

THE EFFECTIVE ROLE OF THE NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND INITIATIVES SCHEMES OF THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT ON EMPOWERING THE WOMEN IN THE PRESENT ERA IN INDIA: A REVIEW

¹ Amit Kumar Mondal,

² Sima Nandy

¹ Govt. approved college teacher,

² Govt. approved college teacher

Department of Education, ¹Magrahat College,

²Bidhan Chandra College

^{1,2} University of Calcutta, Kolkata, West Bengal, India

Email-¹ amitmondal.best@gmail.com, ² simanandy10@gmail.com

Abstract: Empowerment is a new phenomenon in our society. Every person is involving or attaching in this phenomenon. This phenomenon is women empowerment. Women's empowerment is a burning problem for every woman in our society at that time. They can face many problems, like inequality, inequity, acid attack, trafficking, rape and sexual assault, domestic violence, cruelty, mental and physical torture, and so on. So, empowering women are very essential for improving society and as well as improving her life. That means the enable them to unlock their talents, facilities, abilities, and capacities, and also to bring about their real identity, adequate freedom, expression of their lives. Some Articles and rules have protected and enhanced their empowerment which is in our constitution. Government and non-governmental organizations also try to enhance their social-psycho-economic environment, and self –dignity and reduce many inadequate problems. This paper clarified that the effective role of the non- governmental organizations and initiatives of the Central Government on empowering the women in the present era in India.

Keywords: women empowerment, NGO, educational empowerment, economic empowerment.

1. INTRODUCTION:

“Judge a country by the place it gives its women.” - Mahatma Gandhi.

Empowerment is a new characteristic of human life, which can change every individual. This empowerment has a multi-dimensional aspect in the present era, such as physical aspect, socioeconomic aspect, political aspect, mental aspect, psychological aspect, and so on. This aspect can play a vital role in human progress and development. It also raises a new civilization. However, empowerment means make achieved more power, opportunity, and control in his/ her own lives. This power can change knowledge, skill, psychological and sociological changes in every person. Empowerment is the process that creates power in individuals over their own lives, society, and in their communities. People are empowered when they are able to access the opportunities available to them without limitations and restrictions such as in education, profession and lifestyle. In our country women play the leading role to change her family as well as society. Women are capable of sharing all the responsibilities of her life. In present era women are very well in all the field of progress. They are demonstrating their talents in the best. After the post independent period, women can be

established as independent groups in our country as well as the whole world. Women as an important human resources were recognized by the Constitution of India which not only accorded equality to women but also empowered the State to adopt measures of positive discrimination in their favors. A number of Articles of the Indian Constitution especially the commitment of the constitution towards the socio-economic development of women, educational development, political right of the women, equity and equality rights of the women, and right properly in decision making.

1.1 CONCEPT OF WOMEN EMPOWERMENT:

Women's empowerment is very essential for the development of society. The concept of 'women in empowerment' emerged at that point in time, when shifting attention to the Improvement of the role and status of women. In the last five decades, the concept of women empowerment has become undergone change from the welfare-oriented approach of women empowerment to equity presence. This initiated a change in the international decade. Good empowerment can change a whole society as well as a nation. So, women empowerment can be classified that way, as, a good leader can change her nation, in the same process a good mother can change her family. Women's empowerment means, giving him more power and power controlling motivation. This power can develop her life, such as personality development, social development, moral development, knowledge development, cultural development, value development, emotional development, etc. Therefore, women's empowerment can also be seen as an important process in reaching gender equality, which is understood to mean that the "rights, responsibilities and opportunities of individuals will not depend on whether they are born male or female".

Women empowerment is also defined as, a change in the context of a women's life, which enables her increased capacity for leading a fulfilling human life. It gets reflected in external qualities such as health, mobility, education and awareness, status in the family, participation in decision making, and also at the level of material security. It also includes internal qualities such as self-awareness and self-confidence.

As per the **United National Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM)**, the term women's empowerment means²³:

- Acquiring knowledge and understanding of gender relations and the ways in which these relations may be changed.
- Developing the sense of self-worth, a belief in one's ability to secure desired changes, and the right to control one's life.
- Gaining the ability to generate choices exercise bargaining power.
- Developing the ability to organize and influence the direction of social change, to create a more just social and economic order, nationally and inter nationally.

Sociologist '**Dhruba Hazarika**' said that, "Empowerment of women means equipping them to be economically independent, self-reliant, in addition to providing positive self-esteem to face any difficult situation. Women should be equipped enough to participate in any development process."¹⁵

1.2 MEANING OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION:

A non-governmental organization (NGO) is an independent, voluntary, and not-for-profitable organization. These are a subgroup of organizations that founded by citizens, who include clubs and associations, which provide services to its members and others. It is independent of states and international governmental organizations. They include many groups and institutions that are entirely or largely independent of government

and that do primarily humanitarian or cooperative rather than commercial objectives. They can enhance the function-oriented work that modifies humanitarian characteristics.

