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A STUDY ON WOMEN EMPOWERMENT IN INDIAN MODERN ERA

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ABSTRACT

The present study deals with women empowerment in 21st century. The aims of this study are to find out women education in pre-colonial, colonial and modern India, the forms of empowerment of women, the violence against women, women rights, legal protection of women in Indian constitution, the role of NGOs in women empowerment, the Government schemes and programmes for women empowerment, how education has helped woman empowerment and how Indian society is changing by women empowerment in the 21st century. As a result it is observed that the historical background of women education in Indian society in Vedic era women education was good. This study also shows that women empowerment refers to increasing and improving the social, economic, political and legal strength of the women, to ensure equal-right to women and to make them confident enough to claim their rights. A country's all round development is only possible when its women become powerful. Besides that, this study shows the constitutional rights of women, the advantages provided by various NGOs, national agencies etc. women education is inevitable to rejuvenate woman empowerment. The women will be self conscious socially, politically and economically by education. Overall, this study shows that by women empowerment Indian society is developed and changing in the 21st century.

Keywords: Women Education, Women Empowerment, Women Rights, NGOs, Violence Against Women.

INTRODUCTION: In the 21st century, the world is enthusiastically progressing and taking up the women partake in uplifting the society and economy of the world. Women empowerment is the key to strengthen their participation in the decision- making which is the most important key to socio- economic development. The India is a developing country and its economic status is also very bad because of the male dominated country. Women constitute roughly 50% of the nation's population and a majority of them remain economically dependent, without employment. Women empowerment is very necessary to make the bright future of the family, society and country. Empowerment of women would mean encouraging women to be self reliant, economically independent, have positive self esteem, generate confidence to face any difficult situation and incite active participation in various social-political development endeavors. Women empowerment will be more relevant if and only if women are educated. Education is a key factor for women empowerment prosperity, development and welfare. Education has been recognized as an essential agent of social change and development in any society and country. Education is an essential means of empowering women with the knowledge, skill and self confidence necessary to fully participate in the development process. Education is important for all, but essential for the survival and empowerment of women and girls. Education of women is helpful in eradicating many social evils such as dowry problem, unemployment problems etc. Social peace can also be easily established. If women are uneducated, the future generations will be uneducated. For this reason the greek warrior Napoleon once said, "Give me a few educated mothers, I shall give you a heroic race." In the recent years, various constitutional and legal rights have been implemented by the government of Indian in order to eliminate ill practice and gender discrimination against women. There is a list of safety laws for women in India working in the field to provide safety to the women from all types of crimes against women. Women's rights are human rights. They cover every aspect of life-health, education, political participation, economic well being and freedom from violence, among many others. Women are entitled to the full and equal enjoyment of all forms of discrimination this is fundamental to achieve human rights, peace and security and sustainable development. Various NGOs play important role for women empowerment. Many schemes and programmes for women empowerment are provided by the Government. Women empowerment in India plays a very important role in the overall development of the country. So, in order to make the country fully developed, women empowerment is an essential tool for the country in 21st century.

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

Panda, D. (2017) investigating on "Women Empowerment in India: Rational and Present state." He has found that women empowerment is not necessary fact for our country but it is a must for sustainable development of a nation. So let us start to empower women from now for our secure future. It is required to change the mindset of people in India for women. The man should feel that the world is moving towards equality and equity. Hence women empowerment with bring prosperity for the coming generation.

Shettar, R. M. (2015) in her article entitled "A Study on Issues and Challenges of Women Empowerment in India" opined that empowerment of women could only be achieved if their economic and social status is improved. This could be possible only by



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adopting definite social and economic policies with a view of total development of women and to make them realize that they have the potential to be strong human beings. Globalization, liberalization and other socio-economic forces have given some respite to a large proportion of the population. However, there are still quite a few areas where women empowerment in India is largely lacking.

