

Gender Equality and Sustainable Development in India

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Abstract:

In India gender inequality has its roots in cultural norms traditional and patriarchal system. In India patriarchal society is responsible for suppression and oppression of India women Indian culture is a silencing culture. Women are silenced in the name of tradition, society, family etc. as per the nature rules now women are raising voice against such suppression. It is converted now in mass women movements they are lighting for their basic rights and human rights Gender Equality is the backbone of sustainable development goals. Gender disability affects the growth and development. Globally women are experiencing gendered subalterns. They are subalterns in the term of education wealth discussion method, financial opportunities even social desiccation.

Keywords: Gender, Traditional, Patriarchal, Suppression, globally etc.

Introduction:

Sustainable development includes environment, social progress and economic developments in environments aspects natural resources and environmental protection in included where in social progress civil rights, social economic passement, cultural identity is included where is economical aspect there are expectation about property and employment is included. Political participation and representation also matter a lot in sustainable development. SDGS wanted to eradicate the inequality or discrimination in access to education health facilities etc. They aim to tackle economic crisis and natural resource and environmental protections is

included were in social progress civil rights social cultural. This is a kind of world mission to achieve gender equality progress has happening in many countries on different level. When every woman could be able to say “I am proud to be women that time real gender equality goal will be achieved”.

Women and Political Participation:

Women Political participation and Decision making is very less. Globally women leadership in politics is only 11% from 1995 to 2015. This has to change women are more than half of the population and potential. They need to be active in communities. They need to sit at the table



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women are needed to come forward as women with vision and anticipation?

All women must be at equal treatment. There should be target of ending violence against women to achieve sustainable development. Women are victims of in many ways like unpaid care work, sexual and reproductive health, when we see percentage of abortion. There should be right to reproductive health and rights. It is seen that gender disparities become wider as girls move on adolescence stage. Deepa Narayan says in her book, "I grew up thinking unless my father sanctions my existence. I am not alive. I was always waiting for validation. If he said you are fine I would be fine".

Gender equality and social media:

Social media played a vital role in unfolding unexpected inner realities. This movement is proved a sea change for the victim of sexual harassment. To change all these things, have to follow due process. Now people from all walks of life are coming to center to back survivors as lawyers. Media plays vital role in presenting or creating the picture of society. It shows empowered women, successful women, courageous at the same time traditional images are also shown. We see tagline in T.V. advertisements which shows women all over world are only mean to homework. Janina says, "Gender is about more than men/women to achieve gender equality we all have to challenge

ourselves to think outside these restrictive boxes and recognize other gender identities that have to be included when fighting for equality." Though India is independent but Indian women are still fighting for freedom. They have trained to remain voiceless and erase themselves but somewhere women are speaking up about their experiences. #me too movement is the outcome of this breaking of silence. This movement shook the whole world. In this digital movement women are expressing storms of experiences and suffocation. Me too movement raised voice against sexual harassment. In Oct, 2017 it spread in the whole world. Tarana Burke an American social activist coined this phrase me too and it was popularized by American actress Alyssa Milans on Twitter."Such women mass movements are creating the awareness to think about self respect, self esteem and praise the voice against such discriminations.

Gender equality and Mass Movement:

In 2012, whole country stirred because of the Nirbhaya incident in New Delhi. Silently women protested for the justice for Nirbhaya. This protest leads or a kind of courage which resulted in the number of women reporting such crimes increased. In the whole world it had become the centre of discussion while Google put a white candle below its search bar in the US marking its tribute. SDGs goal 3 assures the women healthy and hygiene life there should be



some provisions up to the root level. In India when sanitary napkins were taxed with GST it became unaffordable to the women of lower income class. Then Indian women raised voice for this using the digital world.

Online movement 'Lahuka Lagan' was also a struggle for healthy life of women. It was against the taxing sanitary napkins. 12% GST on sanitary pads. Indian women fought for exemption from GST on sanitary pads. Advocate Sushmita dev filed a petition with the support of above the 400000 women signatures. It was an online and offline movement of July 2018 and India becomes the one of the countries of world where sanitary napkins are tax free. There was also some variation in taxation in different states. But it is also a step forwarded to gender equality by uplifting health and which mentioned in goal 3 good health and wellbeing and goal6 clean water and sanitation.

Gender equality and Domestic Violence:

Domestic Violence is the major barrier of gender equality. In UP, Banda district women raised voice against domestic violence in the form of gulabi gang in 2006. At the starting it was foe Domestic violence but later it also struggled against corruption and child marriages. Status of rural uneducated women is different from educated urban women but as whole Indian mothers are stressed mothers. Some women are dependent financially. If

marriage is a samsakara and it is taken as social responsibility then why males are not shouldering the responsibilities automatically come after the marriage. There should be recognition to mother work. Tarabai Shinde has said in her book 'Stripurushtulana'• that in India women are not only treated as the man's other but are also subjected to discrimination, oppression, violence and exploitation. She through the 'stripurushtulana' questioned the standards set for women by the dominant half which were and still are unfair and the root cause of their marginal position in the society.

According to World Economic Forum (2017) it will take 100 years to eradicate gender disparities. The Indian constitution recognized the principle of equal pay for equal work for both men and women and right to work through article 39 (D) and 41. But in India still there is discrimination in equal pay to same work, Discrimination varies nation to nation but for empowering women gender gap should be reduced, especially in the labor market. Eliminating the wage gap is very essential.

In the name of protecting women, women are suppressed. Gender equality begins in families. We have to breakdown gender stereotypes by educating them to share the care work, women right. Women should be empowered to speak out. While promising no one will behind we should come together to bring all these



movements and struggles into action. Cultural shift should be accepted by the people broadly.

‘We know

What we are

But know not

What we may be”

Woman is the unique and inseparable unit of humankind. William Shakespeare what said before centuries is relevant to the present situation of women. History records the changing status of women and it has been reflected through the contemporary literature. Now women are expressing their emotional world and unfolding realities and giving voice to their suffocation through the media, mass movements, through newspapers, somewhere after exploitation they are knocking the doors of courts etc. All such protesting voices made world to think about the gender equality. There is a need to rethink and to understand the causes of inequality and power relation, Gender equality is a world mission to achieve sustainable development.

Gender equality is the fifth goal of SDG. It aims to erase all forms of inequalities in all spheres circled women. It is working for achieving gender equality and empowers all women and girls. It is a difficult and crucial task before the world. Gender disparity is a kind of injustice: socially accepted all over the world. On one hand and on the other hand, half circle of the

earth is fighting for equality. This half circle is suffering due to discrimination, gap in gender equality, violence on different paths of the life.

SDG’s 2030 agenda aims in building a better future for all. It also aims at no one will behind. In 2015, all over the world 129 countries agreed the sustainable development goals. They planned for next 15 years means up to 2030. These countries decided to develop the people who are living in poverty. Present paper aims to study the new forms of women struggle. It also aims to study changing faces of discrimination. Battle for gender equality is not only a battle of decades but it is of centuries. Gender equality facilitates women empowerment indirectly to sustainable development.

Dr. B. R. Ambedkar says, “I measure the progress of a community by the degree of progress which women have achieved.”? Gender equality is a base for sustainable world which is a kind of basic Fundamental human right. Women’s representation in politics, economical decision making process is very rare.

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