1.3 CLASSIFICATION OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS:

Non-Governmental Organization mainly depends on some factors such as, location, size, and class, status of personnel and characteristics of the beneficiaries. NGOs are divided into some particular types or characteristics¹⁶. That are;

1.3. a. ON THE BASIS OF ORIENTATION:

A. Charity Oriented NGOs: The activities of these NGOs are based on philosophical associations. The NGOs are providing food, clothing, medicine, educational facilities, and relief work for homeless people.

B. Development Service Oriented NGOs: These NGOs mainly work rising types of work to enhance poor people. They can provide health care, family planning, or education services.

C. Participatory NGOs: It is a common factor, which is providing mainly for the legal way, rule and tools & techniques for helpless or affected people. These NGOs are characterized by self-help projects.

D. Empowerment Oriented NGOs: Empowerment is a part of life, which changes behavior, self-dignity, self-power and self-confidence. These types of NGOs work to strengthen the awareness of the target group and hopeless group in their potential to control their lives.

1. 3. b. ON THE BASIS OF ROLE:

i) **Relief and Welfare NGOs:** These NGOs mainly working to provide relief support about the helpless people.

ii) **Service NGOs:** These NGOs are operating types of NGOs. Their activities are mainly elaborately delivered services to the target groups.

iii) **Funding NGOs:** These are the mediator or helper NGO. They operate as conduits of foreign donors engaged in making grants to NGOs and also help local NGOs to get foreign assistance.

iv) **Networking/Coordinating NGOs:** At present, they are mainly connected with supportive roles. They work to facilitate mutual sharing of learning & experiences. They are also working to promote mutual support & co-operation among the NGO community.

v) **Development NGOs:** These NGOs mainly connected with poor and helpless people. They can mobilize these people to enhance education and conscious about their outside of society. So they can achieve their own aim.

vi) **Consulting NGOs:** These NGOs are working the consulting types. They can provide or support the consulting services to the govt., donor agencies, and other actors in the fulfillment of the programs.

2. OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY:

The aim of the current study is to analysis that;

- To know the effective role of the non- governmental organizations on empowering the women in the present Indian society.

- To awareness about the initiatives schemes of the central government on empowering the women in the present era in India.

3. METHODOLOGY: The present study is based on the review of information collected from secondary sources and some information has also collected through magazines, journals, internet etc.

4. REVIEW OF RELATED LITURATURE:

Moser (1993) focused on the interrelationship between gender and development, the formulation of gender policy and the implementation of gender planning and practices.¹⁰ Shields (1995) provided an exploratory framework to understand and develop the concept of empowerment both from a theoretical and practical perspective with a particular focus on women's perception of the meaning of empowerment in their lives.¹⁴ Chattopadhyay and Duflo (2001) found that women were more likely to participate in policy making process if the leader of the village community was happened to be women.³ Dijkstra (2002) while providing a critical review of both the measures identified the strengths and weaknesses of these and suggested a new measure called standardized Index of Gender Equality (SIGE) which attempts to encompass all possible dimensions of gender equality and avoids the conceptual and methodological problems of GDI and GEM. He further claimed that SIGE can serve as a first approximation of such an overall index.⁵ Mahanta, A. (ed.) (2002) Human Rights and Women of North East India, Centre for Women's Studies, Dibrugarh University, Dibrugarh.⁹ Assam Human Development Report (Govt. of Assam, 2003) threw some light on inequality in the achievement between men and women of Assam in different spheres of life. The report viewed that poverty, violence and lack of political participation were the main issues of concern for South Asian Women, and Assam was no exception.⁷ Kishor and Gupta (2004) revealed that average women in India were disempowered relative to men, and there had been little change in her empowerment over time.⁸ Parashar (2004) examined how mother's empowerment in India is linked with child nutrition and immunization and suggested women to be empowered simultaneously along several different dimensions if they and their children were to benefit across the whole spectrum of their health and survival needs.¹² Blumberg (2005) viewed that economic empowerment of women was the key to gender equality and well-being of a nation. This would not only enhance women's capacity of decision making but also lead to reduction in corruption, armed conflict and violence against females in the long run.² Panda and Agarwal (2005) focused on the factor like women's property status in the context of her risk of marital violence and opined that if development means expansion of human capabilities, then freedom from domestic violence should be an integral part of any exercise for evaluating developmental progress.¹³ Desai and Thakkar (2007) in their work discussed women's political participation, legal rights and education as tools for their empowerment.⁴ Deepa Narayan (2007) made an attempt to measure women empowerment for different countries and regions by using self-assessed points on a ten steps ladder of power and rights, where at the bottom of the ladder stood people who were completely powerless and without rights.¹¹ Barkat (2008) while discussing the present status of women in Bangladesh opined that although women as mothers are held in high respect at the individual level, there was an unclear understanding of empowerment of women as a process of awareness and capacity building leading to greater participation in decision making and control over her own life.¹

5. KEY COMPONENTS OF WOMEN EMPOWERMENT:

'Women's empowerment' can be defined into seven components that are,

- right to the value education;
- right to determine his own choices;
- right to determine the opportunities;
- right to the actual power which protects their own lives,

- right to national and international understanding;
- right to determine the self-discipline and self-motivational way;
- right to determine the self-criticism;

