

Women and Development: A Literature Review

Arunima Goel¹

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Abstract:

For all the citizens' introduction to the Indian Constitution decide the country's highest goal to be justice, fairness, freedom and community. Achieving development requires the attentions of various aspects. Gender equality is now a genuine political claim at local, national and global levels. The role of women's are high in the progress of society as well as country. But the attentions of various aspects are required for achieving the development of women. The main barriers in most of the developing countries for women growth is education, which inhibits further development and power of judgment and proceed in more inequalities between men and women. The women health and clarification of spiritual beliefs is another cause that legitimates inequities. Crime against women and sex ratio is other main issue which shows barrier in gender and development. Our purpose in this paper is to highlight the main issues and challenges which are barriers in the growth of Gender and development.

Keywords: Development, Gender Equality, Sex Ratio, Education

Authors:

1. Osmania University, Hyderabad, Telangana, INDIA

Introduction

The one of the top agenda across the world is issue of women and development. In developing nations, gender difference is widespread rather than developed countries about the concept of development there is many theories which varies according to organizations involved, area of attention, atmospheres, etc. the growth of women depends upon various aspects like education, sex ratio, health, etc. Development of women is important for the process of the improvement of person's moral in financial, public and political status of women. From last couple of decades both national and international development community and governments has increasingly focused its efforts to promote gender equality as a means for better social, economic and health outcomes. Almost 50% world population is covered by women but India has revealed uneven sex ratio, the women population is very low in India rather than males. According to their social status, females are not treated as equal to males in all areas. It is the process of guarding them against all forms of violence. For building up the society, Gender development play a crucial role, where women can breathe without the fear of domination, abuse, anxiety, discrimination. The general feeling of aggravation that shows the dominancy of men over a woman in previous time. Education is also consider as the most important factor of development. Education brings reduction in inequality and mold the shape toward the development of a country. In all aspects women have equivalent right and status as men have in western society. But in India, the inconsistent condition has such that she was sometimes concerned as Goddess and at other times merely as slave. Some Gender discrimination and disabilities are as:

Educational Status of Females in India

To change the position of women in culture education is the most powerful tool. In India, women education has been a need of the hour, as education is a basis need for the empowerment of woman. Education brings decrement in disparities and grow the status of a person. In India, women's education is a major concern for both the government and civil society. For Women growth, education is landmark because it empowers them to face the challenges, also to challenge their customary role and permit them to live their life with harmony. As per the report of Census 2011, the female literacy rate is very low i.e., 65.5% compare to the male literacy rate of

82.1%. While there has been a substantial enhancement in literacy rate of woman but still it is much lesser in the comparison of male literacy. Male-female literacy rates gap is very large that is 20%. In rural India, literacy is serious problem because of 43% illiterate women. Different scheme regarding education of women is started by the government of India.

Women Health

The status of society is a major source for the health of Indian women. Health is generally considered as the most important component of growth and development of a country. Because of the dominant culture and traditional practices, the status of health of Indian women is becoming worse in India. At the time of pregnancy and lactation, Indian women are generally exposed to poor nutrition. However, in India the field of health is the most neglected aspect of development especially in case of women. It was found that the contributions of Indian women are ignored by families, and in its place they are beheld as economic burdens. Even today, for the policy maker, the issue of family wellbeing and generative health is more important than the problems related to basic level of nourishment, better fitness, better control over women's body etc.

Crime against Women

In recent days, the crimes against women is increasing day by day. Man thing that Women are the property of them in their lives, whose duty is to guard them, but the fight between men and women on any matter provokes violence against women (Centre for women development studies 2002). Displaying the violence that involves physical aggression, injuries, struggled hanging, erotic abuse and rape, mental violence through abuses, disgrace, compulsion, blackmail, economic or emotional pressures, and control over talking and activities that results in death in extreme cases. Crimes against women and incident of rape have risen sharply over the last few years. The latest National Crime Records Bureau data reflect how incidents of rapes have gone up by 12-15%, while other crimes have risen by 3-5%.

Sex Ratio

The ratio of sex is illuminating the preparation of population. Sex ratio refers as the numeral of females per thousand males or in a given population the ratio of males to females. Falling of sex ratio is one of the

conspicuous examples of gender inequality. First choice of having boys over girls exists in many male controlled society, gender disparity can evident itself in the form of the parents who want boy rather than girl (Sen and Drez 2005). Despite having higher level of female education, greater financial contribution of women, the developing nations are facing severe failure due to below average sex ratio. The Sex ratio in India 2011 is 918 girls for 1,000 boys. Government launces various schemes regarding to improve the sex ratio.

Review of Literature

Bhoganadam, Malini and Rao (2014) studied on women's empowerment and economic development and concluded that the women empowerment plays a major role in developing countries through which the organizational problems can be solve and it also can reduce the poverty level and improve the economic growth.

Bayeh, (2016), worked on the empowerment of women and attaining gender equivalence to the sustainable growth of Ethiopia, and discovery based on the data analyzed shows that role of women of sustainable growth is less in the nation. This study also uncover that Ethiopian women cover the half population of the country. This paper suggested that the Government need to maintain the gender equality and need to make effort to change the present position of the woman.

Hopkins and Patel, (2007) analyzed the effect of spiritual principles and practices on gender disparity that is the matter that cannot be overlooked and brief the key conversation and findings of two works held by Oxfam GB, facing the challenges related to the gender equality in Muslim circumstances and finally concluded that this is essential to highlight and recognize the local setting and in each country that how particular matter affect gender relations.

Mikkola, (2005) suggested about the issues from which the gender inequality is associated with such as the overall economic developmental level, morals and faith, cultural limitations and roles, legal and tradition laws and practices, the married design of resource distribution, fidelity vs. polygyny, labor market access, learning, richness, gender specific market failures in finance, power in the political choice creation etc.

Dufllo, (2011) studied review on the women empowerment and economic development and said that the development may influenced by the women empowerment. Also reviewed on both the literature of empowerment development and about the weakness of inter relationship to be self-sustaining, and also about the policy promise to equality between men and women.

Chakravarty, Kumar and Jha, (2013) studied about the concept of women empowerment on a holistic basis and also examined the effort made for the empirical works towards the empowering the women with Self Help Groups (SHG) initiated in Ranchi district of Jharkhand state of India. This study also suggested to increase the empowerment energy to the native level region for the emerging nation i.e., India and point the further research in this area.

Nayak and Mahanta, (2017) analyzed the position of empowerment of women in India using numerous indicators grounded on the subordinate sources and concluded that the enabling factors to empowerment and to achieve the goal are the access to education and employment which depends upon the boldness of the people in the direction of gender equality.

Conclusion

The gender and growth is considered as most important issue of 21st period not cover only the nation but also the world. Where women are major targeted population in gender development. Government are taking steps by launching various schemes regarding girls as Sukanya Samriddhi Yojna., Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, Balika Samridhi Yojna and many more. The role of only government is not sufficient to attain the goal of equality. In this reference, society should generate the climate where no gender discrimination and women have full opportunities to take self-decision and able to participate in communal, political and financial life of the nation with a wisdom of equality. There is need of involvement of women in the process that train them for leadership positions as well as in decision making process. They would be able to design strategies that bring revolution for a consistent reduction of gender disparities towards women.



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