

EMPOWERING WOMEN THROUGH LIGHT OF EDUCATION

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ABSTRACT

*"If you Educate a man, you educate an individual;
if educate a woman, you educate a family"*

Women empowerment is a extensively deliberate term in today's society and it focuses upon the upliftment of the women. Investing in girls education transforms and change the thinking of different countries and communities throughout the world. As a progressive society standing for women rights and empowerment being must stop viewing culture only as a barrier and obstacle to women rights. From last few decades empowerment of women has become a burning issue throughout the different countries. Women have fundamental rights to not be discriminated on the grounds of sex (Article 15) and get equal protection under the Law (Article 14). Education is a mile-stone for women Empowerment because it helps them to challenge the orthodox mentality of people and built critical thinking and self confidence in them to face the new challenges. Education policy needs to be more inclusive which change the men attitudes towards girls and women. So, education is a foundation stone for empowerment of women.

Keywords: Education, Women Empowerment, Programs Develop, Women Rights.

Introduction

Education and literacy empowers women in all aspects of life. It is a milestone of women empowerment because it helps them to face the challenges and change the attitude towards life since ancient times India's social and family system has been patriarchal, whose eulogies we see in religious texts such as Vedas, Upanishads etc. But with the change of time, in modern India the socio economic status of women has changed. There has been a renaissance in the women status only and only because of the rights given to women in the constitution. If women are uneducated the upcoming generations will be uneducated for this statement the Greek warrior Napoleon said, " Give me a few educated mothers, I shall give you a heroic race." Many programs and policies are launched by government to give equal access to the women. Empowerment strengthens the inner and outer ability of acquiring knowledge, power and experience to the women. Through empowerment women become self reliant and economically independent in various endeavours.

Need and Significance of the Study

Giving education to women means giving education to the whole family. Education policy needs to be more inclusive to change the attitude of men towards women. Through skill based education and financial support women get financially stability. Education gives them better

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opportunities in all the areas. There is a need to devise, support and promote projects at the lowest level of the governance. Through empowerment women must understand the value of self work. Women become more financially stable. Through education women can make their own decisions and become hassle free.

Women Empowerment Programs by GOI

For specially empowering the women various program initiated by GOI as:

- **Ladli Laxmi Yojna:** It was launched by the Govt. of MP in 2007, which creates positive thinking towards the birth of girl child and stop female infanticide the government provides Rs. 1 lakh to applicant's family for her marriage.
- **Nanhe Chih (Panchkula, Haryana):** This is encouraged by Anganwadi workers baby girls are brought to local AWCs by their families. Their footmarks are contour on a chart paper and put up on the wall of the AWC with the names of baby girl and mother.
- **Rashtriya Mahila Kosh:** It is a national level mechanism to meet the credit needs of the poor. Rashtriya Mahila Kosh has a very good recovery rate of 90 to 95%
- **Swadhar:** This scheme provides basic necessities to marginalized women who are living in difficult circumstances without any support. The target group is mainly women who are victim of national disaster and women who have no families.
- **Working Women Hostel:** Under this scheme the women get safe and conveniently located accommodation who are working and belongs to urban, semi urban and rural areas.
- **Support to training cum employment for women (STEP):** Ministry of women and child development launched this program in 1986. Its aim is to upgrade skills of women for self employment.
- **Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Scheme:** This scheme launched by government in 2015 which concerns gender discrimination and women empowerment in the country.
- **Pradhan Mantri Ujjawala Yojna:** It is a scheme launched by government in 2016 by Prime Minister Modi Ji it aimed to provide LPG connections to 8 crore women by March 2020 but this target achieved by Sep. 2019.
- **Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojna:** This is centrally sponsored scheme run in all the district of Punjab to improve the health status of pregnant women, nursing mothers and infants.

Empower Women through Laws

Equal Remuneration Act- 1976, Dowry Prohibition Act- 1961, Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act-1956, Prohibition of Child Marriage Act- 2006, Pre-Conception & Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Act-1994; Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children Bill, 2015)

Women Empowerment through Education

Women empowerment is a global issue in front of many formal & informal campaigns worldwide. In 1985 the international women conference at NAROIIBI introduced women employment. Women get employment through education only. According to M. Phule, "Education is that which demonstrates the difference between what is good and what is evil" Education means-modification of behaviour in every aspect of life whether it is inner or outer. Without women education we cannot remove injustice, gender bias and inequalities.

Conclusion

Empowering the women is becoming a comprehensive issue not only at national level but also at the international level. Women empowerment helps to make the society a better place to live in. Education is an important device which improve their social status and helps them in all the ways of life. To develop a country women should be educated and empowered from all directions educated women have greater chance to achieve high empowerment level and give them unique identity. So, equal opportunities should be given to women and treat them without any sense of discrimination.

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