

POSITION OF WOMEN IN INDIA

***HARISH KUMAR YADAV**

**Research Scholar, Dept. of Political Science, University Of Allahabad, Allahabad*

ABSTRACT

Scholars believe that in ancient India, the women enjoy equal status with men in all fields of life. Works by ancient Indian grammarians such as Patanjali and Katyayana suggest that women were educated in the early Vedic period. The medieval period saw further deterioration in women's positions in society and their subjugation in the religious and legal spheres due to foreign invasion.

Keywords: Ancient, Position, Women, Vedic period, India.

INTRODUCTION

During the pre-independence period, the British rule in the 18th century brought in some degree of political orderliness but the social structure and the customs and practices remain unchanged. In early twenty century, it was rise of the National Movement under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi who was in favour of removing all the disabilities for women. At the same time, Raja Ram Mohan Rai, Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar and various other social reformers laid stress on women's education, prevention of child marriage, withdrawals of evil practice of sati removal of polygamy etc. The national Movement and various reform movements paved the way for their liberations from the social evils and religious taboos. In this context, we may write about the Act of Sati (abolish) 1829, Hindu Widow Remarriage Act '1856, the Child Restriction Act, 1929 Women Property Right Act, 1937 etc.

After independence of India, the constitution makers and the national leaders recognized the equal social position of women with men. It is definitely after Independence that the Indian women gained considerable importance within their country in social and political spheres. At Independence the majority of women still remained ignorant but they did not allow the fire that burnt in their hearts to die. They took many progressive decisions such as organizing themselves to fight for a new set of goals were getting equality based on gender, job

opportunities, reforming the existing laws which gave women only partial justice, and creating a society which did not oppress women intellectually, physically and emotionally.

Many institutional initiative also took by the Government. The Government of India declared 2001 as the Year of Women's Empowerment (Swashakti). The National Policy For the Empowerment of Women came was passed in 2001.

NATIONAL POLICY FOR WOMEN

The Union Cabinet Minister for Women & Child Development Maneka Gandhi has unveiled a draft of National Policy for Women, 2016, which will replace the National policy for the Empowerment of Women, 2001 Salient features are equal partnership, equal opportunity and rights for women, safe cyber space review a criminalization, priorities health and education, increase women, safe cyber space, review a criminalization, priorities health and education, increase women's participation in every arena, address all forms of violence, improve CSR, To enable safety and security of women, To create eco-systems to encourage entrepreneurship amongst women Aiding women in workplace etc.

The National Mission for Empowerment of Women (NMEW) was launched by the Government of India (GOI) on International Women's Day in 2010 with a view to empower women socially, economically and educationally.

UPLIFTMENT OF WOMEN UNDER VARIOUS GOVERNMENTS

In the 21st century, two different parties came into power. One is Congress, second one is BJP. The congress is a secular party whose social liberal platform is generally considered on the centre-left of Indian politics, whereas BJP I clearly right wing (conservative). There for it can be said that their way of empowering women would be entirely different from each other.

During the period of Dr. Manmohan Singh and Smt. Sonia Gandhi (2004 to present day), the Congress government implement the act known as NREGA (Now MNREGA). this Act Provides rural employment guarantee more them nine crore people have been provided job of which women formed 148.77%.

Prime Minister Modi has come up with his vision of a 'New India' which broadly focus on women empowerment. He said "Women empowerment is crucial to India's growth. Days of seeing women as 'home makers' have gone, we have to see women as nation builders.

CONCLUSION

Today we have noticed different Acts and Schemes of the central government as well as state governments to empower the women of India. But in India women are discriminated and marginalized at every level of the society whether it is social participation, political participation, economic participation, access to education, and also reproductive healthcare. Women are found to be economically very poor all over the India. A few women are engaged in services and other activities. So, they need economic power to stand on their own legs on par with men. Other hand, it has been observe that women are found to be less literate than men. According to 2011 census, rate of literacy among men in India is found to be 76% whereas it is only 64% among women. Thus, increasing education among women is of very important in empowering them. It has also noticed that some of women are too weak to work they consume less food but work more. Therefore from the health point of view, women folk who are to be weaker are to be made stronger. Another problem is that workplace harassment of women. There are so many cases of rape, kidnapping of girl, dowry harassment, and so on. For these reasons, they require empowerment of all kinds in order to protect themselves and to secure their respect and dignity.

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