Government schemes in education for women empowerment

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Abstract:- The purpose of this paper is to discuss the necessity for women's empowerment in India, as well as the methods and schemes for women's empowerment. Empowerment is the vital social development process that enables women to contribute in the economic, political, and social livelihoods of indigenous communities in a sustainable way. Women's empowerment has become one of the most crucial issues of the twenty-first century, yet in practice, women's empowerment remains an illusion. Women's empowerment is defined as the process of improving the economic, social, and political position of women, who have traditionally been considered to be at risk. In our daily lives, we see how women are victimized by a variety of social ills. Women's empowerment is a critical tool for increasing women's ability to access resources and make meaningful life decisions. It refers to the process of protecting kids from all types of violence. The research is entirely based on secondary sources. Despite the government's efforts, women in India are largely helpless and have a lower status than men. It has been discovered that women continue to accept unfair gender standards in society. The report closes by stating that basic amenities and the integration of innovative initiatives are enabling factors for women empowerment.

Key words: Government scheme, Women, Empowerment, Education

Introduction

Women's empowerment has really become increasingly important on a massive level. Women's empowerment has become a major concern as a result of all the harassment and atrocities directed towards women. Many women's campaigns had already taken place, and the phrase has taken on a new connotation as a result of their efforts. Women's empowerment is a universal phenomenon, and talks about women's political rights are prominent in many formal and informal movements around the world.

In many aspects, women have not been treated equally to men for decades. They were not allowed to own property, did not have a portion in their parents' property, did not have voting rights, and did not have the ability to pick their work or career, among other things. Now that women have emerged from those dark days of oppression, there is a need for a powerful

movement to fight for women's rights and ensure that they have access to all of the same rights as men, or in other words, a movement for women's empowerment.

Concept of Women Empowerment

Empowerment is a broad term that varies between countries, people, gender, occupations, and phases of life. It may also differ with respect of timing and location. In furthermore, men and women may hold different perspectives on empowerment in overall and women's empowerment in particular. In several languages, the word "empowerment" has no actual interpretation. Empowerment, on the other hand, has been stated as a movement in a woman's life that allows her to expand her capacity for living a fulfilling human existence. Its primary goal are wellness, flexibility, literacy, and intelligence, household structure, life choice engagement, and monetary prosperity. Internal traits such as self-awareness and self-confidence are also included.

The approach of empowerment rests on three premises:

a) Considering women's practical needs, with a concentration on their strategic requirements

b) Tends to increase in women's health and status as ends in themselves, rather than just a key to accomplish larger development goals

c) In contrary to the equity model's emphasis on state dependence, the emphasis for women's development is on self-reliance and a bottom-up approach to social mobilization.

As a result of third-world womanist activism, women's empowerment has grown more significant. The Latin American education revolution of the 1970s laid the groundwork for women's voting rights. The concept of women's empowerment appears to be the consequence of a variety of critical critiques and debates inspired by the global feminist movement, particularly among feminists in developing countries.

Its origins can be traced back to the 1970s in Latin America, when feminism met with the concept of "popular education." Empowerment simply refers to the ability to make decisions, share new ideas, and initiate new capacity building.

After considering some of the various forms of power, we may return to the topic as to what empowering entails.

Empowerment, under the traditional definition, is bringing individuals who are not involved in the decision-making process into it. This places a heavy focus on involvement in political

processes and formal decision-making, as well as the capacity to earn enough money to participate in economic decision-making. Individuals are empowered when they have the freedom to maximize the opportunities that are accessible to them.

Perspectives on Empowerment

Now could receive to the issue of what empowering involves after analyzing some of the many types of power.

Individuals who are not participating in the decision-making process are empowered, according to the standard definition. Participation in political procedures and formal decision-making, as well as the ability to earn enough money to engage in economic decision-making, are heavily emphasized. Individuals are empowered when they are given the flexibility to take advantage of the possibilities available to them.

