

FEW OBSERVATIONS ON STATUS OF WOMEN AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT IN INDIA

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Abstract

This paper tries to understand status of women and women empowerment in India. Rural women who work all days of a year toiled a lot to lead their life and survive in the competitive world. Women are also intended to provide basic facilities and at least minimum education to their children. They do recall their situation and how they deprived from education and equal status both in the family and society. Getting ready for an occupation or work isn't a one-time activity yet an advancing and constant process where movement association is a middle setting. Getting ready must be founded on the conviction that women, paying little respect to stand, class, age, training, and aptitudes can accept, be creative and change their condition. Getting ready understands an alteration in the psychological self-perspective of women, cognizance of their internal quality, makes them in making beneficial duties society and engages them to go up against new parts and to develop the use of tending to and updates their fundamental initiative capacities. Planning for the fortifying spots unprecedented stress in the development of an atmosphere of learning is an important aspect.

Keywords: women, Status, Empowerment, Artists, Labourer,

Introduction

A woman's natural and social reality has made a few particular parts for her in the public arena, that of spouse, mother, girl, homemaker, labourer, national and so forth. These various parts of ladies make a few assorted requests on her opportunity and vitality. The social framework in our nation perceives the parts of a spouse, mother and homemaker as principal. A greater part of ladies particularly those living in provincial zones don't have an unmistakable character and identity to call their own even these days. This segregation and abuse of Indian ladies are sustained notwithstanding the spread of training among ladies and their developing interest in the social, temperate and political existence of the nation. Rural and Cottage small scale and micro businesses organizations which most of them are family based have a prominent part in the Indian Economy. In any case, in these days they are enduring a great deal because of the shortage of physical capital, joblessness and underemployment, provincial irregular characteristics and differences, disparities in the dispersion of salary and riches, unused or underuse of rustic assets. The Government has concurred high need for the development of these enterprises through five year designs and mechanical strategies in view of their high business force.

Status of Women and Plans for Empowerment

Woman empowerment is a multidimensional process, which will end up being a reality just through a joined exertion of different elements that add to it. Among them, the most imperative specialist is the administration segment. In any case, the general population's cooperation being developed endeavours is similarly required

alongside government activities. It requires the intercessions of intentional endeavours in strengthening exercises. According to the drafts of Five-Year plan(1974-79) of Govt. of India, "Voluntary organizations have an important role to play in the mobilization of support to various programmes and their effective implementation." The women empowerment website states, "Women constitute one half of the world's population and a visible majority of the poor. Projects aiming to improve the living conditions of the poor cannot, therefore, be effective unless women participate in their formulation and implementation, as contributors as well as beneficiaries." India is looking towards women as a symbol of goddess. According to Swami Vivekananda, "there is no chance for the welfare of the world unless the condition of women is improved." (Yojana) Kandaveeti Papa stated about women for the first time in history during celebrations of the United Nation's decade for women (1 976-85),"the eyes of the world were focused on that 50% of its population, who by virtue of an accident of birth perform 2/3d of the world's work, receive 1/10th of its income and own less than 111 of its property." Further M. Immanuel illustrated about women in other words. He wrote about women in the Inter National World conference which held at Copenhagen in 1980, declared that women represent 50% of population make up 30% of the official labour force, perform 60% of all working hours, receive 10% of world's income and own even less than 1% of world's property. However at the particular time women did contribute to the economy by their participation and hard work. Therefore we can have a glance over S. Umadevi's views. She found that in Asia there would be over 583 million economically active women. That is about 33.6% of the total female population in Asia, which is about 58% of the world economically active female population. In China, in the year 2000 over

56% of the future workforce would be women followed by India, Indonesia and Japan. Dr. Digumaruti Bhaskar Rao and Mrs. Digumaruti Pushpalata interpreted about power in women context. 'Power' is the key word of the term empowerment. According to the International Encyclopedia (1999), power means having the capacity and the means to direct one's life towards desired, social, political and economic goals or status. Power means control over material assets, intellectual resources and ideology. Some other writers feature the part of training for the strengthening of women. According to the International Encyclopedia on women (1999), in the program of action of the International Conference on Population and Development, the instruction is considered as a standout amongst the most imperative intends to enable ladies with the learning, aptitude and fearlessness important to take an interest completely being developed process.

