

## ROLE OF WOMEN EMPOWERMENT IN POLITICS

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### ABSTRACT

*Politics is a field which has been long dominated by the male. Gandhiji once remarked, "In their conduct and behavior towards women, men haven't fully acknowledged this truth that rather than accepting women as their friend, partner and companion, men has considered themselves as their masters". If we mouth electoral politics, then we sadly witness that women's in India haven't seen adequately represented. Their number in the Parliament and state assemblies has always been extremely low Women must be made active participants in politics and hence agent of social change and development. The society cannot progress by leaving half its population bereft of their political and democratic rights. The choice making power in women and also the right to compete with others through economic, social, political and civil independence is inherent in women empowerment. In the very definition of empowerment, it included the sense of increase within the exercise of specific right. In India further as several other developing countries, women are regarded inferior to men and accordingly, they're treated despairingly and discriminately with reservation. Since the lives of men and women's are entangled in equality, the simplest due to empower women is to get rid of this inequality. But to empower women within the actual sense may requires that, first they're allowed to exercise their rights reception. Because when this process of women's empowerment is exercised simultaneously in and out the household, only then they will be empowered and made competent. Here it'll be quite pertinent to quote swami Vivekananda who once remarked, "There isn't any possibility for the welfare of the planet until there's improvement in women's condition. No bird can fly with the help of one wing.*

**KEYWORDS:** *Women Empowerment, Reservation, Political contribution, Traditional, Struggling.*

### Introduction

The broadest element in women empowerment encompasses various aspects of their existence like social position, justice, education, social equality, better health, economic independence and active participation in politics. Hence empowerment may be a multi dimensional concept and it's closely associated with social economic, cultural and political participation. Besides the empowerment, it's never-ending process, too, and it's no limits. No man may be completely empowered in himself. Because of its complex and ever evolving nature, no study of development can define and measure empowerment intrinsically. It's tougher within the case of women's as discrimination has been carried out to them since times immemorial. Its inevitable consequence is seen within the unending inequality growing among them. The concept of women's empowerment emerged conspicuously in mid 1980's. Earlier, the protection of human rights had been advocated internationally as early because the existence of mankind. Politics is one among of the great channel for creating empowerment of women's in a better and robust way. The women's of India were linked to politics even within the pre-independence times. They played the role of both-volunteer and leader in it. In independent India, the article 15 confers upon them the correct to equality within the eyes of law. Though equal rights are bestowed upon all the citizens, yet the representation of women's in Indian area is marginalized. Since

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women lack proper political power their participation within the centre moreover as within the states is additionally prosaic. Women aren't any doubt the enfranchised member of the political empire yet they're isolated from being considered an capable men in political participation, political will power, especially with relevancy the top-posts. They're considered to be second order citizens. Article 325 and 326 imparts women the equal political right so they'll come at par with men with regard to the participation in politics, including voting. They need not fully availed the good thing about this right. Alas! There's either an absence of particular laws or plans that would empower women in politics or lethargic attitude towards implementing them.

### **What is Women Empowerment**

Women empowerment may be a new concept in India as compared to history within the remainder of the globe. Indian society is characterized by a conventional outlook. Women have saw variety of fluctuating positions from the Vedic era to the trendy period. The Vedic Yuga was marked by a substantial freedom and absence of bondages upon women. They enjoyed complete liberty regarding their visits to fairs, festivals and assemblies. The honour of women's started dwindling just after the Vedic age. They lost their freedom and were reduced to a mere concern of security. The Moughal period followed the suit and women have continued to be helpless and keen about men. It had been geographical area that brought a bit change within the condition of women's. Empowerment has three basic contents freedom, enabling and control. Freedom refers to freedom from subjugation, deprivation and oppression. Freedom alone cannot empower women rather it should enable them to participate in social, economic, political and cultural sphere of life. The patriarchal norms are designed that women's are kept freed from their control over the resources and therefore the ideology. They must have control over the available resources and social ideas and thoughts at par thereupon of men. Women empowerment unfortunately has confined itself to the narrow boundaries of cities. On the one hand, there are the urban women who are socially and financially independent and wouldn't tolerate any injustice against them, and on the opposite hand, there are the poor, rural women, utterly unaware of their rights and compelled to measure a miserable life filled with atrocities and blemishes at the hands of their life partners.

