ABSTRACT

As India is a developing country and from 10th plan the focus is for inclusive growth. The development of country will be rising by inclusion of all people who are not in a mainstream of development inclusion of marginalised people. As since from ancient times, we are having concern about women. In Indian population role of women is very important. As she is also an equal partner in household work as well as looking after all other aspects. In this, researcher has focused on meaning of empowerment, concept, need of empowerment and how this meaning is playing important role for the development of women and nation. The objective of the paper is to study the different aspects of empowerment, schemes, strategies and facts of empowering the women. The research methodology for paper adopted is secondary data and data which is available with the government, the conclusions are drawn. As the need was felt to select the women empowerment as topic of study as this topic is very important for development for nation, as women of an Indian economy plays dominant power but due to some circumstance she is not able to cope with it so to provide her opportunity the government and N Gos are trying to boost her inner confidence. The paper is selected to have an overview on its importance need and place in planning process of government and some schemes exclusively for marginalised and needy tribal women as more over these women are in need of the schemes. The Data is used for this paper is based on secondary data by reviewing the books journals articles and the government statistical data report and some internet sites related to topic the analysis is made on the data available. The conclusion drawn on above data available and some facts which were observed during study of topic and while review the books the facts which according to researcher was felt important to note for conclusion it is stated in the conclusion.

Keywords: LAMPS; NSTFDS; AMSY; NABARD; MAVIM; NGO; SHG

INTRODUCTION

As Jawaharlal Nehru had said “you can tell the condition of the nation by looking at the status of women. It seems that yes it is very true if the status of the women is well in country that country’s development will be real sense achieved. As our Indian economy is developing country we need to take more initiative for empowering women and that to tribal or rural and marginalised ,needy now the objective of the development is to bring women in to mainstream of development hence, condition of Indian women is a subject of study, since from century efforts are being done to empower her and it is central to human development if India has to achieve the growth than to sustain in the process of development it has to adopt empowerment.

Swami Vivekananda had said “That country and the nation which doesn’t respect women will never became great now and nor will in future.”So it is clear by above lines that empowerment of women is an important factor for a development of nation.

The concept of empowerment can differ according to the subject it is necessary this empowerment means the concept should be or is used only for women empower to get or acquire the power within
acquiring of power process in generally can be said as process empowering from now empowering to nation, empower to men or women, society by and large. So the concept meaning yet is not accurately defined but bringing inner power boost the power which is within our self for development purpose that development can be for nation, women, men, society culture etc. empowerment is not for one purpose or aspect it covers over all development from inner strength to outer most strength essential for development here in this paper the importance and need is being observed from women's point that is women empowerment is concerned.

This paper aims to visualize the process of empowerment meaning and its importance and need of empowering women. These so many years many of us had heard about the process but boosting to this aspect was felt and it had covered framed the strategy for the development. So looking to aspect the topic empowerment its need importance strategies which are essential for development of women is considered for the paper.

OBJECTIVES OF STUDY

1. To study the meaning, concept, need of empowerment.
2. To study importance of empowerment in the planning process of government
3. To know the strategy framed for women for marginalised poor and needy women.
4. To study, schemes, programmes available from data of government for empowerment of women.

Meaning of Empowerment

According to Madhu Sarins (Independent researcher and social activist)” The ability to make informed choices the ability to participate in informed decision making create spaces for empowerment of people through people centric intervention and peoples strategies for management.”

Empowerment is a continuous effort to reduce inequalities between people and groups. Some hierarchy is always there whether in organisation or society you do not find complete equality. Empowerment addresses these inequalities and attempts to reduce them.(Narayan Sheth a well known industrial sociologist).

According to Sarilatha (1994) Empowerment is a process of challenging existing power relations ,and of gaining power control over sources of power .(Karl) 1995 Opines that empowerment of women involve for interrelated and mutually reinforcing component, collective awareness capacity building and skilled development, participating, decision making power and action to bring about gender equality. Thus it implies control making process, both personal and cooperative control over income and expenditure acquisition and exercises of knowledge.

