

WOMEN DEVELOPMENT: ADVANCEMENT AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN PERSPECTIVE OF INDIA

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Abstract: Woman is a mother of Earth a “Supreme Being and Guru”. She plays a role of mother, sister and daughter. She starts human and social life. Women are mistresses of half of the country. They are life partners and co-travelers of man in the creation of life and progress of the society. They represent half the population of the mankind. A family is not happy and strong until the woman enacts the important role of mother, housewife or daughter are they not happy. They are the first teacher of the children in life. They are queen of the household. Without them the household could not be properly managed and adorned. They involve in the development of human beings, society and country as a layman. They play an important role in spiritual side with great efforts and endeavors. The importance of women’s role in the development process and the need to intensify action to improve the status of women were recognized internationally in 1975, which was proclaimed by General Assembly as International Women’s Year. The United nation’s Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) marked the 50th anniversary on December 10, 1998. UDHR Centerpieces an ambition project to promote Universal respect and protection of basic human rights worldwide, in the world of continuing brutality, impunity and abuse of human dignity and freedoms. On January 27, 1947 the United Nations Human rights commission had its first meeting under the chairmanship of Eleanor Roosevelt to create an international bill of rights. Ms. Roosevelt comforted the nation in power by assuming them that, “the declaration is not, and does not, purport to be a statement of law or legal obligation.” Human Rights are a powerful tool for development provided the political rightly firmly secured through a democratic process. The democracy instills the right kind of motivation and confidence in the people. Human Rights allow no space to any authority or dictum or dictate.

Key words: democracy, instills, ambition, brutality, declaration, human rights

People should develop along the lines of their own genius and we should avoid imposing anything on them. We should try to encourage the traditional art, culture, training and building up a team of the people to do the work of administration and development.

“Arthur Koestler says, ‘the continuous disasters in man’s history are mainly due to his excessive capacity and urge to become identified with a tribe, nation, church or a cause, and to espouse its credo uncritically and unenthusiastically, even if its tenets are contrary to reason, devoid of self interest and detrimental to the claims of self-preservation.’”

Declaration of the Principles of Indigenous Rights, adopted by the Council of Indigenous Peoples in 1984, says

“The tradition and custom of the indigenous people must be respected by the states and recognized as fundamental sources of law.”

Constitution of India, in Article 29, said,

“any section of the citizens ... having a distinct language, script or culture of its own shall have the right to conserve the same.”

The urgency of human rights support the emerging concerns for environment and sustainable growth, Declaration of the United Nations conference on the Human environment says in Principle I that,

“Man has the fundamental right to freedom, equality and adequate conditions of life, in an environment of a quality that permits a life of dignity and well being

While the United Nations Declaration of Human rights 1948 does not explicitly exclude women, it doesn’t elaborate on how the rights set out in this declaration relate to woman. This separation of women’s rights from human rights rendered most violations of women’s rights invisible. The United Nations Decade for women (1975-1985) was seen as a watershed in placing women’s concerns on the international agenda and for facilitating women’s co-operation. The convention at Thailand acceded in 1985 with reservation concerning the following Articles, viz: Article, Elimination of Discrimination in Political and Public Life. Article, Equal Citizenship Rights Article, Elimination of Discrimination in Education Article, Employment Article, Full Legal Capacity Article, Elimination of Discrimination in Marriage and the Family. The views find that women experience countless barriers to achieve the full potential as producers and providers of food, but men deny the women’s recognition. The result of globalization women deprived and marginalized. Most of the time women work longer on the pretext that women are- physically weak, unskilled, less productive, hardly considered during promotion, accept for wages, violation of rights are exponent with regard to women and not classified economically active population. The latest ILO survey shows that women constituted more than one third of the world wide workforce. In this context the major

developments relate to the women's human rights issues: 1948: United Nations Declaration of Human Rights 1966: International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

1966: Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

1975: First World Conference of Women, held in Mexico City

1979: Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)

1980: Second World Conference of women, held in Copenhagen

1985: Third World Conference of Women, held in Nairobi

1993: United Nations Conference on Human rights, Vienna

1995: Fourth World Conference of Women, Beijing. The definition of "family" and a statement on "Lesbianism" were the new wheels added to the Women's Movement

1998: UNIFEM (a UN Body Committed specifically to women's cause) world-wide campaign against gender-biased violence

Such statements, conferences, eclarations, documents were too many in number and happens every other year are enough proofs which have taken adequate care to implement.

