally.
- Empowerment thus implies a psychological sense of personal control or influence, as well as a focus on actual social influence, political power, and legal rights. It is a multi-layered structure involving individuals, organizations and communities. It is an international, ongoing process centred on local communities, involving mutual respect, critical reflection, caring and collective engagement, through which people who lack an equal share of valuable resources gain greater access to them Great control.
- Let's see the difference in literacy rates for men and women in the given table as follows

Literacy rate in India

Year	Persons	Males	Females
1901	5.3	9.8	0.7
1911	5.9	10.6	1.1
1921	7.2	12.2	1.8
1931	9.5	15.6	2.9
1941	16.1	24.9	7.3
1951	16.7	24.9	7.3
1981	36.2	46.9	24.8
1991	52.1	63.9	39.2
2001	62.38	76.0	54.0
2011	74.	82.1	65.46
2021	77.7	84.7	70.3

Looking at the table above, we know that female literacy rates are unlikely at any timematch with men. As a result, even after 75 years of independence, women remain secondary in our social hierarchy. Women cannot change the status quo due to lack of education. So women's empowerment cannot be achieved unless we convince women of the importance of education.

The importance of women's participation

Women's participation can be used both as institutional support and as a means of control for legislators. Participation can be direct or indirect, formal or informal; it may be of a political, social or administrative nature. Women's participation in Panchayat Raj institutions may take many forms. It refers to all those activities that demonstrate women's participation in process and management, ie in policy formulation and programme planning, implementation and evaluation of policies and programmes targeting development target groups. Indian women have been associated with politics since the pre-independence period. They are part of the freedom movement as volunteers and leaders. Regarding independence, Article 15 of the Indian Constitution guarantees women equal rights under the law. Although the Indian constitution guarantees equality the rights of all citizens, women are still marginalized on the Indian political scene. The truth is that there is a lack of power at the central and state level in the hands of women. Sadly, only 14% of the Indian population is represented in the Lok Sabha. In the current Rajya Sabha, there are 81 women out of a total of 542, which is only 14.94 %, nearly equal to the Lok

Sabha. Male dominance at the societal level of parliament, bureaucracy, judiciary, military, police all points to gender inequality, although it is often assumed that female political leadership will lead to a more cooperative and less conflict-prone world. The lack of political and economic power exacerbates women's subordination and unequal status. After independence, India could not achieve morals such as fairness, equality and social justice despite having its own constitution. Even with a female prime minister, the situation for women has not improved for several years. From the mid-1970s the United Nations (UN) declared 1975 as "International Women's Year". This was followed by the United Nations Decade for Women, 1976-1985, with the theme "Equality, Development and Peace". Even today, women's participation in politics is still fairly insignificant in India, but the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendment Bills have made some improvements, raising the status of women at the political level by providing them with opportunities in the decision-making process. The 73rd and 74th Amendments (1993) to the Indian Constitution provide for women's reserved seats in local assemblies and municipalities, providing a solid foundation for their participation in decision-making at the local level.

Education Equality

Women's equality has made major strides in another area thanks to adult literacy programs is the field for boys and girls to enroll. The gender gap in literacy levels is gradually narrowing due to the increased participation of women in literacy campaigns. What's more, the school enrollment gap between boys and girls is much smaller in newly literate households than in illiterate households. The world has achieved equality in primary education for girls and boys. But few countries have achieved this at all levels of education. Women's political participation continues to increase. In January 2014, in 46 countries, more than 30% of members of parliament in at least one house were women. Gender equality persists in many countries, and women continue to face discrimination in access to education, jobs and economic assets, and participation in government. Women and girls face barriers and disadvantages in every sector of our work. Worldwide, 62 million girls are out of school. Globally, one in three women will experience gender-based violence in their lifetime. In developing countries, 1 in 7 girls get married before her on their 15th birthday, some child brides are only 8 or 9 years old. Every year, more than 287,000 women, 99% of them in developing countries, die from complications related to pregnancy and childbirth. While women make up more than 40 percent of the

agricultural workforce, only 3 to 20 percent are landowners. In Africa, women-owned businesses account for only 10 percent of all businesses. In South Asia, the figure is only 3%. Despite representing half of the world's population, women make up less than 20 percent of global lawmakers. Putting women and girls on an equal footing with men and boys has the power to transform every sector of our work. Gender equality and the empowerment of women are not part of development, but are at the heart of it. To get out of this situation, we must develop some educational outreach programs on gender equality and women's empowerment that reinforce our commitment to supporting women and girls.

Conclusion

Women play a vital role in making a country progress and guiding its development. they are A fundamental asset of a vibrant human nature necessary for the progress of our nation, so if we must see a bright future for our women, educating them must be a priority. Empowerment means moving from a position of weakness to executive power. Women's education is the most powerful tool for changing social status. Education can also reduce inequalities and serve as a means of improving their status in the family. To encourage education for women at all levels and to downplay gender bias in the provision of knowledge and education, schools, colleges and universities even exclusively for women have been established in the state. Education develops the idea of participation in government, panchayats, public affairs, etc. to eliminate gender discrimination.

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