



Gender Budgeting and Women Empowerment

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ABSTRACT

This paper highlighted the role of gender budgeting in women empowerment in India. The study focuses on the issues and challenges faced by the women and need to create awareness about their rights and legislative provision for the women. Government of India every year allocate fund for women schemes for empowering them. Women related schemes helps to bring gender equality such as Beti bachao beti padhao , Ujjawala scheme etc. Women in India faced many types of Violence such as dowry, rape, trafficking of women etc. Because of all these problems government provide resources and tools for women by making women specific schemes.

Key words : Gender budgeting, Health, Education, Gender equality.

Introduction

Gender budgeting is a powerful tool for women empowerment. Empowerment is strictly needed for sustainable development. If women are fully empowered then they contribute in the development of nation. Women are also a source of human capital. In gender budgeting all allocation are mainly focused on the women and child development. In India several programs and policies have been implemented to empower women. In education and health special provisions for women have been started by the government of India. But still there is huge difference in literary ratio, sex ratio and high gender gap index. So government should adopt more policies awareness campaign and provide the information about the rights to the women.

Literature review

Sharma(2014) examined the women empowerment through gender budgeting. The study addressed the various issues and tool for empowerment of women. The study was suggested that education is the only tool to brings the new thinking and gender equality.

Singh(2016) analysed the role of gender budgeting in India for women empowerment. The main target of the study was to check the status of women in India and the rationale of gender budgeting. The study was found that allocation for women and child development in India is continuously increasing.

Kumar (2019) studied the impact of gender budgeting on women empowerment. The main purpose of the study is to analyze the trend in gender budget over the periods. The study found that lack of finance ,political will, accounting is the main hindrances in this process. The study suggested that financial literacy may brings gender equality in India.

Objectives of the study

1. To analyze the budget allocation on different schemes related to women development.
2. To know the impact of gender budgeting on women empowerment.

Methodology

The results of the study is based on secondary data which is collected through various websites, Union Budget, public or unpublished sources. Extensive literature review is done for understanding the background of the study.

Table 1 : Global Gender Gap Report 2020

Nation name	Score	Rank
Iceland	0.877	1
Norway	0.842	2
France	0.781	15
China	0.676	106
India	0.668	112

Source: Global gender gap report 2020

Table no. 1 shows the gender gap rank of the countries and their respective scores. In this index highest score is the Iceland and achieved top rank in this index which shows there most equal treatment irrespective of gender. Norway achieved second rank with score 0.842. China secure 106 rank in this index. India secured 112 rank with score 0.668 which showed that there is still inequality persist regarding the gender.

Table 2 : literacy rate in India (in percentage)

Year	Males	Females	% growth rate in male literacy rate	% growth rate in female literacy rate
1951	27.2	8.9	-	-
1961	40.4	15.4	48.53	73.034
1971	46	22	13.86	42.857
1981	56.4	29.8	22.61	35.45
1991	64.1	39.3	23.65	31.8
2001	75.3	53.7	17.47	36.6
2011	80.9	64.6	7.43	20.2

Source: census of India

Table no. 2 shows the literacy rate in India over the decades. After analysing the trend in literacy gap this is decreasing but no so much with consistency. There is huge gap between male and female literacy rate. In

2011 male literacy rate is high as compare to female that shows females in India do not get equal opportunity in getting education.

Table 3: Unequal participation of women across the sectors

Indicators	Female	Male
Participation in labour force	27	80
% in Lok Sabha	12.1	87.9
% in Rajya Sabha	12.6	87.4
% in Supreme Court	3.4	96.6
% in High Court	9.8	90.2

Three year Agenda Report

Table no. 3 shows the unequal participation in sectors and there is large gap between the participation ratio of male and female. There is large gap in participation in labour force which is 27:80. In political participation also female ratio is very low that is 12.1:87.9 for Lok Sabha and 12.6: 87.4 for Rajya Sabha. In judicial service female participation is also very low that is 3.4 96.6 for Supreme court and 9.8:90.2 for High court.

Table 4 : Allocation under Union Budget 2020

Schemes for women empowerment	Budgetary allocation for FY 2020-21(Rs in crore)
Mahila Shakti Kendra	100
Swadhar Greh	50
Support to Training and Empowerment programme	-
Ujjawala	30
Working women hostel	150
Information and Mass Communication	100
Beti Bachao Beti padhao	220
Women Helpline	30
One Stop Center	385
Other Schemes Funded from Nirbhaya Fund	80
Transfer to Nirbhaya fund	500
Amount met from Nirbhaya fund	500
Gender budgeting and Research	8
Manila police volunteers	5
Home for Widows	5

Ministry of women and child development

Table no. 4 shows that how government allocate fund for different schemes for women . This allocation shows that very low allocation for gender budgeting that is only 8% but high as compare to previous year.

Table 5: Trends in allocation of wage , budget for Anganwadi Program

Parameters	2016-17	2017-18	2020-21
Anganwadi centres (in lakhs)	14	14	13.77(14 lakhs are sanctioned)
Female workers (in lakhs)	22	22	24.4
Budget in crore	14560	15245	20532.38
Monthly wages workers(in millions)	70	70	70
Children (in millions)	70	70	70
Pregnant mothers (in millions)	15	15	15

Table no. 5 shows the data related to specific anganwadi program which helps for the development of the women and child. In 2020 budget allocation for anganwadi increased significantly.

Constraints in gender budgeting

1. Lack of finance
2. Lack of political will
3. Management of resources and their accountability
4. Low participation of women in budget making

Conclusion : Gender budgeting play an important role to empower the women in India. Gap in literacy rate between male and female is still persist so government should encourage the enrollment of female various education programs for girls education should be started. Various health facilities should be started for women empowerment.

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