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# Minority Women Empowerment through Government and Non-Government Organization

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**Abstract:** *Indian womenfolk are stressed for equivalence and the taking in a society that still bursts men at the high point of social hierarchy. Women may become more independent, exercise their sovereign right to manage resources, and establish themselves via the process of empowerment. The government of India has taken passable creativity to help females' empowerment by presenting diverse minority schemes and policies, which not only advance the social status of the female population but also as a key to different troubles like maternal mortality, female infanticides, and female foeticide. In order to empower women, administration governments (NGOs) and self-help groups (SHG) provide vocational training, basic education, coaching for self-employment, legal assistance, and safety for women as well as programs for self-awareness. As a result, the advancement of women in society is a primary concern for these people.*

**Keywords:** *Self-Help Groups, Women Empowerment, Maternal Mortality, Female Foeticide, Female Infanticides.*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

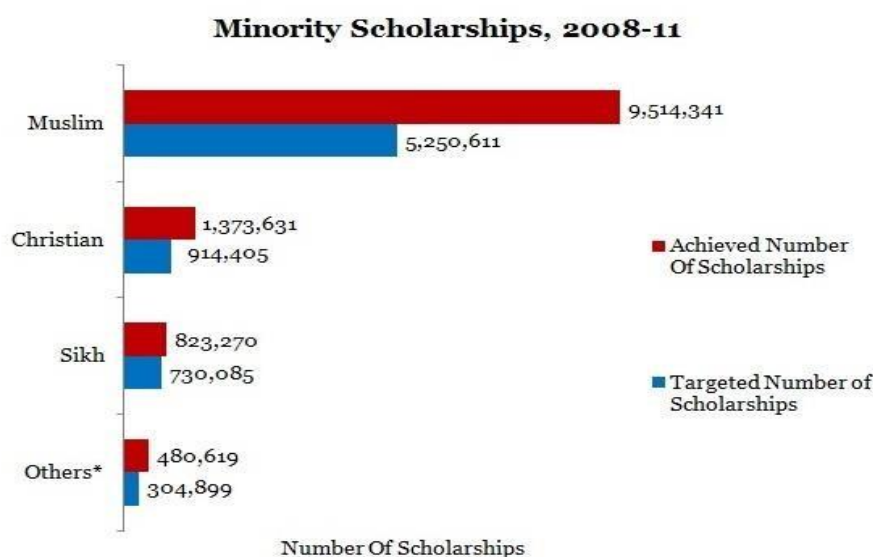
### A minority of Women Empowerment through Government Organizations

#### 1) Educational Empowerment

##### a) Scholarship Schemes

- i. **Pre-matric Scholarship Scheme:** This pre-matriculation grant will motivate low-income families to enroll their children in school, lighten their load financially, and strengthen their will to care for their children's education. Their educational success will be based on this plan, which will also level the playing field in the small service region. One of the goals of this strategy is to prioritize employment above education, which might improve the socioeconomic standing of minority populations.

- ii. **Post-matric Scholarship Scheme:** The PM introduced a fresh 15-point strategy for the welfare of minorities in June 2006. It stipulates the implementation of a post-matric scholarship program for deserving scholars from minority populations. The program's purpose is to offer eligible students from economically challenged units of minority communities scholarships in order to boost their possibilities of pursuing higher education, raise the rate at which they succeed in it, and increase their employability.
- iii. **Merit-cum-Means Scholarship Scheme:** The Programme's primary purpose is to provide deserving and deserving students from minority populations financial help so they may enroll in professional and technical programs.

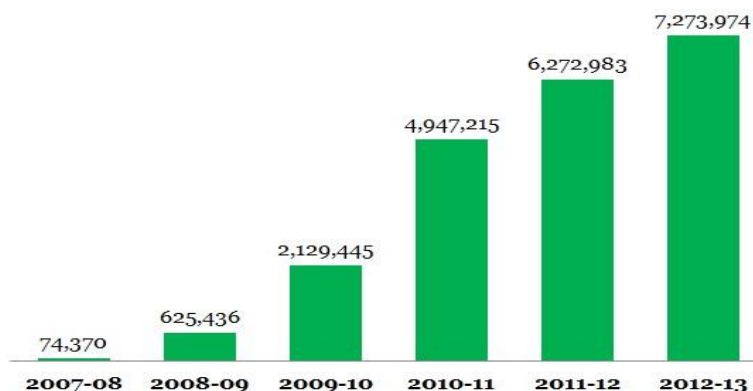


Source: Ministry of Minority Affairs, 2011-12

Fig.1. Minority Scholarships

- b) **Maulana Azad National Fellowship (MANF):** This scholarship will only be available to minority community students in India who are pursuing regular, full-time research studies necessary for the achievement of an M.Phil. or Ph.D. They will thereafter be qualified to apply for jobs in M.Phil. and Ph.D.-granting universities, including those as assistant professors.
- c) **Padho Pradesh-Scheme of Interest Subsidy on Educational Loans for Overseas Studies for the Students Belonging to the Minority Communities:** The main objective of the program is to give commendable students from economically disadvantaged minority communities who were notified under section 2(c) of the National Commission Minorities Act of 1992 an interesting grant on the attention due during the moratorium period for Educational Loans for Foreign Studies in order to pursue authorized Masters and Ph.D.-level study programs abroad. The program seeks to increase minority students' employment prospects and provide them with greater opportunities for further study overseas.