Status of Women then and Efforts for Upliftment by Govt. and NGO today

In India contexts the development of the status of women has been a persistent procedure of high points and low points all through the history. For instance as indicated by an examination made by N. Jayapalan it is discovered that during the Vedic period the women in India enjoyed equal status with men. They were respected and honoured. According to the Vedic hymns, wife and husband had joint ownership rights of property. The status of women was highly appreciable during the time of Jainism. During the Buddhist period great women lived who were in no way inferior to men. Women were degraded to a very low status only after 300 B.C. Immanuel expressed, on the one side she has been raised to the status of heavenly nature, on the opposite side, she has been misused as some person bring down in status. Luckily from the centre of eighteenth-century social reformers like Vidya Sagar and Raja Ram Mohan Roy have attempted to kill this division in the status of women. Women who employed are presently getting a charge out of better status. Work raises the status of ladies both in the family and society. The examinations done by Prakasa Rao and Nandini Rao found that a want for social portability is new in show times. A cutting-edge lady acknowledges an extra part of a "supplemental worker". Be that as it may, her mixing with other men is still not viewed positively. In a book entitled 'Women and Development' by M. Immanuel explained few things about women. The fourth World Conference on Women was held at Beijing in 1995 with a particular subject - 'Activity for Equality, Development and Peace'. The gathering merits uncommon consideration for its part as a watershed in the

historical backdrop of ladies' strengthening and authority. Right off the bat it affirmed that the whole sexual orientation issue has increased overall consideration as a vital part in the improvement procedure. In this manner it is conceivable to review the disparities all the more adequately. Furthermore, contrasted and prior gatherings, it brought about more solid suggestions to guarantee that ladies ought to have Inure status in the 21st century. According to the Grameen Vikas, a news letter, "The seventh plan emphasized the goals of equality and empowerment for women as one of its targets. Studies done by the Ministry of Rural Development 1991-92 found that coverage of women under TRDP has increased from 30% to 40%. Under the scheme "Training Rural Youth for Self - Employment" [TRYSEM], the minimum coverage of women has increased from 33.% to 40%." Women's development in the sixth five-year design inferred that the change in the financial status of ladies would depend to a substantial degree on the social change in the esteem framework, dispositions and social structure winning in the nation.

Social and Educational Empowerment

Other private administrative organisations (NGO) and intentional associations have approached as overseers of ladies and work for their strengthening in India and abroad. So far no genuine investigation has occurred on the part of these deliberate organizations on women empowerment. Jawaharlal Nehru the first Prime Minister of India gave a suitable comment. "In order to awaken the people, it is the women who have to be awakened first. Once she is on the move, the household moves, the village moves, the country moves and thus we build the India tomorrow. "The National Policy on Education (1986) emphasized the promotion of women's education in all areas of learning to eliminate any sex based stereo typing with the guarantee of equality before the law and the emphasize on girl's education. Since employment plays a vital role in improving women's status in a society education of women is of prime importance in any women empowerment programme." (University News) The procedure of strengthening is both individual and group since it is through contribution in bunches that individuals should regularly start to build up their mindfulness and the capacity to sort out to make a move and achieve change. The procedure of strengthening includes not only a change in physical and social conditions, yet in addition measure up to investment in basic leadership process, control over assets and systems for managing these increases. The women empowerment approach focuses on the limit of

ladies to build their independence and interior quality. The strengthening way to deal with women's headway in creating nations perceives that the man-centric structure of subordination must be tended to through ladies' associations at the grass root level. Such neighbourhood gatherings can encourage base up change by giving a social component to raise ladies' cognizance about their subordination. Getting to be mindful of ladies' situation in the public eye, and exchanging abilities to empower ladies to access instruction, business, and social insurance are enter segments in numerous ladies strengthening programs today.