Khatri, R. (2016) in her article entitled “The Role of Education towards Women Empowerment in India” focuses on the impact of literacy and education on empowerment of women as well as the suggestion to improve the changes that need to be considered for women empowerment and economic development.

Suresh, P. & Sivakumar, T. (2017) published their article entitled “Women Empowerment in India- A Changing Scenario.” They observed that empowerment of women is essentially the process of upliftment of economic, social and political status of women, the traditionally underprivileged ones in the society. It is the process of guarding them against all forms of violence.

NEED AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY: Women empowerment has the power to change many things in the society and country. If we want to make our country a developed country, first of all it is very necessary to empower women by the efforts of men, government, lows and women too. The need of women empowerment arose because of the gender discrimination and male domination in the Indian society. To have the bright future in family, society and country empowerment of women is essential.

Very few studies have been made on women empowerment in India. No research has been made on women empowerment in 21st century. Today the empowerment of women has become one of the most important concerns of 21st century. Therefore, the researcher feels to undertake “A Study on Women Empowerment in 21st Century.”

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The following are the specific objectives of the study-

1. To find out Women Education in Pre-Colonial, Colonial and Modern India.
2. To know the forms of Empowerment of Women.
3. To find out the Violence against Women.
4. To analyze Women Rights, Legal Protection of Women in Indian Constitution.
5. To know the role of NGOs in Women Empowerment.
6. To know the Government Schemes and Programmes for Women Empowerment.
7. To find out how Education has helped Women Empowerment.
8. To overview how Indian society is changing by Women Empowerment in the 21st century.

METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY

The present study is a qualitative study. The researchers here collected data from different secondary sources like books, magazines, journals, various government organizations, website etc.

DISCUSSION

Obj1: Women Education in Pre-Colonial, Colonial and Modern India

Women Education in Pre-Colonial Period

Pre-colonial period is diversified from ancient period to before british period. So, according to the steps of pre-colonial period there are three types of women education system-

1. Women Education of Ancient Vedic era.
2. Women Education of Buddhist era.
3. Women Education of Muslim era.

1. Women Education of Ancient Vedic era: The women education in ancient Vedic era was very good. Women in ancient India had free access to education. They were expected to participate in Vedic sacrifices and utter mantras. In the earlier Vedic and Upanishad time, girls were free to go through the ‘Upanayana’ ceremony, live a life of celibacy, studies Vedas, Vedangas and other subjects along with their brother pupils. The Vedas give a very honorable and respectable status to women. They were eligible for higher education for the study of the Vedas. There are at least twenty women among the composers of the Rig Veda- Lopamudra, Visavara, Sikata, Nivavari and Ghosha being the most notable among them. Vedic history is replete with numerous scholarly women who were striving for excellence – Maitreyee was in pursuit of the philosophy of immortality, Gargi was the spokesperson of philosophers



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in king Janak’s court, Atreyi was a dedicated student of sages Valmiki and Agastya. During the Vedic age women education was at a highest peak. Women got the same education as men and participated in the philosophical debates.

2. Women Education of Buddhist era: Women education during the Buddhist period was at its lowest ebb, as the women folk were despised in the sense that Lord Buddha had regarded them as the source of all evils. So, he had advised during his lifetime not to admit women in monasteries. But after sometime due to the insistence of his dear pupil Ananda, Buddha had permitted about 500 women along with his stepmother for admission in bihar with many restrictions and reservation.

