



STRENGTHENING THE WOMEN THROUGH THE HIGHER EDUCATION

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Abstract :

The Education of a man is the Education of an individual and the Education of a Woman is the education of the family. This idea gives a clear explanation of social aspects, and social significance of women's Education. In India, Women is playing very significant role in the family set up. Woman's education is inseparably and inextricably connected and concerned with the human life and progress and it's concept and character, principle and practice should be transformable in today's Life. Empowerment is a process of awareness and capacity building leading to greater participation, to greater decision making power and control. No nation can be optimistic of a peaceful and prosperous future without a comprehensive well-designed, long term and result oriented education. In planning such an educational system we have to keep in view the old Chinese proverb which says :

If you wish to plan for one – year plant grain

If you wish to plan for 10 years plant a tree

If you wish to plan for 100 years plant man.

A women is empowered when she is literate, educated and has productive skills, has access to capital and self- confidence. The Importance of Education is the development and progress of human being. Education can play important role as a single remedy for the settlement of several socio-economic problems, like poverty, inequality, unemployment. Empowerment can be more relevant if women are educated, better knowledgeable and can take rational decisions. The present paper deal with the women's empowerment can be achieved through the higher education. Indian constitution gives constitutional safeguard to the women for their empowerment in the society.

Introduction :

The Education of man is the Education of an individual and the Education of a Woman is the education of the family. This idea gives a clear explanation of social aspects, and social significance, of women's Education. In India, Women is playing very significant role in the family set up. Woman's education is inseparable and inextricably connected and concerned with the human life and progress and its concept and character, principle and practice should be transformable in today's Life. Empowerment is a process of awareness and capacity building leading to greater participation, to greater decision making power and control. No nation can be comprehensive well –designed, long term and result oriented education. In planning such an educational system, we have to keep in view th e old Chinese proverb which says :

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settlement of several socio-economic problems, like poverty, inequality, unemployment. Empowerment can be more relevant if women are educated, better knowledgeable and can take rational decisions. The present paper deal with the women's empowerment can be achieved through the higher education. Indian constitution gives constitutional safeguard to the women for their empowerment in the society. The Empowerment of Women is one of the prime issues in the process of development of countries, all over the world. Education is the key for women to participate in all fields, including job, education Sector, health sector etc. In recent years Women's Empowerment has become a subject of great concern for the national level. The Education plays important role for the women Empowerment, because it enables them to responds to the challenges, to confront their traditional role and change their life. Empowerment is an active and multidimensional process which enables women to realize their full identify and powers in all over the world. To know the need of education in women empowerment.

Empowerment and Strengthening

Empowerment is a core value of the social work profession and social workers have a fundamental responsibility to empower clients with knowledge, skills and resources so they can influence the decisions that affect their lives. Empowerment Reamer (1991) has pointed out that social work surpasses all other human service profession in being committed to both individual growth and social action to achieve structural change. To ensure that students are appropriately prepared to maintain the profession's mission and values, Council on Social Work Education must instruct about client empowerment and social Justice.

Empowerment is very essential to achieve sustainable development. Education is first step towards empowerment and the most crucial factor in all over development of the individual as well as nation. Literacy sets one free liberate her minds, open up her new horizon and new hope, self-confidence then equip with knowledge, skills, self-respect and freedom to participate sustain and excel in their life. Education is the important social recourse and a mean of reducing inequality in society and promote equality within society this is the aim of the education. Through the education one can get knowledge, skill, values and attitude, social awareness, according to dictionary to Empower means 'to enable or to promote the self-actualization or influence of oneself. The term empowerment consists of a very conspicuous word 'power; which mean control over materialistic assets, intellectual resources and ideology.

Women's population is almost 50% but as per the social status, they are not treated as equal to man in all the places, In 1975, the first UN conference of women and development was held at Mexico City under the motto of "Equality, Development and Peace". In India the commitment made in the ninth plan document of allocating 30% of resources for women's development scheme through Women's component plans, there was a strong plea for investing in women's equality on the ground that this made economic sense and spoke of the social rate of return on movement in women by the Menon and Prabhu, According to Paten (2001), women's development can be attained by improving her status and bargaining in power in the economy.

