DR. BHIM RAO AMBEDKAR'S VISION ABOUT THE UPLIFTMENT OF WOMEN'S LIFE AND PRESENT GOVERNMENT POLICIES

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Abstract

This study aims to understand the vision of Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar about the upliftment of women's lives in our society and the present relevance of the Govt. policies. He emphasized the education and the empowerment of women. He devoted his whole life to abolishing the caste system. He conceptualized fundamental principles like liberty, equality, and fraternity, which opened the ground for women's advancement and their release from long-standing social bonds. Dr. Ambedkar felt unity is meaningless without the accompaniment of education, and education is fruitless without educated women; agitation is incomplete without the strength of women. He demanded a "Hindu Code Bill" proposing fundamental upgrades. In the present relevance, Govt. has also initiated policies based on Ambedkar's vision.

Key Words: *Women Empowerment, Present Government Policies*

Introduction

Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar was the best thinker of the 20th century, a successful speaker, a brilliant writer, and a legal expert. He was not only the architect of the Indian constitution but also the protector of the Dalits of India. Apart from this, he was also a qualified administrator, education politician, and scholar. Ambedkar is also the father of the constitution. Bharat Ratna awardee Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar was born on 14th April 1891 in a Mahar family in a small village called Aswawade in the Ratnagiri district of Maharashtra. He did M.A., Ph.D., and higher education in America. In 1923 he started practicing in the Bombay High Court in spite of many difficulties he kept moving forward with hard work and in a case, he freed the accused from the death penalty with his arguments the High Court set aside the decision of the lower court which added to his fame. He played an important role in the making of the constitution of independent India. He had deep faith in democracy he was elected chairman of the drafting committee of the legislative assembly.

Dr. Ambedkar spent most of his time in the upliftment of the untouchables and he also contributed to removing the difficulties of women. He made a Hindu Code Bill to give property rights to women and the right to adopt a son but ultimately it could not be

passed. Later this bill was divided into four parts i.e. the Hindu Marriage Act (1955), the Hindu Succession Act(1956), the Hindu Minors and Guardian Act (1956), and the Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act (1956). Dr. Ambedkar died on 6th December 1956. In return for his great work and achievement, he was awarded the Bharat Ratna. In recent trends, many policies have been implemented based on Dr. Ambedkar's vision for improving the life world of women in India.

Objectives of the study:

1. To go through the analytical perspective of Dr. Ambedkar's vision for improving the lives of women in India
2. To go through the policies of the present Government women's empowerment influenced by Ambedkar's vision

Factors Affecting Women's Empowerment:

(1) **Gender discrimination must be checked**- In all the fields gender discrimination should be checked. Women should get respect and status which they rightfully deserve. They should get equal opportunity to take part in the different areas of administration and should provide their decision at the management level for the achievement of their empowerment goal.

(2) **Education**- Education is the most dynamic factor of development and is the only important tool for realizing empowerment and human resource development. Education results in the acquisition of multitudes of skills that increase a person's self-confidence and ability to shape life better. The right to education is one of the most important means of entitling women with knowledge, skills, and self-confidence which are necessary to participate fully in the development process. Women today don't need only basic society so that education but they need skill-based education which helps them to face the challenges so they can enjoy economic freedom. education can be used as a tool to discriminate against the gender gap. So in UNESCO Conference (1962) underlined the importance of the ingress of girls and women to technical and vocational education for economic and social development. Education will help women to know their legal and personal rights and make them fight for their rights. The literacy of women is an important aspect of improving health, nutrition, and education in the family. Emphasis should be given to the enrolment of the girl child in formal and non-formal education. Schemes like mid-day meals, free textbooks, scholarships, and hostel facilities should be provided to the girl child. Apart from this vocational guidance and career information cell should be opened in the educational institution by the state government.

(3) **Steps for implementation of the women's development program and various acts**Action-based training and entrepreneurship development programs should be organized to make women self-employed. sex determination of unborn child should be banned through the Regulation and Prevention of Misuse Act 1994 and the PNT ACT (Prenatal Diagnostic Techniques ACT) and other enactments relating to marriage, divorce, adoption, succession, dowery, and moral protection or protection against sexual harassment should be implemented for the emancipation of the women.

Dr. Ambedkar's vision towards improving the lives of women in India- During his days of struggle for independence of the country, he also created many options for women's improvement and their release from the long-standing social bond. According to Ambedkar India is one of those countries that gives women an adequate amount of opportunity. He says "Unity is meaningless without the accompaniment of women. Education is fruitless without educating women, and agitation is incomplete without the strength of women." Till now women find themselves in contradictory situations on one side they are worshiping like Goddesses and another side they are being tortured for dowery. He believed that women could play a great role in the improvement of society. In his study, he illustrated women's empowerment. He put in every effort to imbibe a sense of women empowerment in the constitution. Dr. Ambedkar proposed many ideas through the Hindu Code Bill to improve the Hindu system.