According to Batliwala, "Education and training for women's empowerment contain five basic components to be comprehensive in these aspects. i) Creating critical consciousness, ii) Access to new knowledge and information, iii) Developing new skills, iv) Collective organisational building and v) Alternative educational opportunities especially for women and girls." (Batliwala Srilatha) "The women issues have received tremendous attention in the 21st century for the planning circle in wide intellectual discussion and forums at national and global platforms. Therefore empowerment of women is one of the central issues in the process of development of countries all over the world. In which women gain greater share of control over resources i.e. material, human and intellectual like knowledge, information, ideas and financial resources i.e. money, not only access money but also control over decision making in the home, community, society and nation and to gain power. When women are not considered equal to the men in the social context, the question of women rights arise. The women rights are the means by which a dignified living is ensured thereby safeguarding her privileges. Thus the basic fundamental rights of speech, freedom and decision making are her basic rights as an individual and citizen. The right for education and employment are significant for women development and national development in wider sense. The power and freedom to exercise these rights is women empowerment. Women right and empowerment are not independent of each other. The women empowerment can only be facilitated only if she is able to exercise the rights in her socio-economic spheres of decision-making." (Kapoor)

Rural Women Folk and Economical Status

"Non-tribal women, tribal women also hold a very pivotal position in the upliftment of the tribes from the den of poverty. However as the indigenous people have been least exposed to the modern developmental avenues, thus

the policy makers needed to focus on their existing sources of livelihood generation. Here comes the importance of handicrafts that constitutes a major source of tribal economy. In fact, there is enough evidence to support the assumption that handicrafts can certainly bring positive results in the overall development. In this proposed study the focus will be on the most important half of our society i.e. women and will be a comparative study between tribal and non-tribal women. This will enable us in identifying the actual position of handicrafts sector in the empowerment of tribal women vis-à-vis non tribal women." (Patnaik) Preparing for a job or work isn't a one-time action yet a progressing and nonstop process where activity connection is a centre fixing. Preparing must be based on the conviction that ladies, regardless of standing, class, age, education, and aptitudes can possibly believe, be imaginative and change their circumstance. Preparing realizes an adjustment in the mental self-view of ladies, consciousness of their inward quality, causes them in making profitable commitments to society and empowers them to go up against new parts and to build up the utilization of addressing and upgrades their basic leadership abilities. Preparing for strengthening places extraordinary worry in the formation of a climate of learning.

Women Artisans

Rural art and crafted works rise with the ascent of human gainful movement. Creating alongside innovation under various social arrangements, crafted works accept different structures. In similarity with the phases of the social division of work, they are normally subdivided into residential crafted works, authorized and stipulated work of art which painstaking work and handiworks created for the market. Household crafted works, the soonest shape, win before painstaking work created into an autonomous segment of the economy. The arrangement of smaller scale back by the NGO's to women self help groups has helped the gatherings to accomplish a measure of financial and social strengthening. It has built up a feeling of an initiative, authoritative aptitude, administration of different exercises of a business, appropriate from procuring account, distinguishing crude material, showcase and reasonable broadening and modernization.

Conclusion

Other private regulatory associations (NGO) and purposeful affiliations have drawn nearer as supervisors of women and work for their reinforcing in India and abroad. So far no certifiable examination has happened with

respect to these ponder associations on ladies strengthening. Jawaharlal Nehru the Prime Minister of India gave a reasonable remark. "Keeping in mind the end goal to stir the general population, the women must be stirred first. When she is moving, the family unit moves, the town moves, the nation moves and in this way we assemble India tomorrow. "The National Policy on Education (1986) underlined the advancement of ladies' training in every aspect of figuring out how to kill any sex-based stereo writing with the certification of equity under the steady gaze of the law and the accentuate on young lady's instruction. Since work assumes a key part of enhancing ladies' status in a general public training of ladies is of prime significance in any ladies strengthening the programme."

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