



## Women Education: Empowering Status in the Society

Dr. Vijay Bharati

Assistant Professor, Department of Special Education, VIAS Faridabad, Haryana

[vijayghazipur11@gmail.com](mailto:vijayghazipur11@gmail.com)

### Abstract:

*If women want to improve their social standing, they must get an education. Socioeconomic development may benefit greatly from the contributions of educated women. They may regain their standing both inside and outside of their families via education, which reduces gaps and inequalities. In terms of women's empowerment, wealth, progress, and welfare, it is the deciding element. Women get more power via education. This kind of power is born out of emancipation, and emancipation itself is a product of education. In India, women's empowerment, inequality, and social vulnerability are all impacted by education. As far as women's education in India is concerned, this article makes an attempt to sketch the developing picture.*

**Keywords:** *Women Education, Empowerment, Opportunities.*

### Introduction:

Anyone has the inherent entitlement to an education. Education has removed all obstacles, regardless of gender. The spirit is illuminated and one learns to distinguish between good and evil, justice and injustice, via education. Although it is not strictly necessary, education is essential for survival.

The value of women's education is steadily rising in today's society. Providing girls and women with basic amenities is just as vital as educating them. Women have a lower literacy rate than males do in many countries, particularly emerging nations.

Inadequate resources are the primary cause of the high illiteracy rate among women. Concerning the status of women's education in India, it is far from satisfactory. The 2011 census found that 64.6% of Indian women could read and write. In comparison to men's literacy rate of 80.9%, this figure is rather low.

To advance one's family, community, and nation, women are essential. It is essential to educate women alongside males if the country's democracy is to succeed. Women who have completed their education provide true joy to their families. The ability to adapt to difficulties, question their conventional position, and alter their lifestyle is a hallmark of empowered women, and education is a key component in this process. In India, fewer women than men are able to read and write. Less females than boys attend school, and many of those who do end up dropping out. "Nation Building through Educating Girls." When it comes to a country's progress, women are indispensable. These days, women are just as important as males when it comes to a country's economic prosperity. The administration primarily focused on empowering women via education and expanding work possibilities in order to enhance their position in society. Given these facts, it is

imperative that women's empowerment, literacy rates, and gender equality continue to rise throughout the whole of India. To that end, the government of India has initiated a plethora of development-oriented programmes and plans. The socioeconomic status of women has changed as a result of these measures. It was generally recognised after India gained independence that women nationalists had played an important role. The Indian Constitution recognised women as full citizens and provided them the same rights and freedoms as men when it was drafted. Citizens of India have the right, under the 86th Amendment to the Constitution, to a free and compulsory public education for all children from the ages of six to fourteen. Regardless, the Indian government has implemented programmes like the "SarvaShikshaAbhiyan" (whose major goal is to provide rural girls from low-income families with access to elementary education). There are several challenges to women's education as a result of these actions. Accordingly, the analysis and education of women in India is the primary emphasis of this research.

### **Some Statements regarding to Women Education:**

#### **According to "Mahatma Jyoti Rao Phule" (1827, Pune):**

Society relies on women. was a real humanitarian. In an effort to end the practice of female infanticide, he established the first girls' school in India and is also known for providing a safe haven for baby girls and widows from higher castes.

#### **According to Dr. James KwegyirAggrey:**

If you educate a man, you educate an individual but if you educate a woman, you educate a family (nation).

#### **According to Mahatma Gandhi:**

"To call woman the weaker sex is a libel; it is man's injustice to woman. If by strength is meant moral power, then woman is immeasurably man's superior".

**According to Ban Ki Moon, (secretary-general, United Nations):** There is no more valuable investment than in a girls' education.