3. Women Education of Muslim era: Education was theoretically a must for every man and women in the Muslim society. But the Muslim girls, in general, had little time or opportunity to receive education. The Muslims in the middle ages were conservation in their outlook. They were not in favour of providing education to, their daughters. They considered women’s education as unnecessary. Their idea was to prepare the young girls for household work. Besides, due to the ‘pardah’ system, education of the Muslim women was naturally restricted. Still, there were some well-to-do-persons who looked after the education of their daughters at home with the help of private tutors. Education of Muslim women belonging to the higher and well-to-do classes made considerable progress during the middle ages. In the ‘harems’ of kings and nobles, some ladies were educated and some of them even won distinction, but the percentage of such educated ladies constituted only a microscope part of the total Muslim women population. Sultana Razia, the daughter and successor of Iltutmish, was highly educated. Gulbadan Begum, the daughter of Babar, was an educated and talented lady. She wrote a very valuable as well as informative work in Persian, the Humayun Nama. Akbar’s mother Hamida Banu Begum was an educated woman. Nur Jahan, the celebrated wife of Jahangir, was a woman of unique talent and endowment. She knew thoroughly the Persian and Arabic literature. According to Ferishta, women were taught dancing, music, sewing, needlework, weaving, carpet making, military science, household affairs etc.

Women Education in Colonial Period: The ideas and pedagogical methods of education during the colonial period from 1757 to 1947 were contested terrain. The commercial British East India company ruled parts of India from 1764 to 1858. The idea of imparting education to women emerged in the British period. Earlier, it was almost universally hailed that since women need not earn their livelihood, there was no need of education for them. After the Bhakti Movement, the Christian missionaries took interest in the education of the girls. The Christian missionaries, whatever their motive, were the first to set up the Calcutta Female Juvenile Society in 1819. Vidyasagar established no less than 35 girl’s school in Bengal. Charles wood’s dispatch on education (1854) laid great stress on the need for female education. The Hunter Commission too emphasized on the need for female education in 1882. The Calcutta, Bombay and Madras institutions did not permit the admission of girls till 1875. It was only after 1882 that girls were allowed to go for higher education. Since then, there has been a continuous progress in the extension of education among females. Some women’s organizations such as Bharat Mohila Parishad (1904), Bharat Stree Mahamandal (1910), Women’s Indian Association (1917), National Council of Women India (1925) and All India Women’s Conference (1927) took up issues like women’s education, abolition of social evils, Hindu law reform, equality of rights and opportunities and women’s suffrage. The commission also commented at length on the condition of women education of that time. It recommended immediate arrangement of public funds for more schools for girls, appointment of lady teachers, a separate curriculum for girls, special hostels for girls and arrangements for higher education.

Women Education in Modern India: Women education in modern India is traced back to the years after the Indian Independence. University Education Commission (1948-49), Modular Commission (1952-53), Kothari Commission (1964-66), National Policy in Education (1968), National Policy for Education (1986) have recommended for giving important women education. In the present days, the government of India takes measures to provide education to all Indian women. Women literacy rate seemingly rose in the modern days. Women education in India became a compulsory concern and female literacy has gone higher than male literacy. At present, the Constitution of India grants free primary school education for both boys and girls up to age 14. After independence various actions are taken to improve women education.

Literacy Rate (%) in India: 1901-2011

Sl. No.	ensusYear	Persons	Males	Females	e-Female gap in literacy rate
1.	1901	5.35	9.83	0.60	9.23
2.	1911	5.92	10.56	1.05	9.51
3.	1921	7.16	12.21	1.81	10.40
4.	1931	9.50	15.59	2.93	12.66
5.	1941	16.10	24.90	7.30	17.60
6.	1951	18.33	27.16	8.86	18.30
7.	1961	28.30	40.40	15.35	25.05



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8.	1971	34.45	45.96	21.97	23.99
9.	1981	43.57	56.38	29.76	26.62
10.	1991	52.21	64.13	39.29	24.84
11	2001	64.83	75.26	53.67	21.59
12	2011	74.04	82.14	65.46	16.68

Source: Census of India

Obj2.Forms of Empowerment of Women

Women empowerment means women gaining more power and control over their own lives. The empowerment of women and the improvement of their political, social, economic and health status is a highly important and in itself. In additional, it is essential for the achievement of sustainable development. If it is to be elucidated beyond the two self explanatory words, ‘Women Empowerment’ refers to complete emancipation of women from socio-economic shackles of dependency and deprivations. Women empowerment needs to take a high speed in this country to equalize the value of both genders. To bring empowerment really every woman needs to be aware about her rights from her own end. There are different types of women empowerment. These are given below –

Economic empowerment: Economic empowerment increases women’s access to economic resources and opportunities including jobs, financial service, property and other productive assets, skills development and market information. Women’s economic empowerment is a prerequisite for sustainable development.

