## A Sociological Perspective of Women Empowerment in India

## **Chandra Prabha\***

Assistant Professor, Government Girls P.G. College, Etawah

Abstract – The idea of empowerment of women seems to be the culmination of many criticisms and discussions that are significant, especially by feminists from the third world and by the women's movement across the globe. They had the same standing as men earlier. But during the post-Vedic and heroic periods they encountered some difficulties. They have been regarded as slaves several times. Women have not been viewed in certain respects for decades in the same manner as males. You were not permitted to buy land, you had no stake in your parents' property, you were not able to vote, you did not have rights to work or to have a career, etc. The constitutionals and national leaders seek clear gender equality between women and men after India's independence. Today, we saw the women in all places holding responsible roles. They do not entirely liberate us from bigotry and violence. A few people were able to assess their ability. Everyone can ensure that women's equality is encouraged.

Keywords – Discrimination, Women Empowerment, Women in India, Globalization

### INTRODUCTION

Empowerment of women includes growing the individuals and cultures of women's cultural, democratic, social, professional, gender or economic power. The empowerment of women in India depends heavily on a variety of variables that involve social status (caste and class) and the age of geographic location (urban / rural). Women empowerment initiatives occur in several fields, such as health care, schooling, employment development, sex-based abuse and political engagement, global, state and local (Panchayat) level. There is still a considerable difference in legislative change and real collective implementation.

Empowerment of women in society is basically the task of increasing women's, historically marginalized, physical, social and political standing. It's the way to shield them from all kinds of abuse. Empowerment of women requires the creation of a community, a democratic atmosphere in which people can breathe without fear of violence, harassment, fear of sexism, and the general sense of injustice that goes hand and hand with a woman in a typically masculine system.

Women represent almost 50 % of the world 's people, but India displayed an unsustainable sexual imbalance with a relatively lower female population than males. In spite of their social class, they are not viewed anywhere as equal to citizens. Women have fair opportunities and standing in all facets of life in Western society with men. But in India today there

are social differences and bigotry. The paradoxical condition has led her to become Queen at times and to become simply Slave at times.

## THE ROLE OF WOMEN EMPOWERMENT IN INDIA

Women's liberation generally means that they can get more jobs. The core activity of the women's empowerment committee in India focuses on social growth in India. In general, according to human rights, men and women should be granted the same position, but culture does not recognize this and discriminates against them in community.

When we research human growth, it is found that women eventually tilled to secondary and began abusing across different problems.

The women's committee set up by Govt to avoid and eliminate these issues. India. India. Following equality and different activities, preparations for women's growth in India have been launched. We may definitely argue that India has strengthened women's societal, economic and political position. One again, the government of India has to strictly execute and build policies and schemes.

The notion of dominance is powered by electricity. It is coated where it is insufficiently present or does not occur. Empowering women involves supplying women with an economically stable and autonomous capability, creating a healthy attitude that helps them to meet any tough circumstance and participation. Registered women should be allowed to take part in the decision-making phase. In India, progress has been ongoing to secure the dignity and civil status of women, the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD-1985) and the National Women's Commission (NCW). Seventythree and seventy-fourth (1993) changes to the Constitution of India have given women unique powers in reserving seats (33%), while the HRD survey as of March 2002 indicates that Sweden is the largest female legislator of 42.7%, Denmark 38%, Finland 36% and Iceland 34.9%. "The Modern Panchayati Raj" is a part of India 's attempts to encourage women in the village at least.

Women's emerging presence in Panchayati Raj institutions has been the most promising trend in recent years. At the village council stage, there are several elected women. There are currently around the world in India a total of 20, 56, 882 panchayat village dams, out of which 8,38,244 are members (40,48%) and 1,09,324 are members of Anchalik panchayat, 47, 455 are of these women (40,41%), 11, 708 are members of the Zilla parisad (42,05%). Women are increasingly shifting at the federal and state levels too. Today we saw woman chief ministers, woman chairmen, numerous political party heads, businessmen, etc.

# REASON FOR THE EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN

Today, found numerous we have Central Government Actions and Schemes and the State Government for empowering Indian women. However, in India women, social involvement, political engagement, economic participation, access to education, as well as reproductive health care, are discriminated against and oppressed at every stage of society. Women in India are considered to be quite economically disadvantaged. Few people invest in programs and other jobs. They also require economic strength to stand with men with their own legs. Another hand has proven that women are less educated than men.