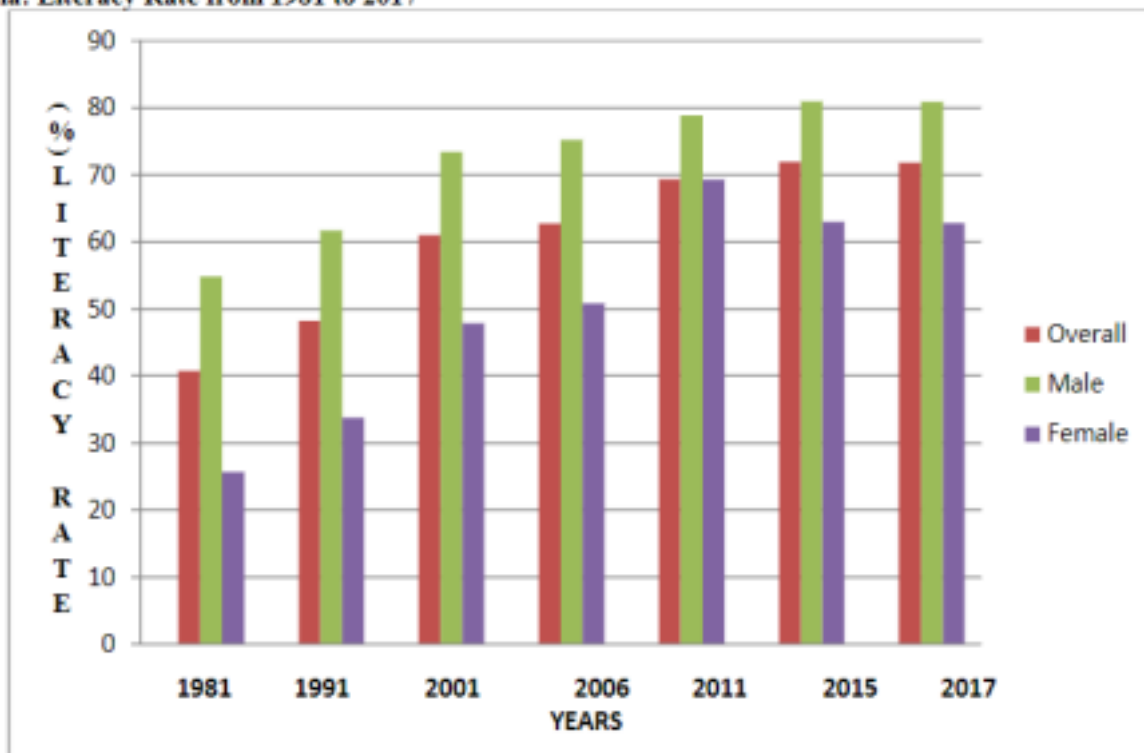
#### **According to President Pranab Mukherjee:**

"Real empowerment of women would be possible only through education, encouragement of economic self-dependence and processional of opportunities enabling the unfolding of one's full potential".

### **Education in India:**

The empowerment of women and girls via education is crucial to India's progress. Not only does it aid in the growth of 50% of the human resource pool, but it also enhances domestic and outdoor living standards. Both formal and non-formal education play significant roles in India's educational system. Other educational initiatives, such as online and distant learning, were also developed with the aim of encouraging women to further their education. The program's overarching goal is to ensure that all female students complete their secondary education. The lives of women, their families, and the economic prosperity of their nation are all negatively affected by this low literacy rate. An increase in female literacy rates is, hence, very important. In 2015, the All India Survey on Higher Education report from the HRD ministry projected that 33.3% of India's population was enrolled in some kind of postsecondary education. As of the 2014–2015 school year, 17.9 million were male and 15.4 million were female. Women have the right to be free from exploitation in all forms of society, including but not limited to: religious freedom, cultural and educational rights, and educational equality. The health and economic future of young women are positively affected by increased educational opportunities for females, which in turn enhances the community's overall chances. Following the UDHR, basic education is no longer seen as a goal in and of itself. It lays the groundwork for continuous learning and personal growth throughout life.

**India: Literacy Rate from 1981 to 2017**



### **Challenges :**

Worldwide, 129 million females, including 32 million in primary school and 97 million in secondary school, are not in school, according to UNICEF estimates.

Girls' and boys' enrollment in elementary and secondary schools is approaching parity on a global scale (90% male, 89% female). There is no significant difference in enrollment rates between the sexes; in fact, 66 percent of nations have achieved gender parity in primary school enrollment. However, in low-income countries, only 63 percent of girls and 67 percent of boys finish primary school. Similarly, females' secondary school completion rates remain lower than boys', with 36% of girls and 44% of boys finishing lower secondary school in low-income nations. In low-income nations, there is a comparable gender gap in the completion rates of upper secondary education; young males have a rate of 26% and young women of 21%.

