

ROLE OF ICT EDUCATION FOR WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

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ABSTRACT

The most effective tool you have to alter the world is education. Leadership and an ability to make change are closely related to information and communication. Under the general term "ICT," radio, television, mobile devices, computers, and other kinds of communication are all covered. Most Indian women still adhere to ancient customs and face difficult social circumstances. ICTs are being used to empower women in underdeveloped countries like India. It is essential to give women additional chances to own, run, and manage companies across all economic sectors, especially those based on IT. More possibilities in e-related disciplines must also be provided to them, including more senior managerial and technical jobs in governmental and non-governmental organizations.

Keywords: *Education, Women Empowerment, ICT*

INTRODUCTION

"India is a vastly contradictory nation. More than half of the world's poor and illiterate population, the most of whom are women, live there, despite the country being a global leader in the information economy (2004) Reddi and Sinha.

According to Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the first prime minister of India, "Women must rouse the people; once she moves, the family moves, the hamlet moves, and the nation moves" (cited in Pillai, 1995; p. 62). The necessity for women to participate in India's growth is therefore greater. Thanks to ICT, women can communicate directly with the outside world. Information is now freely available to them, and they have access to it on an equal basis with their male coworkers. Power and the capacity for change-making are directly impacted by ICT.

Information technology has developed into a significant force in social, economic, and political life on a global scale. The use of information technology by developing countries is increasingly seen as a necessity by development strategists in order to stop further economic and social marginalization and to create chances for their economies to expand and diversify. Because they are further removed from the information age than the males whose poverty they share, women in nations that are developing are at the extreme ends of the divide. If access to and use of these technologies are directly linked to social and economic growth, then closing this gap is imperative. The development of gender equality and the political, social, and other kinds of empowerment of women has the potential to be powerfully accelerated by ICT.

By utilising ICTs in both urban and rural regions, Our Honourable President Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam refers to this information revolution as a national movement to transform India into a superpower. Across all spheres of human activity, the creation and broad adoption of electronically transmitted information has hastened economic and social progress. Information and communication technologies (ICTs) are still mostly employed in affluent countries, but they are starting to spread to developing nations, particularly in rural areas with high levels of poverty, which is encouraging for successful development outcomes. Indian women still tend to adhere to custom, which putting them in a vulnerable social position. In the Preamble of the Fundamental Rights, Fundamental Duties, and Directive Principles of the Indian Constitution, gender equality is specifically addressed. The Constitution not only ensures women's equality but also grants the State the power to enact laws that favourably discriminate in favour of women.

Background of Study

ICTs have recently been brought up in the discussion of women and gender equality. ICTs are promoted as a tool that can contribute to the "empowerment" of women, and both developed and developing nations have started a variety of ICT projects that specifically target women.

What is ICT?

Information and communication technologies (ICTs) are a broad range of technology resources and instruments for managing, creating, and disseminating information. The ICT industry includes a wide range of industries, including telecommunications, broadcasting for television and radio, computer hardware, software, and services, as well as electronic media like the internet and e-mail.

Using ICTs to empower women

Women's empowerment in the context of knowledge societies refers to the enhancement of their capacities for comprehending and advocating for the issues that affect them. ICTs are demonstrating to be an effective instrument for gender empowerment in many developing countries in this regard. ICT use has greatly expanded since the 1990s, and the ICT industry had rapid expansion in the late 1980s. India's teledensity reached 3.8% of the population, according to World Bank estimates, in 2001 (Jain 2006).

ICT and Women

Women are crucial to the growth of the family, community, and society everywhere in the developing world, including India. Women, meanwhile, frequently go unnoticed and unheard. Women must balance the difficulties of life in extreme poverty more than men, but these women are not included in discussions since they frequently lack literacy, confidence, and mobility. Even persons with limited skills, literacy, mobility, and self-confidence can engage in direct, interactive communication thanks to ICT.

CONCLUSION

The Nation has achieved success in recent years thanks to the implementation of numerous ICT-related projects. There are numerous projects that greatly favor the involvement of women making women strong on both an economic and social level is the key goal. The study unequivocally concluded that the use of ICT greatly benefited women. ICT has had a significant impact on spreading information about current technology and its applications Governmental organizations, SHGs in the field, business organizations, and NGOs have all contributed to the promotion of ICT among women. The study found that women are empowered by ICT

(information and communication technology) in a variety of domains, including social, educational, and psychological ones.

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