Women Empowerment for Developing India: A Study of Tamil Nadu.

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Abstract: Women have always fought for their rights. Women's status is regarded to be lowered in a patriarchal society and a male-dominated power system. Weakened women seek relief and liberation on their own. Awareness has grown as a result of liberation campaigns, feminist movements, and reformation concepts. "Women's empowerment" refers to improving women's social, economic, and political standing. It advocates for the development of non-state and state leadership capacities. Women's empowerment is critical in today's world. The feminist movement began in the 1800s when British women wanted the right to vote. Since then, there have been two global waves of feminism. The five components of women's empowerment are increasing women's sense of self-worth, giving them the freedom to choose and make decisions on issues that affect them, providing them with opportunities and resources, and giving them the authority to make decisions about their own lives, both inside and outside the home. Chief Minister M.K. Stalin approved the proposal in the Pappampatti Gram Sabha in Madurai. Tamil Nadu, in southern India, will provide a safe, secure, healthy, and aspirational environment for its 3.2 crore women through operational convergence among departments, boosting women's development outcomes, and involving both genders in the common goal. Pondicherry, Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, and Sri Lanka border Tamil Nadu. The study examines women's empowerment in rising India, with a particular emphasis on Tamil Nadu. The study used both primary and secondary sources and used a descriptive-cumulative analytical strategy to achieve an unbiased result by analyzing qualitative data with the thematic analytical tool QADMAX.

Keywords: Women Empowerment, Gender, Power, Gender Streaming, Change.

1. INTRODUCTION

In India, plans and arrangements as well as the constitution have laid weight on women empowerment. As per a social researcher, empowerment implies securing of power and power, taking free choices and taking on more prominent obligations in different fields of exercises. It is a cycle which produces changes in thoughts and discernments and makes mindfulness around one's freedoms and potential open doors for self-improvement in
terrifically significant circles of life. It gives conditions and open doors where individuals can utilize capacities and possibilities to the greatest level in compatibility of a few normal goals. Strengthening of ladies implies making financial freedom, self-reliance, political, social and lawful mindfulness, fearlessness and inspirational perspective among women. Empowerment as an idea was presented at the worldwide ladies' gathering in 1985 at Nairobi. The gathering characterized strengthening as a reallocation of social power and control of asset for ladies. Openness of women to a world external their house is a consequence of training and modernization of culture and society. The term empowerment has been broadly utilized according to ladies. Empowerment is a cycle, which challenges conventional power conditions and relations,1 cancelation of gender-biased discrimination in all institutions and designs of society and support of women in strategy and dynamic cycle at home-grown and public levels are nevertheless a couple of aspects of women strengthening. Empowerment in its easiest structure implies rearrangement of force that challenges the male strength. This doesn't, notwithstanding, imply that the strengthening system takes on a main bad guys approach. It is just to empower ladies to enhance and co-ordinate with men. Empowerment is a functioning course of empowering women. Empowering ladies implies opportunity to utilize their physical and mental abilities to the fullest for their own prosperity as well as those of society. Empowerment of women would mean giving sufficient powers and status and as likewise fearlessness to woman's, So that they can battle against hardships of a wide range of social segregation and misuse. Empowerment empowers women as a gathering turns out to be freer especially in financial issues and their clout in choice - it is expanded to make in the family. Empowerment of women implies making of women aware of their freedoms, empowering them to take choices without anyone else creating trust in themselves as people and as individuals in the general public. Empowerment to women implies the expulsion of sensation of vulnerability in them the money management of influence to follow up for their own benefit to oppose double-dealing that corrupted them in its most straightforward structure implies the sign of reallocation of force that challenges man centric philosophy and the male predominance. An interaction empowers women to get to and control of material as well as data assets.

1.1 Objectives of women empowerment
The primary goals of empowering women are to provide a nurturing environment for women's emotional, intellectual, and moral development and to teach them the skills they need to be able to make decisions for themselves. This is accomplished by teaching them the tools they need to become self-reliant. Developing a sense of self-worth and self-confidence in women a world devoid of discrimination and acts of abuse against children and women. Establishing and maintaining ties with members of civil society, particularly those affiliated with women's organisations, with the goal of ensuring the successful execution of constitutional and legislative provisions as well as the protection of women's rights. In order to boldly portray one's social position, it is vital to have the abilities necessary to do so. To inspire women to strive for greatness and bring about positive change in the world. Women shouldn't have their roles established by men such as their husbands, dads, brothers, or other male relatives in order to give them the opportunity to develop into independent, powerful persons. They need to cultivate a healthy feeling of pride in themselves so that they do not view themselves as being on a lower level than males. Increasing women's understanding of their own selves and giving them the tools they need to fully realise their potential will

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benefit not only the women individually but also society as a whole. In order to foster the growth of women in terms of their sense of self-worth, social position, and both their physical and mental health, and It is imperative that we come together as one in order to successfully rally other women in the face of oppression, both in the past and in the present.