6. RIGHT AND PRIVILEGES OF WOMEN:

6.1 Constitutional Provisions:

The Constitution of India not only gives equality to women but also empowers the state to adopt measures in favor of women for neutralizing the socio-economic, education, and political disadvantages faced by them. Women's equality and power can be changed by fundamentally Rights. Such as;

- ❖ Article 14 - Men and women to have equal rights and opportunities in the political, economic and social spheres.
- ❖ Article 15(1) -Prohibits discrimination against any citizen on the grounds of religion, race, caste, sex etc.
- ❖ Article 15(3)-Special provision enabling the State to make affirmative discriminations in favor of women.
- ❖ Article 16- Equality of opportunities in matter of public appointments for all citizens.
- ❖ Article 39(a) - The State shall direct its policy towards securing all citizens men and women, equally, the right to means of livelihood.
- ❖ Article 39(d) –Equal pay for equal work for both men and women.
- ❖ Article 42- The State to make provision for ensuring just and humane conditions of work and maternity relief.
- ❖ Article 51 (A) (e) –To renounce the practices derogatory to the dignity of women.

6.2 Legislative Provisions:

Many legislative measures intended to ensure equal rights, counter social discrimination, and various forms of violence and atrocities and to provide support services especially to working women have been enacted by the government to uphold the constitutional mandate. Women may be the victims of crimes such as murder, robbery, cheating, etc.

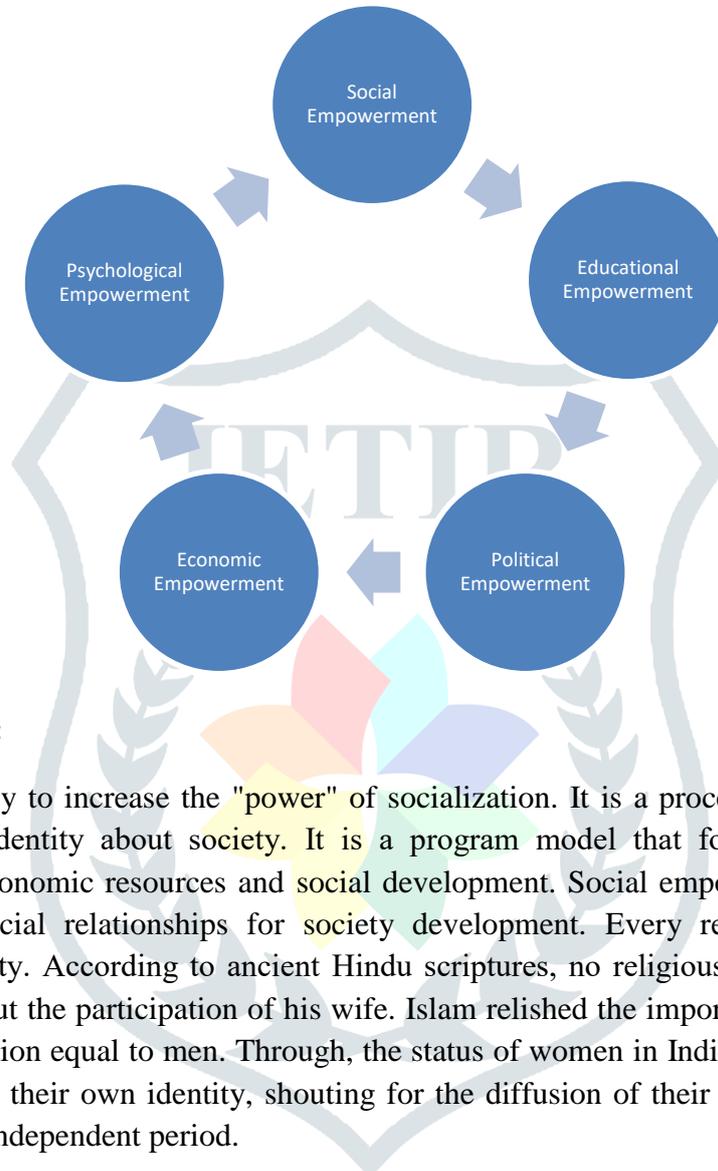
6.3 The oppression against women in India is classified under two categories;

6.3. a. The special Laws: Employees State insurance Act, 1948; The Plantation Labour Act, 1951; Family Courts Act, 1954; The Special Marriage Act, 1954; The Hindu Marriage Act, 1955; The Hindu Succession Act, 1956; The Maternity Benefit Act, 1961; Dowry prohibition Act, 1976; The Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986; The Commission of Sati (Prevention) Act, 1987; National Commission for Women Act, 1990; Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005; The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006; Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013; The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013, etc.

6.3. b. Indian Penal Code: Indecency, Dowry Death, Acid Attack, Rape and Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Cruelty, mental and Physical torture, Molestation, Trafficking of Woman, Honour Killing, etc.

