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Women's education and their economic condition in Madhya Pradesh, India

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Abstract

Literacy is an important demographic element and it is a good measure of human progress. It is essential for social reconstruction, improvement in quality of life and preparation of womanpower for rapid development. Education inculcates new ideas for betterment of society in particular and nation in general. This paper is present the demographic changes and gender inequality in the Indian and the state of Madhya Pradesh from available data on education, enrolment ratio, sex ratio of the state and India. The Methodology is based on secondary data taken from census of India 2011 reports, NFHS-5 and other published documents. This study gives an overall demographic and gender inequality picture of Madhya Pradesh (M.P.) to draw government's attention to the need and to bring down gender inequality. We recommend that government should promote female literacy through planned interventions by state level studies, augment social infrastructure and lay special emphasis on sex ratio and enrolment of student.

Keywords: Women's education, economic condition, Literacy, sex ratio

Introduction

"Educating a man is educating an individual, while educating a woman is educating a family"

— Jawaharlal Nehru

Inequality between men and women is one of the most crucial disparities in many societies, and this is particularly so in India. Differences in female and male literacy rates are one aspect of this broader phenomenon of gender-based inequality in India. In much of the country, women tend in general to fare quite badly in relative terms compared with men, even with in the same families. This is reflected not only in such matters as education and economically to develop talents, but also in the more elementary fields of nutrition, health, and survival.

Women have been sharing half the sky so they cannot be neglected in having their active participation for the development of a country. The role of women can be treated in the direction of improving their social and economic aspects. The world economic profile of women shows that women represent 50% of the population 30% of the labour force constitutes of women, perform 60% of the working hours but unfortunately receive only 10% of the world's income and own less than 1% of the world's property.

Although women and men do not enjoy equal status in terms of enjoyment of power or possession of property, the contribution of women to economic development of a country cannot be undefined.

In earlier times, condition of women across the globe was worse. They were treated differently in all spheres of life social, cultural, economic, and political and were also devoid of their varied rights including rights to equal education. However after culmination of world war II, various international organization like- UNESCO, World Bank emerged which played a significant role in driving the international education agenda. Thus, in order to make a transition towards modern world, it became imperative for the world community to focus on women education. Further, collaborative efforts were also taken at international level so as to encourage the participation of women in public life and enhance their contribution towards economic development.

Corresponding Author: Supriya Srivastava Research Scholar, Department of Home Science, Sarojini Naidu Government Girls PG (Autonomous), College Shivaji Nager, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, India Madhya Pradesh is one of the poorest state in India with over 37% of its total population of 60 million living below the poverty line. Schedule castes (SCs) and scheduled tribes (STs), two of the most marginalized groups, constitute 35% of the population and account for 60% of the poor. Gender based discrimination is reflected in the unequal sex ratio (930/1000) against an already worrying national average of 940/1000 in 2011 and lower human development indicators for women.

It has been often argued that education is key to giving women better control over their lives. The eleventh (2007-2012) and twelve five year plan (2012-2017) have consistently envisaged that achieving high female literacy is an inevitable step towards achievement of inclusive growth and gender empowerment. There have been a number of initiatives adopted off late by the government of India such as "Beti Bachao Beti Padhao" Its name was changed to BADLAV (Beti Apki Dhan-Laxmi Aur Vijay-Laxmi) on 4 July 2019, and "Servasiksha Abhiyaan" to enhance the literacy rate of females in India. Government of Madhya Pradesh is also taking number of steps to incentives parents and children and children to enhance female education.

Objectives of the study

The study aims to achieve the following objectives:

- To analysis the current status of women education in MP.
- To analysis the current status of women economic condition in MP.
- To study the factors that hinder in women education.
- To provide valuable suggestions in order to improve the condition of women education in Madhya Pradesh so as achieve new height in an economic development.

Methodology

The study is purely conceptual and descriptive in nature. It has been done by identifying, reviewing and analyzing the findings and conclusions of prior research work pertinent to linkages between women education and economic condition in Madhya Pradesh. Further, the study is also an attempt to describe the current state of women education in India in order to identify the varied issues which have remained unaddressed till date and needs more attention. To address the

major objectives of the study secondary data have been used like books, magazines, journals, various government organizations website.

Result & Discussion

Table 1: Literacy rates of males and females in India & Madhya Pradesh.

(Figure in Percentage)

Year		India		Madhya Pradesh				
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total		
1991	63.9	39.2	52.21	63.9	39.4	44.67		
2001	76.0	54.0	64.84	76.06	50.29	63.74		
2011	82.14	65.46	74.04	78.73	59.24	70.63		

Source: census, 2011

It can infer that literacy rate of both men and women has increase over 3 decades. In case of men, literacy rate has risen 18.84%, in case of women it has risen 26.26% and total has risen 21.83% in India. In Madhya Pradesh men literacy rate has risen 14.83%, women literacy rate has risen 19.84% and total literacy rate has risen 25.96%. It shows that there exists a gender inequality in the sphere of education. As per 2011 census, at that time the literacy rate for women in only 65.46% against 82.14% of men, the education gap between male and female are 16.68 in India, and in the MP literacy rate for the women in only 59.24% against 78.73% of men, the education gap between male and female are 19.49%.

