

Gender equality and socio economic development in India

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Abstract

Gender disparity has been a major issue in India's pursuit for achieving the goal of equality. In order to overcome the problems faced by girls, several measures have been initiated across the country. Impacts of govt., social reformers have these made as reflected in the available statistics. The paper also presents a comprehensive review of research studies on participation of girls in every field. It highlights that the participation of the girl-child is affected significantly due to changed social attitudes towards their education and by other forms of gender and social discrimination in Indian society.

Keywords: social, gender equality, woman education

Introduction

Gender equality is the view that everyone should obtain equal treatment and not be discriminated based on their gender. The objective of gender equality is to acquire equal handling throughout a society. There has been criticism arguing that these gender equality strategies are superficial, do not seek to challenge social structure of male domination. Gender equality is the notion that man and women should have same opportunities in life.

Gender equality can have a catalytic effect on achieving economic, social and environmental sustainability. The status of women in India has been subjected to big changes. In ancient India, the women enjoyed equal status with men. Reformatory movements allowed women to be admitted to the religious work. Women's position in the society further deteriorated during the medieval period when custom of sati, child marriage, ban on widow marriage become part of social life. However some women were excelled in the field of field of politics, literature, education, religion and art.

Police records show high incidences of crime against women in India. Earlier, many cases were not registered with the police due to social fear attached to rape and molestation cases. India had an impressive record of growth in recent decades, gender equality indicator provide cause for concern. India's 2011 census show a continuing decline the sex ratio among children under age 7 as 91.4 girls per 100 boys. Infant mortality rate among girls than boys is higher. This shortage of women has implications not only for gender equality but also for social violence, human development and democracy. A high proportion of rural women continue to be engaged in agriculture i.e., 7% of women with 63 of men. In wage employment, in non-agricultural sector, women account for only 78.6% of employment. Women are secondary earners and that lower wages for them are not justified. In addition, many workers are unaware of minimum wage standards and laws against employment discrimination.

The central govt. as well as state govt. has promulgated a

range of measures to strengthen women's rights. The 73rd and 74th constitutional amendments of 1992 that established in rural and urban local bodies, a one third reservation for women has applied to local decision making. This has resulted in a significant increase in the representation of women. Participation of women in Indian politics is less even from under developed countries. As per the UN's survey of women in politics, South Africa 44.5%, Mozambique 34.8% has more percentage of female in politics. National policies aim to strengthen women's access for education and employment. Women's empowerment is important for social transformation. Education is the best tool that can help to break gender discrimination and bring knowledge of understanding, working, decision making. Women's education is necessary for healthy, economically, socially, morally rich society.

Improved living conditions are important. Women who had some educational survive childbirth, have fewer and healthier children and make sure their child. They understand hygiene and nutrition better and helping to prevent diseases by visiting health care facilities.

Methodology

Survey method is followed to find status of women in India. Data is collected from govt. offices, social work places, organizational offices, news channels, newspapers, websites and magazines etc. Collected data is tabulated and analyzed.

Finding & Analysis

Table 1: Status of Female Literacy in India

Category	Female (%)
Male	74.04
Female	65.46
Rural Female	59
Urban Female	80

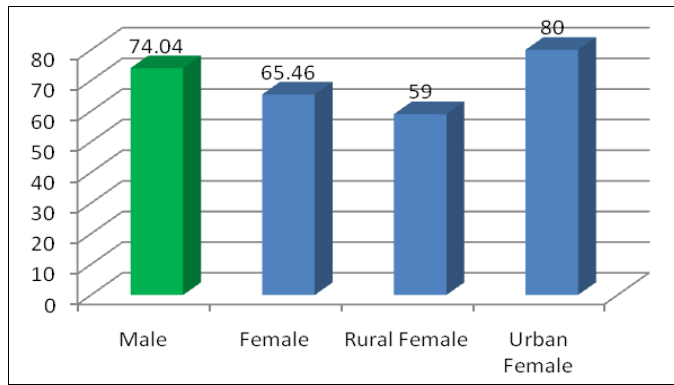


Fig 1: Status of Female Literacy in India

Table 2: Females as Students in Different Streams of Education in India

Stream	Participation of Girls (%)
Language and Humanity	28.5
Science	21.4
Commerce	23.2
Engineering & Technology	14.7
IT & Computer	40.2
Management	35.6
Law	32

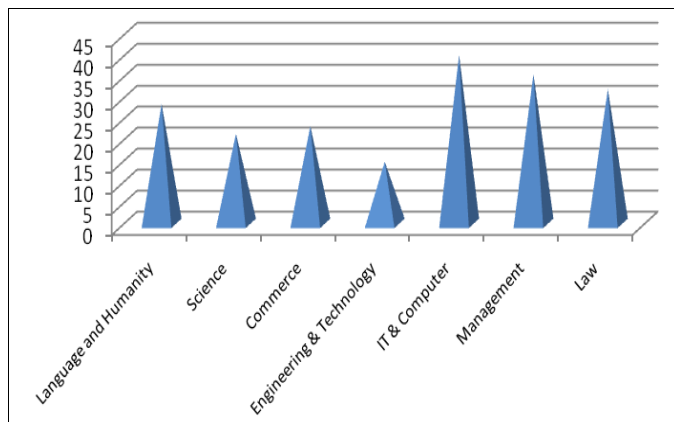


Fig 2: Females as Students in Different Streams of Education in India

Table 3: Status of Females as Students at different level in India

Level of Education	No. of Females (%)
Secondary Education	35.3
Higher Education	49.5
Ph.D. Registered	40.5