Advancement of women:

The Charter of the United Nations is the first international instrument to mention equal rights of men and women in specific terms. In its Preamble, the Charter proclaims the determination of the peoples of the United Nations,

"To reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women."

It is clearly set in the Principle of equality of men and women and prohibition of discrimination against women at International covenant on Human Rights. In order to improve the status of women in various fields and to eliminate the discrimination against women, UN has worked energetically. Women, assumes the task of monitoring, rights to education, employment and health care, economic rights, opportunities for women, equal pay for equal work, property rights etc.

Equality: It is both a goal and a means whereby individuals are accorded equal treatment under the law and equal opportunities to enjoy their rights. Equality is important for women's development and peace because national and global inequities perpetuate themselves and increase tension of all types. The Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination against women was adopted unanimously by the General Assembly in resolution 2263 on 7 November 1967, after four years of debate and detailed drafting in the Commission on the

Status of Women and in the Assembly. UN pronounces the Policy in regard to equality of rights of men and women and the elimination of discrimination based on sex. The policy contains:

Article 1: "discrimination against women, denying or limiting as it does their equality of

Rights with men, is fundamentally unjust and constitutes an offence against Human dignity"

Article 2: it calls for the abolition of existing laws, customs, regulations and practices which discriminates against women, and the establishment of adequate legal protection for equal rights of men and women.

Article 3: need to educate public towards the eradication of prejudice and the abolition of Discrimination against women.

Article 4: political rights

Article 5: right to nationality

Article 6: rights under civil law

Article 7: discriminatory provisions under penal law

Article 8: traffic in women

Article 9: educational rights

Article 10: economical and social rights

All the measures provide equal terms to women without any discrimination.

International women's year (1975):

By resolution 3010(xxvii) of 18 December, 1972, the General Assembly proclaimed the year 1975 as international Women's Year and decided to devote the year to intensify the action-

- To promote equality between men and women
- To ensure the full integration of men in the total development effort especially by emphasizing women's responsibility and important role at regional, national and international levels.
- To recognize the importance of women's increasing contribution to develop friendly relations

World conference of the international women's year from 19 June to July 1975: The conference declares several principles to deal with equalities between women and men, equal rights and responsibilities of women and men in the family and society, equal access to educate and training, right to work and to equal pay for work of equal value, right to marry, contribute for development effort, participation of women in all sectors, to promote human rights, eliminate violations against women and girls.

United nations development fund for women: The Economic and Social Council, in resolution 1850 of 16 May 1974, welcomed voluntary contributions from Member States intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, private foundations and interested individuals, to supplement the resources available to implement the program for the

International Women's Year, and called upon the Secretary General to accept such voluntary contributions. Several other measures taken for the development of women, such as:

- Measures to ensure equality of men and women in the employment of political rights and freedom
- Nationality of Married Women
- Property Rights of Married Women
- Right of Married Women to Engage in Independent Work
- Parental Rights and Duties, Including Guardianship
- Legal Capacity of Married Women
- Discrimination Against Women in the Administration of Penal Law
- Consent to Marriage, Minimum Age for Marriage and Registration of Marriages

Since the establishment of Commission on the Status of Women, the Economic and Social Council, the General Assembly, United Nations visualizes the important role of women in development to achieve the effective mobilization and integration in development programs.

Various activities introduces for the Improvement of the Role of Women in Development such as:

- Advancement of Women in Developing Countries
- Participation of Women in Community Development
- Improvement of the Situation of Women in Rural Areas
- Effective Mobilization and Integration of Women in development
- Improvement of the Economic Status of Women

- Improvement of the Status and Role of Women in Education, Science and Culture
- Improvement of the status and role of Women in the Field of Health Care
- Improvement of the status and Role of Women in Society
- Involvement of Women in strengthening International Peace and Co-operation
- Long term program of work for the advancement and commission on the status of Women

Conclusion: Several Commissions, policies, Resolutions, Improvements, Declarations were taken at various levels and conferences for the equality and development of women. Decisions were systematically restructured for the long-term development program to improve the status of women. Several reports were monitored and implemented the strategies to strengthen and rationalize the resources for the advancement of women. Programs, plans and budget were allocated for the progress of Organizations, Societies and agencies. Equal Opportunities are provided in economics, social participation, political participation and decision making. Developments were taken place in rural women, including food, water resources, agriculture, technology, rural employment, transportation, environment, education, eradication of illiteracy, health and social services, including population issues and child care, improvement of the status of women. The state, central government and United Nations effectively implementing the women's development process at Regional, National and International Levels.

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