

WOMEN'S PROGRESS EMPOWERMENT IN SOCIETAL ENVIRONMENT

Author:

Dr Nagaveni Vutharkar

Assistant Professor

Anand Commerce College

ABSTRACT: Women's empowerment is currently focus on researchers, governments and industry department. Women, particularly in marginalized communities, often face heightened risks due to environmental degradation, including exposure to harmful waste and inadequate waste management systems, which include their socioeconomic and health issues. This approach used to highlight the gap between women and the environment. Attention in waste management, often unrecognized and undervalued, contributes significantly to environmental sustainability. It concludes that the full empowerment of women, particularly in the context of waste management, is imperative for achieving broader environmental and social equity, positioning women focus on change in addressing global environmental challenges. This literature review is very important for policymaking by the government.

KEYWORDS: Environment, Wastage Management, Society, Government Policy

INTRODUCTION:

The World Women's Congress for a Healthy Planet, held in Miami in 1991, played a pivotal role in creating the "Global Action for Women Toward Sustainable and Equitable Development. "This document recommended redefining productivity to prioritize ecological value and life of Women in environment factors (Ackerman, 2009). According to this, the key events such as the 1992 Rio Earth Summit reinforced women's role in sustainable development, reflecting in Agenda 21 (Grubb et al., 2019). The Rio Conference emphasized the importance of incorporating women into public life by eliminating various societal barriers. The vision statement, "Women, Procreation, and Environment," profoundly energized the ecofeminist movement, drawing the attention of intellectuals and policymakers to these critical issues (Ackerman, 2009). It is clear that women's roles in environmental and sustainable development are moulded by complex historical, social, and ecological factors, which are playing a role in the environment.

WOMEN AND ENVIRONMENT:

Women are more emotionally attached to the environmental degradation and climate change but also have different perspectives and ideas to change themselves. Women empowered to play a full part in decision-making at all levels. Important and most basic premise for women's empowerment is peace and non-violence which includes domestic violence also. Infrastructure developments in transportation as well as urban planning, which takes into account the safety and mobility needs of women, are important factors enabling women to move around freely. Safe and affordable transport enables women to fully participate in economic activities as well as in community life and plays an important role in broadening access to health and education opportunities. Women play a critical important role in bringing changes in attitudes and encouraging to adopt greenery lifestyles and climate-friendly nature to their children's. Women themselves like to know more about the science and technology of climate change, which gives better training in this area.

WOMEN AND WATER:

In most developing countries, women from rural areas are managers of water resources by walking miles to fetch water for basic household needs. Accessing safe water is also an issue for urban women and families. Due to poor water access and quality, which affect not only women's crop and livestock production and also the amount of labour. They must expend to collect, store and distribute water, but also their health and families. In some area water-borne diseases such as cholera, dysentery, typhoid, malaria and diarrhea claim millions of lives each year. The parasitic diseases, such as onchocerciasis (river blindness), are also spread through contaminated water in the home. However, despite their responsibility for water collection and sanitation management, women rarely participate in decision-making when the construction of facilities is planned. It is now recognized that the exclusion of women from the planning of water supply and sanitation schemes is a major cause of their high rate of failure. To improve health and quality of life for women, water and sanitation programs must concentrate on reducing time and energy.

ROLE IN LEGAL PROVISION ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION :

As per the Constitution of India, equal rights to both Men and Women are equal. In the constitution, a specific reference is made to environmental protection and preservation. In the 42nd Amendment Act of 1976 of the Indian constitution, there is a fundamental duty to protect and improve the natural resources and environment. According to Article 51(a) provides the duty of every citizen of India to protect and improve the natural resources and environment that includes forests, lakes, rivers and wild life and compassion for living creatures. As per the Article 21 of the constitution of India, the right to life, a life of dignity, and disease and infection control. There are numbers of Directive Principles that emphasize the protection of the environment.

