

WOMEN EDUCATION IN INDIA

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Abstract

Women Education is essential factor to broaden the orderlies of women's social roles by endowing them with greater skills and resources as well as transforming their attitudes and values. Education is a tool to solve social problems and to bring change in the society. Though the enrolment of girls in schools has been on the rise but due to numerous socio-economic reasons the dropout rate still continues to be very high. According to 2001, census the literacy rate for women in India is only 54.16%. No one can deny that low female literacy rate has a negative impact on health and social issues including sex ratios, child birth rate, death rate, mean age of marriage etc...

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Among all strategies such as legislations, five year plan, national perspective plan, welfare schemes of both central and state governments which educating the girl child is to be treated as the most powerful and effective strategy. By improving educational opportunities for women who helps them to acquire skills of decision making education can leads directly to better type of reproductive health family and the society. Education that is given to the female sects which alleviate poverty. Hence, both men and women should join their hands to give education to girl children which definitely empower women in all spheres. As our former president DR.A.P.J. Abdul Kalam quoted that 'Mission of education' is the foundation to make ensure the creation of enlightened citizens who will make a prosperous, happy and strong nation, According to him when learning is purposeful creativity blossoms, thinking emanates, knowledge is fully lit, economy flourishes. The pioneer in the long journey towards equality.

A developing country, which India is, it depends very much on its vast potential of human resources, if these resources are properly tapped the country is bound to progress efficiently effectively and rapidly. Human forms the most important part of the human resources of the nation and they may contribute very substantially in building a strong, powerful and affluent nation. Human rights education is an important strategy for achieving several goals like empowerment, participation, transparency, accountability, the prevention of conflict and conflict resolution, peacemaking and peace-building. The position of women in Indian society further

deteriorated during the medieval period when sati, child marriage, polygamy, and a ban on marriage by widows become part of social life in some communities in India. In some parts of India, Women's were sexually exploited. In India, education falls under the control of both union government and the states, with some responsibilities lying with the union and the states having autonomy for others. In a fundamental right, education was given an important in the various articles in India are controlled by the union or the state government.

However, India continues to face stern challenges Inspire of growing level in education, 25% of its population is still illiterate, only 15% of Indian students reach high school just 7% graduate. The quality of education whether at primary or higher education is significantly poor as compared with major developing nations. The history of female education in India has its roots in British Regime women employment and education programme was launched by the East India Company's education scheme of wood's Dispatch in 1854. The overall literacy rate for women was increased from 0.2% in 1882 to 6% in 1947. The University of Calcutta became one of the first universities to its degree programmes. After India attained independence in 1947 the university education commission was created to recommend to improve the quality of education both girls and boys. But these committees do not give importance to female education. In 1958 a national committee on women's education was appointed by the government and most of its recommendation were accepted which recommended to bring female education on the same footing as offered for boys. A committee was appointed by the government in 1959 recommended equality and a common curriculum at various stages of their learning for boys and girls. Soon afterward, the education commission was setup in 1964 which talked about female education and a national policy to be developed by the government. This occurred in 1968, providing increased emphasis on female education.

India has been taking measures steps to improve women's status and education. The 86th constitutional Amendment Act of 2002 which emphasised to taking active steps towards the growth of education, especially for girl children, According to this act free and compulsory education has been given for children between the ages of 6 and 14. The government has undertaken to provide free and compulsory education for these in that age group. This scheme is more widely known as Sava Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA). The SSA schemes to help foster the growth of female education. Some major schemes are launched by the government of India such as, Mahila Samakhya Programme, Kasturba Gandhi Balika Programme scheme, National programme for education for girls at elementary level (NPEGEL). As a result of New Education policy 1968, Mahila Samakhya Programme was launched. The main aims of this programme to create the empowerment of women from rural areas especially socially and economically marginalized groups. When the SSA was formed it setup a committee to look after this programme. Another important scheme which launched in July 2004 was Katurba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya Scheme (KGBV) to provide education to girls at primary level. The NPEGEL, has launched in July 2003 by which model schools have been setup to provide better

opportunities to girls Recently the Indian government has launched Saakashar Bharat Mission aims to bring down female illiteracy by half of its present level. Since the Indian government has tried to provide incentives for girls school attendance through programs such as midday meals, free books and uniforms. It emphasized that education was necessary for democracy and the status of women's education.

The new education policy aimed to bring down at some social changes through revised texts, curricula, increased funding for schools, expansion in the number of schools and policy improvements. The education of women in plays a significant role in improving living standard in the country A higher women literacy rate which improves the quality of life both at home and outside of home by encouraging and promoting education of children especially female children and in reducing the infant mortality rate.

Women education in India plays a pivotal role in the development of country. It has helped in the development of half of population as well as the living standard of family at home and outside Education women help in reducing the mortality rate of infant in India education women handle their family in a better way than illiterate women. In the period women had the right to get education. But in later period they lost their right to get education. After the arrival of British who helped in revival of women education in India. A large number of social reformers like Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Ishwar Chandra Vidya sagar gave special attention on women education in India some others leaders like Jyotiba Phuley, Bhimrao Ambedkar conducted various programs to make education accessible to every women of India After the independence the government of India has undertaken various measures to gave education to all women of India The literacy rate of women also increased from 22% in 1971 to 54.16% in 2001. In the history of human development women has been as important as man the participative of women national activities such as social, economic, or political progress of a country will be appreciable.

The significance of education for each person can't be ignored even more. Therefore protecting women's right to education should become essential to protect the control of women's rights. Education to women is the most powerful weapon of changing their status in the society. Education also reduce the inequalities and to improve their status within the family. To bring more girl children especially from marginalized families into the mainstream of education the government ha provide a package of concession in the form of free supply of books, uniform, boarding and lodging, clothing for host élites, mid day meals, scholarship, free bicycle and so on.

Education has a great influence on all types of development outcomes education of girls and women influence health, nutritional status and income benefits of education, particularly women's education accrue from one generation to another. Among the different parameters of education attainments literacy is the most important as it paves way for further learning and training The opportunity of education for women is taken care of it would result in

autonomous gain in the opportunity of nutrition and perhaps also of gainful employment for women in India.

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