



Importance of Education in Empowerment of Women in India

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Abstract

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru once said, "If you educate a man, you educate an individual, but if you educate a woman, you educate the whole family. Empowered by women means empowered by Mother India." When women, who finance almost half of the population, gain power, it strengthens the country's economy. Education is considered a milestone in the empowerment of women because it enables them to face challenges, fulfil their traditional roles and transform their lives. Despite increasing access to education, gender discrimination still exists in India and much remains to be done in terms of women's education in India. Women have so much undiscovered potential that has never been tapped. Since education is both a contribution and contribution to human development, equity in education ensures enabling and entrepreneurial development. Today, according to the calculation of Literacy Number 2011, female literacy is 65.46%, while male literacy is more than 80%. Even beyond literacy, education can do a lot for women's rights, dignity and security. Education is the key to unlocking the golden door of developmental freedom. Eileen Malone Beach sees education, health and income as a blessed trinity because they are so closely related. This article discusses the impact of education on the empowerment of women and the challenges and changes we have to face in this process. We once again insist on investing in important, high-quality and comprehensive training to ensure the desired results.

Keywords: Education, empowerment, women.

Introduction

Women make up almost half of the world's population. But the hegemonic masculine ideology suffered them a lot, because they were denied equal opportunities in various parts of the world. However, the rise of feminist ideas has recently led to a huge improvement in the status of women around the world. Access to education was one of the most pressing demands of these women's rights.

Women's education in India has also been a major concern of the government and civil society because educated women can play a very important role in the development of the country. Education is considered a basic requirement and fundamental right of citizens of every country. It is a powerful tool to reduce inequality because it can empower people to become independent. Women who face discrimination in many areas have a special need for it. Women's empowerment is a global issue and women's political rights are at the forefront of many formal and informal campaigns around the world. The concept of women's empowerment was introduced at the International Women's Conference NAROIBI in 1985..

Education is considered an important milestone in the empowerment of women because it empowers them to face challenges, challenge their traditional roles and change their lives. The education of women is the most

effective means of changing their position in society. However, the large female population of our country is illiterate, backward, weak and exploited. Education also reduces inequality and helps to improve their position in the family. and capacity building gives women the opportunity to gain practical knowledge and learn how to improve their livelihoods. India can become a developed country only if women do their best according to their skills and talents, which is possible if she is educated and empowered..

The status of women's education

The constitutional mandate to ensure free and compulsory education for all children under the age of 14 has not yet been fulfilled. Education experts admit that this failure is mainly due to the slow progress of girls' education. India's female literacy and educationist increasing, but there is a difference between male and female literacy rates, which is shown in the following table..

Table 1: Literacy Rate in India

Year	Persons	Male	Female
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
1961	24.0	34.4	13.0
1971	29.5	39.5	18.7
1981	36.2	46.9	24.8
1991	52.1	63.9	39.2
2001	65.38	76.0	54.0
2011	74.04	82.14	65.46

Source: Census of India (2011)

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In 2011, the share of educated people increased to 74.04%, of which the share of men was 82.14% and the share of women was 65.46%. Literacy of rural women is only 58.8 percent according to the 2011 census. Nationwide, female literacy was 65.46%, while male literacy was 82.14%. Among Indian states, Kerala has the highest literacy rate of 90.02%, while Bihar had an average literacy rate of less than 50%, the lowest in India. India is the world's largest democracy with billions of people and of course almost of them are women. So how does women's education affect India's development? If girls are not educated, families suffer too. Educated mothers use their knowledge to improve the health of their children and other family members. Their knowledge of health risks protects their families from illness. Infant mortality is much higher in families where mothers are uneducated than in families where mothers are educated. Girl child education is emerging as one of the top priorities of Indian society "Educating girls is not an option, it is a necessity". We all want to reduce the gender gap in education. Adi Shankaracharya, Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Ishwarchandra Vidyasagar,

Swami Vivekanand, Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru stood against inhuman oppression and crimes against women in the name of tradition and warned the religious department..