Political empowerment: Establishing mechanisms for women’s equal participations and equitable represent action at all levels of the political process and public life in each community and society and enabling women to articulate their concerns and needs and ensure the full and equal participation of women in decision-making process in all spheres of life. Women’s reservation Bill or the Constitution (108th Amendment) Bill, is a pending Bill in India which propose to reserve 33% of all seats in the Lok Sabha, the Lower House of Parliament of India, and state legislative assemblies. This Bill has been passed by the Rajya Sabha, the Upper House of the Parliament in march 2010. It needs to be passed by the Lok Sabha and at least 50% of all state legislative assemblies, before it is put before the president of India for his approval. In India, reform movements before and after independence has helped women to gain some power in politics also. They were among the foremost to take active part in politics.

Educational empowerment: Education is considered one of the most important means to empower women with the knowledge, skills and self-confidence necessary to participate fully in development process. Education is a key factor for women empowerment prosperity, development and welfare. Women education in India plays a very important role in the overall development of the country. Education is a potent tool in the emancipation and empowerment of women. Education is considered as a milestone for women empowerment because it enables them to respond to the challenges, to confront their traditional role and change their lives.

Social empowerment: Social empowerment it is a process to change the distribution of power in interpersonal relations among different people, cultures, activities of the society. Social empowerment refers to the enabling force that strengthens women’s social relations and their position in social structures. Social empowerment addresses the social discriminations existing in the society based on disability, race, ethnicity, religion or gender.

Health empowerment: Women’s health and safety is another important area. The empowerment of women begins with a guarantee of their health and safety. The health concerns of women are paramount for the wellbeing of a country, and are important factors in gauging the empowerment of women in a country.

The government of India is aware of the health status of women in the country. The National Health policy 2002 pays scant attention to the health of women, which is considered the ambit of the National Population Policy 2000. Maintaining and expanding education for women and girls will play a critical role in driving continued improvement in female health outcomes. In many poor countries, HIV/AIDS is the leading killer of women of reproductive age. Better educated women and girls are more likely to us contraception, which helps them avoid diseases, and to delay childbirth. However, there are alarming concerns where maternal health care is concerned.

Psychological empowerment- The psychological component, on the other hand, would include the development of feelings that women can act upon to improve their condition. This means formation of the belief that they can success in change efforts.

Legal empowerment- Make them aware of the civil rights, exercising the legal rights whenever necessary, preparing and canvassing the documents regarding the legal freedom for women, providing good literacy programs regarding the legal empowerment.

In future women empowerment should be there from all dimensions. If there is no woman empowerment, national development is never possible. Therefore, women empowerment is essential for the development of family, society and above all nation.



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Obj3. The Violence against women

There are many violence against women in India because of the male dominated society here. Women generally face various kinds of crime like dowry death, sexual harassment, cheating, murder, girl child abuse, robbery, etc. Violence against women which counted as crimes under the Indian penal code are rape, kidnapping and abduction, mental and physical torture, death for dowry, wife battering, sexual harassment, trafficking, molestation, importation of girls, etc. The cases of violence against women is increasing day by day and becoming too broad. On the other hand, with the increasing level of violence against women they started losing their educational, social, political, economic and cultural opportunities in the society. Dowry related violence is a serious problem that affects the lives of women and girls. Dowry includes gifts, money, goods or property given from the bride’s family to the groom or in-laws before, during or anytime after the marriage. Indian women through the countries remained subjugated and oppressed because society believed in clinging onto orthodox beliefs for the brunt of domestic violence as well as public, physical, emotional and mental violence. Crime against women is a social menace, and a costly public health problem. It can take the form of threats, verbal abuse, battering, rape and murder.