Fragility, conflict, and violence (FCV) nations have more pronounced disparities. Compared to non-FCV settings, secondary school dropout rates for females in FCV nations are 90% higher, and the gap between the sexes is 2.5 times worse.

### **Importance of Women's Education:**

1. Everyone has the fundamental right to an education. Despite the fact that improving access to education is a top priority for the Indian government, the country's female literacy rate remains the lowest in Asia.
2. Without women's access to education, society would be deprived of the fundamental customs, habits, and features that humans are meant to cultivate. This is because civilization is born from women.

3. A woman's ability to read and write brings out the best in her family. Generational shifts and lifestyle choices are indicators of how seriously a family takes a woman's education.
4. To keep society in check, equality is crucial. A society that is imbalanced is a society that is plagued by discrimination and inequity. When men are the only ones given social priority, the worst aspects of society and families become apparent. A female child's strength is diminished when she is denied access to education or her fundamental rights. The male-dominated part of society dominates them. Such a civilization becomes less robust and uniform.
5. Breaches the most fundamental human rights. For a democratic society to work, its members must be allowed to exercise their rights without interference from outside forces.
6. Women's education is crucial because it fosters self-reliance, independence, and confidence. They are encouraged to envision and strive for a brighter tomorrow. It fortifies them and motivates them to strive more independently in pursuit of their goals.

### **Objectives to Improve Woman Education:**

Clearly, the aforementioned goals can only be achieved by prioritising the acquisition of excellent education for women. By doing so, we can empower women to fully participate in national development by fostering the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and other potentials they need.

### **Following are the Objectives to Improve Women Education:**

1. Enable women to improve their family health and diet.
2. Increase women's productive ability, thus raising their family's standard of living.
3. Give women access to appropriate technologies and management of cooperatives.
4. Improve women's societal and cultural status.
5. Enable women discharge their responsibilities more effectively.
6. Help women to fight their own fears and feelings of inadequacy or inferiority.
7. Educate women in all round development that is mentally, socially, physically, psychologically, religiously and economically etc.

### **Advantages of Woman Education:**

#### **Social improvement:**

When women have the knowledge they need, they are better able to address societal concerns. In its 1968 report, the Kothari panel advocated for education as a means to societal advancement. India can achieve its goal of social development via investing in women's education.

#### **Gender equality:**

A woman belongs to the disadvantaged stratum of society. They may bridge the gender gap in society with the use of education. Children learn to appreciate women in co-ed schools as well.

#### **Economic productivity:**

“Through women education the country can attain the growth in the economic level and it also raise the GDP of a nation”.

### **Decrease in infant humanity:**

A well-educated woman may assess her family's needs and make more informed judgements to keep tensions down. In India, the infant mortality rate drops as a result of women's education.

### **Improved living standard:**

A woman's work prospects will naturally improve as she gets more education. A woman's employment prospects and quality of life may improve with her level of education.

### **Conclusion:**

It is important to remember that people's views on women's education reveal a lot about their aspirations for national development. "Educating a woman is to educate society as a whole," as the old adage goes. One of the most important tools for women's empowerment is education. As a result, they are able to raise their social standing, alter their way of life, and enhance their work prospects. There has been great strides in education and literacy, but the system as a whole is still not fair to women.

### **References:**

- Dominic B., Jothi C.A. (2012). Education- A tool of Women Empowerment: Historical study based on Kerala society. *International Journal of Scientific and Research Publications*, 2(4), 2250-3153.
- <https://www.statista.com/statistics/271335/literacy-rate-in-india>.
- Nisha Nair. (2010). Women's education in India: A situational analysis. *IMJ*, 1(4), 100-114.
- Ramachandran V. Girls and women education: Policies and implementation mechanisms; case study: India. Bangkok: UNESCO. Principal Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, 1998.
- Bhat R.A. (2015). Role of Education in the Empowerment of Women in India. *Journal of Education and Practice*, 6(10), 188-191.
- Suguna M. (2011). Education and Women Empowerment in India. *International Journal of Multidisciplinary Research: VOL. 1. Issue 8. 7*. GOI: Annual Report (1996-97), Department of Education MHRD, New Delhi, 1997