Empowerment may be understand as enabling people especially women to acquire and possess power resource, in order to make decision on their own or resist decision that are made by others that affect them. A person can be said powerful in he has control over a large portion of power resource in society. National Policy on Education(1986) gives suggestion that certain strategies to empower women, she can be empowered through collective reflections and decision making enable them to become agency of social change. Development of Women and Children in Rural areas (DWCRA) program was initiated as a sub theme of the national poverty alieviation program.i.e. the Integrated Rural Development Program(IRDP). It aims at importing self-reliance to rural areas through income generation skills, along with group organization skills. Keeping in this view year of 2001, was celebrated as the Women's



Empowerment year. Women should get active participation and control over resource of power.

Higher Education and Women Empowerment:

The empowerment of women is one of the prime issues in the process of development of countries all over the world. The role of women in the development of nation is very important, nowadays in India, for empowerment of women's great Social reformer like, Jyotiba Phule, Savitribai Phul, Pandit Vidyasagar, rajaram Mohan Roy, Dayanand Saraswati, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar etc. Great Personalities fight against social evils and odds, so that today women get freedom, In Indian Constitution, Women were given equal status through the adding article 15,16,39 empowered the government both for preventing discrimination against women as well as under taking affirmative action to improve their situation. Today the women have achieved education, literacy, healthy and nutrition, training and income generation activity, legislation and judicial reform in their lives.

The access of women to higher education in India is still limited by the small percentage of girls attending secondary and even elementary schools. Consequently, be recruited from the relatively small number who have completed secondary schooling and who are qualified to undertake higher education. It is not the constitutional and statutory provisions which restrict the right of women to obtain higher education in India. Equality of the sexes in this area is generally stated or implied in the law. In India the present time the conditions of admission appear on the whole to be the same for both sexes. There are generally entrance examinations or competitive requirements which are the same for males and females. Only occasionally are there supplementary provisions which tend to discriminate against women students, Coeducations is the common practice in most of India today. In almost all the Asian countries there is no distinction between men and women with regard to the financing of higher education in public coeducational institutions. The public funds made available are generally the same for both sexes. In some countries, however, separate colleges or universities for women do not receive public assistance. In India, for example, local communities for women, Custom, tradition and religion appear to be the major deterrents to higher education for women in India. The limited percentage of women to the total number of students enrolled in institutions higher education.

It was disclosed in recent United Nations study that the determining factor most important in favoring the higher education of women was the mother's educational and cultural level. Mothers who have themselves been fortunate enough to obtain higher education seem to push their daughters in the same direction. Hence, as more women obtain higher education they may through their daughters exert an appreciable influence in increasing the percentage of Indian women in colleges and universities. Another factor is the social prestige the upper classes attached to higher education for women. There appears to be a growing tendency among upper-class families to look upon university education for their daughters as a step upward in the social scale.

Conclusion :

For the empowerment of women's great Social reformer like, Jyotiba Phule, Savitribai Phule, Pandit Vidyasagar, Rajaram Mohan Roy, Dayanand Saraswati, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar etc. these Great personalities fight against social evils and adds, so that today's women get freedom, through the in Indian Constitution Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar has given equal status to the women by adding article 15,16,39 and initiate draft and introduce Hindu code bill in assembly. Government has their duty to empowered women both for preventing discrimination against women as well as under taking affirmative action to improve their situation for education. Within the last decade the ratio of women students to the total student body in higher education has risen in India, the increase has on the whole been modest. Tradition and prejudice are still prominent deterrents to higher education for women. In the



developing nations there is urgent need for trained personnel in almost every field, and thus the limited access of women to higher education constitutes an obstacle to progress and modernization.

Both men and women, have a special and essential role to play in accomplishing such social changes as the encouragement of women in higher education. The elite are in a position to lead in making new ideas and practices acceptable, and to make reforms palatable to the majority. The educated elite can, as no other group, diminish the stranglehold of custom and tradition and accelerate change in social patterns. Thus, they have a special responsibility to convince both men and women, by example, that the higher education of women bears a significant relationship to the development of a society. So that the women is empowered through the higher education and everyone should help her for developing family as well as nation will be developed.

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