Why does India need a National Policy for Women?

The level of women was declining from ancient times to medieval times before the protestor or any social reformer. These are the long-term issues that are now impacting women's existence in India. so to strengthen the processes that promote the overall development of women we need to implement policies or amendments that address the upliftment of women in society so that they are aware of their basic rights and get equal opportunity in society. Dr. Ambedkar also talked about women's empowerment, and he plays an important role in the policy formulation for women in the Indian constitution.

Some Present Government policies inspired by Dr. Ambedkar's Vision are:

1. Beti Bachao Beti Padhao
2. Ujjwala (2007)
3. One-Stop Centre Scheme
4. Mahila E -Haat
5. Mahila Police Volunteers

6. Mahila Shakti Kendra
7. Women Helpline Scheme
8. SWADHAR Greh
9. NGO's Credit Scheme
10. Working Women Hostel
11. STEP
12. Indra Mahila Kendra
13. Mahila Samiti Yojna
14. SBIs Shree Shakti Scheme.
15. Mahila Police Volunteers
16. Short Stay Homes
17. Khadi and Village Industries Commission.

We the logical Indians dug deeper to identify how the Govt. in power has worked since 2014 to uplift the social status of women in the country. Some Policies of the Present The government for women's empowerment is discussed below.

(1) **First and foremost was "Beti Bachao Beti Padhao" which was launched in 2015.**

This initiative was launched in Haryana on 22nd January 2015 by the Prime minister of India to guarantee the survival, safety, and education of girls. The initiative intends to address the issue of the unequal sex ratio in recent years, raise social awareness, and improve the effectiveness of welfare benefits for girls.

(2) **Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) by the Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas.**

This yojana was launched by the Prime Minister of India on 1st May 2016 to distribute 50 million LPG connections to women of below-poverty-line families. The reason behind this yojana is to safeguard the health of women and children by providing them with clean fuel. This yojana ensures women's empowerment, especially in rural areas, the connection will be made in the name of the women of the house.

(3) **The union minister introduced a one-stop center scheme "SAKHI" using the Nirbhaya Fund**.

Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) formulated a centrally sponsored scheme an umbrella scheme for the national mission for the empowerment of

women including the Indra Gandhi Mattritav SahyogYojana. Popularly known as SAKHI. The scheme will be implemented on 1st April 2015.

This yojana is deliberate to support women pompous by violence in private and public spaces within the family, community, and workplace.women facing physical, sexual, emotional, psychological, and economic abuse will be facilitated with support and redressal. One Stop Center (OSC) will support all women, irrespective of caste, class, religion, sexual orientation, or marital status.

4) **Working women hostel scheme -**

This scheme was launched by the Government of India, to promote the availability of accommodation for working women who leave their homes due to professional reasons. The objective of the scheme is to promote safe locations along with daycare facilities for their child. To facilitate the service in rural, semi-rural, and urban areas also. To assist with the new hostel and the extension of the existing hostel. Under this scheme, working women should not stay for more than 3 years.

5) **Mahila-e-Haat** -This scheme is an online marketing platform for women entrepreneurs.

This is prepared to assist small women entrepreneurs. Mahila E haat has been allocated to the Ministry of Food Processing Industries, the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, and the Ministry of Commerce and Industry to facilitate their market linkage.

6) **STEP (support to training and employment program for women) -**

The Minister of Women and Child Development (MWCD) revised support to training and employment programs for women (STEP) scheme guidelines in December 2014. The schemes provide skills to women so that they can become independent or self-employed. The scheme is designed for more than 16 years and above of age. The skills imparted in this scheme are not limited to any specific field like agriculture, tailoring, etc.

Conclusion-

In the present context, Ambedkar's thought toward women is still to be achieved. He fought lifelong against the discrimination against women that was happening in society. Now the rights of women are ignored. National Policy for Women 2001 stated that social and economic condition is responsible for gender inequality. Amberdkar's vision was to make a better nation for women, so being a responsible citizen, it's our duty to make our nation better for women. Initial steps have been taken in urban areas. Women have crossed many barriers to reach different positions. The 73 and 74 amendments to the Indian constitution were brought about in 1993, which served as a step forward towards

ensuring equal ingress and increased participation in the political power structure. The proposed women's reservation bill to provide 33% reservation for women in the Lok Sabha and State Legislature is now under consideration. The empowerment of women in urban areas does not indicate the growth of the country. Equal opportunity should be provided to women in rural areas, and more skill-based training should be required in rural areas so that they can be independent and earn their food. Formal and informal education should be provided to women in urban and rural areas so that they will be aware of their rights. This can only happen through the collective effort of the state and NGOs.

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