7. AREAS OF WOMEN EMPOWERMENT:

The important areas of women empowerment in the present society are;



7.1 Social Empowerment:

Social position is a strategy to increase the "power" of socialization. It is a process of developing a sense of self-confidence and self-identity about society. It is a program model that focuses to increase women's perceptions and control economic resources and social development. Social empowerment is the process that collectively to change social relationships for society development. Every religion gives importance to women's position in society. According to ancient Hindu scriptures, no religious rite can be performed with perfection by a man without the participation of his wife. Islam relished the importance of women and granted them a very dignified position equal to men. Through, the status of women in India is social, respect, and trust. So, they are struggling for their own identity, shouting for the diffusion of their voices and fighting for their own esteem since the pre-independent period.

7.2 Educational Empowerment:

Education is the key to women's empowerment. Through it, women have better access and opportunities in the work, leading to increased income and less isolation at home or exclusion from financial decisions. With education, women are able to live their dreams by pursuing their own goals and values. However, many barriers can affect women's empowerment. Such as the cost of school or college, difficulty is getting to school due to distance or lack of transportation, being forced to work and provide for their families, being forced to marry and have children, or conflict in their hometown or country. The United Nations found that as girls reach secondary school, their enrollment rates decline significantly. Only 39% of countries have equal proportions of boys and girls enrolled in secondary education. In developing countries, 35% to 85% of girls are forced to stay home from school to take care of their younger siblings and the house while their brothers are able to achieve an education.

7.3 Economic Empowerment:

Economic empowerment" can be defined as the development of the ability of the historically disadvantaged to engage in economic activity that benefits the individuals in their society. Economic empowerment is often applied to women who have been subject to discrimination in education and professional opportunities. These women are not necessarily economically disadvantaged, but they have been denied opportunities to become self-sufficient due to cultural or religious obstacles. In most instances, though, they do fall on the lower end of the socioeconomic spectrum. Women's economic empowerment is important to achieving gender equality and sustainable development. Women are key contributors to food processing, collecting natural resources, and join her business and as entrepreneurs and employees.

India ranks 120 among 131 countries in female labor force participation rates and rates of gender-based violence remain unacceptably high. It's hard to develop in an inclusive and sustainable way when half of the population is not fully participating in the economy. At 17% of GDP, the economic contribution of Indian women is less than half the global average, and compares unfavorably to the 40% in China, for instance. India could boost its growth by 1.5 percentage points to 9 percent per year if around 50% of women could join the work force.

7.4 Political Empowerment:

“Political empowerment” of women is a concept that emphasizes the goals of social action and social change in her life. It is a fundamental concept in any democracy, aiming to promote the effectiveness of public participation and attempting to transfer power between groups in society. Gender equality and women's empowerment are both human rights and are necessary for achieving comprehensive, unbiased, and sustainable development. Women need to actively participate in government and politics in order to maintain democracy. Global statistics clearly show that women are represented as leaders and elected officials, also due to cultural and social criteria can change a political leader of women, if gender issues can be limit their participation in the political process. Political empowerment of women is a concept that emphasizes the goals of social action and social change in her life. It is a fundamental concept in any democracy, aiming to promote the effectiveness of public participation and attempting to transfer power between groups in society. As of 2017, the global average of women who hold lower and single house parliament positions is 23.6 percent.

7.5 Psychological Empowerment:

“Psychological empowerment” is connected to personality development. When a child came in nature they cannot understand how to move in her life. After a few months, they can understand all things. In this time, psychological characteristics are developed. So, psychological empowerment means cognitive development, emotional development, attention development, learning development, etc. This can build self-confidence, help women recognize their self-worth, and gives them the chance to take control of their income and body. Psychological Empowerment has been operationalized as an individual's cognitive state characterized by a sense of control, competence, accountability, and goal internalization thus considered as a multi-faceted construct reflecting the different dimensions of being psychologically enabled and is conceived of as a positive integrate of perceptions. Psychological Empowerment of women can be a change of her self-control and self-motivational aspects.

8. DIFFERENT ROLE OF THE NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS FOR WOMEN RIGHTS IN INDIAN SOCIETY:

The violence, gender discrimination and Inequity are the common feature against women in India. According to a report by the National Health and Family Survey, one in every three women in India, starting from the age of 15, has faced with some domestic or sexual violence at present time. This same survey also reported that 54.4% of rural women and 46.8% of urban women are affected by domestic abuse. In the normal way, we said that women's empowerment is very important.

The young age of women is suffering infirmity complex, frustration, anxiety and schizophrenia, and so on. Lack of education, awareness, and fear of social stigma has made thousands of women suffer in silence. According to NHFS-4, only 14% of women who reported being abused actively sought help. So the different types of NGOs are giving women to legal justice, opportunities, encouragement, and shelter for their living. Those are given below;

8.1. Swasthya Swaraj:

'Swasthya Swaraj' a Comprehensive Community Health Programme. It is a secular and not-for-profitable organization. Which is the tribal-dominated Thuamul Rampur Block of Kalahandi district in Odisha, India are working towards making health a reality for the unprivileged and unreached people. Thuamul Rampur block is the most backward and underdeveloped part of Odisha with the closest emergency obstetric care facility is 150 km away. Here Adult literacy rate is 26%, and the adult female literacy rate is 5% in this tribal village and children are suffering undernourished. So, every family survives with deprivation, dejection, sicknesses, and deaths. Illiteracy and superstition bound culture are also found there. Then they want to favor for improving this situation.