Empowerment of women's may be a basic requirement for the event of the state additionally as society. It's the foremost used and discussed term now days. It's because women play a really important role all told walks of life. Empowerment of women's may be a necessary basic condition for comprehensive development of any society. Although women constitute approximately half the overall population, they still be subjugated, unequal in socio-economic and political status. It's true that women's are struggling for self respect, rights and autonomy for a really very long time. The empowerment of women's may be a pressing need of the day. Unfortunately, its least understood. Therefore, it's very essential to define the meaning of empowerment moreover as women empowerment for better understanding of the status of women's, we've to know the meaning of empowerment together with the meaning of women's empowerment including women's political empowerment. Empowerment could be a very complex concept which is interpreted in several ways.

### **Political Empowerment of Women**

Empowerment of women's all told spheres of life are critical for his or her advancement particularly within the field of politics and therefore the foundation of a gender-equal society. Political empowerment is the capacity to influence deciding process, planning, implementation and evaluation by integrating them within the social group. It implies political participation which has right to vote, contest, campaign, party membership and representation in political office the least bit levels and effectively influences decisions thereby resulting in political empowerment. In other words political empowerment could be a process of awareness and capacity building resulting in greater participation, greater deciding power and control **and to informative** action. A correct representation of women's in affairs of state will ensure their views and wishes reflected publicly policies that affect their lives most.

The definition of the word 'empowerment' is just given power or authority to somebody to act with none discrimination and therefore the meaning of women's empowerment in simple way is build up women's intellect, capacity, maximum participation in higher cognitive process process and power sharing in representatives bodies, employment, security, access to property, access to information and resources, ability to alter others' perceptions by democratic means, ability to be told skills for improving status, health and potential for participation in every field of life. Political empowerment of women's denotes a distinct role for women's as a voter, as a member or as an important person within the political process. It refers to the method by which women acquire due recognition at par with men with

none discrimination and with human dignity. The term "political empowerment" refers to shaping and sharing the facility at political front. Thus the political empowerment of women's denotes their role in arena i.e. political participation, political behaviour and actions associated with influencing the choice making process and participating within the process of governance. In other words political empowerment doesn't imply just a right to vote but covers all activities which are associated with political process like becoming curious, getting aware and participation in political process. to elucidate the gender effect on the political attitude and activities of women's representatives, nine concepts are identified because the key concepts in democracy representation in India; they're of importance for empowerment of women's in politics, being positively correlated to political empowerment and that they are explained as follows,

- **Political Knowledge:** Knowledge has emerged collectively of the foremost important variable in the study of political participation. Political knowledge indicates the number of data about surrounding social and political realities which generate the interest of participation within the change. Having the knowledge of political opinions may additionally be treated as indication of active interest in politics, which is required for developing an acceptable strategy for political action. This will even be related with the flexibility to plan and organize.
- **Political Interest:** Some studies on political participation have suggested that a person's interest in politics increases the chance that he or she's going to participate within the political process. Further, some studies have discovered that women's tend to be less curious for politics than men. This could even be associated with ability to plan and do the activities.
- **Political Participation:** Political participation is explained as any voluntary act with the aim to influence elections or public policy. It will be within the style of casting a vote or running for office, and has always been taken as a necessary indicator to live women's empowerment within the political process. This idea will be linked with having control and gaining more control in higher cognitive process bodies furthermore as in family and society.
- **Political Trust:** Political trust indicated the religion within the social group during which the person resides. Political trust is additionally associated with the arrogance within the person because confidence is an outcome of trust.
- **Political Contacts:** Contacts are usually considered in terms of associational life and therefore the men and women's are less involved in terms of standard political organizations. When people involved within the political life they're generally involved with political parties and organizations etc. to explore and solve problems in their areas. It's associated with the skill development in women and polishing off tasks within the political field.
- **Political Protests:** Protests are identified as a mode of active participation within the social group, and it shows the capacity of someone to challenge and alter any particular system. This category also intends to deals with the protests or stand of women's participants on the problems which they consider undemocratic, unethical, or which there have a negative perception in their society. It's associated with being listened and having inform which is an integral a part of empowerment.
- **Gender Role Attitude:** it's vital to know what these women consider their status within the political field. For instance, do they consider themselves on equal platform with men within the political arena? It's also related with the reason of women's empowerment in terms of being recognized as equal citizens and personalities with contribution to form.
- **Projects:** During the literature reviewing process it absolutely was found that earlier researches haven't taken attention to the present particular indicator of empowerment. So as to own an entire idea of the effect of quota on the women's empowerment it had been tried to search out out about new projects that are started by these women members. Projects can even be a tool to gauge the advantages of reservations. Because it's one thing to return in to power and it's another thing to use that power for the betterment of the people. It's important to search out out if these women representatives have started any new project? This idea can directly be connected with the perform activities and having the ability to contribute.
- **Confidence:** Confidence is often seen as a dominating factor when assessing empowerment. Thus it's important to seek out out if women participants have gained after coming in political area. This may be connected with having the ability to define and make and skill to plan and skill development.

