
CONCEPTUAL AND HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE OF WOMEN EMPOWERMENT IN INDIA

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ABSTRACT

India has been known since ancient times as a very famous country in terms of culture, tradition, civilization, religion and geography. Men and women had equal status in Indian history during the Vedic Period. Women were not only given equal status, but were described with better honour in the scriptures, which was lost over time. In the early Vedic Period women were sufficiently educated and were free to choose their husbands. In the later Vedic Period the position of women gradually declined. They were forced into early marriage, unquestioning devotion to their husbands and discrimination against women in India continued over time. The issue of stratification between men and women in the Indian social system has been going on for a long time. Generally, Indian society is male dominated and patriarchal. The issue of women's empowerment and self-reliance has become significant due to gender inequality and continued deprivation of men and women in male-dominated societies. Without appropriate facilities for women, education and other system changes, the overall development of the entire society and human civilization is never possible. The place of women in our patriarchal society is very low. As this system has continued for ages, the women's society also accepts it arbitrarily. Until now, women considered them weak and assumed it was normal to be under men. They have weakened themselves by handing over all their privileges to men. But barring these exceptions, it is common for men in patriarchal societies to be relatively passive but not deprived or neglected of women's services. Although empowerment has been achieved in some areas, the real empowerment of women in the society is still lagging behind.

Keywords: Gender Equality, Empowerment, Discrimination, Exploitation, Education.

INTRODUCTION:

For India, to be a democratic country, all citizens should have an equal power and opportunities, but in reality women are far behind in this power. Even if women want to, they cannot exercise their power in many cases; men stand in front of them. Since this system has been going on for ages, the society has accepted it arbitrary approach. The women have weakened to some extent by willingly handing over all privileges to men. Women have to follow many rules and regulations in all places, may it be- home or outside. Initially women's thoughts were not given much importance in the socio- economic and political field. While drawing any comparison in the primitive society women use to have lesser right than men in the house hold decision, where comparatively women had much more responsibilities than men. It is a shame standing in the 21st century; still girls are not properly prioritized in the society. As soon as a child is born in the world, the society judges a child on discrimination of gender. In most of the cases a society hesitates to accept a daughter in the same way it accepts a son. In the society, where we live in, many families are still worried about having a girl child, is too expensive.¹ In many families it is seen that the mother who gives birth to a daughter has to bear a lot of torture, the people of that family give more priority to sons and they think that a son is the lamp of the family. But a daughter is provided with all kinds of educational facilities she can reach the higher place in the society. Now a day the society is much more ahead than before. Girls as well as boys are now participating in every spheres- sport, studies and other activities. Jobs that were previously dreams for girls have now become a reality to be achieved by them. In terms of education, sports, carriers, etc girls are now much more ahead. While girls can easily become attached to family ties, men are generally not. Both men and women have priority in forming a family. Women's empowerment has gained considerable importance in most parts of the world, with governments recognizing the importance that can be achieved participation.²

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM:

Empowerment of women is necessary for the welfare and development of the country. Almost half of the world's population is women and girls. A country cannot progress if women do not get proper rights in society. In India women are very much oppressed.

¹ Purnima Ojha, "Women Issues in India: Role And Importance of Media", *The Indian Journal of Political Science*, Jan-March, 2011, Vol, 72, No.1 (Jan-March, 2011), pp. 87-102

² Rakhshanda Mubeen, *Women Empowerment Through Legislations In The Area Of Personal Laws: A Socio-Legal Study Of Selected Legislations In Post Independent India* (2012), Aligarh Muslim University (India) <http://hdl.handle.net/10603/161710> (Visited on April 11, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.).

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY:

The general objective of the survey was to analyze the role of women empowerment in the society. To analyze this central argument, the researcher developed some specific objectives as mentioned below:

- Legal measures should be strengthened to eliminate all forms of social discrimination against women.
- Arrangements should be made so that women can enjoy equal rights and basic freedoms with men in political, economic, social, and cultural aspects.
- Arrangements should be made so that women get equal opportunities in decision-making and participation in the social, political, economic life of the country.
- Liaising with and strengthening civil society, especially women's organizations.
- Prioritizing gender awareness in the development process.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

The research methodology of this study is purely doctrinal. The present study is an attempt to explore the various problems of women in India. This study is based on Secondary data only. The findings of the chapter on women's rights and crimes against them in India have been examined.