E-ENABLE
M-MAINTSTREAM
P-People
O-ORAGINATION
W-WEALTH
E-EQUALITY
R-REPRESENTATION

As above empower stands the meaning in same way country is taking initiative to empower tribal poor and needy women. The tribal women picture in minds of people as the word Adivasi women is spelled the picture that come in mind of the people is a women in her particular wear and heap of wood on her head to change this view from the minds of the people and to take her out from poverty and to make
her aware of power it is need to empower her .A lot of strategies for tribal women is being taken by
government and NGOs as even these women need to be given a status in society and country at large.

As the empowerment started in Beijing but before this Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharal Nehru both of
them had a view regarding empowerment of women but called, could not start directly. As developing
economy in planning era it started from five year plan women while being disadvantage and
vulnerable group never placed in better situation in many respect for accelerating socio economic
development of the community the active participation of women is important .In a social set up like
India their participation has to be ensured through tangible measures taken at various level which
result in their empowerment in the real sense.

Concept of Empowerment

As above it is said that empowerment of concept goes on changing as aspect changes here we are
considering the empowerment of women as it is thrust area of development initiative in India today.

According to different sociologist it may vary so according to them empowerment means The
manifestation of redistribution of power that changes ideology and dominance of male. According to
it is the process through which sees confidence cab be gained over ideology and resources which
determine power.

According to pillai (1995) It is the process which help community or group to achieve its political and
legal relevant authority. Empowerment is active, and the process which enable the women for her
multidimensional program and to realize their full identity and power cannot be created as it is not
commodity it has to be acquired and that acquired ness should not be temporary it should be sustained
and preserved.

Raw joland (1997) defined four different forms of powers.

Power over
Power with
Power within
Power to power

Need of Empowerment

As above we have seen empowerment concept accordingly the need was & it to boost inner power
someone should guide to boost inner power someone should guide to boost this power of our inner
self. As by nature women is gifted by all the power but she is not able to realize that power within as if
some support is given may be that power within will flourish and it will give fruit of progress which
lead to path & development for her own self and for country. It may be with are traditions and custom
the attitude of society made women not to make aware her of powers within as this fact is born in
mind that really women is gifted with all the powers within her in built.

The need was felt to take out that power, if she uses that power in proper way it may create wonders
in every one life because women can only do this as in Nation, Society, at large everything revolve
around her and to achieve development role of women becomes essential.

If we neglect her than though nation tries away by any means development becomes impossible. This
need was left since from ancient time many researchers worked and are still working, as empowerment
is not one time process it is continuous process never ending process so everyone has to take imitative
for empowerment.

The Gandhi had brought out the nature, role and significance of women in human societal setup
“women is gifted to men for companion with equal mental capacities and she has right of activities of
man to participate in minutes details and right of freedom and liberation of man”
Women allocation of resources for empowerment is impossible to gain from her side so she should be promoted to allocate them properly and kind of support to her for powering herself was felt the need and schemes, programmes are launched from government, society (social activities and even state government is working for betterment of tribal and poor women.

It is major cause since from post independence period Indian constitution had guaranteed “equality” among all sections to the society through economic and social welfare programmes. Even after 50 years of independence women of the nation constituting around 50% population have major problem to face poverty, Violence, etc.

The increasing awareness of the significant relationship and its existence sole and status of women ultimately family well being is reflected in growing volume of literature of women studies. The work done by women and her contribution towards society and family and nation economy is increasing day by day to study this import it becomes essential to study process of empowerment

Importance of Empowerment

The women and children constitute about one third of total population (2001) of the country. Hence it becomes important to safe guard interest and ensures that women are brought into mainstream to take advantage to general developmental activities.