Empowerment involves challenging the forms of oppression which compel millions of people to play a part in their society on terms which are inequitable, or in ways which deny their human rights. Feminist activists stress that woman's empowerment is not about replacing one form of empowerment with another. Women's empowerment should lead to the liberation of men from false value systems and ideologies of oppression. It should lead to a situation where each one can become a whole being regardless of gender, and use their fullest potential to construct a more humane society for all. (Akhtar 1992 quoted in Baliwala 1994)

Indian Constitution and Women Empowerment

The Indian constitution's creators were acutely aware of the need to empower women. These principles of Gender Equality were established in the Preamble to the Constitution, its Fundamental Duties and its Directive Principles. Thus they assured. Positive discrimination in favour of women is also allowed by the constitution. The actual inspiration for this movement was given by the introduction of the Indira Mahila Yojana under the leadership of Mrs. Indira Gandhi as Prime Minister, which included the issues of women's empowerment as a fundamental priority. Many programmes aimed at empowering women, include Rashtriya Mahila Kosh, Mahila Samridhi Yojana, and Panchayat Self-Help Groups. It was a significant step forward for women's empowerment in India when the National Women's Commission and the State Women's Commissions were established. The Indian government has enacted a number of laws aimed at empowering women at all levels.

Legislative Support for Women in India- Women-specific Legislation

- The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956
- The Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961
- The Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986
- The Commission of Sati (Prevention) Act, 1987.
- Women-related Legislations
- The Guardians and Wards Act, 1860 - Indian Penal Code, 1860
- The Christian Marriage Act, 1872 - The Indian Evidence Act, 1872
- The Marriage Women's Property Act, 1874 97
- The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923
- The Legal Practitioners (Women) Act, 1923
- The Indian Succession Act, 1925
- The Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929
- The Payment of Wages Act, 1936
- The Muslim Personal Law (Shariat) Application Act, 1937
- The Factories Act, 1948
- The Minimum Wages Act, 1948
- The Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948
- The Plantation Labour Act, 1951
- The Cinematograph Act, 1952
- The Special Marriage Act, 1954 The Hindu Marriage Act, 1955
- The Hindu Adoptions & Maintenance Act, 1956
- The Hindu Minority & Guardianship Act, 1956
- The Hindu Succession Act, 1956
- The Maternity Benefit Act, 1961
- The Beedi & Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966
- The Foreign Marriage Act, 1969
- The Indian Divorce Act, 1969
- The Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, 1971
- Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973
- The Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976
- The Equal Remuneration Act, 1976

- ➢ The Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1979
- ➢ The Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979
- ➢ The Family Courts Act, 1984
- ➢ Juvenile Justice Act, 1986
- ➢ The Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act,
- ➢ 1986 - National Commission for Women Act, 1990
- ➢ The Infant Milk Substitutes, Feeding Bottles and Infant Foods (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 1992 98
- ➢ The Pre-Natal Diagnostic Technique (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Act, 1994

Women's empowerment has been a major focus of the Indian government's development policies, plans, and initiatives since the country's independence. Recently, the Tenth Five (2002- 2007) plan implemented the National policy for the empowerment of women, 2001 and other sectoral policies relevant to women's advancement. It is a regular occurrence in India that the planning commission devises specific development plans for women.

When India's planning commission was first developing its plans, women were given a low prominence despite the fact that the advancement of women had been designated as a key goal of the country's planning process in advance. Several welfare measures for women were included in the first five-year plan (1951-56) of the Soviet Union. Establishing the State Social Welfare Board, the Central Social Welfare Board, Mahila Mandals or Women's Associations, and the Social Programs were a few milestones in this regard.

After World War II, the second five-year plan (1956-61) was focused on social, hygienic and postnatal care services as well as initiatives to address the concerns faced by women employees. Opportunities for part-time employment and equal compensation for equal labor have been implemented Women's education and welfare were given great importance in the third, annual, and fourth five-year plans (1961-66, 1966-69, and 1969-74).