The researcher reviewed various study related literature such as documents, research reports, information, lectures, books, articles, research papers, research journals, magazines for proposed analysis problems and solutions.

CONCEPT OF EMPOWERMENT:

Empowerment is the process of increasing the authority and responsibility of individuals or groups. This is not a technical goal. It requires a completely new way of thinking of culture, social, political, economic, norms so that women and men give a new shape without restricting their choices. The status of women has become a controversial issue in our country. The current status of rural women is not very good; they are ignored even though they are considered as important and equal partners in the development process. Various forms of discrimination against women persist. The status and issue of women as a group is under debate. Women empowerment has been a buzz word for a long time. Generally, this term refers to the ability to gain, develop, possess, or benefit from power. Power is a root word of the word

‘empowerment’. The word power does not come from physical ability it comes from a desire. It is a driving force that makes the individual desire to plan his life. Now the main issue of women’s movement is women’s empowerment. This definition makes it clear that women are relatively powerless because they have less decision-making power, no control over resources, yet the decisions they make affect their lives every day.³

According to the United Nations Development Fund For Women, the term women’s empowerment means gaining knowledge about gender relations and how these relations can be changed; developing self-esteem, believing in the right to control one’s life, expressing one’s own opinions, organizing the direction of social change, creating a more equitable social and economic crisis nationally and internationally.⁴

ECONOMIC GROWTH, POVERTY, AND GENDER INEQUALITY: Efforts are being complemented by increase budgetary outlays for the social sector, along with initiatives dedicated to poverty alleviation and employment growth. Differences between girls and boys were observed in education and health. At other level poverty is reduced in fundamental ways. While basic rights include access to school, the ability to participate in employment affects women and girls. Amartya Sen makes a compelling case that society needs to see women less as passive recipients of aid and more as dynamic agents of social transformation. In part, the country is convinced that education and employment have a strong impact on women’s ability to control the environment and contribute to economic development.⁵

SOCIO ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL INTERVENTIONS FOR VULNERABLE GROUPS:

The first two categories, consisting of children and young girls, represent almost half of the country’s female population. Younger girl children are sometimes discriminated against in matters such as food intake. Medical systems and education are rooted in family and community as well as larger social structures. Another group consists of girls from childhood to adulthood, acting as new adults, with little preparation, how to adjust to their emerging sexuality in a patriarchal society. Categorization of women is based on some socio-economic

³ Asha Bhandari, Rekha Mehta, *Women , Justice and The Rule Of Law*, p.1-2 (Serials Publications, New Delhi, India, First publication-2009).

⁴ Afsana A. Sama, “Women Empowerment: Issues and Challenges”, *IV The International Journal of Indian Psychology*, 103 (2017).

⁵ . Report working group empowerment of women, available at: https://www.aicte-india.org/downloads/woman_empowerment.pdf (Visited on April 11, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.).

differences and needs to look at other characteristics. The most deprived groups in poverty are rural women urban slum women tribal women backward classes etc. Women are seen as a distinctly separate group in society. Other variables of social and economic status show double and triple discrimination of women in groups.⁶

“While gender is undoubtedly an independent source of vulnerability, what is particularly conceptual is the way in which class, social and gender relations reinforce each other to increase the insecurity and vulnerability of poor, low-caste women”. The proposition is that there is a certain predisposition to be deprived of the opportunities for human development, this opportunity provided by the state that exists for the men and women of this community. All these disadvantages groups of women have to systematically respond to the differences using the provisions of Article 15(3).⁷

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT:

Women empowerment refers to increasing social, legal, political and legal power of women. Women need to have equal rights for social, religious and justice, solution of economic benefits, equal access to education and equal service without any gender bias. A much talked about issue in today’s society is women’s empowerment.⁸ Women’s empowerment should not only mean financial self-reliance but also the establishment of women’s authority in their family, social, political, or other spheres. A man needs to increase his self-confidence and consciousness to overcome his external activities.