In India, the literacy rate among males is 76 percent according to the 2001 census, whereas among females, it is just 54 percent. Therefore, it is very important to increase the education of women to encourage them. It also found that certain people are too poor to be working. They eat less, but they work harder. Therefore, people who are vulnerable must be supported from a welfare point of view. The abuse of women in the workplace is another issue. Too many incidents of kidnapping, girls' abduction, dowry abuse, etc. are current. For these purposes, they need some kind of strength to support themselves and to guarantee their cleanliness and integrity. In brief, it cannot be necessary for people to achieve equality without people entering and helping to empower themselves. It is important to minimize

feminized poverty, support women's education and avoid and end violence against women.

### Various problems faced by Indian women

- 1. The life of Indian women is full of grief and fear. Violence against women Various offences, such as violence, assault, extortion of dowries, female fights, theft, women's children for selling to brothel homes, forced embrace etc. Indian women's issues.
- 2. Gender discrimination Racial discrimination relates to "the process of handling one group preferentially over another. Gender discrimination" The second biggest issue in India is the female feticide and misogyny after overpopulation. The tradition where the biological distinctions between men and women are assigned social significance is everywhere. This variation is quite noticeable in certain cultures and less significant in others.
- 3. Failure and ill quality Indian people are the world's most oppressed. She is often secondary in mental, psychological, political and economic terms. The feathers of Indian people are insufficient hemoglobin, multiple medical conditions, starvation and a high mortality rate.
- 4. In general, the male-female ratio is more or less the same in any nation population. It's 50:50. Since 1901 in India, as recorded in the censuses, the population of females has gradually deteriorated. Efforts to define and fix the issue should be made.
- 5. After ancient times we have seen that women have traditionally avoided schooling. "The pattern among the Indians is the paraya dhan hoti hai. It is popular. The schooling of women after emancipation is also provided a great deal of importance. The amount of women's literacy often slowly rises. In 1971 it rose from 18.7% to 39.42% in 1991 and from 2001 to 64%. Despite this improvement in the literacy rate, certain issues have emerged.
- 6. Dowry a curse the gift or number offered by girl's parents is commonly appropriate in India when a wedding ceremony takes place. It was considered a dowry in later times. Too many dowry cases revealed in India last year. Last year. Indian women and their parents face a rather bad challenge.
- 7. Abuse towards women The Indian community will see traditional activities such as sexual harassment, gender fetishism,

dowry, domestic violence. In rural community, the prevalence of these problems is high. The primary explanation for this is that it spoils traditional rituals and practices.

- 8. Too many incidents of sexual assault of women today are revealed. Child rape in Delhi and so many cases in India. The numerous problems in the Indian community involve child rape, sexual harassment, trafficking of human beings, child labor etc.
- 9. Organizational challenges People experience a lot of struggles in the office. Sexual abuse and other problems may also be generated at work. The reasons of women's workplace abuse are undue bossing, unreasonable transfers, unnecessary requests from high authorities etc.
- Gender and societal concerns Families and community soon became conscious of women's difficulties. Works are often more powerful and proportionate than individuals. Women usually neglect and take second place in social and cultural practices. Regardless of the case, people bear responsibility for this. There is still a propensity for women to be children's factories.

# A SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE ON EMPOWERING WOMEN IN INDIA

To put it clearly, empowerment implies motivating an individual. Women's liberation has been frequently addressed and analyzed internationally. Sociologist said rightly that empowering women requires making them economically stable and autonomous, and in order to meet any challenging circumstance, they can have strong self-esteem. Women should be properly prepared to be interested in the growth phase.

Women have come a long way in Indian culture as they have been worshipped as goddesses and harassed — gravely incidents of domestic abuse, acid attacks and rapes.

Statistics on women's offences have been systematically documented and collated under different title titles including prostitution, dowry accidents and rapes by the National Offences Statistics Bureau. There are disturbing figures. These challenges must be discussed by all Indians and policies and laws empowering women and girls must be strengthened.

The suffering of Indian women and girls has grown slowly through the years. Indian violence, shortage of

jobs, public health and protection are some of the main problems.

While the Indian Constitution gives women equal dignity and human rights some civil and legal protections, some specific laws were enacted to enhance women's equal status mechanism. That involve unique projects:

- 1. Establishment of a National Women's Committee: which is a legislative entity to oversee and research issues pertaining to the political and legal protections given to women. Unique laws must be implemented by the government on all legal and social levels for women.
- 2. allocate women's seats in local selfgovernment by guaranteeing one third of all women's seats in metropolitan as well as rural areas.
- 3. the Child's National Action Plan to ensure girls' safety, security and growth.
- 4. the National Women's Strategy, with the aim of supporting and improving women's empowerment in India.

The third aim of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) of the United Nations should be noted: "Promoting equity for women and girls motivated."