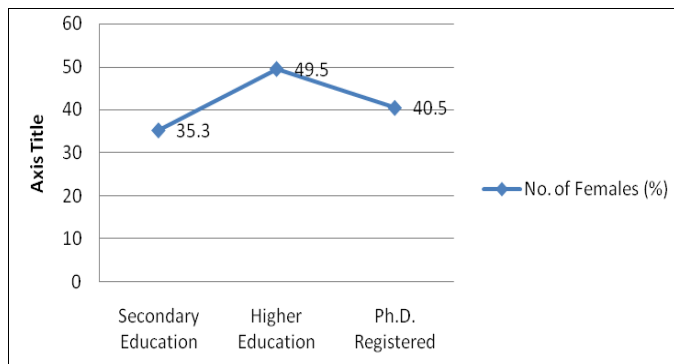


Fig 3: Status of Females as Students at different level in India

Table 4: Women in Education Sector as School Teacher in India

Year	No. of Women (%)
2013-14	43.46
2014-15	44.83
2015-16	45.51

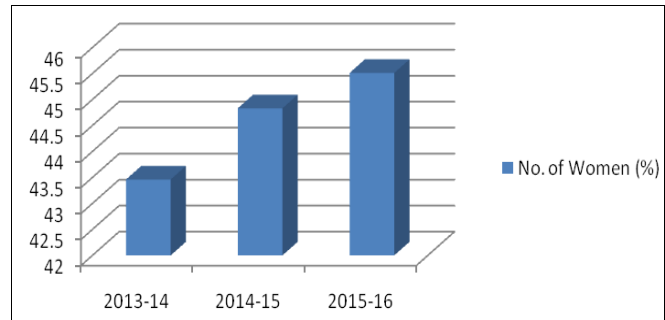


Fig 4: Women in Education Sector as School Teacher in India

Table 5: No. of Working Women at Different Level in Industries in India

Level of Work	No. of Women (%)
Labor	29
Operational Manager	12.6
Senior Manager	5.2
CEO	1.3

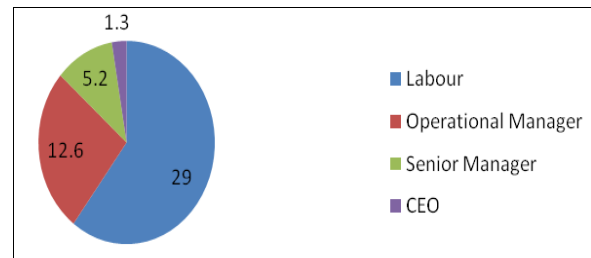


Fig 5: No. of Working Women at Different Level in Industries in India

Table 6: Status of Women in Indian Politics

Post	Total	No. of Women
Member of Lok sabha	543	66
Member of Rajya sabha	234	27
Cabinet Minister	26	5
State Minister	39	4
Chief Minister	31	3
Member of Lagislative Assembly	4120	332

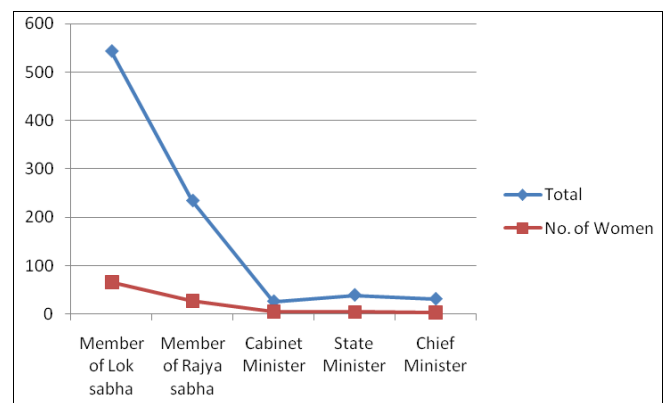


Fig 6: Status of Women in Indian Politics

Conclusion

This study suggests that though much has been done in policy terms to increase female access to schooling, working, decision making notably through improving access to education and employment. There are still major policy implementation and practitioner challenges to be met in terms of better opportunities for females at all level. To establish equality, changes are required in all sectors. Access to education and participation in politics may bring evolutionary change in status of women. To change the position of work in politics they must stand out as an independent winner. They should be well educated and versed with all the facets of their working field. Women must be confident to take necessary decisions apart from handling just women related issues. Lot money is required to be done for empowerment of the women in India.

References

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