According to Pillai (1995) “Empowerment is an active multi dimensional process which enables women to realize their full identify and powers in all spheres of life”.⁹

According to Kate Cronin, “Empowerment should mean that women gain the ability to challenge and combat their oppression. In practice, it has come to mean marginally improving their material circumstances”.¹⁰

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Women Empowerment, available at: <https://www.unfpa.org/resources/issue-7-women-empowerment> (visited on April 12, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.).

⁹ Supra Note 3 at 4

¹⁰ Definition of women empowerment in India, available at: <https://serudsindia.org/women-empowerment-meaning-defination/> (visited on April 12, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.).

ELEMENTS OF WOMEN EMPOWERMENT:

Women should have equal opportunity to participate in decision making in any field of society as men make them. Any kind of discrimination needs to be removed to get equal status in family and society. A women's position in society should not be determined by her parents, husband, and children. Women need to be given opportunities to live their lives. In addition to raising awareness about women's rights and duties, socio-economic empowerment of women is a step towards greater security for them. Women's empowerment is a dynamic process; again it is a growth process involving intelligence and social emancipation of women.¹¹

SOCIAL EMPOWERMENT:

Neglecting the power of women has become an important issue in our society. The National movement led by Mahatma Gandhi was one of the first attempts to free Indian women from the constraints of domestic life and bring them into a role equal to men. Empowerment of women means equal status of that woman. Empowerment includes education, health and equal ownership of productive assets for children and women. Apart from this, they should be aware of their rights and duties. This process is the power to control wealth and ideas, where women's social, political, economic and religious rights are equal to those of men. A number of effective methods have been presented for women's social empowerment-

- Efforts to organize women individually and fight against their various problems.
- A good environment needs to be created for the proper and mental development of women.
- Provision should be made so that women can progress in life.¹²

POLITICAL EMPOWERMENT:

Most of the country's governance is in the hands of elected representatives and government bureaucrats. Inclusion of marginal sectors in the governance process has not produced good results. Continued administrative decentralization through the 73rd and 74th amendments and programs like the NRHM have demonstrated the government of India's commitment to increasing the political participation of marginalized groups, especially women in poverty.¹³ Firstly, the central issues of development, including health-nutrition, family income and

¹¹ Supra Note 2 at 32-33

¹² Id at 40-41

¹³ Supra Note 5 at 113-114.

education, are taken a step further by women's participation in village development boards and other governance structures. Second, women have shown that they are adept at various community developments. Despite the positive results, women remain largely excluded from PRIs and other local governance structures. Proxy politics power brokering and gender inequality and challenging existing social power centres, expose many women to extreme violence. Still in many cases women are only nominally part of the father's i.e. but in reality the men of the family are in power. The Central and State Governments should not delay further in completing devolution and decentralization from higher bodies to Panchayat Structures. In most states the three funds, functions and efficiency are still in the same position as before 1993. In the absence of basic requirements, the constitutional provisions are not only being violated but, it is clearly leading to dysfunctional situation.¹⁴

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT:

Macro-economic policies and poverty alleviation programs are particularly needed since women are at the bottom of the poverty line and often in situations of extreme poverty. Women's emancipation programs will be undertaken with special targets for women and various measures will be taken in economic and social options to empower them. To increase their access to credit, micro-credit, micro-finance institutions will be strengthened to increase credit outreach, so that all women living below the poverty line can access credit. Institutionalizing women's participation will include their perspectives in the formulation and implementation of economic and social policies. Appropriate policies relating to employment and its working conditions shall be formulated. Such measures may include, where necessary, the elaboration of conventional concepts of work, such as in census records and to reflect the contribution of women as workers.¹⁵

EDUCATIONAL EMPOWERMENT:

Although women constitute almost half of the world's population, they have to face many problems in this patriarchal society as they are denied equal opportunities in various fields. The rise of feminist ideas led to gradual improvements. Access to education for women was the movement's most pressing demand. Education is considered as a fundamental right for the citizens of the country. Education is a powerful tool because it can improve people a lot. The

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ Supra Note 4

concept of women's empowerment was introduced in 1985 at NAROIBI, the International Women's Conference.¹⁶

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES:

In ancient Indian society, women lived independently and had good status. Degradation of women can be observed in modern Indian society in terms of education, marriage and family life, caste and gender, religion and culture.

