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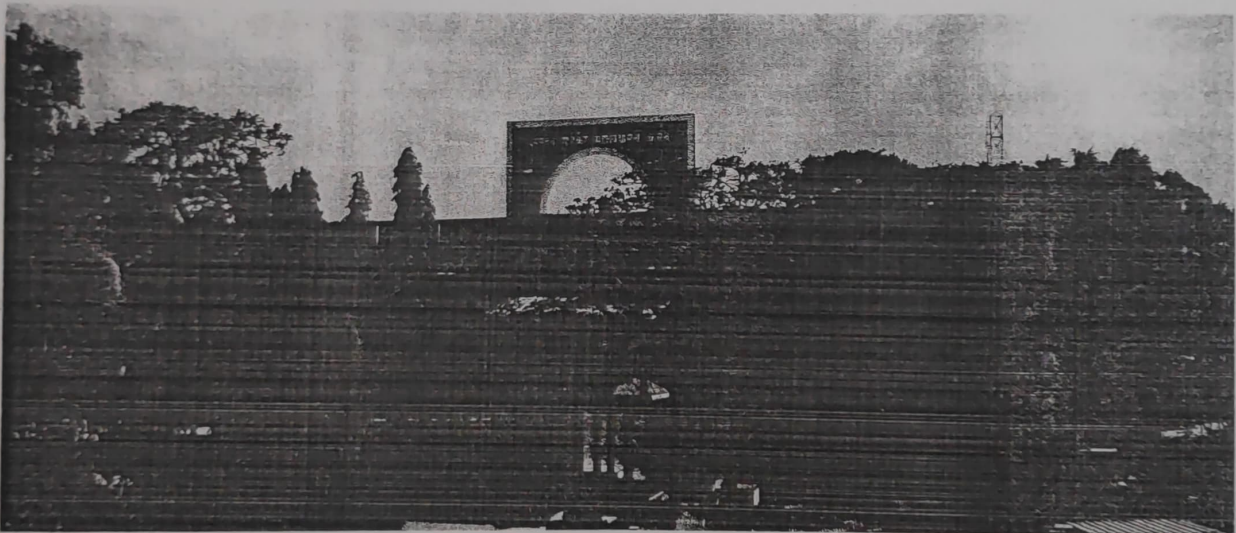
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A BIMONTHLY REFEREED INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL

SPECIAL ISSUE

On the Occasion of One Day National Conference On

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT IN INDIA

27 January, 2018



Editor

Dr. Namanand G. Sathe

Principal

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ORGANIZED BY
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
DNYAN PRASARAK MANDAL'S
SHIKSHAN MAHARSHI DNYANDEO MOHEKAR MAHAVIDYALAYA,
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Kalamb, Dist. Osmanabad

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Role And Political Participation Of Indian Womens In Politics

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Abstract: History has stand witness to the brilliance of women in politics, time to time. From Marie Antoinette to Queen Elizabeth, women across the world have often held the political scepter firmly in their hands whenever they needed. India has also seen such influential female political figures from time to time. Their schemes and political traits have been appreciated by many and criticized by many more. Indian political system gives same powers and roles to the men and women irrespective of their gender

Key words: Empowerment Political Participation

Research Methodology-

for studying and identifying the role of women's in Indian Politics majorly secondary data is used from various research report, journal, article and expert opinion

Objectives-

1. To study what is Women Empowerment
2. To study of Indian Women Participation ratio In Indian Politics
3. To study role of Indian Women's in Indian Politics

Empowerment:

The term Empowerment refers to measures designed to increase the degree of autonomy and self-determination in people and in communities in order to enable them to represent their interests in a responsible and self-determined way, acting on their own authority. It is the process of becoming stronger and more confident, especially in controlling one's life and claiming one's rights. Empowerment as action refers both to the process of self-empowerment and to professional support of people, which enables them to overcome their sense of powerlessness and lack of influence, and to recognize and use their resources

Empowerment is probably the totality of the following or similar capabilities:

- Having decision-making power of their own
- Having access to information and resources for taking proper decision
- Having a range of options from which you can make choices (not just yes no, either/or.)

