

# Education And Woman's Empowerment in Samastipur District.

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## **ABSTRACT:**

Food, clothing and housing are considered to be the fundamental necessities of human beings with the progress of time education and health have also become essential needs of us. Education is capable of providing all needs fulfilled. Without knowledge nothing can be acquired and every thing can be obtained if one is equipped with knowledge . It is more essential for women because they are said to be the first school of learning . An educated women serves society in many ways. Hence woman's emancipation from bondage is the most essential part of the society .

Empowerment is a monolithic word encompassing many things in its fold. If any one is independent in decision making and doing in one's own way, is termed as empowered one. If woman does so, then woman is supposed to be empowered. In the hearing empowerment is an introduction of modernity and a sense of discarding prevalent societal practices. But too much empowerment is not always good for any one. Empowerment must be studied considering all things surrounding us. In Indian society women have never remained neglected lots. No one can deny the importance of women in the family.

## **Why is education important?**

Our scriptures say that 'Sa vidya Ya Bimuktaye.'" <sup>1</sup> It means that one that makes us free from all types of bondages viz physical, psychological and meta-physical is called education , certainly an educated society opens Pandora's box of development and females are an integral part of it. Education develops insight, broadens the base of things, gives power of rationality and encourages to crush all sorts of superstitions which have been eating into our utility . Thus the gist of empowerment is inherent in education .

## **Education and Female Empowerment**

In the development of society males and females are equally responsible . A bird can not fly with a single wing so is the condition of social development. The term "Ardhangini" <sup>2</sup> (counter part) manifests the importance of women in the life of man. With the rolling wheel of time the traditional wisdom of our society has undergone vast changes and consequently in our society women have lost their traditional importance (where women are worshipped, god resides there) and hence empowerment of women has become necessary. Due to growth of education in females great

improvement has been seen in the socio-economic and political conditions of the females, but still much is to be done. Govt. of India declared 2001 as the "year of female empowerment" and since then, each year female empowerment day is celebrated with full enthusiasm. To keep the reformative tempo in momentum our central and the state Govt. have taken many constitutional measures, framed many legal acts and statutes and executed many schemes related to the welfare and empowerment of females schemes like dress and bicycle distribution, scholarship to school and college-going girls; special loan provision to females for higher and technical education, 50% reservation in Panchayat Raj administration etc. are some schemes which are in operations and implementation of these schemes have started to manifest.

### **Concept of women Empowerment:**

Female empowerment is a broad concept which is related to various aspects of the life of women. It includes all sorts of empowerment social, economic political and cultural. Among all kinds of empowerment economic empowerment is the most important. The present time is thoroughly economic base. Here very famous saying of Bhartrihari, legendary king of ancient classical period may be quoted. Gold has relegated all virtues down and all "virtues<sup>3</sup> cling to gold" सर्वे गुणाः काञ्चनमाश्रयन्ते।

This shows the might of economic power. In family who is main earner, he is listened to by every member of the family. The work done by women in the family is more valuable even then their saying does not deserve more weight. This is why economic empowerment of women is must, and economic empowerment can not be possible without being well-educated. J.K. <sup>4</sup> Pillai, a noted scholar has rightly said -"Female empowerment assimilates every thing in one self. It is a complex process which emboldens woman of every stage." women should go ahead to capture power utilizing the right rendered to them. They should always remain vigilant and alert in carving out position at every step in the society. More governmental empowerment. females should show their confidence also. By education females may develop rei-confidence from education. Hence education is the primary key to empowerment of the women. From Table No. 1.1 state of literacy of women in Samastipur district can be studied.

Total population of Samastipur district was as per 2011 census, 42.61 lakhs out of which 22.30 and 20.31 lakhs of population were of males and females respectively of the total population 41.13 lakhs or 96.5% live in villages.

**Table No. 1.1**  
**Trend of Literacy in Samastipur District.**

S.No.	Name of C.D. B's	Total population (in laks)	Total Literates (lakh)	Me literates (lakh)	Female Literates (lakh)
1	Kalyanpur	3.10	1.49	0.89	0.60
2	Warisnagar	2.16	1.06	0.63	0.42
3	Shivaji nagar	1.93	0.92	0.58	0.34
4	Khanpur	1.95	0.91	0.55	0.35
5	Samastipur	2.83	1.59	0.95	0.64
6	Pusa	1.32	0.79	0.46	0.33
7	Tajpur	1.61	0.92	0.54	0.38
8	Morwa	1.96	0.93	0.56	0.36
9	Patori	1.79	0.90	0.55	0.35
10	Mohanpur	1.15	0.53	0.31	0.20
11	SArairanjan	2.54	1.31	0.78	0.53
12	Vidyapati nagar	1.53	0.72	0.46	0.31
13	Dalsingh sarai	1.84	0.94	0.57	0.38
14	Ujjarpur	2.97	1.56	0.94	0.62
15	Bibhuti pur	3.38	1.74	1.04	0.69
16	Rosera	1.679	0.80	0.49	0.33
17	Singlia	2.10	0.86	0.55	0.32
18	Hasanpur	2.27	1.04	0.65	0.39
19	Bithan	1.48	0.56	0.35	0.20

Source: Census of Bihar (Primary) 2011.

