

# The Role of Women Education in India: A Review

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**Abstract:** *Women education is necessary for the development of any country. Patriarchy is the root cause, many did not believe in educating women., preferably a female Child was seen a burden and getting her married was the only way. SavetryRao Phule was the first Women Teacher and her husband was an advocate of women education and set up educational Institutions for Girls in 1848. The education will help to remove the social stigma that surround it. It is the to eliminate the social evils such as female infanticides, dowry, child marriage, harassment etc. This will not just help the women of today but of the future generation.*

**Keywords:** J. J. Rousseau, Sati System, Constitutional Amendments, Stereotype, Patriarchy.

“Man was born free yet he is everywhere in chain” J. J. Rousseau said. This is clearly evident from the state of women who is chained in the name of morality, religion, honour and dignity. Women community through equal to men in population, it is subject of concern to not that, in this modern sophisticated world also she is treated as the second rated citizen or subordinate to men in all major fields of life. Through various efforts are being made to improve the status of women. Women folk could not take their maximum use and remained still backward. In almost all countries, the government providing special provisions for women’s developments and efforts are being made to utilize women talent to maximum extent. It is well known fact, that in many parts of the world women have started making key contribution in areas of development such as, education, health, agriculture/ enterprises. etc. And by now it made clear, that without the active involvement of women sustainable development in not possible. Good education is a key to social development, Research carried out by the world Bank and may others have proved that more equitable access to education by women and girls can give very positive returns in improving family health, greater productivity and reduced family size Studies in many developing counties showed that a one percent rise in women literary had resulted in one percent rise in the number of doctors available.

## Right to Education under Western rule

The right for education for women saw the emergence of the first university for women in the USA in 1821. In 1841 Women were formally allowed to teach in Universities.

## Right to Education under Islamic rule

It was Fatima of Fihriyya under the Khalifah that built the first university during 841 CE in Morocco, Science along with other various subjects were taught in the universities. Historical review of women education in India and other nations.

In ancient India women enjoyed a high status in the society. They were provided educational opportunities comparable to men, but the social evils in the 18<sup>th</sup> century hovering in the sky specially in west Bengal and the state gave a tremendous impetus to women in education and also gave born eminent writers for improving the poor condition of women to bring the upliftment and educational status among the women’s. The social evils like purdah, state system, child marriage,

widowhood crept into the society much later and resulted in the degradation of their status.

They were no institutions for educations of girls during muslim period, but girls did receive religious education in the recitation of the holy Quran in their homes Under the British rule, the East India Company was reluctant to take up the responsibility of girls education for a long time, due to the doctrine of religious neutrality, which was adopted by the government so as not to offend the native even on social customs that had nothing to do with religion. After independence the University Education Commission (1948 - 49) Set up by the government of India laid special emphasis on the education of women.

During the post - independence period the main strategy adopted to achieve equalization of educational opportunities has been to make school accessible to every child. It was through that expansion of educational facilities as a part of providing universal elementary education for all would make education available to the weaker sections of the society including women. The government of India had set up several committees to look in to this aspect. The committee on the status of women in India (CSWI) was constituted by a resolution of the ministry of education and social welfare, government of India on 22 Sep, 1971 With Dr. Phulrenu Guha, then Union Minister of Social Welfare as Chairperson was the most notable one that deserves special mention. As per the National Policy on Education (NPE) 1986, the government of India launched several programmes. One such programme was the Mahila Samerkhya. Its main emphasis was on the empowerment of women. The programme endeavors to create a learning environment where women can collectively affirm their potential, gain the strength to demand information and knowledge and more forward to change and take charge of their lives.

## Schemes and programme for promoting women education in India

Several strategies were adopted to promote education of girls in independent India. Theoretically all formal and no - formal education and training programmes are also open to women along with their male counterparts. In the first five years plans, girls education was covered under special component plan with additional allocations. In the Eight five years plan, a central scheme was introduced to provide funds

to the state government to hire a women teacher to all single teacher primary schools and also towards cash awards and prizes for villages, blocks and districts will good performance in Women education literacy.

#### State - wise Literacy rates by sex

Now, it is an attempt to make clear that for analyzing the interstate disparities in the literacy rates for females, males and total persons at census of India 1991 and 2001. Kerala retained its position by being on top with a 90.9 percent literacy rate in the country. The rate among males was 94.2 percent and among women it was 87.9 percent. Bihar stood at the bottom with a literacy rate of 47.5 percent (60.3 percent for male and 33.6 percent for females). Among the three new states Uttaranchal has been the highest literacy rate of 72 percent for the total population, male literacy rate of 84 percent and female literacy rate of 60 percent Chhattisgarh has an overall literacy rate of 65 percent (male 78 percent and female 52 percent), Jharkhand has an overall literacy rate of 54 percent (68 percent males and 39 percent females). Six out of the 29 states in India have a female literacy rate of less than 50 percent. These stats are Rajasthan (44 percent), Jammu & Kashmir (42 percent), Jharkhand (39 percent), Bihar (34 percent), Madhya Pradesh (50 percent).

#### Female Enrollment at various levels of education

As a result, the female literacy rate has gone up from 7.93 percent in 1951 to 54.61 percent by 2020. In the field of higher education also the share of females enrolment into various faculties has increased very substantially. The increase in women enrolment in the educational institution has its impact on the women employment in educational institutions.

#### Women progress in higher professional and technical education

By reducing the gap between male and female the education gave impetus to female upliftment at various positions. As reported in 2005, India has 760 universities and 38, 498 colleges. In 2021, India has 3500 engineering colleges, 3400 polytechnics, 542 medical colleges, 818 colleges teacher's training and including institutions of national importance and research institution. Serving more than 6 million students, and scholar in India. There are 2128 polytechnics 8439 T. T. S and 8, 000 to 13, 500 teachers training schools in 2001 - 2021.

#### Conclusion and Suggestions

The situation started changing with achieving political freedom and democracy for the country, the female literacy received a boost particularly from 1961 onwards and along with it, the lady teacher's employment had also received a boost. Laxmi Lakra was born and brought in a poor tribal community in Jharkhand has gone a long way and became the first women engine driver for Northern Railways and broke the illogical stereotype of engine drivers. She was educated in a government school, in her village and did a lot of hard work and got her diploma in electronics. She undertook the railway board exams and passed it on her first try. She defeated the stereotype that only men could be engine drivers without political freedom and economic

freedom women's condition and status could not be improved, it made it clear that the involvement of women in government function during people participation has to be maximized for raising their status and upliftment. "If a men gets educated his family gets educated when a women gets educated a generation gets educated" Hazrat Ali said, Islam has raised the status of women from below the earth to so high that paradise lies at her feet.

The status of women has raised by several time by government it is described in the constitutional Amenetment Act (Hindu Succession Amendment Act 2005) that women (daughter) will get equal right from the father property. Quran had already described 1400 year ago in sure Nisa chapter 4: 12. Islam religion gave equal rights to women and has raised the status of women. All the social reformers exposed the attributes were prevailing and infused in the women, the idea of political, social and economic freedom.

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