2. RESEARCH OBJECTIVES
   - To describe and evaluate the role that women's empowerment plays in the development of India, with a focus on Tamil Nadu, a state in the south of the country.

3. METHODOLOGY

The data used in this research comes primarily from primary and secondary sources. The information was gathered to examine how women's empowerment affects economic growth in Tamil Nadu, a state in southern India. The study's framework and findings are based on an objective analysis of past and present works. The thematic analytical software tool QADMAX was used to analyze secondary data from many sources such as books, websites, newspaper articles, various Indian administrative reports, and various international journals and publications.

4. DISCUSSION AND RESULT

Women empowerment in India

India's empowerment of women is not comparable to that in other nations. In the Vedic eras, women were held in the highest regard. Women's education has always been a priority. The term "sahadharmini" has been used since the Vedic era. Its name means "equal partner." Thus, it is abundantly obvious that women in ancient India were respected, educated, and held in high esteem. As time went on, the rigid Middle Eastern and British cultures infiltrated Indian culture. As a result, women lost the influence and respect they had had. After winning their independence, women gradually began to reclaim their former power. There are ladies everywhere today. The nation has had a female president and prime minister, as well as numerous notable female athletes like Saina Nehwal and P.T. Usha and gifted female scientists like A. Chatterjee and B. Vijayalakshmi. In India, women are joining the armed forces without any reluctance. However, many Indian women are still struggling to escape the patriarchal system, especially in the rural area. These women must be encouraged by the more powerful women to speak out, protest, and request assistance from the authorities. Women have more freedom now than ever before. They have the freedom to choose. But there is still a long way to go.

Women must speak out against the oppression of women through religion. Not all military jobs are available to women. In the entertainment sector, in sports, and in regular occupations, there is a wage difference. The injustices that women have endured since the dawn of time must be put an end to by using their hard-won authority. The empowerment of women must be a top priority if India is to become a superpower, and their growth must be prioritised. We should priorities the education of girls in order to do this. Additionally, they receive the same compensation as males for equivalent labour. Our objectives should also include ending child marriage and the dowry system throughout the entire country in order to empower women.
The Indian government is attempting to improve women's conditions in India so that they can benefit from equal chances and advance personally. In this context, the Indian Supreme Court mandated that women be admitted to the National Defense Academy. The Indian government has announced that women will henceforth be eligible to attend military schools. A typical method of handling this issue might be an excellent option. The budgeting for gender has also advanced significantly. Our Ministry of Women and Child Development regularly engages with these cells to improve capacity and facilitate the integration of gender analysis into governmental policies, plans, programmes, and budgets. More than 47 ministries have established gender budget cells.

Women's participation in social structure in India started quite early. The last two decades of the 19th century and the first two decades of the 20th century saw the creation of organisations, particularly for women. Women's India Association at Adayar, Madras (1917–1937), National Council of Women in India (1925), All India Women's Conference (1926–1937), Sri Prostrian Mandal at Bombay (1903), Bharat Stri Mahamanda (1910), and the Women's Association under the patronage of the Brahmo Samaj in Calcutta (1886) are just a few examples. These groups have aided in both arousing women and advocating for their rights outside of India. Women took an active part in the fight for Indian independence. Their leadership abilities were put to good use both during the independence movement and in India after independence.

4.1 Women empowerment in Tamil Nadu

Placing women in control in Tamil Nadu In many pieces of Tamil Nadu during the medieval times and the early Modern Era, ladies had an exceptionally low status. A portion of the social factors that prompted the low status and hopelessness of ladies, who were dealt with like celebrated slaves, were the absence of instructive open doors, kid relationships, the restriction on widows remarrying, the commonness of the Devadasi framework, etc. Be that as it may, industrialization and urbanization in the state prompted enormous changes in ladies' freedoms and social turn of events. More ladies in Tamil Nadu worked in horticulture than in assembling or the assistance area. In the assembling area, women are filled in as beedi laborers and did difficult work for the cotton material, fish, food handling, and match businesses. Few they made gadgets and electrical products. Hazard avoidance was normal in Tamil Nadu, which has forever been a moderate society.