VEDIC PERIOD:

In the Vedic period women had a very respectable place and they enjoyed the social status of the society. Women of this era had complete freedom. The Vedic age can best be described as a time of feminine glory and masculine prudence, and liberalism.

Women could participate in all areas like men, such as they enjoyed equality in studying in the Gurukuls and learning the Vedas. Great women like Gargi, Atreyi, Ghosa, Apala, Lopamudra, Visvara, Indrani were skilled in art, music, dance and even war. The Vedic period was characterized by equal rights in choosing spouses in the absence of purdah system, polygamy was rare, it was mainly confined to the ruling class. Dowry was practiced only among the rich and royal families. Widowed women could remarry and in this age there was no difference between boys and girls.¹⁷

In the early Rigveda, women participated with men in all household work and social, economic spheres as well. In those days, the society thought everything was incomplete without women. Women had the right to read and recite. Maitrayee, Gargi and Leelavati were not only highly educated women who were equally proficient in higher subjects such as mathematics, astronomy and humanities; women were also praised in hymns. Women of this era were considered as the basis of all power.¹⁸

MEDIAEVAL PERIOD:

The position of women in ancient and medieval India was not very important because that

¹⁶ Khushboo Singh, "Importance of Education in Empowerment of Women in India" 1, *Motherhood International Journal of Multidisciplinary Research and Development*, pp-39-48 (2016)

¹⁷ Dr. Mamta Rao, *Law Relating to Women and Children*, ch-1, Eastern Book Company, Lucknow, 3rd edition, 2012, p-27.

¹⁸ . *Women Empowerment in India*, available at: <https://ijcrt.org/papers/IJCRT2111250.PDF> (Visited on April 12, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.).

society was patriarchal. The basic rules of women's conduct, as expressed in the Laws of Manu, are that a woman must worship her husband as a god and be dependent on him. They are deprived of religion, customs and other privileges.¹⁹

The invasion of India by Alexander and Huns further degraded the position of women. Their education and training stopped. As the invading forces roamed the countryside, women were kept behind veils for security reasons, thus many superstitions like sati- immolation, child marriage, female infanticide were seen in the society. As a result, women were subjected to extreme disabilities, which the feudal social system of the middle ages and women in patriarchal families continued to oppress.²⁰

BRITISH PERIOD:

During the British rule, the attitude of the Hindu Society and the way of life changed drastically. During this period there were two major movements that affected the position of women. These were the social reform movements of the 19th century and the nationalist movements of the 20th century. Both these movements raised the question of women's equal status. Issues that attracted the attention of nineteenth- century social activists were sati-immolation, the ban on widow marriage, child marriage, polygamy and women's education. Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar, M.G. Ranade, Lokhitwadi, Aurobindo and many others fought against this practice.²¹

INDEPENDENT INDIA:

The most important event after independence is the drafting of the constitution of this country. The framers of the constitution were aware of the Sociology of the problem of women's emancipation. Women's education was needed to eliminate discrimination in society and exercise human rights. Under the leadership of Jawaharlal Nehru, justice, equality, and plans to transform the state into a welfare state were taken up. The Indian Constitution guarantees justice, freedom of social, economic, and political thought and dignity of the individual, unity of the nation while protecting all in the preamble. Indian women are equal beneficiaries of certain basic constitutional rights such as freedom of expression, protection of life and personal

¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ Supra Note 17 at 28.

²¹ Id at 29-31.

liberty. According to article 14, 15, and 16 equal rights shall be guaranteed to all irrespective of caste, creed and religion.

1971 Committee on the status of women in India was formed. The terms of reference of this committee were-

- To examine the constitutional legal and administrative provisions, which affect the social status, education and employment of women.
- To assess the impact of these provisions on the status of women in the rural sector and to suggest effective measures.
- To remove all obstacles in the way of advancement of education among women.
- Addressing the problems of various working women.

A majority of women in India are still unsure about their opportunities and rights. Even after independence, the legal rights of the constitution remain unknown to a large population in this country. In 2001 India's unfinished Agenda status of Women Report Commission detailed recommendations that constitutional obligations require appropriate state action in the form of legislation. A special commission has been set up to look into the status of women and laws related to them.²²

ISSUES AND PROBLEMS FACE BY WOMEN IN INDIA:

➤ DOWRY DEATH

Dowry has become a part of social life and is now common in India, practically in all communities.²³ This practice is one of the hardest words in a woman's life. Through which not only a woman is deprived of her right to dignity, but also the whole has to be in danger.