It means that Samastipur district is almost rural in character. Its reflection is obvious on the literacy rate of the total population 61.86% people are illiterates. Female literacy rate was 51.51% as against 72.25% computed for male population. Spatial distribution of literacy rate in different C.D. B's is very uneven Bithan. Mohanpur Vidyapatinar, Singhia, Rosera, Shivatjinagar and Patori C.D. B's have the lowest percentage of female literacy. Socio-economicallly these C.D. B's are backward. River Ganga, Kareh, urhi Gandak and Kosi rivers have been creating flood conditions . There is lack of assured irrigation facilities except Hasanpur Sugar mill there is no development of any types of industries . Number of primary , middle and High schools are very few . In these C.D. B's there is acute shortage of girls school. There is only one constutent college in Rosera it is sub-division town It means that literacy awakening progprmmme in majority of C.D. B's of the district is farmand far away fro implementation. In such a piquant situation empowerment of women is a distant dream. However, there are several schemes for female empowerment, that can be perused here:

i) Sondensed course for female education.

- ii) Iwadhar Yojna started in 2001-02.
- iii) National and state Female commission (.1992). It has been enacted to safeguard women at different steps.
- iv) Norar Yojna 1982-83, especially designed to help females belonging to backward Communities.
- V) Swayam Sidha Yojna (2001-02) . It is a wide-range female welfare and empowering schemes focusing on all types of economic empowerment of women through short and long term easy loan facilities for starting businesses. Out of 1950 C.D. B's selected in India three C.D. B's of Samastipur districts namely Bithan, Ujiarpur and Vidyapati nagar have been taken into this category.
- vi) Save daughter and teach daughter scheme (1915). This is a very powerful scheme of the central govt. carried on by the respective state govts. to educate girls.
- vii) Ujjawala Yojana.
- viii) Chief Minister Girl upliftment scheme.

This scheme provides Rs. 1000/- Rs. 25000/- aid for teaching . This scheme has put favourable impact in enhancing enrollments of girls in higher institutions.

- ix) Chief Minister girls cycle scheme & dress scheme. These schemes have started to improve socio-economic and cultural conditions of females. Attitudinal changes are seen even in downtrodden action of the society.

### **Handicaps in Educating Females:**

There are many references in Rg Veda, Atharva Veda, Kautilya's Arthasastra, Mahabharata etc. which reveal that females used to learn in Gurukul like males. Gautmi, Ahilya, Tara , Mahismati etc. are well-known females who had composed many couplets and Mantras. But the long period of slavery caused many sorts of bondages for females. During British period some laws were framed in favour of females . Many Indian reformers vivekanand, vidyasagar Dayanand saraswati, Raja Ram mohan Roy etc. came forward and many reformative changes took place in favour of females. Practice like self immolation by widow was discouraged. But lack of education many wrong social practices remained continued in different parts of India. our society is patriarchal, but Tribal society is matriarchal. It is general belief that girl is wealth of others. Hence, no attention was given to girl's education . But recently females started to assert. They are interested in getting education. They have started to go out to seek jobs. But many things are still to be done to empower women.

### **Remedial Measures to Remove BOTTlenecks:**

Not only in India but world over females face some problems. Provision for wide spread networks of teaching institution is primary requisite . There are several panchayats where even primary schools have not been set up. Guardians hesitate to send their wards in those school

which are distantly located. Hence, at least primary school must be available in every village. There are several institutions where basic structure are not available. Students have to sit down under the shadow of trees. Is it a proper way of teaching ? Early marriage of girls generally in downtrodden families must be checked by official vigilance. In many panchayats distribution of transportation networks is very uneven . This is a great barrier in the movement of girls. At Panchayat Level there should be coaching centers for girls of weaker section of the society Above all, awakening of social consciousness is best panacea to educate women. Future of Female's empowerment is bright but at the same time. empowerment must not go beyond certain limit otherwise male section will come up in the way to create chaos in the society Male and females are not competitor rather they should be harmonically.

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