In field of women’s studies and social work it is viewed with holistic perspectives it can be classified various aspect to be considered, health, education, skill development social parameters political and economical empowerment. Empowerment is concern as to how individual or person gain collective control over their resources and to achieve their interest, power is necessary which is provided through different endeavour of govt & NGO’s

It was realized that unless exclusive women development programme are need for women’s program unless it would not be possible and stage by stage planning scenario women empowerment was considered as important process as a part of development first five year plans till the date it being an important parts of planner it is not being negated in any of these plans assurance is their the in planning process some strategy would be exclusively for women let us consider as under

First five year plan (1951 – 56) Need to provide adequate services planned for maternal and child health

Second (1960-66) Women should be protected against injurious work equal payment & equal opp

Third year (1960-66) expansion of girl education literacy

Fourth plan (1969 – 74) material & child health supplementary seeding

Fifth (1974 – 79) – integration of welfare with developmental services

Sixth (1979 – 88) – multidisciplinary approach – Health, education, employment

Seventh (1986 – 90) – making women realize their role in process of development

Eight (1992 – 97) – National commission for women

Ninth (1997 – 2002) – women as agent of social change development

As we can see above planning process women’s development is being considered on priority basis it is very essential to boost her for empowerment. Empowerment objectives have been set as to empower women means in which aspect she should be empowered so indicators are been guidelines for process of this empowerments according to these aspects empowering process of women is acquired through our country these guidelines or aspects are as under. It is thrust area of develop the focus point are under which are important for consideration for empowerment that (need’s to be empowered in following aspects.)
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To develop self esteem, confidence and make them aware to realize their potentialities Awareness building about status, discrimination, rights opportunities Capacity building and skill development Participation and greater control and decision making power Equality between man and women Even the government is implementing the strategies for women as above we have seen till ninth plan the consideration for women same for next plans tenth plan had a view and took the initiatives the main focus was adoption of women component plan for rural and marginalised class of women and in the era of technology even programme launched to boost them to use technology instead of traditional technology under this schemes which help them to use technology and support financial support to extent the projects and used modern technology for post harvest, land based ,income generation activities rural engineering .The empowerment is very important and thrust area of development .

Information regarding schemes, planning, strategies, and some facts empowering marginalised women: One if the major concerns of Indian Planning has been the welfare and development of weaker sections of society especially that scheduled tribes and notified nomadic and semi-nomadic tribes who constitute nearly one quarter of the total population .Conceited efforts have been made in different plans to raise the social and economic status of these classes.

As seventh plan document says, whereas in the first four plans the emphasis was mainly on issues concerning education, employment and social welfare of backward classes, the fifth plan recognised that the development of disadvantage groups has to be based on comprehensive economic and human resource development efforts to help these people utilize the fruits of general economic development. The tribal sub-plan approach was adopted in the fifth and special component plans for schedule formulated in the sixth plan.

The most ambitious step of the government of India, in this direction, is the formulation of national perspective plan for women (1988-2000).this plan has been initiated recognising the need for holistic approach to the development of women. The perspective plan offers sectoral reviews of the situation of women in rural development, employment, supportive services, education, health, legislation, political participation, media and communication strategies towards a holistic development of women by 2000A.D.

The review of all the seven plans and National perspective plan for women shows an increasing concern of the government for women. From fifth plan onwards Government’s special concern is becoming visible for rural and tribal women. These women constitute nearly 80 percent of female population of which a large consist of tribal women. They contribute largely to the country’s economy which is mainly agriculture based.

Women Empowerment programme are carried all over India there are few which are highlighted in this paper through the synergy of LAMPS (Large Area Multipurpose Societies two State Channelizing Agencies, to avail them financial assistance from NSTFDC(National Schedule Tribes Finance and Development Corporation) west Bengal they stands as guarantors , tribal women mainly traditional in nature rooted in tribal way of life like animal husbandry which may include house , dairy, goatry, piggery, sheep rearing etc, (scene of confidence is achieved majority of them hold bank A/C in mini bank established by LAMPS. The passbook carrying their name photo is a mark of identity and Self Respect for them.

All the aspect of empowerment of women economic, empowerment plays a vital role. It is observed in tribal society that social discrimination owing to gender tribal women are empowered on their own traditional way, however intervention through AMSY(Adivasi Mahila Sasaskikaran Yojana)leading to participating in an economic activity contribution of women in family income promote Capacity Building.