- Ability to exercise assertiveness in collective decision making
- Having positive thinking on the ability to make change
- Ability to learn skills for improving one's personal or group power.
- Ability to change others' perceptions by democratic means.
- Involving in the growth process and changes that is never ending and self-initiated
- Increasing one's positive self-image and overcoming stigma

Political Participation:

According to Michael Rush, "Political participation is the involvement of the individual at various levels of activity in the political system, ranging from non-involvement to holding of political office." Political participation has a very wide meaning. It is not only related to 'Right to Vote', but simultaneously relates to participation in decision making process, political activism, political consciousness, etc. Women in India participate in voting, run for public offices and political parties at lower levels more than men. Political activism and voting are the strongest areas of women's political participation.

Women empowerment mean equal status to women, opportunity and freedom to develop herself.

Position of Women in National Parliament LOK SABHA

Year	Seats	Seats held by women	% of female members	Year	Seats	Seats held by women	% of female members
1952	499	22	04.41	1989	514	27	05.22
1957	500	27	05.50	1991	544	30	05.51
1962	505	34	06.76	1996	543	39	07.18
1968	525	31	05.93	1998	543	43	07.92
1971	521	32	04.22	1999	543	49	09.02
1977	544	19	03.49	2004	543	45	08.28
1980	544	28	05.15	2009	543	58	10.68
1984	544	44	08.09	2014	543	62	11.41

Source: Election commission of India

The percentage of elected women Lok Sabha members has never exceeded 12 per cent. Table shows representation of women in Lok Sabha since 1952. Average number of women representation in Lok Sabha works out to only 36.81 and average percentage of women representation in Lok Sabha is not more than 6.90 per cent.

Position of Women in Rajya Sabha

Year	Seats held by women	% of female members	Year	Seats held by women	% of female members
1952	15	06.94	1984	24	10.24
1954	16	07.3	1986	28	11.98
1956	20	08.6	1988	25	10.59
1958	22	09.5	1990	24	10.34
1960	24	10.2	1992	17	07.29
1962	17	07.6	1994	20	08.36
1964	21	08.8	1996	19	07.81
1966	23	09.6	1998	19	07.75
1968	22	09.2	2000	22	09.01
1970	14	05.8	2002	25	10.20
1972	18	07.4	2004	28	11.43
1974	17	07.0	2006	25	10.41
1978	25	10.2	2010	27	11.11
1980	29	11.9	2012	24	11.00
1982	24	09.8	2014	29	11.9

Source: Election commission of India.

The percentage of elected women in Rajya Sabha members has never exceeded 12 per cent. Table shows representation of women in Rajya Sabha since 1952. Average number of women representation in Rajya Sabha works out to only 22.00 and average percentage of women representation in Rajya Sabha is not more than 9.30 per cent. Women turnout during India's 2014 parliamentary general elections was 65.63%, compared to 67.09% turnout for men. Women in India are much better represented in the panchayat raj institutions as compared to the parliament. As per the Ministry of Panchayat Raj, in 2008 the Gram Panchayat had 37.8% women members, the Intermediate Panchayats 37 % women members. The total representation of women in all three tiers of the Panchayat amounted to 36.87 %. This seems to be a result of Article 243 D of the Indian constitution, mandating at least 1/3rd of the seats in all tiers of the Panchayat raj Institute. Political

participation and grassroots democracy have been strengthened considerably by the 73 and 74th Constitutional Amendments that have created new democratic institutions for local self governance. The Constitution's 110 Amendment Bill 2009 provides reservation for women from 33 per cent to 50 per cent in local self government

PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN

Election year	Women Contestants		Women elected over total seats (%)		Women registered electors over total registered electors (%)	Voters polled by women over total votes polled (%)	Voters polled by women over women registered electors (%)
	No.	%	No.	%	%	%	%
1951	-	-	-	-	15.0	-	-
1957	48	6.0	22	4.5	47.2	38.3	38.8
1962	60	7.5	31	6.3	47.3	39.8	46.0
1967	68	8.5	28	5.6	48.0	43.4	54.4
1971	69	8.6	29	5.6	47.7	42.3	49.1
1977	70	8.7	19	3.5	48.0	43.6	44.9
1980	141	17.6	28	5.3	47.9	43.1	51.2
1984	167	20.8	42	8.2	48.2	44.4	58.6
1985	9	1.1	1	0.2	45.7	45.4	71.7
1989	128	16.0	29	5.5	47.5	43.9	57.3
1991	126	15.7	17	3.1	47.5	43.0	51.3
1992	1	0.1	2	0.4	45.9	40.2	21.0
1996	103	12.8	10	2.1	47.7	44.0	53.4
1998	129	16.1	23	4.9	47.7	44.4	57.7
1999	87	10.8	19	4.0	47.7	44.3	55.6
2004	152	19.0	15	3.1	48.0	44.4	53.6
2009	80	10.0	10	2.1	47.7	45.8	54.8

