



WOMEN EMPOWERMENT THROUGH EDUCATION AND GOVERNMENT'S INITIATIVES

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ABSTRACT If you educate a man you educate an individual, but if you educate a woman you educate a family (nation)" Dr. James Emmanuel Kwegyir-Aggrey (1875-1927, Ghana). Education is the most effective tool for empowering women and safeguarding their fundamental rights. Investing in the education of women may change and even save lives of women, as well as their families and communities. It is one of the most effective ways for everyone to bring about constructive, long-term change in the world.

KEYWORDS : Education, Women Empowerment, Women Education, Government Initiatives

1. INTRODUCTION

Education is regarded as the most powerful instrument for empowering women in society. Education starts a virtuous circle where women gain more knowledge, skills, self-confidence, and capabilities, which enhances their own life chances. An educated woman gives greater nutrition, health care, and education to her family. Education empowers a woman to take greater control of her life and gain inclusion in decision-making processes, thereby wreaking her potential to contribute socially and economically to the well-being of her family and community.

Women's empowerment is a worldwide problem, and debates about women's political rights are at the frontline of many formal and informal initiatives around the world. In 1985, the concept of women's empowerment was acknowledged at the International Women's conference in NAROI. Education is a pivotal event in women's empowerment because it facilitates them to cope with difficult situations, confront traditional roles, and alter their livelihoods.

Women's empowerment is an essential component of any society and nation. A woman is the main caretaker in a child's life. Women play an important role in our society. Education as a process of enabling women can result in a positive attitude shift. As a result, it is critical for India's socio-economic and political development. The Indian Constitution empowers the nation to take affirmative measures to promote ways and means of empowering women. Education has a profound impact on the development of women.

2. Review of Literature:

Sarkar C. and S. Paroi (2020): This paper investigated Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar's contribution to women's education as well as the current state of women's education in India. The author's main finding in this paper is that he always highlights social and cultural education because he believes that education should not be limited to bookish language.

Women's empowerment refers to their rights to survive their citizens to live, bravely, also with reverence. Equal access to opportunities and resources, as well as involvement, independence, and mobility, are all definitions of women's empowerment. Jha et al., 2020

The authors of this study attempt to identify the barriers to measuring women's empowerment and critically evaluate its value in subjective and contextual terms. The primary goal of this study is to critically examine the role and importance of subjective measures in assessing women's economic, social, and political empowerment. Magali N. Alloati, 2019

3. Objectives of Study:

- 3.1 To analyse the initiatives of Government in women Education.
- 3.2 To find out the Importance of Education in women Empowerment.

4. Methodology: The current paper, titled "Women Empowerment through Education and Government's Initiatives", examines secondary sources and presents information in a descriptive manner. It presents the Government Initiatives and role of education in empowering women and its significance.

5. Initiatives Taken by Government in Education:

The Government is essential to upholding that everyone in society has

equal access to high-quality education, and the Ministry's vision is to enhance India's instructional human capital opportunities, while preserving equality and human rights. These are divided into three levels, like:

5.1 In primary education, Right to Education (RTE) Act 2009- The Right of the Child to Free and Compulsory Education up-to 14 years, and the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) was inaugurated in 2001-2002 in collaboration with national government and local governments. By 2010, the initiative helps to provide important and informative primary school education for children aged 6 to 14. Goals include improved school infrastructure, curriculum content and evaluation reforms, the identification of learning factors, improved pedagogical practices, and effective learning outcomes.

5.2 In secondary education, Initiatives such as the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) launched in March 2009, ICT in Schools, and centrally sponsored scheme on Teacher Education (CSSTE), Shaala Siddhi, and the Rashtriya Avishkar Abhiyan are being implemented to enhance the quality of secondary schooling.

The school education and literacy department recently developed the Samagra Shiksha—a Centrally Sponsored Integral Scheme for School Education, which will be implemented across the country in 2018-19. The three former Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), and Teacher Education have been combined into this program (TE). It is a comprehensive program for the school education sector, spanning pre-school through class XII, with the goal of ensuring quality education that is mutually supportive at all levels of education.

5.3 In higher education, various initiatives such as the Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA), Impacting Research, Innovation, and Technology (IMPRINT), Global Initiative for Academics Network (GIAN), Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya National Mission on Teachers and Teaching (PMMNMTT), Technical Education Quality Improvement Programme (TEQIP), National Digital Library, Study Webs of Active-Learning for Young Aspiring Minds (SWAYAM), Campus Connect Program, AICTE and UGC are working on various initiatives to raise the standard of higher and professional education as well.

6. Importance of Women Education in India: In India, women's education plays a critical role in the country's overall development. It not only contributes to the development of half of the world's largest human resources but also to the quality of life at home and abroad. Educated women are more likely to encourage their daughters to attend school and also provide clear direction to all of their children. Moreover, educated women can aid in the reduction of infant mortality and population growth.

7. CONCLUSION: "Moving from a weak position to exercising power" is what "empowerment" means in today's context. The most effective tool for societal change is women's education. Education also helps to reduce poverty and improve one's family status. The government established schools, colleges, and universities dedicated solely to women to promote women's education at all levels and to minimize gender bias in the sharing of information and education. The government offers a package of discounts, including free books,

uniforms, and boarding, to inspire more girls, especially those from poor households, to enroll in regular schools.

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