A programme by NABARD Wadi development: Women Development: There has been an increased women’s participation in the programme the major activities taken up are promotion of SHGs, income generation activities, drudgery reduction along with awareness generation about
reproductive health and development. The income generating activities included fruit and forest plant nurseries, vegetable cultivation, produce collection, papad making, vermi composting etc. In order to reduce drudgery of women, three major activities are taken up in the field. They are smokeless stoves, use of bearings in the traditional grinding stones and pedal thresher for paddy. Support to Landless: Besides the land holding families, the programme has supported landless by providing micro-enterprises in farm and non-farm sectors and employment opportunities SHG movement has provided voice to tribal women and brought out their entrepreneurial skills which is demonstrated by the micro enterprises and income generating activities such as nursery management, vermin composting etc. undertaken by them.

In Maharashtra, Mahila Sabalikarn of tribal is looked by MAVIM (Mahila Arthik Vikas Mahamandal)It has been declared as nodal agency by Government of Maharashtra on 20th Jan 2003 to implement various women empowerment programme through self help group. It comprises four professional officers supports staff and sahayogini ‘s in the field each sahayogini work with 50to 60shg in 10 villages and provides a basic capacity building training inputs and confidence of communication with public as the sahayogini are working in field and providing training inputs to other women so they are getting exposure.

(VOs)/Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and autonomous society/institutions of State Government/Union Territory Administration. Ministry provides 100% assistance for running and maintenance of educational complexes for ST girls who include free education, boarding and lodging, books, uniforms, medical help, coaching, incentives to girls, periodical awards, etc. The revised scheme envisages the convergence with the schemes of Sava Shiksha Abhiyan and Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalay of Ministry of Human Resources Development. It meets the requirement of primary level students as well as middle/secondary level students and provides residential facility to ST girl students to ensure their retention in schools. Besides formal education, the revised scheme also takes care of skill upgradation of ST girls in various vocations.

Some facts can be revealed as to say that in real manner the tribal women’s are empowering. The data of 2010 is used for some facts that women’s have achieved level and came out of their traditional way of leaving life.

Firstly we start from employment as it is source of empowerment, as per women’s report 2005-6 women cash earning show that their cash is used is mainly 73.3%. Wife and husband jointly decide about cash spending is 69.8% as this shows decision about spending taken jointly is satisfactory but individually it is more. Even decision regarding household, health, purchase, visiting her family it is seen 37.5% currently married participate in all above decision.

Men attitude towards wife participation in decision making 47.9% currently married think that their wives should have an equal or greater participation than their husbands. Women access to money and credit where in 38.2% of st women have money that they can decide how to use but only few have and bank account which they themselves operate. Comparing work participation rate obtained from census 2001 data it was observed marginal worker 9.7%were male and20.7% were women even for the migration in the rate of migration in 2007-8 male decreased from 56 to 47% but female rate has increased from 357 to 440 per 1000 person if migration or working is considered female participation is increasing year by year. This is sign of empowering.

CONCLUSION

As it is observed that tribal women is coming out of their traditions and working on the farm but had developed entrepreneur skills as the meaning of empowerment says that is a continuous efforts that means efforts should not stopped and hence we can conclude that yes since from very long time efforts for empowering women had started but efforts are still carried and changed according to time period. Even govt has launched many scheme through which collective awareness, skilled development, decision making power, confidence building, even migration of females are more than males that
means they are really empowered as the meaning of empower stands it is being analysed in this paper and through some facts it is proved that development is not far away. As above some facts borne about empowering women as the process is continuous and never ending it is observed that all level empowerment is taking place right from individual to nation level and fruits are delivered to all the class of women rural marginalised needy and even urban women those who are not able to get opportunity are getting to expose their inner power. The importance of empowerment is from very long time but from 2001 as this year was declared as empowerment year from this year the government policy has took the speed and encouraging motivating the women and boosting them to become small entrepreneurs with shg linkage this process has not only for the nation level but even this empowering process is for overall development of individual and nation at large and real meaning and impact if it is felt by many strategies which government is taking care of and in real the dream of inclusion is on the way of achieving the target hence it is very good sign for development.

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