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ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN IN INDIA

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Abstract

“There is no force equal to a woman determined to rise.”
W.E.B.Dubois

Education is considered 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. Empowerment as a concept was introduced at the International Women's conference in 1985 at NAIROBI. Empowering women is also an indispensable tool for advancing development and reducing poverty. Empowered women contribute to the health and Productivity of whole families and communities and improved the prospects for the next generation.

Keywords: Economic, Empowerment, Women, India

Introduction:

Since the beginning of civilization, there has been back evidence of women Being considered Inferior to men. This has eventually nudged Women to retrospect their status in society and has even led women from all over the world to be rebellious to reach the status they have today. Since then, women have been vocal about gender equality and have continuously made efforts to empower themselves to achieve that equality. The empowerment and autonomy of women and improvement of their political social, economic kind health status is a highly important end in itself.

Education is one of the most important means of empowering women with the knowledge, skills and self-confidence necessary to participate fully in the development process, more than 40 years ago The Universal Declaration of human rights asserted that “everyone has the right to education”. On this base, all governments of various nations are tirelessly trying to promote education for women folk. There are clear indications that all the forces that to a society have been collectively supporting empowering women. However, many adversities are blocking the ways to attain a complete gender and biased society.

Women empowerment: Woman empowerment is a pivotal part of any society, state or country. It is a woman who plays a dominant role in the basic life of a child. Women are an important section of our society, education as a means of empowerment of women can bring about a positive attitudinal change. It is, therefore crucial for the socio economic and political progress of India the contribution of India empowers the state to adopt affirmative measures for promoting ways and means to empower women. Education significantly makes difference in the lives of women. Women empowerment is a global issue and discussion and women political right or at the forefront of many formal and informal campaign worldwide. The concept of women empowerment was introduced at the International Women Conference at Nairobi in 1985. Education is the milestone of women empowerment because it enables them to respond to the challenges to confront their traditional role and change their life Hence, we cannot neglect the importance of women in Two women empowerment. Following factors can promote women empowerment.



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- Establish high level corporate leadership for gender equality.
- Treat all women and men fairly at work respect and support human rights and non-discrimination.
- Ensure the health, safety and wellbeing of all women workers.
- Promote education, training and professional development for women.
- Implement enterprise development, Supply chain and marketing practises that empower women.
- Promote equality through community initiatives and advocacy.
- Measure and publicly Report on progress to achieve gender equality.

Economic empowerment of women: Education plays a critical role in women’s economic empowerment. It takes the centre stage but for a long, most women specially in the rural areas have been denied this right and have been subjected to very degrading practises and responsibilities. Education employs girls to achieve more in their social career, economic and family lives. Women education can mean going to class are being trained on capacity building and skills development are better at being mentored on every essential aspect of life.

Economic empowerment is the capacity of women and men to participate in contribute to and benefit from growth process in their contributions, respect their dignity and make it possible to negotiate a fairer distribution of the benefits of growth Economic empowerment is the ability to make and act on decisions that involve the control over and allocation of financial resources.

Economic empowerment efforts to the process of enabling individuals particularly those who are, Marginalised or disadvantaged, to have greater control over their economic resources, Opportunities and decision making. It involves providing Individuals, which the tools, Knowledge and resources they need to participate fully in economic activities, improve their livelihoods and achieve financial independence.

Economic empowerment initiatives often focus on increasing access to education, skills, training, financial services, Employment opportunities and entrepreneurship support, particularly for women youth and other marginalised groups. By empowering individuals economically, societies can promote poverty reduction, social inclusion, gender equality and sustainable economic development.

Economic empowerment of women in bridging gender gap

The economic empowerment of women refers to initiatives and strategies aimed at improving women’s success too and control over economic resources, opportunities and decision making. Economic empowerment of women is a powerful strategy for bridging the gender gap and promoting gender equality. Overall economic empowerment of women is a multi-faceted Approach not only benefits individual women but also contributes to broader societal development Poverty alleviation and sustainable economic growth. By investing in women’s economic empowerment, Societies can achieve greater gender equality social justice and inclusive prosperity. Here are some key aspects of economic empowerment of women to bridge gender gap:

1. Increased access to resource: Increase access to resources for women’s economic empowerment is essential for achieving gender equality and fostering sustainable development. With the help of following resources that can empower Women economically:
 - **Financial resources:** Financial resources is providing women with access to financial services such as saving accounts, credit loans and insurance can help them invest in income generating activities Start or expand business and build assets.
 - **Education and skill training:** Investing in education and skill training programmes for women equips them with the knowledge and skills needed to participate effectively in the workforce and entrepreneurial activities, access to quality education, occasional training and lifelong learning opportunities enhances women’s employability, income earning potential and economic independence.