This dowry is money paid by bride to the groom. Dowry in general sense is the wealth, ornaments, furniture, and entertainment items given by the bride to the bridegroom during, before and after the marriage.²⁴

²² Ibid.

²³ Bibhabasu Misra, *Women and Criminal law: A Feminist Discourse in India*(2017) (Published Ph.D. thesis, Deshbandhu Chittaranjan School Of Legal Studies Assam University, Silchar) <http://hdl.handle.net/10603/291867> (Visited on April 13, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.) .

²⁴ Dowry death in India, available at: <https://www.hazabarolo.com/dowry-system/#%E0%A6%AD%E0%A7%82%E0%A6%AE%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%BE> (visited on April 13, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.).

Dowry deaths, murders, suicides and bride burnings have become symptoms of strange social ills, an unfortunate development of our social system. Over the past few decades, the evils of dowry system in India have been witnessed in a more acute form in almost all parts of the country as it is practiced by every section of the society. It is almost a daily occurrence that not only married women are harassed, humiliated, beaten and forced to commit suicide but also thousands of parents are burnt to death for non-payment of dowry demands.²⁵

➤ SEXUAL HARRASMENT AT WORKPLACE

As women constitute half the population of the society it is believed that women are the best creation of the world. But women have been treated poorly in every society for ages and India is no exception. In India it is believed that in the Vedic Period women enjoyed equal status to men.²⁶

Women's participation in the workplace has increased significantly. Men and women are walking shoulder to shoulder. From government jobs to teachers or news workers, women are now everywhere. However, as the contribution of women is increasing everywhere, discrimination against women and various kinds of problems are appearing in the workplace. Notable among them is sexual harassment. The term sexual harassment means 'a form of employment discrimination that includes verbal or physical abuse of a sexual nature'. Sexual harassment at workplace is not new to women; they continue to be victimized in various ways at home and outside.²⁷

➤ DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

A central theme of women's movements around the world is violence against women. Patriarchal society is directly linked to their unequal status. A wide range of domestic violence has more brutal manifestations including wife beating, cruelty, torture, humiliation. Women's violence is thought of as a tool to assert one's will or feel a sense of power over others. The term "domestic violence" refers to the functioning of an idealized family unit protected from the public in a secure and secluded manner.²⁸

²⁵ K.D.Gaur, Indian Penal Code, Universal, Lexis Nexis, 7th Edition 2020, p-853.

²⁶ Supra Note 23.

²⁷ Sexual harassment at workplace, available at: <https://www.dainikamadershomoy.com/post/349623> (Visited on April 13 2024 at 4:00 p.m.).

²⁸ Supra Note 17 p-210

➤ RAPE

Rape is one of the most heinous crimes against women, which has become a commonplace in India.

In 2012, the Nirbhaya incident in Delhi had sparked uproar across India. Five people involved in this case were sentenced after 8 long years. But that did not reduce the incidence of rape. Many times it is seen that these crimes against women are not properly investigated. According to many, sexual violence against women is increasing due to the fact that our society is dominated by men. The biggest fear is that more and more children are being targeted with that crime. Between 2012 and 2016, child rape cases increased. Women's safety is not an electoral issue in India; it is the fact that the Indian judiciary is still subject to political pressure, resulting in many rapists being acquitted. There are many parts of India where there are thousands of incidents that go unnoticed by the government or administration. Many times the victims also do not file a complaint at the police station due to fear of public shame, family reasons.²⁹

JUDICIAL ACTIVISM AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT:

Gender equality is still a problem around the world. Whatever the reason, it is our human responsibility to protect the human rights of those who suffer from this problem. Still women are constantly mistreated in society and India is no exception. The Indian Judiciary affirms women's right to empowerment in law. The Constitution of India has enacted various laws to eliminate this discrimination against women. Our Constitution has clear provisions for affirmative action for women which prohibits all forms of discrimination against women and ensures equal opportunities for women in all spheres of life including political, economic, educational, employment and various participation in society.