India decided to minimize inequalities under MDGs. India decided. The Indian Government study in 2009 states: "Women are still much less interested in work and decision-making than men, and it is doubtful that the gap would be eradicated by 2015. The free labor market for women has only risen slightly between 1990-1991 and 2004-2005, relative to 13-18 per cent in company and services.

The value of fair treatment for women is crucially acknowledged by culture. In order to encourage fair work opportunities for women, the Indian government has also initiated initiatives such as the Move (Support to Training and Jobs Program). Initiatives like "Beti Bacho, Beti Padhao Yojana" aim increasing consciousness and developing at facilities for women in Indian countries. NGOs function continuously in different programs in order to allow women to be economically and socially motivated. Many corporations have since been operating education projects for women in rural and urban areas through their corporate social responsibility initiatives.

The government's, NGO's and company efforts concentrate on women's programs; yet at some stage we overlook that it is a two-way path.

It is important to sensitize young men and youth, such that they become an influential part of a transition in Indian culture in terms of empowering women. As men tend to value and embrace women as equal, certain gender differences are greatly diminished. The contributions of private and public sectors must also be complemented by programs to raise gender sensitivity.

In modern-day India, incremental improvements are now evident, and in big cities can be observed. Female physicians, researchers, traders, pilots, cab drivers, and police officers also have different careers. In areas that have historically been deemed masculine, they have found work.

While women have gone out in every sector, at nearly every level of employment they still face discrimination. The shortage of career advancement and the absence of adequate health care services for woman drivers in India are strong causes of gender discrimination.

Even though Indian women encounter many obstacles and difficulties, their confidence and passion for bringing about a strong social transformation has not been discouraged. They are pioneering a modern approach to transform society and the economy.

#### **Government Schemes for Women Empowerment**

Government development projects for women started in India early 1954 but involvement only started in 1974. The Government of India today has more than 34 women's schemes in various ministries and agencies. There are some of the following;

- 1. Mahila Samridhi Yojana (MSY) October,1993.
- 2. Indira Mahila Yojana (IMY) 1995.
- 3. Swayasjdha.
- 4. Swa Shakti Group.
- 5. Swadhar.
- 6. Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) (1975),
- 7. Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for Empowerment of Adolescence Girls (RGSEAG) (2010).
- 8. Integrated Child Protection scheme (ICPS) (2009-2010).
- 9. Mahila Samakhya being implemented in about 9000 villages.
- 10. Crèches/ Day care centre for the children of working and ailing mother.

- 11. The Rajiv Gandhi National Crèche Scheme for Children of Working Mothers.
- 12. National Mission for Empowerment of Women.
- 13. Swalamban.
- 14. Dhanalakahmi (2008).
- 15. Indira Mahila Yojana (IMY) 1995.
- 16. Hostels for working women.
- 17. Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women(STEP).
- 18. Women Entrepreneur Development programme given top priority in 1997-98.
- 19. Ujjawala (2007).
- 20. Short Stay Homes.
- 21. Scheme for Gender Budgeting (XI Plan).
- 22. Prime Minister's Rojgar Yojana (PMRY).
- 23. Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP).
- 24. Women's Development Corporation Scheme (WDCS).
- 25. Working Women's Forum.
- 26. Mahila Samridhi Yojana (MSY) October,1993.
- 27. Mahila Samiti Yojana.
- 28. Rastria Mahila Kosh (RMK) 1992-1993
- 29. Indira Mahila Kendra.
- 30. Indira Priyadarahini Yojana.
- 31. Khadi and Village Industries Commission.
- 32. Training of Rural Youth for Self-Employment (TRYSEM).
- 33. SIDBI's Mahila Udyam Nidhi Mahila Vikas Nidhi.
- 34. SBI's Sree Shaki Scheme
- 35. National Banks for Agriculture and Rural Development's Schemes
- 36. NGO's Credit Schemes.

#### Journal of Advances and Scholarly Researches in Allied Education Vol. 16, Issue No. 1, January-2019, ISSN 2230-7540

Government activities and their numerous departments are complemented by NGOs, which play an equally important role in promoting women's empowerment. There are some differences amid collaborative attempts by governments and NGOs. We have, of course, gone a long way to empower women, but it is challenging and daunting for the future.

#### Some of the facts related to women in India

- 1. Partial culture and social structure-In India, any element of life is partial between men and women. In Indian culture, according to class, there is a separation of labor. Women have been represented through their racial, religious and economic position.
- 2. In India, racial exclusion of women from high school remains to Indian children. Neglect, exclusion and harassment of women ensures that they are sociologically removed from the primary growth process.
- Women's Faith and Cultural system are central components of women's status of society.
- 4. Psychological and social influence-Indian women acknowledged their land and role socially. Moreover, the other things they should not want to perform.
- 5. Women's Analphabetism-Women's literacy rates are far smaller than males. Thus, their faith is inherently weak than us.
- 6. Women have to do secondary job dependency on other-job group. Men usually do good and essential jobs. But, contrary to some, financially people.

