

ROLE OF ICT EDUCATION FOR WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

1st Nidhi Modi 2nd Heta Shroff 3rd Darshini Modi 4th Vinit K.Modi
 1st Pass out Student, 2nd Student 3rd student 4th lecturer
 B. V. M. Engineering. College V.V.Nagar Gujarat India

Abstract

Education is the most powerful, influential weapon or tool which you can use for revolution in the world. Information and communications are closely linked to power and the ability to affect transformation. ICT is an authority term that comprises any communication device or application, incorporating: radio, television, cellular phones, computer internet, wide area network facilities etc. Generally the majorities of Indian women are still tradition bound and are in disadvantageous position. ICTs are developing as a powerful tool for women empowerment in a developing country like India. This paper describes role of ICT Education for Women Empowerment.

IndexTerms - ICT, Women, Empowerment, Education

I. INTRODUCTION

In developing countries like India women are ill-treated in various sectors of society. Submissiveness, modesty and servility is in their nature because of the inequality they are facing in society. In spite of the great growth of education in many countries women are still not measured as equal gender everywhere in society. The status and position of women is considered to be inferior and lower even after her great contribution to society by women. It is the right time for women to stand for her overall development with empowerment. Women empowerment is a hot issue these days. Various NGOs are working for the improvement of women and give them training for self-independence. In India government is also taking this matter completely serious and has declared various policies in service of women. In this circumstances Information and Communication Technology is also playing an important role for overall development of woman. With the help of ICT women are getting social and financial security, awareness and alertness, knowledge, employments, skill confidence, popularity etc. This paper takes into notice the role of Information and Communication Technology in women empowerment. Here various cases have been discussed to give a light on the changes ICT has brought to the society. It also recommends the steps to be taken for women empowerment through ICT. (9)

The strength and power of ICT for inspiring economic growth, socioeconomic development and good governance is very well accepted, the paybacks of ICT have been unequally distributed within and between countries. Lack of facilities, Poverty, illiteracy, lack of computer literacy and language hurdles are among the factors obstructing access to ICT infrastructure and usage, especially in developing countries like India. Another difficulty involved in ICT is lack of its admission and access to women. (10 & 11) ICT can be a commanding catalyst and mechanism for political and social empowerment of women, and the elevation of gender equality (10).

II. WHY WOMEN EMPOWERMENT IS IMPORTANT?

Empowerment of Women is about to provide platform them to stand on their own feet without support them take decisions in their life without any constraint of relatives or the society. This topic of women empowerment has been one of the most powerful and generally discussed issues worldwide including our own country for many years. (6)

Women create roughly 50% of the nation's population and a most of them remain economically and financially dependent on other, due to problem of employment in other areas or self-employment ideas and awareness. Many of them are even uninformed or ignorant of the detail that they are eligible for positions that men enjoy. In country like India, women have been always made a topic of honor killings and they have never been given their basic rights for appropriate education liberty and freedom and status in society. They are sufferers and targeted for facing day to day problems, exploitation and other several ill treatments in this male dominated and oriented society and this patriarch society. In our country India, there is a high level of gender inequality where women are ill-treated & harassed by their family members, supporters as well as outsiders.

The main important in women empowerment is to make them well educated, cultured and leave them free so that they are proficient and capable to take their own decisions in any field or in domestic problems. So there is need of the day is to empower women so that they can be self-determining and not be dependent on men of our country to support them and take care of them. The women of our country must be strong broad minded and matured in taking their own decisions. Decision making and resolution in any national or local issues related topics or any other topics of our society should also motivate and encourage participation of women in all areas. (6)

The significance of the women empowerment means that to growing and improving the social, economic, political and legal strength and power of the women, it also means to give assurance and promise of equal or same-right to women. It is also said it is make them confident enough to privilege their rights, such as:

- ☐ Easily live their life with a sense of self-worth, esteem and dignity.
- ☐ Have whole control of their life, both within and outside of their home , workplace or in any organization.
- ☐ to make their own selections and decisions, have equal rights to contribute or involvement in social, religious and public and economical and financial activities,
- ☐ For better empowerment and justice women should have equivalent or same social status in the society as men
- ☐ Have equal rights for social and economic justice to upgrade status of their quality of life.
- ☐ Determine financial and economic choices, for their development.
- ☐ Get equal opportunity for education in school, college and universities by 33 % reservations or any other policy.
- ☐ Get equal employment opportunity in all sectors without any gender bias to women or girls.
- ☐ Women should get safe relaxed and comfortable working environment in all work areas and organizations.

III. WHAT IS ICT?

Information and communications technology (ICT) includes all the newer technology used to handle telecommunications, broadcast, mobile social media, TV media, intelligent building management systems, audiovisual processing and transmission systems, and network-based control and monitoring functions. (12)

ICT is normally considered an extended alternative word for information technology (IT), its scope is broader. ICT has more recently been used to describe the conjunction and combination of numerous technologies and the use of common transmission lines carrying very different data and communication types and formats. (7) (12)

IV. ROLE OF ICTS IN GENDER EMPOWERMENT

Now days the concept of Gender Equality is a common worry over the world. Due to the introduction of ICTs it has developed new dimensions and magnitude to it. ICT has the prospective and an ability to bring about change and development to a nation and ICT has already started taking these steps in different areas like education, etc. Information and communications technologies in current years have been known as an operational tool for encouraging economic growth and sustainable development. ICT have lower usage costs and the ability to overcome long distance in short time, ICTs have revolutionized and modernized the transfer of knowledge and information around the world.(11) (12)

V. ICT AND WOMEN

Like other developing country In India also women play a central and key role in family, community and social development of country. However, women often remain imperceptible and ignored. Women have to balance the difficulties and complexities of surviving in extreme poverty, up till now these women are excluded from discussion because they are often illiterate, they lack confidence and they lack mobility. ICT gives the chances for direct, interactive communication even by those who lack skills, who are illiterate or uneducated, lack mobility and have little self-confidence for their ability. Here are some aspects of life which have a direct effect of ICT specifically on women.