There has been a noticeable shift in the approach to women's concerns from welfare to development since the fifth five-year plan (1974-78). The fifth five-year plan (1974-1979) attempted to integrate welfare and development programmes, focusing on women's socioeconomic development and prioritizing training for women in need of income and protection. This strategy, which corresponded with the International Women's Decade in 1999,

was the product of the monuments committee's 'towards equality' recommendations.The Ministry of Social Welfare established the Women Welfare and Development Bureau in 1976. This serves as a link between the Indian government and state governments. It organizes policies and programmes for women's development and launches initiatives.

Women's inadequate access to resources was highlighted as a significant element hindering their growth in the sixth five-year plan (1980-85). This plan advocated policies such as credit schemes for women, which became the Rashtriya Mahila Kosh and Indira Awash Youjana (IAY), as well as other specific initiatives such as national health, education, girl child, and nutrition policies.

Women's empowerment has been a significant subject in development since the 1990s.

The seventh five-year plan placed a strong focus on women's empowerment. In the seventh five-year plan, the participative method was employed to emphasis on integrating women as equal participants in nation building for the first time (1985- 90).

For the first time, qualitative issues such as instilling confidence, raising knowledge about rights, and providing training in skills for better work were given priority.

The eighth five-year plan (1992-97) emphasized women's empowerment as a key factor in establishing their position. The emphasis shifted from 'participation' to 'empowerment,' particularly at the grass-roots level, via Panchayat raj institutions. The 73rd and 74th amendment acts of the Indian constitution established a one-third reservation of seats for women in local governments.

The ninth five-year plan (1997-2002) included women's empowerment as a goal of the overall strategy, as well as a strategy for the women's component. Along with this strategy, it proposes women's empowerment in both social and economic areas, with the goal of promoting women's self-sufficiency and gender equality.

The 12th Five-Year Plan's aim is to improve women's status and conditions by tackling structural and institutional hurdles and enhancing gender mainstreaming. 101 The 12th Five Year Plan's objectives are to increase women's 'freedom' and 'choice' through raising awareness and establishing institutional mechanisms to assist women in overcoming developmental barriers.Establish and improve convergence mechanisms at different levels to increase women's access to public services and programmes. Women's physical infrastructure has to be built, as well as the capacity of women's groups and collectives.

Indian Government Schemesfor Women Empowerment Mahila E-haat

It is a direct digital marketing platform developed by the Ministry of Women and Child Development to assist women entrepreneurs, Self-Help Groups (SHGs), and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in promoting their products and services. This is part of the effort dubbed "Digital India."

Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao

This is a social campaign aiming at ending unwanted pregnancies and increasing awareness of resources available to young Indian girls It is a collaborative project of the Ministry of Women and Child Development, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, and the Ministry of Human Resource Development that was launched on January 22, 2015.

One-Stop-Shop Initiative

It began on April 1, 2015, with the establishment of the 'Nirbhaya' fund. The One Stop Centres are located throughout India and provide victims of violence with refuge, a police station, legal, medical, and counselling services all under one roof, as well as a 24-hour Helpline. 181 is the toll-free hotline number.

Hostels for Working Women

The scheme's goal is to increase the availability of secure and convenient housing for working women, as well as day care for their children, in urban, semi-urban, and even rural regions where women may find job.

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The Swadhar initiative, introduced by the Union Ministry of Women and Child Development in 2002, aims to help women in tough situations get back on their feet. The programme offers underprivileged women and girls in need with housing, food, clothes, and care. Widows abandoned by their families and relatives, women convicts freed from prison and without family assistance, women survivors of natural catastrophes, women victims of terrorist/extremist violence, and so on are among the beneficiaries.

STEP

The Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women (STEP) Scheme seeks to provide women the skills they need to be employable, as well as the competences and skills they need to become self-employed or entrepreneurs. Agriculture, Horticulture, Food Processing, Handlooms, Tailoring, Stitching, Embroidery, Zari, and other handicrafts, as well

as soft skills and workplace skills such as spoken English, Gems & Jewellery, Travel & Tourism, Hospitality, and other sectors are included.

Puruskars of Nari Shakti

The Nari Shakti Puruskars are national awards that honour people and institutions that have made outstanding contributions to the cause of women, particularly vulnerable and disadvantaged women

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