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- **Excess to land and property rights:** Ensuring women’s access to and Control over land and property rights Is critical for their economic empowerment. Secure land tenure allows Women to invest in agriculture, access credit, participate in land-based business, contributing to food Security and rural development.
- **Technology and Information Access:** Providing women with access to technology, information and digital literacy skills can enhance their productivity, market access and business opportunities, mobile phones Internet connectivity, ecommerce platforms and digital financial services enable women to overcome geographic barrier science, connect with broader markets.
- **Legal and policy support:** Implementing laws and policies that promote gender equality protect women rights and address discriminatory practise in the workplace and society at large, Create an enabling environment for women’s economic empowerment, legal forms related to property rights, inheritance Laws, labour rights and access to justice can help address systematic barriers to women’s economic participation.
- **Social network and support system:** Building supportive networks, mentorship programmes and platforms for knowledge sharing and collaboration can empower women economically by providing them with access to resources, Information and opportunities for networking and advocacy.

1. **Access to financial services:** Access to financial services place a crucial tool in the economic empowerment of women by providing them with tools to manage their finances, invest in businesses, and save for the future. This axis allows women to participate more fully in the economy, Increase their incomes, end game independence. Financial services, such as savings accounts, credit facilities, Insurance and investment opportunities can help women start and grow businesses, purchase assets, and build wealth. Moreover, access to financial education resources tailored to women’s needs can further enhance their financial literacy and decision-making skills. Ultimately, contributing to their economic empowerment and socio-economic development.

2. **Improved education and health outcomes:** Improved education and health outcomes are essential components of women’s economic empowerment. When women have access to quality education, they are better equipped to pursue higher paying jobs, start their own businesses, and make informed financial decisions. Additionally, education empowers women to challenge traditional gender roles and advocate for their rights in society. Similarly, access to healthcare services, including productive health services, reduces the burden of illness and improves overall well-being, enabling women to participate more fully in economic activities. When women are healthy, they can work more productively, invest in their family’s well-being, and contribute to economic growth. Investment in education and healthcare for women not only benefit individuals, but also have broader societal impacts, including poverty reduction, improved child health and education outcomes, find increased economic productivity. Therefore, promoting women’s education and health is crucial for achieving sustainable development and fostering inclusive economic growth.

3. **Entrepreneurship and innovation:** Entrepreneurship and innovation play vital roles in the economic empowerment of women by providing opportunities for financial independence, Leadership, And socioeconomic advancement by
- Income generation
 - Leadership opportunities
 - Access resources
 - Innovation and creativity
 - Community development

Overall, Entrepreneurship and innovation offer women opportunities to achieve economic empowerment, challenge gender inequalities, and contribute to inclusive and sustainable economic growth. By promoting and enabling environment for women’s entrepreneurship and fostering a culture of innovation, Societies can harness the full potential of women as drivers of socioeconomic progress.

4. **Political participation and decision making:** Political participation and decision making are crucial for the economic empowerment of women as they directly influence policies, laws, and programmes That impact Women’s access to resources, opportunities, Find rights. With by following women can participate contributes to economic Empowerment.



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- Policy advocacy
- Legislative reforms
- Budget allocation
- Policy implementation
- Rule modelling and inspiration

Overall, Political participation and decision making are essential mechanism for advancing gender equality and women’s economic empowerment. By increasing women’s representation in political institutions and ensuring their meaningful participation in decision making processes, societies can create more inclusive and Equitable systems that benefit anyone

5. **Social empowerment and gender equality:** Social employment and gender equality are fundamental aspects of women’s economic empowerment, as they create an enabling environment where women can fully participate in economic activities and benefit from opportunities for growth and advancement. Social empowerment and gender equality contribute to women’s economic empowerment by
 - Access to education
 - Elimination of discrimination
 - Financial inclusion
 - Health and well being
 - Legal rights and protection

By promoting social empowerment and gender equality, Societies can create environments where women have equal opportunities, rights and resources to achieve economic empowerment Contribute to sustainable development, and realise their full potential.

Conclusion:

Economic empowerment of women serves as a pivotal bridge in narrowing the gender gap. By providing women with equal access to resources, opportunities, and financial independence, societies can foster inclusive growth and development. Empowering woman economically not only benefits individuals and families, but also contributes to broader economic prosperity and social equity. As we strive towards a more equitable future, prioritising policies and initiatives that support women’s economic empowerment is not just a matter of fairness, better strategic imperative for sustainable progress.

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