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GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT



Chief Editor

Dr. Ansari Md. Haroon Md. Ramzan
J.A.T Arts, Science & Commerce College
[For Women], Malegaon, Nashik.

Executive Editor

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A study of different Acts for Women in Maharashtra State and current status of women

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Abstract:

In today's age, we see women as leading men. She is on the path to progress while working alongside men in educational, social, political fields. Even in financing, it appears to be more than that of men in some places. Naturally, women have gained a greater place in society than ever before. She has earned it by her own duty, hard work, wisdom. No doubt. In all respects, women are at the forefront of these men. While this is true, all of these things are limited to certain classes. Some are true of certain women. Even though the woman is said to be the leader in all fields, she is still seen in injustice. Even today, newspapers open up that more and more women are having news about their injustice.

In this paper explain the different acts of women in Maharashtra state and their current status in Maharashtra.

Keywords: Educational, Financing, political fields, injustice.

Introduction:

“I measure the progress of a community by the degree of progress which women have achieved.”—Dr.B. R. Ambedkar

World can revolved around women and never be complete without her. In the twenty-first century a woman has identified her own power. A woman is an idol of sacrifice, humility, faith and goodness. She is not less than men in any case. Women are now occupying areas that are traditionally considered men's. She has also learned to fight for her rights. Today's woman has proved that they are not enemies to each other but are partners. The woman is strong. Women today seem to be playing a leading role at all levels due to their high efficiency, well-being, ability to do any work and the expression of her power is seen in this way. This is a wonderful way for a woman to prove herself as equal to men, utilizing the opportunity offered by the changing times. In our country, the situation of women seems to be still more sordid even as the world is moving on such a massive scale. Why does our society go back and forth in terms of women who are



constantly pushing ahead in all fields? How long will you live on the hope that someone will change the situation? There is no need to do more for this but it can make a huge difference if we treat each other with respect and respect for the women around us. A woman's reputation is not just for being a heroic wife or a heroic mother, but for being a heroic woman.

Objectives:

To make a brief outlook of different acts in state government of Maharashtra and current status of women

Acts in Maharashtra

Maharashtra is the second most populous state with around 11.2 crores citizens residing in the state and in that women constitute 48% at around 5.41 crores.

The main objective of state government of Maharashtra is to focus on promoting the survival, protection, development, welfare and participation of women in holistic manner.

Important Acts:

1.Devadasi System (Abolition) Act, Maharashtra 2005

An Act to provide for a comprehensive law to abolish the practice of dedication of women as Devdasis to Hindu deities, idols, objects of worship, temples or religious institutions, and to protect the women so dedicated against exploitation, and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. Whereas it is expedient to abolish the practice of dedicating women to the Hindu deities, idols, objects of worship, temples or religious institutions as devdasis which is in existence in some parts of the State; and Whereas such practice of Devdasis is derogatory to the dignity of women leading to their exploitation; and Whereas with a view to suggest effective measures to abolish such practice and to rehabilitate the Devdasis in the society to enable them to lead respectable like, the Government of Maharashtra had appointed a study group; and Whereas after considering the recommendations made by the study group, it is considered expedient to enact a comprehensive law providing for effectively abolishing "Devdasi" system, so as to enable them to live with dignity; and to make stringent deterrent provisions for punishing the persons who are responsible for or involved in.

The 2015 Sampark Report cited data from a 2010 survey conducted by the Department of Commissionerate of Women and Child Development, Pune which recorded only 3,907 Devadasis in Maharashtra but estimates that the actual number of Devadasi women in Maharashtra may be around 30,000.

2. THE DOWRY PROHIBITION ACT, 1961

In this act, 'dowry' means any property or valuable security given or agreed to be given



either directly or indirectly (a) by one party to a marriage to the other party to the marriage; or (b) by the parents of either party to a marriage or by any other person, to either party to the marriage or to any other person; at or before or any time after the marriage in connection with the marriage of said parties but does not include dower or mahr in the case of persons to whom the Muslim Personal Law (Shariat) applies.

An Act to provide a civil law remedy for the protection of women from domestic violence in India. The Domestic Violence Act encompasses all forms of physical, verbal, emotional, economic and sexual abuse and forms a subset of the anti-dowry laws to the extent it is one of the reasons for domestic violence. Section 3 of the Domestic Violence Act specifically incorporates all forms of harassment, injury and harms inflicted to coerce a woman to meet an unlawful demand for dowry.

3. THE ORPHANAGES AND OTHER CHARITABLE HOME (SUPERVISION AND CONTROL) ACT 1960

An Act to provide for the supervision and control of orphanages, homes for neglected women or children and other like institutions and for matters connected therewith.

Licenses are given to the Vikas Gruh and Boarding Organizations working under Social Security Department for the purpose of giving shelter, care and survival of the needy women and children under this Act. The women, who are inducted to these Homes are given training like Tailoring, Embroidery, Wall Piece, Book-binding, Best Out of Waste articles etc., which may help them in earning money during their stay in these Homes.

4. THE IMMORAL TRAFFIC (PREVENTION) ACT, 1956

An Act to provide in pursuance of the International Convention signed at New York on the 9th day of May, 1950, for the prevention of immoral traffic. The act, then called the All India Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act (SITA), was amended to the current law. The laws were intended as a means of limiting and eventually abolishing prostitution in India by gradually criminalising various aspects of sex work.

5. Prohibition of child marriage act 2006

An Act to provide for the prohibition of solemnisation of child marriages and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. This new Act is armed with enabling provisions to prohibit for child marriage, protect and provide relief to victim and enhance punishment for those who abet, promote or solemnize such marriage.

Even though the state of Maharashtra is one of the most socially and economically progressive states in the country, Youth Study findings underscore the prevalence of early marriage among



young women in the state.

6. THE PROTECTION OF WOMEN FROM DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ACT, 2005

An Act to provide for more effective protection of the rights of women guaranteed under the Constitution who are victims of violence of any kind occurring within the family and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

"Domestic violence" includes actual abuse or the threat of abuse that is physical, sexual, verbal, emotional and economic. Harassment by way of unlawful dowry demands to the woman or her relatives would also be domestic violence.

7. The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prevention and Redressal), Act 2013

It is a legislative act in India that seeks to protect women from sexual harassment at their place of work. The Act defines sexual harassment at the work place and creates a mechanism for redressal of complaints. It also provides safeguards against false or malicious charges. The Act is extremely wide to cover all women, irrespective of her age or employment status, whether in the organised or unorganised sectors, public or private and covers clients, customers and domestic workers as well.

Conclusion:

Women have a crucial role to play in the society. They are an integral part of each family. The social conditions leading to the constantly changing and modernity, the increased participation of women in education and the resulting ideological free and economic viability, the deterioration of the ancient culture and the nature of the man to change themselves according to the current situation are important factors of the woman's progress. In the coming days, sometimes today's women will overcome all these difficulties and set an example of how to live well. And in the coming years, the importance of women will also be extraordinary and this is because of the duty of women in the 21st century.

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