IMPACT OF EDUCATION ON DEVELOPMENT OF WOMEN

INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL MINOR RESEARCH PROJECT

2016-2017

Submitted to
SATISH PRADHAN DYNASADHANA COLLEGE OF ARTS, COMMERCE & SCI

BY
Dr. Manisha D. Bhingardive
Asst. Prof., Department of Commerce,
Satish Pradhan Dnyanasadhana college of Arts, Sci. & Com.,
Thane (W)
Impact Of Education On Development Of Women

Introduction

Education plays a pivotal role in the Indian social and cultural life. Since the ancient period; girls have far less access than boys to education, literacy training and skills development as an outcome of gender ideologies and poverty. The gender gap is still exists in many countries and is gradually reducing. The concept of women empowerment has various dimensions like economic empowerment, social empowerment, political empowerment, psychological empowerment, technological empowerment and so on. Economic empowerment of women focuses on improving women’s economic security and positive impact on all other aspect of women’s existence.

Review of literature

Bhumali A. attempted to explain different dimensions of women in the context of education, employment and as well as legal, political and administrative aspects. It mainly highlights the socio-economic conditions of disadvantaged rural poor from social, political and economic discrimination. To sum up he says, education along with employment can really empower not only urban but rural women also. Education helps in reducing inequality in every society. It can develop person’s knowledge, skills, values and attitudes.

Mumtas N. in her research stresses emphasize on status of women during different periods and impact of education on their empowerment. She has opined that education is a milestone for women empowerment because it enables them to respond to opportunities, to challenge their traditional roles and to change their lives. Proper education facilitates women in discharging their social responsibilities towards community and national development through active participation.
because an empowered society is imperative in the Indian democratic vision of a new social order.

Amartya Sen has asserted that ‘women’s empowerment is one of the central issues in the process of development for many countries in the world today’. He has opined that women should not be treated as ‘passive recipients of welfare-enhancing help’ but they should be considered as ‘active agents of change’ and nation’s efforts need to move in this direction.

**Genesis of the study**

Centuries of neglect, human development is taking efforts to speed the progress in building women’s capabilities. Women are engaged in various occupations especially in unorganized sector. Education and skill development are the two requisites for economic empowerment of women. Hence, there is dire need for significant action programs to ensure equal share of available education facilities to women at all levels. The need of an era is to improve the situation of women greatly in employment and income terms. In this connection the researcher thought it is necessary to study contribution of education towards economic empowerment of women.

**Research Objectives**

The researcher has framed following objectives for study:

1. To understand the concept of women education and their empowerment through development.
2. To study the impact of education on women’s socio-economic development and empowerment.

**Research Hypothesis of the study**

In the light of the above objectives the researcher has framed following hypothesis of the study:

*H₁Education has a favorable impact on the women’s socio-economic development*

**Research Methodology & Data Sources**
This study is based on the secondary sources of data and the required secondary data has been collected from bulletins and government websites. The collected data is analysed and interpreted to arrive at conclusion.

**Data Analysis & Discussion**

Education is crucial for the prosperity, welfare, development and empowerment of women. Education and overall development are the two main sources of empowerment of women. Education gives power to women by developing self-esteem and self-confidence; a positive image of women’s ability to think critically; equal participation in development process; knowledge and skill for economic independence and legal literacy and information relating to their rights. Besides giving them more economic power, bringing changes in the entire social, political and legal systems of the country through education is necessary to empower women. The condition of any economy is mirrored in the status of its women. In ancient period women enjoyed equal status with men in every walk of life. Women had the right to education, liberty to choose their partners, shared equal rights and had freedom to take part in social and religious activities. During the British Raj a change began, and efforts were taken by the many reformers such as Ram Mohan Roy, Jyotiba Phule, Savitribai Phule and Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar for the upliftment of women. After independence, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar, the father of Indian Constitution was instrumental in granting equal status and equal rights to women without discrimination. However, literacy amongst the women increased post independence because of various initiatives and measures taken government to provided education to women. Hence, the present literacy rate is higher than that of men which was 22% in 1971. The condition of Indian women is evident in the census report of 2001 which shows that literacy rate of females (54.16%) is two-third of literacy rate of that of males.

**Impact of Education on Socio-economic development of women**

India has its vision is to make women independent and self-reliant. Working women contribute towards family income and it is significant in globalized and changing economic patterns. Economic empowerment of women brings financial freedom and contributes towards gender quality. As a result it enhances women’s economic security. Economic empowerment has a positive effect on various aspects of women’s existence like health, nutrition and social aspects.
Economic empowerment is expected to generate increase self-esteem, respect and other forms of empowerment for women beneficiaries. Successful income generating activities can be transformed into greater control and empowerment.

Education has impacted on social empowerment of women to ensure mobility, enhancement of knowledge and awareness, skill building and training, greater respect within the family and village. To achieve social empowerment of women, they need to be empowered with education and life skills to discharge their duties well. An educated woman educates her children and equipped to handle life crisis situations. Social empowerment of women helps them to fight their own fears and feeling of inadequacy and inferiority, sometime it may result in creating and strengthening women’s group and organization. Social empowerment means reducing women’s burden of domestic work and control over their own bodies.

Testing of the hypothesis

Thus, form the above discussion and interpretation it is evident that education plays a vital role in development and empowerment of women. To study the impact of education on socio-economic development of women parameters such as change in the confidence level, enhanced financial power, participation in decision making, enhanced literacy rate, enhanced knowledge and skills and its impact on overall development of women were used for testing the hypothesis. It can be inferred from the above analysis and discussion that education has positive impact on the socio-economic development of women.

Findings

Education has positive impact on the socio-economic development of women. The major findings are as follows:

1. It is evident that education gives power to women by developing self-esteem and self-confidence, knowledge and skill for economic independence and legal literacy.
2. Besides giving them more economic power, bringing changes in the entire social, political and legal systems of the country through education empowers women economically and socially.
3. It is revealed from above discussion that present literacy rate is higher than that of men which was 22% in 1971.
4. The census report of 2001 shows that literacy rate of females is 54.16% which is two-third of literacy rate of that of males. It means literacy rate amongst women is higher than male.
5. Education has impacted on social development of women to ensure mobility, enhancement of knowledge and awareness, skill building and training, greater respect within the family and village.

Conclusion

To sum up it can be said that despite of cultural, economical and political barriers, women are marching ahead with great conviction and confidence to equalize themselves with men in every sphere. The various state and Central Governments has made the provisions for women in over the years Five Year Plans and different programs and policies have been implemented to improve women’s status. Sustainable development helps economic growth and provides fairly equal opportunity for all without any discrimination. It is said that if man is educated only one person is educated but if woman is educated the whole family get educated. Educated women can educate her children. Economic empowerment can be achieved by ensuring provision of training, employment and income generation activities to make them economically independent and self-reliant.

References

4. onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/ejed.12137/full

Signature of Principal Investigator