Finally we will say that empowerment could be a multidimensional process and refers to the expansion of freedom of choice and action in all sphere of the society like social, political, geographical, legal, cultural, spiritual, and economic strength of people and communities. It also implies that women's feel good about their identity and power and control over resources and autonomy in deciding. The world is changing fast. The trendy environment is transformed at the economic, social, cultural and political level and it's given strength to thoughts by changing them. We are surrounded by complications on all sides. Women participation is registering a growth altogether the fields concerned. We sleep in a free country and this freedom is bestowed upon us by democracy. The soul of democracy resides in its citizens. The participation of citizens constructs government. Although women constitute an outsized a part of the population their representation and participation in politics is extremely low. Indian constitution relies upon the principle of equality. It imparts equal opportunities and rights to any or all the citizens without exception. Fundamental rights and freedom but also renders null and void all discrimination based upon religion, caste, sex, and birth place etc. Of course, women naturally get such rights from constitutional provisions but, defacto, they never enjoy them. Even today, women are empty social, economic, political and civil rights. Despite a lapse of 65 years from the implementation of the constitution, Indian women are still gasping for his or her rightful share. Women constitute almost half the whole population their participation in voting process must be equal. But they are doing not show their satisfactory participation in political activities. They don't contribute in deciding, whether this can be the sphere of politics or the other field for that matter. Mere four walls weren't their destiny, instead they enjoyed unrestricted freedom all told the fields of life and were considered capable men altogether respects.

### Conclusion

Women's empowerment in politics is the burning issue now-a-days. India being a conventional society has witnessed several ups and downs for her women. Within the Vedic era, women had sufficient freedom to attend fairs, festivals and assemblies. They weren't confined to four walls of their family houses. They enjoyed equal status with man all told field of life. During post Vedic era, woman started losing status in society. She lost her independence. She became an issue of protection. During the Moughal rule, the status of women's all told spheres was that of an object being. British Raj is thought for its initiatives for improvement in women's condition in India. However the constitution of India grants equal rights and opportunities to all or any its citizens without discrimination on the premise of social, religious, geographical and economic background. The provisions have, indeed, compelled an improvement in the status of women's. Still the women's of India are in a very detestable condition. Access to political opportunities and participation in the deciding process are the integral aspects of political empowerment of women's. However, the truth is sort of the alternative. Women's participation in decision making process is extremely worrisome. This aspect of women's active participation in the deciding process is put under critical scanner on the premise of secondary data and therefore the data collection by interviewing the women's respondents. If the government seriously wishes that women's get their due in political scenario, then it must be realized that together with reservation, the political will must be generated, gender-bias should end immediately, we'd like to remodel the social perception towards women, to form safe and secure environment for women's, to present quality education to women, to push their administrative skills, awareness to try to something and to spice up their consciousness and readiness to realize something in life.

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