Table 2: Sex ratio according to National Family Health Survey-5.

India/state	NFHS-5 (2019-21)	NFHS (2015-16)
India	1020*	991
Madhya Pradesh	970	948

Source: National Family Health Survey-5

The table shows as per the NFHS-5 (2019-21), the sex ratio of the population (females per 1000 males) for the country was estimated as 1020 and for the state of Madhya Pradesh was estimated as 970. In the India sex ratio has risen 29 females are more than total males and in Madhya Pradesh sex ratio has risen 22 females are more than total males.

Table 3: Number of school by level of school education, 2020-21.

India/State	Total	Primary	Upper primary	Secondary	Higher secondary
India	1509136	774742	442928	151946	139520
Madhya Pradesh	133271	67968	47399	8470	9434

Source: UDISE+ 2020-21 (Unified, District Information System for Education)

In this table we shows that number of school by level of school education. By the level of education most of the schools of primary school in India and also in Madhya Pradesh. Something can be understood from this data that as the lining of education by the way number of school are reduced.

Table 4: Number of teachers by management, gender and class taught, 2020-21.

India/state	Number of teachers by gender & class taught- Government												
	Total			Pre-primary			Pre-primary & primary			Primary only			
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
India	2773901	2153198	4927099	13391	19727*	33118	136587	102019	238606	1153673	967332	2121005	
Madhya Pradesh	203878	101607	305485	8	5	13	85	57	142	116661	57602	174283	

Source: UDISE+ 2020-21 (Unified, District Information System for Education)

Table shows that number of male teachers are more than female teachers in all level of school education except in preprimary school with the 19727 females' teacher against 13391

male teachers in India. In the Madhya Pradesh number of teachers are more than females' teachers in all level of school education.

Table 5: Enrolment of students by gender, school management and level of school education 2020-21.

India/state		Enrolment-Government											
	Pre-primary			Primary (1 to 5)			Upper Primary (6 to 8)			Elementary (1 to 8)			
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	
India	1245883	1233033	2478916	34173798	34483548*	68657346	17445726	18389575*	35835301	5161924	52873123*	104492647	
Madhya Pradesh	8947	8757	17704	1978217	2053036*	4031253	1212425	1286524*	2498949	3190642	3339560*	6530202	

Source: UDISE+ 2020-21 (Unified, District Information System for Education)

The table no 5 represent the enrolment of student by the gender and level of education in government school during the year 2020-21. The girls enrolment at pre-primary level is 1233033 less than boys enrollment, at secondary level is 34483548 more than boys enrolment, at upper primary level is 18389575 more than boys enrolment and at the elementary is 52873123 more than boys enrolment.

Factors that hinder women Education

After 75 years of independence, women empowerment is a most challenges issue in India still now. The Factors that hinder in women empowerment are-

- Lack of parent education: due to lack of education of parent, not concern about girls education and for the reason they need to depend on men or others for.
- Gender inequality: the root cause of gender inequality in Indian society lies in its patriarchy system. Educating girls child is still seen as a bad investment because she is bound to get married and leave her paternal home one day.
- Parenting attitude: Negative paternal attitude towards educating daughters is one of the important challenges to promote girl's education in India.
- Lack of awareness: Government has launch different schemes, policies and program for concerns of girl due to lack of education, lack of awareness they are not able to take the benefits of that and most of Government schemes fail and not implement properly due to awareness of people.
- Early marriage: when girls are forced to marry young, they are often pulled out of school at a very critical age in their development. The transition from primary to secondary education is key for girls to gain the life skills they need to escape the cycle of poverty. Yet this is often the same time that many girls leave school due to early marriages.
- Financial problem: India more than half of the population live in below property line. So, they are not able to equally spend money for their child education. So, they prefer to send their boy child instead of girl for education.

Schemes of Madhya Pradesh Government for Women

- Beti Apki Dhan-laxmi aur Vijay-Laxmi
- Ladili Laxmi Yojana
- Lado campaign
- Shaurya Dal
- Mangal Diwas Yojana
- Swagatam Lakshmi Yojana
- Usha Kiran Yojana
- Gaon Ki Beti Yojana
- Balika Shiksha Protsahan Yojana

Conclusion

At the conclusion, it can say that education of women education is equally important as men for the development of a nation. But India is still surviving for women education. No doubt women literacy rate has increase after independent but half of the women population are illiterate. Which greatly hamper in the progress of the nation. At last 15 years, MP Government has launched many schemes for girls such as Beti Bachao Abhiyan, Lado Campaign, Surya Dal, Mangal Diwas Yojana, Gaon Ki Beti Yojana, and Balika Shiksha Protsahan Yojana. We found girls literacy rate improved but situations are not satisfactory for girls. Government not only responsible for the safe and respected life of girls but also this is our also moral duty do individually because of today's girl tomorrow woman. In my opinion "Engaging today's girl is to empower tomorrow's women".

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