SHAYARA BANO V. UNION OF INDIA,³⁰ Rizwan Ahmed was married to 15 year old Shayara Bano. But in 2016, Rizwan Ahmed divorced his wife without giving any reason. Shayara Bano in turn filed a writ petition in the Supreme Court challenging the practice of polygamy and Nikah Halala along with talaq-e-bidat as they violated articles 14, 15, 21 and 25 of the Indian Constitution. As a result she was supported by women's rights organizations such as the Bebaak collective and Bhartiya Muslim Mahila, Andalon. The All India Muslim Personal

²⁹ . Rape in India, available at:

<https://m.dailyinqilab.com/article/260756/%E0%A6%AA%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%A4%E0%>
(Visited on April 13, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.)

³⁰ AIR 2017 9 SCC 1 (SC).

Law argued that Muslim law is not statutory by article 25 of the Constitution of India as a religious principle protected as such.³¹

On March 30, 2017, the Supreme Court constituted a 5-judge constitutional bench. Shayara Bano's petition was accepted. Then on 22 August, 2017, by a 3:2 majority, a five-judge Constitution Bench held that the practice of instant triple talaq was unconstitutional.

MOHD.AHMED KHAN VS. SHAH BANO BEGUM AND Ors,³² Md Ahmed Khan married Shah Bano Begum in 1932 and had three sons and two daughters. In 1975, when Shah Bano was 62 years old, her husband rejected her and threw her out of her marital home along with her children. In 1978, Shah Bano filed an appeal before the Judicial Magistrate, Indore, because he was left out of his maintenance money, 200 per month, which was guaranteed to be paid by him.

On 6 November 1978, her husband gave her triple talaq, used it as a defense to avoid having to pay her maintenance. The magistrate in 1978 ordered her husband to pay maintenance of Rs 25 per month. Then in July 1978, Shah Bano approached the Madhya Pradesh High Court to change the amount of maintenance to Rs. The High Court increased it to Rs 179 per month. Mohammad Ahmed Khan, a lawyer by profession, appealed to the Supreme Court despite the stipend being paid to him.

PROSPECTS OF WOMEN EMPOWERMENT IN INDIA:

Women are now placed in a vulnerable position in our patriarchal society. Empowerment of women is very important in the way of moving the society forward. So all the people of the society should come forward for women empowerment and women should be aware of their rights.

- Legal measures should be strengthened to eliminate all forms of social discrimination against women.
- Arrangements should be made so that women can enjoy equal rights and basic freedoms with men in political, economic, social, and cultural aspects.
- Liaising with and strengthening civil society, especially women's organizations.
- Prioritizing gender awareness in the development process.

³¹ CASE COMMENT: SHAYARA BANO V. UNION OF INDIA, available at: <https://vidhiparivartan.co.in/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Paper-6.pdf> (Visited on April 13, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.)

³² AIR, 1985, SCR (3) 844.

- Changing social attitudes and group practices through equal participation of women and men.
- Ensuring that women have access to health, better education at all levels, guidance on future livelihood and vocational education, job opportunities, equal pay, social security, entry into government offices.
- Violence and discrimination against women must be eliminated.

SUGGESTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Gender equality and gender justice in women's empowerment requires a strong policy and legal framework.
- In order to achieve the goal of women empowerment, the role of women in decision-making at all levels of society must be given considerable importance.
- This patriarchal thinking and structure needs to be changed to empower women.
- All forms of discrimination in the use of technology and concept of meditation should be removed.
- Various prejudices, customs rules and policies created in the society should be changed.
- Government should be given more emphasis on women education to increase women empowerment.
- Government should take various steps for these women education and support services among women.
- Government, various NGOs and associations should arrange awareness programs for women.
- For women empowerment, women should come first and be empowered about their rights.
- Government should take some more steps to protect women.
- Women's associations will help improve women's empowerment through various projects, and participation in politics.
- Strict action should be taken for those women who are oppressed, neglected in the society.

CONCLUSION:

Equality in expression of various opportunities in the eyes of the law will lead to empowerment of women but later we find that some cases quality between men and women is nominal.

Women's empowerment is when women can take all the decisions of their own lives. But equality is definitely needed when it comes to empowering women. Women's empowerment has been recognized as an important issue in present day India. This situation will improve only when Indian women are established in self-respect.