The average women was considerably further behind than the typical man since she needed to manage separation in monetary foundations, debilitation from her family, and lower levels of schooling and certainty. With the beginning of SHGs as an examination in the country regions in 1989, the circumstance of provincial ladies in the state has changed amazingly. It gave unfortunate ladies in provincial regions the opportunity to begin their own organizations and assisted them with acquiring fearlessness, relational abilities, freedom, portability, the executive’s abilities, and specialized abilities. With the assistance of certain NGOs and a little assistance from the public authority, this development acquired speed and developed further neighborhood foundation. They have made it feasible for individuals to cooperate legitimately by giving them admittance to things like preparation, banking administrations, taxpayer supported organizations, and so on. A large portion of them in the casual area are presently running miniature endeavours or locally established creation units, for example, crate making, mat winding around, beedi making, ribbon making, and the creation of agarbathi, candles, pieces of clothing, phone mats, handiworks, paper dice, ink, cleansers, and so on.
washing powder, snacks, natural product juices, pickles, jams, squash, vattal, and other family things, and so on.

The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu said that you should know how the government is carrying out the scheme. When the DMK is in charge, a lot of plans to help women get ahead are put into place. "Many of these schemes have become important parts of history," the Chief Minister said, quoting his cabinet college cum State Higher Education minister K Ponmudy. Ponmudy had mentioned 33 percent reservation for women in jobs, 50 percent reservation for women in local bodies, schemes to help widows get back on their feet, and the requirement that elementary schools hire women teachers.

M K Stalin, the chief minister of Tamil Nadu, said that education is a "permanent asset." He asked all political parties to support the financial aid programme for girl students to give them a permanent asset and give them more power. The education aid plan is a change to the policy on women's rights. It makes women get an education, which is a permanent asset, before they can get married, the CM said.

4.2 Initiatives of Tamil Nadu for women's empowerment

Tamil Nadu, a southern Indian state with 30 million women, has improved women's status. Ancient ladies were respected. They were homemakers, writers, and rulers. They advised their spouse-kings well. Caste discrimination didn't start until the 1300s. In Tamil Nadu, most societal problems against women in north India are absent. Caste prejudice and gender inequity spread later. Men and women evolved unequal power structures. Tamil Nadu has been impacted by global and national women's liberation. The Dravidian Movement emphasised women's freedom outside the national movement. Dr. Mahalakshmi Reddy proposed a Bill in 1931 to abolish the Devadasi system in Madras Presidency. Progress in Empowerment The state government's policies, programmes, and permissive approach to NGOs help women in significant ways. The Department of Social Welfare helps women. In 1983, TNCDW was created to empower rural women. Since July 2006, this Corporation has been under the administrative jurisdiction of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department to better coordinate self-help group programmes. Since 1989, 30% of school and job seats in Tamil Nadu are earmarked for women. Started in 1989 with funding from International Fund for Agricultural Development, self-help organisations cover 50 lakes women. "Mahalir Thittam" was introduced in 1997 and is implemented with NGOs and banks. Under this arrangement, TNCDW-affiliated NGOs supervise SHGs. Mahalir Thittam approves 638 NGOs. Regular training is given to group members. This women's development project empowers underprivileged and disadvantaged women socially, economically, and professionally. Entrepreneurship training is underway. Government-trained NGOs.

The World Bank supports empowerment and poverty reduction programmes. All development efforts in India prioritises women and children. In patriarchal countries, women's quality of life is dictated by economic, social, and cultural variables. Due to their gender, females cannot receive the same development benefits as men. Rural women's plight is dire. Women are poorer than urban women since they are responsible for the household's existence. Under these conditions, women must work longer hours-paid and unpaid-and reduce their consumption. To combat feminization of poverty, effective methods must be developed and implemented. The IWDI The foundation was established in 1989 to elevate women and girl children from unsavory circumstances by assisting them with becoming
independently employed. Tamil Nadu Women’s Development Corporation the Corporation was laid out on 9 December 1983 under the Companies Act, 1956 to engage women, cultivate entrepreneurship, and find exchange and businesses appropriate for women, market things made by women, and urge women to coordinate SHGs by giving preparation and credit. Relationship for Women Entrepreneurs (WEPA) WEPA in Chennai is an association of women entrepreneurs that gives preparing. The association holds shows for individuals and markets their items. MOOWES helps women entrepreneurs prevail in business. It intends to help women promote their items through presentations and visit the country. Tamil Nadu's ladies innovative plans Indira Mahila Yojana (IMY) expects to enable and arrange ladies at the grassroots level. The drive was steered in 200 blocks in 1995 to facilitate and consolidate sectoral projects to engage women.