Source: Election commission of India.

PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN

Last general election to Legislative Assembly

Sr. No.	Name of state	Year of last general election to Legislative Assembly	% of Women Contestants	Seats won by women (%)	Registered Women electors (%)	Women voters polled (%)	Women voters polled as % of registered women electors
1	Andhra Pradesh	2009	8.21	11.6	29207416 (50.45%)	20871787 (49.58%)	71.5
2	Arunachal Pradesh	2009	5.73	3.3	372796 (49.71%)	287422 (49.88%)	77.1
3	Assam	2011	8.66	11.1	8786483 (48.31%)	6584353 (47.61%)	74.9
4	Bihar	2010	8.71	14.0	25464746 (46.19%)	13875175 (47.74%)	54.5
5	Chhattisgarh	2013	8.42	11.1	8308557 (49.18%)	6423948 (49.09%)	77.3
6	Goa	2012	4.65	2.5	515194 (50.20%)	435725 (50.19%)	84.6

7	Gujarat	2012	5.82	8.8	18148715 (47.63%)	12613257 (45.97%)	69.5
8	Haryana	2009	5.65	10.0	5967308 (45.49%)	4243222 (44.70%)	71.1
9	Himachal Pradesh	2012	7.41	4.4	2234980 (48.50%)	1702953 (50.27%)	76.2
10	Jammu and Kashmir	2008	4.95	3.4	3097492 (47.93%)	1823212 (45.94%)	58.9
11	Jharkhand	2009	7.18	9.9	8513795 (47.18%)	4642565 (45.16)	54.5
12	Karnataka	2013	5.94	2.7	21367912 (48.91%)	15057361 (47.98%)	70.5
13	Kerala	2011	8.55	5.0	12073117 (52.02%)	9027923 (38.90%)	74.8
14	Madhya Pradesh	2013	7.74	13.0	22064402 (47.31%)	15465338 (45.62%)	70.1
15	Maharashtra	2009	5.93	3.8	36117261 (47.54%)	20669389 (45.59%)	57.2
16	Manipur	2012	5.38	5.0	890886 (50.95%)	724790 (51.86%)	81.4
17	Meghalaya	2013	7.25	6.7	759608 (50.51%)	671826 (50.78%)	88.4
18	Mizoram	2013	4.23	0.0	350333 (50.71%)	287676 (49.92%)	82.1
19	Nagaland	2013	1.07	0.0	590150 (49.24%)	538968 (49.09%)	91.3
20	Odessa	2009	10.02	4.8	13119010 (48.24%)	8514722 (47.91%)	64.9
21	Punjab	2012	8.63	12.0	8383335 (47.19%)	6614316 (47.55%)	78.9
22	Rajasthan	2013	7.92	14.0	19307320 (47.29%)	14566391 (47.15%)	75.4
23	Sikkim	2009	8.98	12.5	143222 (47.65%)	118598 (46.92%)	82.8
24	Tamil Nadu	2011	5.20	7.3	23408812 (49.68%)	18377708 (49.82%)	78.5
25	Tripura	2013	6.02	8.3	1157284 (49.07%)	1075622 (48.72%)	92.9
26	Uttarakhand	2012	7.99	7.1	3024346 (47.42%)	2060193 (48.33%)	68.1
27	Uttar Pradesh	2012	8.52	8.7	57232002 (44.89%)	34500316 (45.46%)	60.3
28	West Bengal	2011	9.71	11.6	26748122 (47.52%)	22589207 (47.37%)	81.5
29	NCT of Delhi	2013	8.77	4.3	5321572 (44.58%)	3466248 (43.98%)	65.1
30	Pondicherry	2011	3.21	0.0	419890 (51.79%)	365161 (52.26%)	87.0

Source: Election commission of India.