Obstacles to Women's Education

In Indian families, especially in rural areas, girls play the role of a second mother doing household chores such as taking care of siblings, carrying water, collecting wood, cleaning and cooking etc. Discourages girls from going to school. Another social evil is the slave labour system, which is quite a depressing phenomenon, prevents the education of girls from disadvantaged families of washer men and farmers. Dowry system and other social practices are the main causes of neglected discrimination against girls. In many families, especially the poor and downtrodden people think that if their daughters get more education, they should accumulate more wealth and property as dowry. The low participation of girls in school is one of the main factors which is a stumbling block for women's education. In India, more than 50% of girls have not started. Depending on the year, one in ten girls between the ages of 6 and 11 is still not in school. The incidence and frequency of abortion among girls, especially in rural, tribal and slum areas, appears to be quite high. The main reason was the poor academic performance of the interns, which made it difficult to deal with the subjects and simply not being able to concentrate on practical matters..

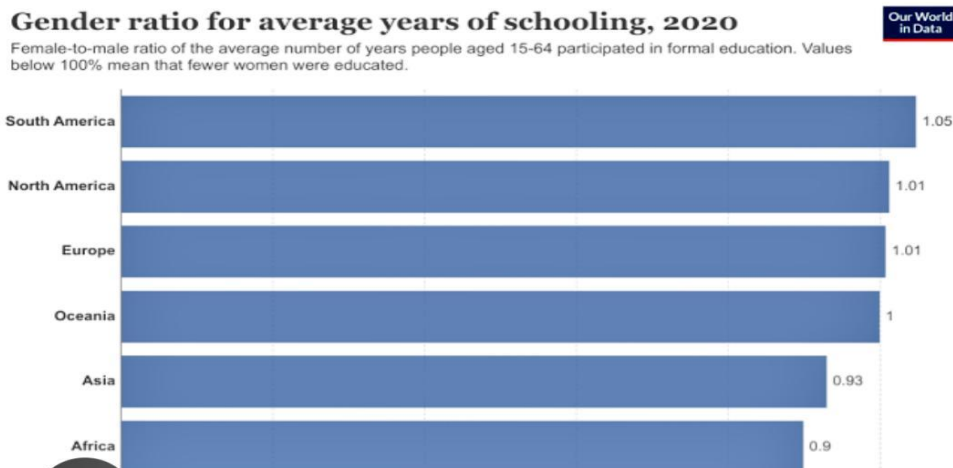
Another reason was that some trainees got jobs before completing the course. The third reason was that the teachers did not teach well and also the poor economic background of the students. According to available sources, the dropout and dropout rate of girls is almost double that of boys in India as a whole. In India, school environment for girls is not really interesting and encouraging. Teaching methods are mostly outdated, rigid and uninteresting. Many schools have poor basic facilities like drinking water, latrines and toilets, lack of good infrastructure and lack of experienced teachers, especially female teachers, which would be better for parents for the safety of their girls. According to UN sources, India is the country with the largest number of child labourers in the world, more than 50 million child labourers worked in carpet making, housekeeping, upholstery, glass bangle making, construction etc. Girls are favored in industries because of their high productivity and weak status. In many poor families, children, especially girls, are considered an economic asset because they provide income for living and save them from death or economic crises caused by death. Parental disability..

The need for women's education in women's empowerment

The concept of women's empowerment is new. The first year of the new millennium 2001 was declared the "YEAR OF WOMEN'S POWER". Women's education leads to a better family and ultimately to an ideal society, a progressive nation. A progressive nation is one where all the people of the country irrespective of gender, creed, caste, creed and colour are economically, socially, culturally, politically and independent of all thoughts..

- **Education empowers women.** Educated girls and young women are more likely to know their rights and dare to demand them.
- **Education promotes tolerance:** Education helps people understand democracy, promotes tolerance and faith in it, and encourages people to participate in the political life of their society.
- **Equality in education improves job opportunities and increases economic growth:** If all children had equal opportunities for education, increased productivity will boost economic growth. After more than 40 years, per capita income would be 23 percent higher in a country with equal education
- **Education is part of solving environmental problems.** People with higher education are more likely to use energy and water more efficiently and to recycle household waste.
- **Educating women prevents early marriages:** -Giving education to more women helps prevent child marriages..