The latest NCRB data for the year 2016 shows that overall crimes against women rose from 3,29,243 in 2015 to 3,38,954 in 2016. The majority of cases categorized as crimes against women were reported under ‘cruelty by husband or his relatives’ (32.6%), followed by ‘assault on women with intent to outrage her modesty’ (25%), ‘kidnapping and abduction of women’ (19%) and ‘rape’ (11.5%).

Crime against women-2016

Sl.No	Crime Head	Total Cases Reported	Major State /UT During 2016		
1.	Cruelty by husband or his relatives	1,10,378	West Bengal(19,302)	Rajasthan(13,811)	Uttar Pradesh(11,156)
2.	Assault on women with intent to outrage her modesty	84,746	Maharashtra(11,396)	Uttar Pradesh(11,335)	Madhya Pradesh(8,717)
3.	Kidnapping & Abduction	64,519	Uttar Pradesh(12,994)	Maharashtra(6,170)	Bihar (5,496)
4.	Rape	38,947	Madhya Pradesh(4,882)	Uttar Pradesh(4,816)	Maharashtra(4,189)

Source: Crime in India 2016.

Obj4. Women rights, Legal protection of Women in Indian Constitution.

The rights available to women in India can be classified into two categories, namely as constitutional rights and legal rights. The constitutional rights are those which are provided in the various provisions of the constitution. The legal rights, on the other hand, are those which are provided in the various laws (acts) of the parliament and the state legislatures.

Constitutional Rights to Women

The rights and safeguards enshrined in the constitution for women in India are listed below:

1. Article 15(1) The state shall not discriminate against any citizen of Indian on the ground of sex.
2. Article 15(3) The state is empowered to make any special provision for women. In other words, this provision enables the state to make affirmative discrimination in favour of women.
3. Article 16(2) No citizen shall be discrimination against or be ineligible for any employment or office under the state on the ground of sex.
4. Article 23(1) Traffic in human beings and forced labour are prohibited.
5. Article 39(a) The state to secure for men and women equally the right to an adequate means of livelihood.
6. Article 39(d) The state to secure equal pay for equal work for both Indian men and women.
7. Article 39(e) The state is required to ensure that the health and strength of women workers are not abused and that they are not forced by economic necessity to enter avocations unsuited to their strength.
8. Article 42 The state shall make provision for securing just and humane conditions of work and maternity relief.
9. Article 51-A(e) It shall be the duty of every citizen of India to renounce practices derogatory to the dignity of women.
10. Article 243-D(3) One third of the total number of seats to be filled by direct election in every panchayat shall be reserved for women.



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11. Article 243-D(4) One third of the total number of offices of chairpersons in the panchayats at each level shall be reserved for women.
12. Article 243-T(3) One third of the total number of seats to be filled by direct election in every municipality shall be reserved for women.
13. Article 243-T(4) The offices of chairperson in the municipalities shall be reserved for women in such manner as the state Legislature may provide.

Legal Rights to women

To following various legislations contain several rights and safeguards for women.

1. Protection of women from Domestic Violence Act 2005.
2. Immoral Traffic (prevention) Act 1956.
3. Indecent Representation of Women (prohibition) Act 1986.
4. Commission of Sati (prevention) Act 1987.
5. Dowry Prohibition Act 1961.
6. Maternity Benefit Act 1961.
7. Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act 1971.
8. Pre-Conception and Pre-Natural Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act 1994.
9. Equal Remuneration Act 1976.
10. Dissolution of Muslim Marriage Act 1939.
11. Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Divorce) Act 1986.
12. Family Courts Act 1984.
13. Indian Penal Code 1860.
14. Code of Criminal Procedure 1873.
15. Indian Christian Marriage Act 1872.
16. Legal Services Authorities Act 1987.
17. Hindu Marriage Act 1955.
18. Hindu Succession Act 1956.
19. Minimum wages Act 1948.
20. Mines Act 1952 and Factories Act 1948.