In 2009 general election of state legislative assembly percentage of women contestant is not more than 10.02. In 2010 general election of state legislative assembly percentage of women contestant is not more than 8.07. In 2012 general election of state legislative assembly percentage of women contestant is not more than 8.63. In 2013 general election of state legislative assembly percentage of women contestant is not more than 8.77. All political parties have attempted to build women organizations to secure their support and make their organizations more expanded, but in reality they have filled much less proportion of

women candidates in the elections giving them proportionately much lesser presentation in the legislative bodies than their actual population strength.

Role of Women's in Indian Politics

Indira Gandhi: Indian states woman and central figure of the Indian National Congress. She was the first and, to date, the only female Prime Minister of India.

Pratibha Patil: is an Indian politician who served as the 12th President of India from 2007 to 2012. A member of the Indian National Congress.

Patil is the only woman to hold the office. She previously served as the Governor of Rajasthan.

Sonia Gandhi: Sonia Gandhi's tenure as the Congress president has been the longest in its century-old history. She is also the chairperson of the ruling United Progressive Alliance (UPA).

Sushma Swaraj: seven times Member of Parliament and three times Member of the Legislative Assembly, Sushma Swaraj, the BJP leader, is now the Union Minister Of External Affairs of India. She is the second woman to hold this position after Indira Gandhi.

Sheila Dikshit: was the Chief Minister of Delhi from 1998 to 2013. She is a senior member of the Congress party. Dikshit has led the national party to three consecutive electoral triumphs in the capital. She became the governor of Kerala on 11 March 2014.

• **Mamata Banerjee:** the first woman Chief Minister of West Bengal, Mamata Banerjee, popularly known as Mamata didi, dethroned the 34-year-old left front government in the state. She was also the first woman railway minister of the country. In 1997, she launched Trinamool Congress, an anti-leftist party, to consolidate her position in West Bengal.

• **Jayalalitha:** Late Tamil Nadu's Chief Minister Jayalalitha Jayaram is also the general secretary of All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK). She joined politics in 1982. In 1984, she became a Rajya Sabha MP.

• **Mayawati:** is the most powerful dalit leader in India. Four times chief minister of Uttar Pradesh, she belongs to the Jatav caste, which is at the upper end of the scheduled castes and communities. Her powerful influence over UP's political spectrum has been revered by all the political leaders of the country and the general public.

• **Vasundhara Raje Scindia:** Rajasthan's first woman Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje Scindia is one of the most powerful female politicians in India. Vasundhara Raje was introduced to active politics by her mother Vijayaraje Scindia, who was a

prominent BJP leader. Vasundhara was elected to the Rajasthan Legislative Assembly in 1985.

• **Ambika Soni:** Ambika Soni has served as the Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting. Currently, a Member of Parliament, Soni represents the state of Punjab in the Rajya Sabha. She was introduced to the Congress party by Indira Gandhi in 1969. She is also an old family acquaintance of the Gandhi family.

• **Supriya Sule:** Lok Sabha MP Supriya Sule is the daughter Maratha leader Sharad Pawar. She is a major part of the new generation of Indian politicians. It is believed by many that Supriya will succeed Pawar as the National Congress Party chief.

• **Agatha Sangma:** Daughter of Lok Sabha speaker P A Sangma, Agatha Sangma is a former Lok Sabha member. She became the youngest minister of state when she took charge of the rural development ministry. She represented the Tora constituency of Meghalaya in the 2009 parliamentary polls.

- **Mira Kumar:** former Lok Sabha Speaker
- **Najma Hebdulla:** former Vice Chairman of Rajya Sabha
- **Nirmata Sitaram:** Defence Minister at present.
- **Sumitra Mahajan:** Lok Sabha Speaker

Conclusion: All they had and have played prominent and decisive role in the politics of modern India. In India numerous steps have been undertaken to provide constitutional safeguards and institutional framework for activities for women welfare. The Government of India has declared the year 2001 as year for the Empowerment of Women, but the struggle to reach this stage has been long. The last 20 years of panchayatraj in India have seen women go from strength to strength in terms of their political participation.

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