- (i) Women's increased admission to job Market and improve entrepreneurship using ICT
- (ii) Increase of average household income in villages in rural areas.
- (iii) Women empowerment in appropriate field according to requirements.
- (iv) Shrinking and reduction of Information asymmetry or irregularity through ICT.
- (v) Improved Governance and Authority
- (vi) Indigenous Knowledge development.
- (vii) Easy-Family communication with different media.
- (viii) Increase Social awareness in women to get various benefits from various government schemes

Women needs information through ICT on following areas

- O Job openings in the low paid informal sector including domestic or home services
- O Housing availability especially in shantytowns or low cost housing facilities in villages.
- O Free educational facilities, information regarding government programmers for poor educational facilities and opportunities.
- O Career development and job opportunities for rural women and girls.
- O Low-priced health and childcare facilities or centers for women.
- O Economical and financial social support systems.
- O Legal rights and provisions against social injustice, domestic violence & other issues.
- O Employment prospects and opportunity in India and out of the country for women.
- O Fashion and market values and new ideas.
- O To get loan or subsidy from government agencies through online application ICT is useful.

VI. PRIORITIES AND STRATEGIES

In order to emphasis and stress the efforts towards creating an enabling environment, it is important to identify specific priority areas. Two areas require particular attention:

1. Integrate gender in ICT policy of government and
 2. Participate and Involve women as active stakeholders in the world of -information society.
- The following are specific strategies to address these priority areas.

1. Integrate gender in ICT policy of government by following various ways:

- Demonstrate the gap impacts of ICT on women and men
- Construct skills among policy-makers to ensure gender equality in ICT for development
- Confirm that gender advocates educate themselves and get involved in the policy process
- Investigate and revise prevailing ICT policies to replicate a gender perspective
- Involvement of all stakeholders in the ICT policy process
- Build peoples for gender equality in ICT development
- Mobilize and organize various resources for ICT development
- Build mass of gender and ICT consultants, for women development.

2. Involve women as active stakeholders in the information society:

- Create awareness and promote ICT as a tool for development of women
- Build ICT skills for women and girls in schools, college and societies.
- Generate universal opportunity or chance to access ICT for women also
- Inspire the development of content and systems that is relevant to women.

VII. CONCLUSION

Information needs for women as well as their ICT use are changing widely. There is no ideal ICT that fits all situations for. Women empowerment. Despite the fact that women are engaged in numerous roles in agriculture and farm work, they are keen to have information on other parts, such as child health & care, child nutrition, prevention and cure of common & seasonal diseases of woman, good employment opportunities etc. For installment of ICTs for women empowerment their strategies depends on ICT use design and wide-ranging and different information requirements rural women empowerment. Promising dynamic and relevant information for rural women continues to remain as major issues. Sufficient resources need to be allocated and distributed for this activity, if profits from resources invested in connectivity and hardware have to be copiously realized.

REFERENCES

- [1] Chapman, R. and Slaymaker, T. 2002. ICTs and rural development: Review of the literature, current interventions and opportunities for action'. ODI Working Paper No. 192. London: ODI. *Article Short Title First Author Name* Available at: http://www.odi.org.uk/publications/working_papers/wp192.pdf. (Accessed: 6th. November 2007).
- [2] .Dossani R. (2005), Enabling ICT for rural India. Retrieved from http://iisdb.stanford.edu/pubs/20972/Dossani_Rural_ICT_2005.pdf, 1st December 2010.
- [3] .Nidhi Tandon, Oct 2006 Information and Communication Technologies in Bangladesh Trends, opportunities and Options for Women Workers, Networked Intelligence for Development.
- [4] .Dossani R. (2005), Enabling ICT for rural India. Retrieved from
- [5] <https://www.importantindia.com/19050/essay-on-women-empowerment> (Accessed 1st April 2018)
- [6] <http://www.mabooz.com/importance-of-women-empowerment-in-india/> (Accessed 1st April 2018)
- [7] <https://www.techopedia.com/definition/24152/information-and-communications-technology-ict>
- [8] Dr. Mini Amit Arrawatia, Mr. Pankaj Meel (2012)" Information and Communication Technologies & Woman Empowerment in Indi" International Journal of Advanced Research in Computer Engineering & Technology (IJARCET) Volume 1, Issue
- [9] Deepak Jyoti(2018)"Women Empowerment through ICT" International Journal of Research in Engineering, IT and Social Sciences, I Volume 08 Issue 2, February 2018, Page 15-19
- [10] Praveen Dalal (2006) "Use of ICT for Women Empowerment in India: Source: <http://cyberlawindia.blogspot.com/08/30/2006>
- [11] <http://ics.leeds.ac.uk/papers/ks/exhibits/78/w2000-09.05-ict-e.pdf>
- [12] <https://www.techopedia.com/definition/24152/information-and-communications-technology-ict>