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CHAPTER – 20

NEW ACTS AND POLICIES RELATED TO DALIT WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

Dyavappa L. Pawar

ABSTRACT:

Women's empowerment is the process of empowering women. Empowerment can be defined in many ways, however, when talking about women's empowerment, empowerment means accepting and allowing people (women) who are on the outside of the decision-making process into it. Women's empowerment is the most crucial point to be noted for the overall development of a country. Many celebrities are all for girl power such as Liza Koshy and Lilly Singh (who has her own late night show and has won many awards and also raised money for girl love and other charities) "This puts a strong emphasis on participation in political structures and formal decision-making and, in the economic sphere, on the ability to obtain an income that enables participation in economic decision-making." Empowerment is the process that creates power in individuals over their own lives, society, and in their communities. People are empowered when they are able to access the opportunities available to them without limitations and restrictions such as in education, profession, and lifestyle. Feeling entitled to make your own decisions creates a sense of empowerment. Empowerment includes the action of raising the status of women through education, raising awareness, literacy, and training. Women's empowerment is all about equipping and allowing women to make life-determining decisions through the different problems in society.

Key Words: Dalit Women, Empowerment, Discrimination, New Acts, Policies.

1.0. INTRODUCTION:

The evolution of the Dalit in Punjab through a historical perspective and the causes for their deprivation are studied in this chapter. The government introduced various schemes to alleviate their problems. Comparatively the Dalit in Punjab are leading a better social life than the Dalit in other parts of India. This may be due to the commendable achievements that Punjab has achieved in the fields of social, economic, political, and religious spheres as well as in the areas of health and land reforms. But to what extent these achievements have affected the Dalit in general and Dalit woman, in particular, is to be studied in depth. It can be seen that in the matter of socio-economic development, Punjab is ahead of many of the Indian states, but the pattern of distribution of social and economic opportunities within Punjab is highly inequitable among different

special consideration to the Dalit women which benefitted the Dalit women of the region. Foundation of National Commission for Women and subsequent establishment of the same in the states encouraged the government to specifically work for the upliftment of the Dalit women. Both Central and State government worked at multiple levels while ensuring the equal participation of the Dalit women. The schemes were launched at multiple levels ranging from the provision of the basic amenities like shelter home, financial assistance to the institutional level while helping in the construction of the hostel and other facilities. The government realized the significant contribution of education in the upliftment of Dalit women and offered various matric and post-matric scholarship which was given to Ph.D. level.

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**Redefining Dalit Women's Empowerment:
Socio-Economic and Political Realities in
Contemporary India**



DR.PUNYA SHAILAJA



Dr. Punya Shailaja is working as Assistant Professor in the Dept of Public Administration, Nizam College (Autonomous) Osmania University, Hyderabad., She pursued her PG MA(Public Admn) MA(Political Science), M.Phil and Ph.D from Osmania University and UGC NET Qualified in 2010. She has 15 years of teaching experience in Public Admn. She was the member of Women's Empowerment Cell, Nizam College, Presently she is Osmania University Ladies Hostel Warden. She has presented Research Paper in National and International Conferences. She Wrote Lessons to the Distance Education Center of M.G.University, Nalagonda district course material of BA III year HRM and BA II year Indian Administration. She is the Co-Author for several books. Her area of specialization is Indian Administration, HRM and Women Issues.

ISBN: 978-93-90238-68-2



INR 300/-