## CHALLENGES

The women empowerment mechanism in India is governed by many restrictions. In developed countries including India, gender expectations and family roles reflect and maintain women's inferior role. One law is that a son is constantly favored over the birth of a girl who actually exists in nearly every culture and group. In terms of schooling, healthcare and other resources, culture is more segregated in favor of males. It is the assumption that male children inherit the Indian clan with the exception of Meghalaya that is the underlying source of this form of stance. Women also internalize their stereotypical position as natural, thus causing oppression. For the vast majority of women in India, hardship is the fact of life. It is still a struggle to gain women's equality. The questions of women's rights in India pose many obstacles. Targeted problems would support women's empowerment in India directly.

#### Education:

Ever since its liberation, the world has evolved from a jump of education. There is a significant disparity between men and women. Although 82,14% of men in the adult education group are well educated, in India, only 65,46% of adult women are literate. The choice for gender is in higher education, special training courses that strike women really hard in work and lead in other fields.

#### Poverty:

Poverty is known as the world's most significant peace challenge and poverty eradication should be almost as critical as eradicating analphabetism. As a consequence, women are seen as domestic assistance.

#### Health and Safety:

Women's health and protection issues are critical to the welfare of a nation and are necessary to assess women's equality in a society. There are, however, troubling issues in relation to maternal wellbeing.

#### **Professional Inequality:**

In the pursuit of job sands, this disparity is exercised. In government offices and private businesses, women face endless handicaps in the personalized and controlled world.

#### Morality and Inequality:

Despite of gender disparities in health and education, the death rate of women of particular in Asia, Africa and China is extremely high.

#### Household Inequality:

Household relationships are incredibly tiny yet substantial gender differences throughout the world, particularly in India for example, where housework, childcare and menial work are shared through what is called jobs-division.

## CONCLUSION

Women's liberation has not only been at national but also foreign level to become one of the big problems of the 21st Century. Govt's projects. Racial representation needs to be achieved, but government policies alone will not be able to accomplish that aim. Society must take the initiative to create an environment in which gender inequality does not occur and women have a possibility of making themselves choices and of contributing with a sense of dignity in the social, political and economic existence of the world.

Thus, the scenario of representation of women continues to be comparatively low in income / employment and in schooling. The time is required to decide which breakthroughs or shortcomings observe women 's advancement and this effort must come from the women themselves and, more specifically, the state and society's policy initiatives. Let us take the pledge that we want to create an inclusive world in which all – women and men – may express themselves and improve their well-being.

### REFERENCES

- 1. Duflo E. (2011) on Women's Empowerment and Economic Development, National Bureau of Economic Research, Cambridge.
- India: Women's Empowerment IFAD / OE, 2000. The Republic of India; Tamilnadu Women's Development Project: Completion Evaluation,
- 3. Baruah B. (2013) on Role of Electronic Media in Empowering Rural.
- 4. Goswami, L. (2013). On Education for Women Empowerment. Abhibyakti: Annual Journal, 1, 17-18.
- 5. Baruah, B. (2013). On Role of Electronic Media in Empowering Rural Women Education of N.E. India.
- 6. Kadam, R. N. (2012). On Empowerment of Women in India- An Attempt to Fill the Gender Gap.
- 7. Nagaraja, B. (2013). On Empowerment of Women in India: A Critical Analysis. Journal of Humanities and Social Science.
- 8. Deshpande, S., and Sethi, S., (2010). Role and Position of Women Empowerment in Indian Society.
- 9. Kamla Gupta and P. Princy Yesudian (2006) on Evidence of women's empowerment in India: a study of socio-spatial disparities.
- 10. Jugal Kishore Misra (2006) on empowerment of women in India.
- 11. Esther Duflo (2011) on women's empowerment and economic development.
- 12. Sushma lyengar (2019) on the development discourse in India neglects women.

- 13. Rimi Sarkar, Aritra Ghosh (2015) on Women Empowerment in India: A Sociological Perspective.
- 14. Tanu Tandon (2016) on Women Empowerment: Perspectives and Views.
- 15. Dr. Sanjay Dudhe (2014) on Indian women through sociological perspectives.
- 16. Anagha Poojari (2015) on A Social Perspective on Empowering Women in India.
- 17. Dr. (Smt.) Rajeshwari M. Shettar (2015) on a Study on Issues and Challenges of Women Empowerment in India.

#### **Corresponding Author**

#### Chandra Prabha\*

Assistant Professor, Government Girls P.G. College, Etawah