The main focus of the program is improving health and education, a just and equitable society, free from the shackles of ill health, illiteracy, and poverty. Their Comprehensive Community Health Programme is active in 76 villages and adopts a unique community empowering model to expand their reach. The dreams of Swasthya Swaraj's are equitable society, free from the shackles of ill health, illiteracy, and poverty.¹⁷

8. 2. Apnalaya:

Apnalaya is a secular voluntary organization, which constructed self-sustaining communities since 1973. They work with the most marginalized people dwelling in the slums of Mumbai. The main aim is to empower the disadvantaged children to overcome the social, political, and economic barriers and help them lead a better quality of life. There are 4,200 children under 6 years of age at the center of Apnalaya's Health Program.

The organizations also help the Livelihood program for young boys and girls, men, and women. They can identify their ability for potential opportunities and economic productivity. They provide sewing classes, enroll and train women who otherwise have been under cultural restraints to stay away from income-generating activities. 209 women have economically benefited from Self Help groups organized by Apnalaya. In 2017, Apnalaya was awarded the Champion Level- Guide Star India Platinum for the highest levels of transparency and public accountability.

8. 3. Manav Vikas Seva Sangh:

'Manav Vikas Seva Sangh' is set up based on truth, cooperation, justice, equality, love, and brotherhood. It is the official development organization of the Catholic Diocese of Sagar, Madhya Pradesh, India. This organization's work is a resolution to offer its services to the poor regardless of their caste, ethnicity, creed, and

religion. They have implemented 65 development projects in the last 24 years with the assistance of national and international development support organizations. Presently they are working on 13 projects of varying sizes which bring positive changes to the lives of 18200 households in 84 villages and 8 slums. Apart from these, MVSS also works with 1030 prisoners, 2772 school teachers, and 507 doctors. MVSS has been ceaselessly and vigorously striving to provide a voice to the voiceless, power to the powerless, and resources to the deprived by steadfastly adhering to the right-based approach.

8. 4. Seven Sisters Development Assistance:

Seven Sisters Development Assistance Literally means is 'effort' in the Assamese. It was created in 2011. It is a not for profit organization registered under the Societies Registration Act (SRA), 1860. Since its opening, the effort has been towards creating a just and equitable society in Northeast India devoid of poverty. The main focus of these organizations aims to catalyze development activities in North East starting with Assam, though the process of "Nirmaan", by working for improved livelihood systems and better wellbeing status of the rural community. Nowadays SeSTA works directly with 8000 families in 100 revenue villages across four districts of Assam: Chirang, Bongaigaon, Goalpara, and Kamrup (rural). To date, SeSTA initiatives have; they also mobilized nearly 8000 women to form 700 Self Help Groups (SHGs), 27 Village Organizations (VOs), and 2 women's Self Help Groups Federations. The women's collectives have mobilized savings of more than USD 160,000 and leveraged USD 107,120 from banks and other institutions. They helped more than 8,600 small and marginal farmers improve the productivity of crops like paddy, maize & vegetables through improved practices like the SRI method in six districts. And 60 women are working as groomed for community resource persons. It envisages expanding its works to other parts of Assam and the North-East and plans to reach out to more than 30,000 rural poor families in the next 3 years.

8. 5. Majlis Manch:

Majlis Manch is a Public Trust, it is a one type NGO, that headed by renowned Advocate and Women's Rights Activist, Flavia Agnes. The main focus of the organization is to provide legal support and guidance to women facing domestic violence to access their rights and pursue justice in courts. The NGO also assist women and child victims of sexual violence as well as sexual harassment at the workplace. They were working since 1991 for evolving innovative legal practices to defend women's rights and also the involvement in training, research, campaigns, and publications on issues concerning violence against women and children. They work to demystify laws and make them accessible to judges, lawyers, prosecutors, police, NGOs, and other government and non-government representatives and most importantly, to women themselves. The broad categories of their programs are as follows: Litigation, Rahat (for sexual violence, domestic violence, and social support), Training and Awareness, Policy interventions and public campaigns, Networking, Publications on women's legal rights and Research.

8. 6. Foundation for Mother and Child Health:

Foundation for Mother and Child Health is a grassroots organization that focuses on bringing good health and nutrition intervention for women and children in vulnerable communities of Mumbai. The FMCH Training Center was launched with the objective of developing a cadre of professionals across Maharashtra and eventually the entire country, which is equipped with the right knowledge and best practices in order to impact a larger community. Urban Nutrition Initiative and Project Poshan are nutrition-specific interventions where FMCH works closely with the families and communities at large to promote good health, hygiene, and nutrition practices. To this effect, they have adopted a holistic approach to embrace, educate, and empower mothers and children in their social environment. The impact of these programs is 927 pregnant and lactating mothers

annually. They dream of a world where the potential of each child is not limited by poor early health or malnutrition.