The following other legislation's also contain certain rights and safeguards for women.

1. Employees' State Insurance Act 1948.
2. Plantation Labour Act 1951.
3. Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act 1976.
4. Legal Practitioners (Women) Act 1923.
5. Indian succession Act 1925.
6. Indian Divorce Act 1869.
7. Parsi Marriage and Divorce Act 1936.
8. Special Marriage Act 1954.
9. Foreign Marriage Act 1969.
10. Indian Evidence Act 1872.
11. Hindu Adoptions and Maintenance Act 1956.
12. National Commission for Women Act 1990.
13. Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition, Redressal) Act the 2013

Obj5. The Role of NGOs in Women Empowerment.

Participation of women in NGOs gave them an opportunity to foray into the social and political spheres which were not easily granted by the for profit and public sectors. Many NGOs that work to alleviate poverty among women, also focuses on advocating the important changes in the lives of women. NGOs play a major role in enforcing rights provided by legislation. Though there are few programs which have played a vital role in women empowerment such as, women in development (WID) has help women to deal with market affairs. Only empowering women economically without noticing their social position in society also cause problems for women. The various roles of NGOs in women empowerment. These are-



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1. Educating the Rural Women.
2. Supplementation of Government Efforts.
3. Representing the Rural Women.
4. Promoting Technology in Rural Areas.
5. Efforts Organizing the Rural Women.
6. Building Various Model and Experiment.
7. Providing Effective & Efficient Training to Rural Women.
8. Mobilizing the Optimum Resources.
9. Promoting Rural Leadership.

Obj6. The Government Schemes and Programmes for Women Empowerment.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) and the Central Social Welfare Board (CSWB) are implementing various welfare schemes and programmes for Indian women. These schemes and programmes are listed below-

1. Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for Empowerment of Adolescent Girls (RGSEAG)-Sabla.
2. Indira Gandhi Matritva Sahyog Yojana (IGMSY).
3. Support to Training & Employment Programme for Women (STEP).
4. Working Women Hostel (WWH).
5. Women Empowerment and Livelihood Programme in Mid-Gangetic Plain (Priyadarshini).
6. Swadhar Scheme for Women in Difficult Circumstances.
7. Scheme for Combating Trafficking.
8. Family Counseling Centers (FCCs).
9. Short Stay Home Programme.
10. Awareness Generation Programme (AGP).
11. Condensed courses of Education for Adult Women (CCE).
12. Integrated Scheme for Women's Empowerment (ISWE).
13. Gender Budgeting Scheme (GBS).
14. Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Scheme.
15. One stop centre scheme
16. Women Helpline Scheme.

Many programmes have been implemented and run by the government such as international women's day, mother's day etc in order to bring awareness in the society about the true rights and value of the women in the development of the nation.

Obj7. How Education has helped Women Empowerment.

To develop the condition of the women the role of education is noteworthy. Education is considered as the most important tool for empowering women in society. It is not only limited to developing the personality of an individual but also plays an important role in economic, social and cultural development. The UNESCO put its effort in order to achieve the equal opportunity of education regardless of age, gender, race or any other difference in social and economic status. Education makes women conscious. As a result, the women make effort to change their condition. Education brings change in society and culture. Its effect is seen in women also. Education helps men and women claim their rights and realize their potential in the economic, political and social arenas. Cultural and traditional values stand between girls and their prospects for education. The factors like cultural, social, political and technological changes in the world have revolutionized the education and social life of women. Increased awareness and education has inspired women to come out of the four walls of the home. Industrialized and technological change has opened vast opportunities of employment for women in different sectors of the national economy. Today Indian women go to the factory, the office, or the school, or the college to work for a wage. Women today are playing huge roles as investors, consumers, entrepreneurs, scientists, lawyers and doctors. Economic independence of women is important as it enhances their ability to take decisions and exercise freedom of choice, action.

