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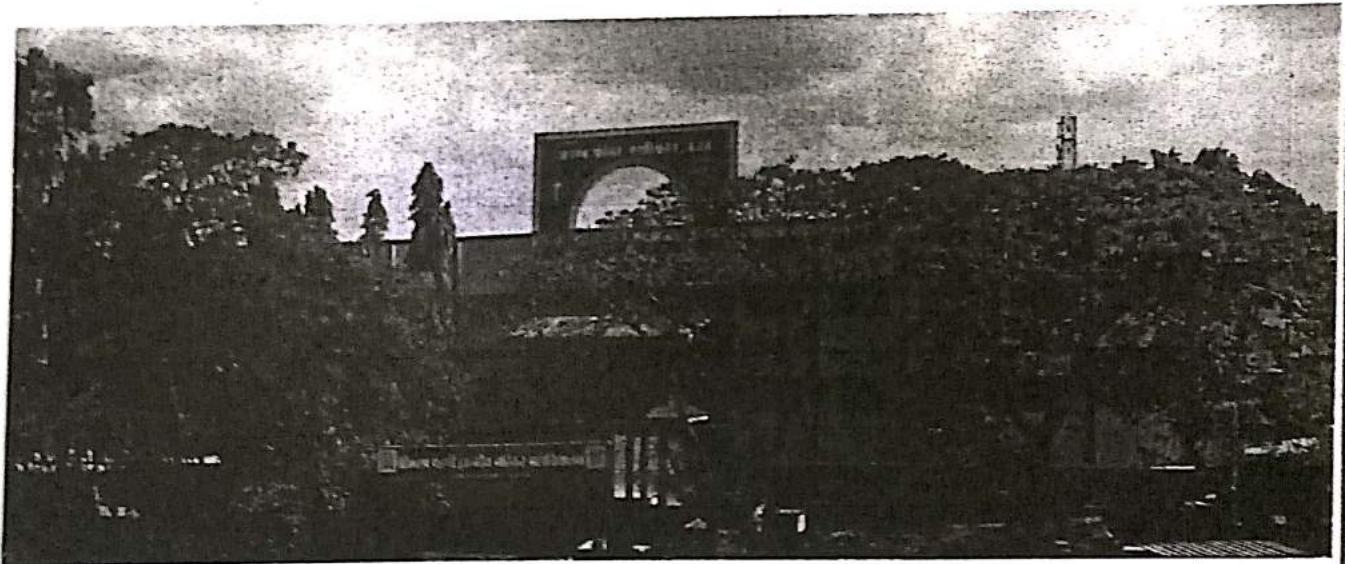
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## ROLE OF WOMEN IN INDIAN ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

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## WOMEN EMPOWERMENT AND INDIAN ECONOMY

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### • Introduction :-

Women's empowerment in India is heavily dependent on many different variables that include geographical location, educational status, social status (cast and class) and age. The various policies on women's empowerment exist at the national state and panchayat levels in many sectors including health, education economic opportunities, gender based violence, and political participation, Swami Vivekananda said "There is no chance for the welfare of the world unless the condition of the women is improved. It is not possible for a bird to fly on only one wing".

Women's empowerment is very essential for the development of society. Empowerment means individuals acquiring the power to think and act freely, exercises choice and fulfill their potential as full and equal members of society. As per the United National Development Fund for women, the term women's empowerment means:

- Acquiring knowledge and understanding of gender relation and the ways in which these relations may be changed.
- Developing a sense of self-worth. A belief in one's ability to secure desired changes and the right to control one's life

Empowerment means a psychological sense of personal control or influence and a concern with actual social influence, political power and legal rights. It is a multi level construct referring to individuals, organizations and community. The Govt. of India in running various welfare schemes both at the state and central level for the empowerment of the women. All Govt. policies and programs focus on social, Economic and educational empowerment of women across various age groups.

### Characteristics of empowerment women's:

- Empowered women define their attitude values and behaviors in relation to their own real interest.
- Empowered women maintain equal mindedness.
- Empowered women use their talent to live fulfilling lives.
- Empowered women maintain their strength on the face of pressures from the religion and work.

### Objectives of the study:

1. To know the need of women empowerment.
2. To assess the awareness of women empowerment in India.
3. To study the Government schemes for women empowerment.
4. To examine the effects of women empowerment on the economic development.

### The major types of empowerment:

1. Educational empowerment: Education is an important to progress in life. It means empowering women with the knowledge, skill, and self confidence necessary to participate fully in the development process.
2. Social women empowerment: A Critical aspect of social empowerment of women is promotion of gender equality.
3. Political empowerment: The existence of political system is favoring the participation by women in the political decision making process and governance.
4. Economic empowerment: Economic development and women empowering defined as improving the ability of women to access the constituent of development economic development can also lead to the empowerment of women by freeing their time, The world that is interested in women's right favors for economic development women contribute to the Indian economy in many ways apart from her importance in the many ways a part from her importance in the social framework, a women's vital role in village centric community, activities, protecting our culture and in determining the consumption attitude makes her special for economy.

### Government schemes for women empowerment:

Some of the special schemes for women implemented by the government bodies and allied institutions are provided below

- Rastriya mahaila kosh 1992-93.
- Mahila samridhi yojana Oct.1993.
- Indira mahila yojana 1995.
- Swa shakti gaurp .
- Swalamban .

- Support to training and employment program for women.
- National mission for empowerment of women.
- Rajiv Gandhi scheme for empowerment of a dolescence Girls .
- Dhanalakahmi.
- Ujjawala.
- Integrated Rural development program.
- Women's development corporation scheme.
- Mahila samiti yojana.

The efforts of government and its different agencies are ably supplemented by non-governmental organizations that are playing an equally important role in facilitating women empowerment.

**Findings of the study:**

- Change in the mind set of the people in the country. Not; just the women themselves, but the men have to wake up to wake up to a world that is moving to words equality and equity
- There are several Government programs and NGO s in the country, there is still a wide gap that exists between these under protection and those hot.
- Poverty and illiteracy add to those complications', the empowerment of women begins with a guarantee of their health and safety.
- Empowerment of women could only be achieved if their economic and social status is improved. This could be possible only by adopting definite social and economic policies with a view of total development of women.

**Suggestion:**

- The first and foremost priority should be given to the education of women, which is the grassroots problem, hence, education for women has to be paid special attention.
- Awareness programs need to be organized for creating among women especially belonging to weaker sections about their right.
- Women should be allowed to work and should be provided enough safety and support to work. They should be provided with proper wages and work at par with men so that their status can be elevated in the society.

**Conclusion:**

Empowerment of women socially, economically, educationally politically and legally is going to be herculean task It is not going to be easy to change the culture for disrespect for women. Only revolution can bring changes in a day, but reforms take their time. Women have unique position in the economy. If women gain economic strength they gain visibility and voice women's direct participation in decision making capacity and income generation activities can make significant contribution towards women empowerment. Entrepreneurship can help women to gain economically strong which may help them in improvement of their social status.

The empowerment of women has become of the most importance concerns of 21<sup>st</sup> century not only at national level but also at the international level. Government initiatives alone would not be sufficient to achieve this goal society must take initiative to create a climate in which there is no gender discrimination and women have full opportunities of self decision making and participating in social political and economic life of the country with a sense of equality.

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