- **Education saves the lives of mothers.** In some countries, many women still die from complications related to pregnancy and childbirth. Education can prevent these deaths
- **Some childhood diseases are preventable, but not without education.** Simple solutions like malaria nets and clean water can prevent some of the worst childhood diseases, but only mothers are taught to use them
- **Education saves children's lives.** Education helps women recognize the early signs of the disease, seek advice and act accordingly. If all women in poor countries obtained primary education, infant mortality would decrease by a sixth.
- **Education fights hunger.** The devastating impact of malnutrition on children's lives can be prevented through education.



Constitutional Provisions, Special Laws And National Policies in Support of Women Empowerment

The importance of women as an important human resource was recognized by the Constitution Of India which not only accorded equality to women but also empowered the State. A number of Articles of the Constitution repeated towards the socio-economic development of women and Participation decision making. These are:

- ❖ Article 14 Men and women to have equal rights and opportunities in the political, economic And social spheres.
- ❖ Article 15(1) Prohibits discrimination against any citizens on the grounds of religion, race, Sex, caste etc.
- ❖ Article 16 Equality of opportunities in matter of public appointments for all citizens.
- ❖ Article 39(d) Equal pay for equal work for both men and women.
- ❖ Article 42 The state to make provision for ensuring first and humane conditions of work and Maternity relief.
- ❖ Government has also enacted specific laws to safeguard the interests of women and for up Gradation of their status. These are:
 - ❖ The Hindu Succession Act, 1956 which provides for women the right to parental property.
 - ❖ The Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 which declares the taking of dowry an unlawful activity And thereby prevents the exploitation of women.
 - ❖ Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 which provides payment of remuneration equal with men for Work of equal value.

- ❖ The Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, 1971 which legalizes abortion conceding the Right of a women to go for abortion on the ground of physical and mental health.
- ❖ The Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1983 which seeks to stop various types of crimes Against women.

The National Policy on Women Empowerment 2001 aims to promote, develop and empower women. The policy states that: “Women and girls are guaranteed equal opportunities for education. Special measures to eliminate discrimination, generalize, educate, eliminate illiteracy and create a gender-sensitive education system, increase the education of girls and improve education. Quality of education to facilitate lifelong learning and development of professional or technical skills of women. Lowering the gender gap in secondary and tertiary education would be a priority area. The existing policy would achieve certain time-bound targets with special focus on girls and women, part of weaker sections including SC/ST/OBC/minorities..

Conclusion

To conclude this scenario, a woman in a modern high-tech society, which is progressing very quickly under the shadow of population explosion, conflict, chaos and corruption, can shape the personality of a young person. And the youth in the right direction and perspective when the woman herself is in power. There is a positive relationship between education and women’s empowerment. Another important aspect in this regard is that women empowerment in these societies faced serious challenges due to certain bad norms and attitudes such as child labour, child marriage, illiteracy, superstition, parental attitude, female infanticide etc. Such a situation, women empowerment is essential. To empower women, it is necessary to create an environment where women can participate in training programs and share the benefits. In order to increase the influence of women in the world, educational and other policies related to increasing the influence of women should be implemented. Man alone cannot eliminate the evils of poverty, unemployment and inequality. Equal and active participation of women is mandatory. If women are not educated, they cannot understand their rights and importance.

Striving for higher literacy and education, better health care for women and their children, equal ownership of productive resources, greater participation in the economic and commercial sector, awareness of their rights, better living standards and self-realization. Dependence, trust and respect between women. The government recently launched a program Beti Baccho, Beti Padhao, which aims to make girls independent both socially and financially, which will help create awareness and improve the delivery of women’s welfare services. Such systems should be implemented nationwide to bring about the desired changes. What must never be forgotten is that women, like men, must be active in lifelong learning. This is true empowerment. The time has come for “Women for Development” to shift its focus to “women in development”, with the cooperation of men through group engagement and leadership. This is indeed a “qualitative “parity change. Although modernization and globalization tempt us, we must confidently say no to marginalization..

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