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EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN

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Abstract:

The principle of gender equality is enshrined in the Indian constitution in its preamble fundamental rights , fundamental duties and directive principles . The constitution not only grants equality to women , but also empowers are state to adopt measures of positive discrimination in favour of women.

KEYWORDS:

fundamental rights , Empowerment , International women's .

INTRODUCTION:

EMPOWERMENT :-

Empowerment entails struggle , it entails ledtning to deal with the forces of oppression it entails housing a vision of a new society , it entails conscious and deliberate inter venations and efforts to enhance are quality of life.

Empowerment as a concept has unreduced at the International women's conference at Nairobi in 1985. The conference defined empowerment as a redistribution of social power and control of resources in favour of women . If a women is economically a versatile parasite, she can never claim an equal status with women. Women is awareness about development is basic to achieve this economic empowerment .

Empowerment of women – which is based an equality between sexes , is a long drawn , conscious and continuous prices comprising enhancement of skills , capacity building, gaining self-confidence and meaningful part caption in decision rualoing .

EDUCATION:-

To increase are empowerment it is very necessary to educate them Empowerment of women thorough education will develop the self- esteem and self confidence of women , a positive image of women by recognizing their contribution to the society ability to think critically decision along abilities action through collective prices and equal participation in development process.
“Education an effective weapon for women empowerment” .

GLOBALIZATION:-

Globalization has presented new challenge for the realization of the goal of women's equality , the gender impact of which has not been systematically evaluated . However from the micro-level studies that were commissioned by the treatment of women and child development it is evident that there is a need for

re-framing policies for access to employment and quality of employment. Benefits of the growing global economy have been unevenly distributed leading to under economic disparities, the feminization of poverty, increased gender inequality through often deteriorating working conditions and unsafe informal economy and rural areas. Strategies will be designed to enhance the capacity of women and empower them to meet the negative social and economic impacts, which may flow from the globalization.

EMPLOYMENT:-

Equal remuneration act 1976 has been passed, providing for the payment of equal remuneration to men and women workers and the prevention of discrimination on grounds of sex. Special steps should therefore be taken to review recruitment, promotion and other personnel practices in all public and private sector undertakings to ensure that there is no discrimination against women candidates. Women apprentices should be taken without discrimination in industries. Representatives of women's voluntary organizations should be associated in the machinery set up to ensure adequate participation of women in employment. Village industries, which provide scope for the employment of women should be further promoted. Special framing services should be organized and credit, marketing facilities etc. extended, specially in regard to crafts which can have a ready export market through modernization of design, etc. Integrated pilot projects to cover going, production and marketing should be started.

The existing recruitment procedures and employment conditions should be reviewed to encourage the entry of women into the work force. For this purpose, the provisions relating to maximum age of entry into service should be reviewed. Part time employment of women should be promoted wherever feasible. Refresher courses and training programmes should be organized for adult women to make them fit for re-employment.

Organizations entrusted by the Govt. with the task of promoting self-employment opportunities should develop special women's entrepreneurial training motivation programmes and provide special assistance to women entrepreneurs and to women's co-operative in terms of credit, licensing etc.

The existing legislation in regard to maternity benefits should be reviewed. It should simultaneously be ensured that there is no consequent adverse effect on the employment of women.

MASS MEDIA:-

Mass media, especially the audiovisual media, play an important role by influencing the consumption patterns and life styles, and usually promote commercial interests (often of external producers), thus creating pressures to distort trade and industrial policies. They also contribute to distortion of cultural development, promoting imported values which militate against comprehensive integrated development and the principle of collective self-reliance. There has been a recent trend among media professionals in developing countries towards greater realism in their portrayal of official problems. Realism, however, must be used to inspire people to struggle for change. A search of new options in human relationships, the reshaping of social institutions, political and economic structure and culture values would go a long way towards integrating women into the world of the media, and enable the media to play a more positive role in integrated development.

DEVELOPMENT ISSUES:-

The still largely unresolved problems of the inter-connections between economic and social development and the increasing concern to the distributional and human dimensions of development indicate the need to pay attention to all aspects of social security, population trends and family planning, housing, urbanization and the environment are linked with the general problems of the tempo of socio-economic development of a country, its resource base and social policies.

Changes Needed in the Medical Termination Pregnancy Act:-

According to section 4(a) of the Act, consent of a minor girl is not required for this operation while in other surgical operations of children above 12 such consent is necessary. In our view this distinction is uncalled for and may lead to guardians compelling young girls to undergo this operation even when they do not want it. The consent of the patient should be essential. In the case of a minor girl nearing majority, if the doctor and the patient are in agreement the consent of the guardian may be dispensed with. In all such cases greater discretion should be permitted to the doctor.

Sections 8 of the act provides an overriding precaution to the doctor for any damage caused by the operation. Since no such protection is given for other operations thus bears an unnecessary clause and may lead to negligence. It may therefore be dropped.

While we appreciate the ethical considerations, which make many doctors reluctant to perform this operation, we feel that it is women's right to have control over the size of her family. At the same time it is important that doctors should have the authority to discourage such operations when they pose definite risk to the health of a patient.

The procedure and paper work involved in these operations need to be simplified. It is also necessary to extend facilities for authorized termination pregnancies particularly in the rural areas.

Most doctors are reluctant to perform these operations in case of unmarried girls. It is necessary to clarify the point that rape is not the only ground to justify termination in cases of unmarried girls nor is there any legal obligation on the doctor to inform the policy of an operation done in rape cases.

Facilities of working women:-

The establishment of day care centres, crèches and balwadis should be promoted on a large scale in rural semi-urban and urban areas to help working mothers and active women social users discharge their duties and enable the children to attend school.

Hostel facilities for working women of the lower income groups should be explained.

Legal Equality for Women

The National movement leaders had not only called upon the women to participate in the freedom struggle as equals but have also committed themselves to the ideology of gender equality. In the fundamental rights resolution of Indian National Congress adopted in 1931. It was postulated freedom, justice, dignity and equality for women was essential for nation building. The framers of the constitution of India, therefore, in the social structure of the country. In the promises of the constitution the solemn resolve of the founding fathers contain the on the status of women:-

(a) Justice :- Social, economic and Political for all.

(b) Equality:- of status and opportunity for all.

Parts III and IV of the constitution dealing with fundamental rights and directive principles elaborate these declarations in concrete forms. In chapter an fundamental right article envisages that the state shall not do to any person equality before law or equal protection of law. The inclusion of the provisions for make it possible for the state to enact legislature for the welfare of women even of that violates fundamental rights in general.

"We have to change our thought about women and increase their confidence in all manner so that women could be empowered high and high. Without women there is no world". And also change the equality between men and women.

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