8. 7. Ashadeep Mission:

Asha Deep Foundation is a Non-Profit Organization working for the betterment of the community for the past 35 years. Since its inception in 1983 by Fr. A.R. Rajamoney, the foundation has laid immense emphasis on serving the society at large and impacting as many lives as possible. It has always aimed at the holistic development of the community people exerting importance to all demographics equally. The mission of these organizations is to help people realize their potentialities and human dignity and create their own destiny. These organizations have five centers, which are Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Haryana, and Uttar Pradesh. It has over 23 projects running which span from mother and child care until the end of the life cycle. All people of the community including women, children, and senior citizens, physically challenged and orphan and destitute are being benefited by the projects.

8. 8. Apna Ghar Asharam:

On 29 June 2000 the organization “Maa Madhuri Brij Varis Sewa Sadan, Apna Ghar” was established at village Bajhera, District Bharatpur of Rajasthan (India), only 40 k.m away from world-famous Taj Mahal Agra by Dr. B.M.Bhardwaj and Dr. Madhuri Bhardwaj. To serve the homeless helpless destitute sick persons who are facing a very painful phase of life, the Organization established ‘Apna Ghar.’ It was established with the mission to give shelter, hope, and happiness to the homeless, oppressed, mentally, and psychically challenged people. Their vision is to not let anyone perish due to a lack of help and support. They have successfully saved many lives and provided them with food, shelter, and medical care, then, restoring them to the mainstream society. Seventeen Ashrams are established in all major cities of the country and it continues to develop, as it provides its selfless service and devotion to help people in need. So, in 2016, This Ashram was awarded the State Award by the State Government as the Best Services Organization. Where, more than 50% of the residents have been rehabilitated in various ways. 458 men and 1004 women live in the ashram currently.

8. 9. Guria India:

'Guria' is a nonprofit organization in Northern India. It was started in the year 1993 by Ajeet Singh. They are dedicated to fighting child prostitution, second-generation prostitution, trafficking of women, and children for forced labor or sex primarily in Northern India. The main aims are to have a world free of these vices, eradicating the slavery of women and close the brothels. Advocating for improvements in government policy and law enforcement pertaining to trafficking and prostitution is another major activity of Guria. They not only provide justice to survivors but also work to support them and rehabilitate them. The other programs of Guria include community mobilization, campaigns in schools, sensitization of stakeholders like the police, media, advocates, NGOs, CBS, etc., advocacy, international collaborations, health support, literacy and nutrition of children in red light areas through Bal Kendra.

8. 10. Sayodhya Home for Women in Need:

Sayodhya Home for Women In Need is a non-profit organisation, established in 2010 that works primarily in the domain of Employment, Gender, Legal, Education and Child & Youth Development. Its primary office is in Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh.

Sayodhya is a home for women in need our primary objective continues as mandated to reach out to the needy women and stand by them. Since its establishment in 2010 to date, Sayodhya has provided emergency shelter to more than 1000 women. Opened free family counseling centers in 10 urban slums in Hyderabad where women

themselves address cases of crimes against women. 2000 underprivileged students have been covered since 2011 with vocational training and orientation on job placement. Around 500 underprivileged young women from rural and urban AP were imparted Professional Development Course on ECCE. 600 women and young girls received Shelter and food at Sayodhya Home so far and 200 girls pursuing further education stayed at Sayodhya. Cases of Domestic Violence, harassment, child marriages, physical and mental abuses for 1500 women have been addressed so far providing support in the form of legal and psychological counseling. 500 young girls were placed in different jobs after successful skill-building and job training and 600 reached girls from poor socioeconomic backgrounds for supporting their education. Prepared 30 youth girls for writing degree entrance and 15 students for open 10 class examinations.¹⁸

8. 11. International Foundation for Crime Prevention and Victim Care (PCVC):

'International Foundation for Crime Prevention and Victim Care' was a supportive agency to reduce domestic violence for women. The mean of domestic violence is violence or other abuse in a domestic setting, such as in marriage or cohabitation. This NGO can provide several necessary services like crisis management, legal advocacy, support, and resource services for the women. The main focus of the NGO is the national domestic violence hotline to help women who are struggling with different forms of abuse. The organization also provides victims with legal representatives and support through referrals. And also donating to PCVC can help dismantle the culture of violence against women.

8. 12. Committee for Legal Aid to Poor:

'Committee for Legal Aid to Poor' is a protective organization for women. The Committee for Legal Aid to Poor (CLAP) is a registered society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. The committee is the oldest legal service organization in India. It was founded by eminent Gandhian and Sarvodaya leader, Late Shyam Sundar Das. This committee provides legal aid for affective an acid attacks women. An Acid attack is the most gruesome and heinous of crimes committed against women. This attack involves the premeditated throwing of acid on a victim, usually on her face. In addition to causing psychological trauma, acid attacks result in severe pain, permanent disfigurement, subsequent infections, and often blindness in one or both eyes. It helps victims by monitoring court proceedings to ensure stringent punishment to wrongdoers provides legal aid and rehabilitates survivors. This committee has recovered 3000–5000 cases of the poor and marginalized.¹⁹

8. 13. Prerana:

Prerana is a non-governmental organization (NGO) that works in the red-light districts of Mumbai, India to protect children vulnerable to commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking. It was established in 1986. The work of Prerana has been recognized nationally and internationally as being at the forefront of leading the global fight against trafficking and sexual exploitation. The main focus of the organization has a child's rights, sex trafficking, human rights, health, and gender problem. They work with various state governments to frame anti-human trafficking schemes and policies to rescue and rehabilitate victims. They can provide survivors with psychological counseling and also give a rehabilitation program for rescued girls until they return to their homes.²⁰

8. 14. Sakhya Women's Guidance Cell:

Sakhya Women's Guidance Cell was an anti-dowry; women's guidance cell was started in 1987 by the College of Social Work of Nirmala Niketan in Mumbai. From 1985 to 2003 it continued to be run as a field action project of Nirmala Niketan run by the Religious Congregation of the Daughters of the Heart of Mary. From 2004 it became an independent organization under the lodgement of Nirmala Institute. From 1987 the focus of

Sakhya was addressing dowry-related harassment and working on the issue of domestic violence. In the present time, they have been offering many services for women empowerment. These are counseling, legal aid, providing shelter to women in distress, conducting awareness programs on gender issues, educational programs to youth on family life, HIV/AIDS, value education, gender sensitization in schools, colleges, institutions, and low-income group communities. The major focus of Sakhya Women's Guidance Cell is to promote gender equality and gender justice through the process of concretization called women's empowerment. They also believe that an integrated approach to women's empowerment is vital to sustainable development and the realization of human rights for all. So, this organization can be Promoting gender equality through the process of awareness and sensitization and be giving women more autonomy to manage their own lives.²⁴

8. 15. The Prajnya Trust:

Another important trust that can be displayed for women empowerment is Prajnya Trust. It a nonprofit organization, that has been working since 2008 to prevent gender and sex-based violence against women. This NGO can help those women affected gender violence and sexual violence. They can provide for those women a workshop program, facilitates discussions, and legal advice programs to enhance their present position.

8. 16. Study Hall Educational Foundation:

The Study Hall Educational Foundation (SHEF) provides quality education to underprivileged girls and youth in urban and rural areas in India. Using feminist-based pedagogy, gender-sensitization techniques, and adolescent-empowerment discussions on social issues in the classrooms, they also provide teacher training, workshops, educational centers, and vocational training. The main goal is to empower girls to have equal participation in society.

9. THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES SCHEMES FOR WOMEN ENHANCE:

9.1. Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Scheme: These scheme aims are- to help remove gender based discrimination and elimination, to protect and girl child and to provide the girl child with education and enabling her participation.

9.2. One Stop Centre Scheme:

This scheme will support below 18 years of girls in India. They are affected by violence, irrespective of caste, class, religion, region, sexual orientation. The main focus of this scheme is to provide integrated support and assistance under one roof both in private and public spaces.

9.3 UJJAWALA Scheme: This is a comprehensive scheme for Prevention of trafficking and Rescue, Rehabilitation and Re-integration of Victims of Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation

9.4 Working Women Hostel Scheme: This is another empowering scheme of the Central Government for women. It has launched the "Working Women Hostel Scheme" for the working women who are leaving their homes due to professional commitments. The main focus of these schemes is;

- i) To facilitate then services in urban, semi-urban, or even rural areas where employment opportunities for women exist.
- ii) To assist projects for the establishment of new hostel buildings, an extension of existing hostel buildings, and hostel buildings in rented premises.

9.4 Mahila E-Haat Scheme: It is a unique e-platform for women empowerment in India. This e-platform enhances the socio-economic empowerment of women. The main vision is to empower and strengthen of financial inclusion of Women Entrepreneurs in the economy by providing continued sustenance and support to their creativity. So they are making every useful and fashionable thing. Such as; clothing, bag, box, gift items, file folder, fashion accessories/jewelry, pottery, grocery & staples, etc.

9.5 Mahila Shakti Kendras (MSK): It rural women empowering scheme in Indian society. This scheme mainly divided four levels. Such as National level, State level, District level, Block level. The main idea of this scheme is to support services for empowering rural women with opportunities for skill development, employment, digital literacy, health, and nutrition.^{21, 22}

9.6 Nari Shakti Puraskar: This is another initiative and helpful scheme for women empowerment in India. This scheme mainly represented by the Ministry of Women and Child Development to acknowledge the exceptional contribution made by individuals and institutions, which is a positive change in society. The winners of the Nari Shakti Puraskar for the year 2019 are from fields as diverse as agriculture, sports, handicrafts, afforestation and wildlife conservation, Armed Forces, and education.

9.7 Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women (STEP): Ministry of Women & Child Development launched another scheme for women empowerment in India. That is calling Support to Training and Employment Programme. The scheme aims to provide skills that give employability to women and to provide competencies and skill that enable women to become self-employed/entrepreneurs. Also the scheme is intended to benefit women who are in the age group of 16 years and above across the country. It will be available in any sector for imparting skills related to employability and entrepreneurship, including but not limited to the Agriculture, Horticulture, Food Processing, Tailoring, Stitching, Handlooms, Embroidery, Zari etc., Handicrafts, Computer & IT enable services along with soft skills and skills for the work place such as spoken English, Gems & Jewellery, Travel & Tourism, Hospitality.