There are certain special legislations that are made for the protection of environment and resources, such as follows

- a. The Indian Forest Act, 1927.
- b. The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
- c. The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) act, 1974.
- d. The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Comprehensive Legislation.
- e. The Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.
- f. The Environmental Protection Act, 1986.

Women do not satisfy the various Mass Movements, Strikes, and Band for the Protection of Environment and resources. They move to the court for the Justice to protect the nature and environment. In Krishna Gopal Vs State of Madhya Pradesh Cr.L.J pp. 396, 1986 where Mrs. Sarla Tripathi filed a complaint with the DM, Indoor against Glucose Saline factory for the accused of making Public Nuisance in the residential area. Kinkari Devi vs State of

Himachal Pradesh, AIR, HP-4, 1988 in this case the petition was filed against the Excavation of Lime Stones in the district of Himachal Pradesh.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- a. Naturally, women are very closely connected to the environment, so each woman in the society learns about the environmental importance and protection to improve their surroundings for future generations.
- b. By creating awareness about the degradation and impact among the women as well as the men of the communities.
- c. Whether in rural or in an urban, all the women have their various socio-economic groups, which encourage them to plant commercial trees on different occasions and make them understand.
- d. The Government of India increases the women's participation regarding protection and preservation of environment by providing them with aid assistants.
- e. By conducting awareness programs in schools, colleges, and universities and also in village and urban areas.
- g. By giving equal status for women in the society, which increases the women's participation in the field of protection of the environment.
- h. By Providing stricter legal provision, we also reduced the environmental degradation and increased women involvement in the protection of surrounding natural resources and environment.

CONCLUSION

A woman role into the protection of environment is has been noticed very remarkable since Ancient times. Women are always closely connected with the surrounding nature; they are the manager of the resources in all the families of the communities and directly collect resources for the household from the nature. Such as water, firewood and several items, etc. Women were playing key roles in the protection of the environment from the time unmemorable. Women are more active in the field of environment protection than men because they do household and societal work more collectively with the environment. They maintain and deal with the entire family and its various issues when men are busy with acquiring bread for the family. Women at national or international level working for the betterment of the environment through different movements, strikes, protest, etc.

REFERENCES:

- 1.Allude, F. O. (2019). Fixing pollution: Women's role in developing countries. Scientific Journal of Mehmet Akif Ersoy University, 2 (3), 63-76.
- 2.Achuo, E., Along, S., & Possible spelling mistake found., V. S. (2022). Women empowerment and environmental sustainability in Africa. Possible spelling mistake found. Working Paper 003/22. <https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.4000269>
- 3.Agarwal, B. (1997). Environmental action, gender equity and women's participation. Development and Change, 28 (1), 1-44. https://doi.org/10.1111/1467_7660.00034
- 4.Ayu Purnamawati and Suyana Utama, WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT STRATEGIES TO IMPROVE THEIR ROLE IN FAMILIES AND SOCIETY , International Journal of Business, Economics and Law, Vol. 18, Issue 5 (February) 2019, ISSN 2289-1552
- 5.Aditya SK. Role of Women in Environment Conservation. International Journal of Political Science and Development. 2016;4(4):140-145.

6. Bhartiya, Tribhuwan Kumar. Assessment of Environmental Awareness among the Public of Assam (India). International Journal of Applied Environmental Sciences. 2017 Nov;7(12):1359-1365. ISSN0973-6071.
7. Was, Chunamoni. Teron, Rabindra. Possible spelling mistake found. notes of the Rabha Community in Mata Hari Reserve Forest of ARUP District, Assam, India; 2014
8. Devi, Dr. V Hemlatha. Women in Environmental Protection. Sri Venkateswara University, India; c1994.
9. Bang ME, Munoz LVM. The role of women in environmental education. Open Access Journal of Science. 2018;2(5):301-306. DOI:10.15406/oajs.2018.02.00091



Copyright & License:

© Authors retain the copyright of this article. This work is published under the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License (CC BY 4.0), permitting unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.