Obj8. How Indian society is changing by Women Empowerment in the 21st century.

Women empowerment is used both in general and specific sense. In general sense it means making women self dependent and giving them all the freedoms and opportunities. In a specific sense, women empowerment means improving the position of women in the society's power structure. Women empowerment is a process of acquiring power for women in order to understand their rights and to



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perform her responsibilities towards oneself and others in a most effective way. Women empowerment abolishes all gender based discrimination in all institutions and structures of society. Women empowerment means their capacity to participate as equal partners in cultural, social, economic and political system of a society. In the process of empowerment women should consider their strengths and weakness opportunities and threats and move forward to unfold their own potential to achieve their goals through self development has become an integral part of our development effects due to three important advantage entrepreneurs, economic growth and social stability. In the past few millennium, various great changes has occur in the status of women in India. Women are actively participating in the democratic process and elections which is quite more impressive in enhancing their status. Many women actively supported and participated in the nationalist movement and secured eminent positions and offices in administration and public life in free India. Education of women has not only helped them to become aware of the political problems, but they are gradually becoming active participant in the political life. Some are enrolling themselves as members of political parties, attending party meetings, conventions and carrying out political programs. Some women are attaining influential political stature of their own and have become instrumental in shaping the public opinion for the betterment of women's conditions in society.

MAJOR FINDINGS

The following are major findings of the study-

1. This study explorations the history of women education in India. The previous background of women education of Indian society reveals that in Vedic era women education was good. Women education in India plays a very important role in the overall development of the country.
2. The present study reveals that there are various forms of Empowerment of Women. This study shows that the empowerment of women occurs when they are involved in decision making in social, economic and political spheres and they are also able to play an equal role as per with men in society. Sustainable development of the country should be possible if to promote the role of women in every social, political and economic activities of the development.
3. The present study reveals that there are many violence against women. Violence against women is a grave violation of human rights. The Government of India has provided to eliminating violence against women and girls through various policies, laws and programs.
4. This study shows that there are several legislatures and laws made by the Government both in central and state level for women empowerment in our country. The constitution of India conveys a powerful mandate for equality and rights of women in its preamble, fundamental rights and duties and also provides for specific provisions for affirmative action.
5. The present study shows that various NGOs and Government organizations have given opportunities through many policies, plans and strategies for women empowerment.
6. This study also shows that the Government has launched various scheme which aims at making girls independent both socially and economically. Recently the Government has launched Beti Bachao, Beti padhao scheme which aims at making girls independent both socially and economically.
7. This study reveals that education is one of the most important means of empowering women with knowledge, skills and self confidence necessary to participate fully in the development process. This study shows that educated women have greater chance to achieve high empowerment level.
8. This study shows that 21st century, the role of India women has been changing because of growing women empowerment. Women empowerment has the power to change many things in the society and country.

SUGGESTIONS

Some of the suggestions are mentioned below-

1. Government should give more emphasis on female education to increase empowerment level of women.
2. Government should be created more opportunity for women empowerment.
3. The Government should create awareness of women education and availability of support services among the women.
4. The Government and NGOs should arranged many awareness programme for women empowerment.
5. More schemes related to women entrepreneurship could be great help to empower and uplift the status of women in India.
6. It is also necessary for Governments to invest more money in making the environment favourable and sensitive for girls.

CONCLUSIONS

Therefore we see that in 21st century societies have being accepted women's empowerment for development of the world, women as an active agent for development, participation in and guiding their own development. Women education is essential in the 21st century for women empowerment. Education is an important tool that enables women and girls to participate in decisions that



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affect their lives and in improving their social status. Women empowerment makes them independent decision makers. By the women empowerment social, political and economic development of a country is possible. So, to develop a country woman should be empowered from all directions. For this the women should be provided more scopes and advantages.

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