Skills and vocational training Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women helps economically disadvantaged women. The Corporation funds entrepreneurship programmes for first-generation women entrepreneurs. The programme began in 1998-99 at Chennai and Madurai. Support for women's training and employment (STEP) STEP began in 1987. It intends to increase the capabilities of impoverished and asset-less women to mobilize nonscientists and create sustainable employment in agriculture, small animal husbandry, dairying, fisheries, handlooms, handicrafts, khadi and village industries, sericulture, social forestry, and waste land development. Tamil Nadu's government has emphasised increasing resources for programmers. First-generation women entrepreneurs encounter various challenges, including a lack of bank financing to launch their businesses. The government has sanctioned Rs. 30 lakhs to grant first-generation women entrepreneur’s 10% margin money support to the project cost up to Rs. 50,000. Tamil Nadu Cooperative Bank (TAICO Bank Ltd) TAICO Bank Ltd. was founded in 1961 to lend to industrial cooperatives. The bank lends to SSI small businesses, road transport companies, and traders. The RBI has approved TAICO Bank to extend loans to Industrial Co-operative Societies under NABARD refinancing. The TIIC (TIIC) TIIC was formed as a banking firm in 1949. It's a leading financial institution that promotes Tamil Nadu's industrialization. 21 It helps small/medium/large businesses, professionals, and car owners. Under the broad framework, small and medium-sized industrial units can get loans to establish up new industries or expand/modernize/diversify existing ones.

M.K. Stalin sponsored different programmes to provide marriage aid to qualified ladies. Over 94,700 women, comprising 53,599 degree or certificate holders and 41,101 others, will profit from 762.23 crore in 2021-22. M.K. Stalin gave loans and social aid to 7.56 lakh women from 58,463 women's Self Help Groups. Stalin thought this would boost women entrepreneurs' confidence. 'Our government will provide all required support to help you rise,” the Chief Minister remarked at Tiruttani. Chief Minister MK Stalin stated tenements from the Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board will be given to women heads of families. Adding that this will empower women. Stalin said 60% of municipal body chiefs are women, despite a 50% reservation for women in local bodies. “The DMK appointed 11 woman mayors. 380 of 649 municipal and town panchayat chiefs are women. This is Dravidian women's empowerment,” Illam Thedi Kalvi is an amazing educational programme in Tamil Nadu. The plan aims to encourage 1 lakh children to enroll in government schools, boosting the educational field. State authorities plan to empower girls in the field by
launching the scheme. This academic year will see progress in state-wide women's empowerment. Tamil Nadu grows and develops under Chief Minister Thiru M.K. Stalin's leadership. M.K. Stalin, Tamil Nadu's chief minister, is working to improve each person's socioeconomic situation. Tamil Nadu seeks for inclusive growth in all sectors under M.K. Stalin's leadership.

5. CONCLUSION

The rising tendencies in women's empowerment in Tamil Nadu are significant. State programmes and NGOs assist empower people. The following is true regarding women's empowerment in Tamil Nadu. Both tradition and modernity have influenced women's status in Tamil Nadu. Global and national policy decisions affect state policy decisions. Tamil Nadu has its distinct social, economic, and political prerequisites for making policy decisions on women's empowerment. NGO's have played a big part in implementing women's empowerment policies. Empowering women involves individual work and social mindset. Initiatives by the state and NGOs. To make India a superpower, it's necessary to provide women a chance to develop themselves. To achieve that, emphasis on girls' education. Women earn equal compensation for equal effort. Child marriage and the dowry system should be eliminated to empower women. The Indian government is also attempting to make India more suited for women so they may thrive and obtain equal chances. In this regard, the Supreme Court of India declared women's admittance to the National Defense Academy mandatory. The Indian government announced that military schools will be open to women. A frequent solution to this situation is amazing. Women are just as exceptional as males in many walks of life, including the workplace, politics, the arts, sports, and beyond. In order to remove the word "impossible" from the dictionary, it will be necessary to offer them with passionate invigoration and keep their spirits high. Let us hope that there will be many more women who are role models for women's emancipation like Sarojini Naidu, Jhansi Lakshmi Bhai, and Indira Gandhi.

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6. REFERENCES