9.8 Swadhar Greh: The Ministry of Women and Child Development has implemented a new scheme of Swadhar Greh. It has provided various ways of empowering the victim women in our society. Such as, they help the institutional support for rehabilitation and support to lead their life with dignity. They also provide that shelter, food, clothing, and health, as well as economic and social security, which need for such our women. An also this scheme helps with their development of emotional strength that protects these circumstances balance.

9.9 Kishori Shakti Yojana:

This scheme aims to improve the nutritional, health and development status of adolescent girls, promote awareness of health, hygiene, nutrition, and family care, link them to opportunities for learning life skills, going back to school, help them gain a better understanding of their social environment and take initiatives to become productive members of the society.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS:

10. 1. WOMEN LITERACY RATE IN INDIA:

Education is the best part in our life, and every individual person need to universalization of elementary education for achieving their power and self-identity. The education is a way of mobilization on human society. The 2001 Census report indicates that literacy among women as only 54 percent it is virtually disheartening to observe that the literacy rate of women India is even much lower to national average i.e. 65.38. The growth of women's education in rural areas is very slow. This obviously means that still large womenfolk of our country are illiterate, the weak, backward and exploited. Moreover education is also not available to all equally. Gender inequality is reinforced in education which is proved by the fact that the literacy rate for the women is only 53.7% against 75.3% of men as per 2001 Census.

Table-1 LITERACY RATE IN INDIA:

(%)

Census Year	Persons	Males	Females
1971	34.5	46.0	22.0
1981	43.6	56.4	29.8
1991	52.2	64.1	39.3
2001	64.8	75.3	53.7
2011	74.0	82.1	65.5

Note: 1951-1971: Age group 5+, 1981-2011: Age group 7+

Data Source: Census of India-2011⁶**Table-2 FEMALE LITERACY RATE ON STATE-WISE IN INDIA:**

Sl. No	Name of the State	Literacy rate of Women
1.	Andhra Pradesh	59.7%
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	59.6%
3.	Assam	67.3%
4.	Bihar	53.3%
5.	Chhattisgarh	60.6%
6.	Delhi	80.9%
7.	Goa	81.8%
8.	Gujarat	70.7%
9.	Haryana	66.8%
10.	Himachal Pradesh	76.6%
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	58.0%
12.	Jharkhand	56.2%
13.	Karnataka	68.1%
14.	Kerala	92.0%
15.	Madhya Pradesh	60.0%
16.	Maharashtra	75.5%
17.	Manipur	73.2%
18.	Meghalaya	73.85
19.	Mizoram	89.4%
20.	Nagaland	76.7%
21.	Orissa	64.4%
22.	Punjab	71.3%
23.	Rajasthan	52.7%
24.	Sikkim	76.4%
25.	Tamil Nadu	73.9%
26.	Tripura	83.1%
27.	Uttar Pradesh	59.3%
28.	Uttarakhand	70.7%
29.	West Bengal	71.2%

UNION TERRITORIES:

1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	81.8%
2.	Chandigarh	81.4%
3.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	65.9%
4.	Daman & Diu	79.6%
5.	Lakshadweep	88.2%
6.	Pondicherry	81.2%

All India	65.46%
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Data Source: Census of India-2011⁶

Government of India, Census of India 2011

According to the table -2 the state wise female literacy rate had an average of 65.46% in all India basis in 2011 census the high literacy rate is 92.0% in Kerala and least literacy rate is 52.7% in Rajasthan in 2011 census while comparing literacy rate of female 11% increase in 2011 census is increased from 54.16% to 65.46%. Women's are growing well in the last 10 years. Government of India has been taken various steps and plans of scheme especially for women in every movement.

11. CONCLUSION:

*British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher (Monday, June 26, 1995) said that "If you want something said, ask a man; if you want something done, ask a woman."*²⁵

At the present time, women play a very important and wider role in our society. Women are intelligence, hard-working, and efficient at their work. So they put heart and soul together in whatever they undertake. They are striving very hard to reach the highest efficiency and perfection in the work. Human progresses, when new civilization set up then needs the women. There is no denying fact that women in India have made considerable progress in the last 50 years, but yet they have to struggle against many handicaps and social evil in the male-dominated society. They are not at all inferior to men. They are capable of sharing all the responsibilities of life. Man and women have been rightly compared to the wheels of the same carriage. The women empowerment programs are investing abundantly in the welfare and empowerment of women, encouraging women to break free from their traditional roles and do away with gender stereotypes. There are various ways of achieving women's empowerment, such as social, educational, political, psychological, and economical, and many more. And many types of movements, laws, articles have been used for empowering the women in India. Empowerment approaches for women, therefore, is not only about providing services but also it uses about recognizing their lived realities.

12. SUGGESTIONS: Self-identity, social and family awareness, social mobility, proper education and guidance, protection of their life.

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