**Total Number Of Scholarships Given To Students From Minority Communities, 2007-08 To 2012-13**



Source: Ministry of Minority Affairs

Fig.2. No. of Scholarships given to Students

d) **Naya Savera**-The main function of this scheme is to give Free coaching and Allied Services. This program intends to certify minority students and prepare them for competitive exams so that they may advance in their contributions to the public and commercial sectors of the economy. Through this program, designated coaching institutes will provide alerted minority students with free coaching with financial assistance.

e) **Nai Udaan**: The major purpose of the program is to provide financial aid to minorities who have already passed the preparatory tests given by the UPSC (Union Public Service Commission), the SSC (Staff Selection Commission), and the SPSC (State Public Service Commission).

## 2) Economic Empowerment

a) **PM VIKAS (Virasat Ka Samvardhan)**: To ensure that minority communities' inclusive growth in the fabric of the country, the "Ministry of Minority Affairs" (MoMA) works to provide opportunities for minority populations in education, skill development, and employment. The GOI has implemented numerous policies and programs throughout the years to promote the social, economic as well as educational advancement of the country's various minority groups.

b) **Seekho aur Kamao (Learn Earn)**: This program aims to advance the abilities of minority adolescents in a variety of contemporary and traditional occupations according to their educational background, current economic trends as well as market potential, which may land them a right job or prepare them for self-employment.

c) **USTTAD (Upgrading the Skills and Training in Traditional Arts/Crafts for development)**: The purpose of this program is to increase capacity and educate master



craftsmen and artisans about their ancient techniques. The minority kids will get instruction from these skilled master craftsmen/artisans in a variety of traditional arts/crafts

- d) **Nai Manzil:** This program will provide a 9–12 month non-residential integrated education and skill training program, with at least 3 of those months being devoted to skill development. According to projections, the scheme's training delivery will be completely integrated, with each applicant receiving an equivalent of the many components listed.
- e) **Concessional credit through National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC):** Its goal is to help Economic Activities through the provision of Concessional finance. It also helps Developmental activities.

### 3) **Infrastructure Development**

- a) **Pradhan Manti Jan Vikas Karyakaram(PMJVK):** This scheme was first launched in 2008-09. This program is centrally sponsored and is being executed by the MoMA with the objective of growing infrastructure projects, which are community assets, in the known areas with growth deficits for socio-economic expansion of the said areas.

### 4) **Special Needs**

- a) **Nai Roshni:** Women from underrepresented groups are becoming more prominent in positions of authority. The scheme's major objective is to equip and instill confidence in members of underrepresented groups, including their neighbors from other communities living in the same village or neighborhood, by giving them access to information about how to work with governmental and financial organizations.
- b) **Hamari Dharohar:** The fundamental objective of this program is to preserve the ancient history of India's minority communities within the framework of the culture of India. It first debuted in 2015.
- c) **Jiyo Parsi:** The Parsi population in India is declining, and this plan aims to stop it. The primary purpose of the initiative is to stabilize the Parsi population and raise the total number of Parsis in India by using a scientific methodology and carefully planned interventions to halt the population fall among this group.
- d) **Waqf Management:**
  - i. **Qaumi Waqf Board Taraqqiate Scheme (Scheme of Computerization of Records and Strengthening of state Waqf Boards):** In this scheme, the government needed to map the secure assets under Waqf boards in order to confirm their proper utilization and monetization. This move also aims to ensure that these belongings are not lost to encroachments and other counter-ownership claims.
  - ii. **Shahari Waqf Sampatti Vikas Yojana (Scheme for Grants-in-Aid to Waqf Development of Urban Waqf Properties):** In this program, the council provides credit help via the specific State Waqf Boards for acquiring structures on Waqf property that are

economically and commercially viable, such as shopping malls, marriage halls, hospitals, and cold storage.

e) **Research/Studies, Monitoring and Evaluation of Development Scheme including Publicity:** Baseline surveys, ongoing monitoring, and study evaluations for many Ministry initiatives and the PM's New 15-Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities Across the Country with a Special Focus on Minority Attention Districts/Blocks/Towns are all covered by this scheme.

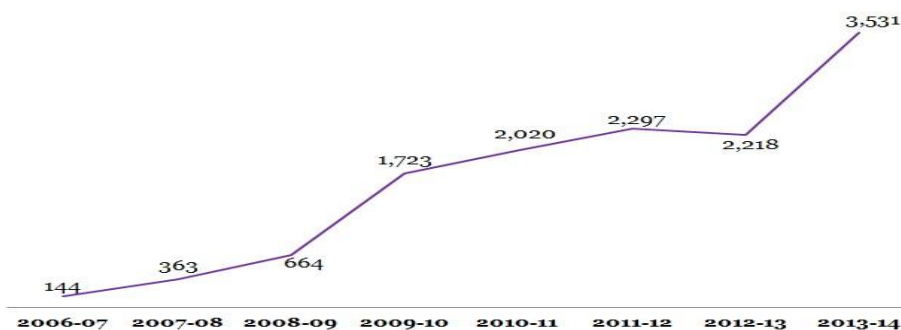
### 5) Support to Institutions

a) **Corpus Fund to Maulana Azad Education Foundation (MAEF):** Among MAEF's primary missions are the promotion of modern education via the development of residential schools, especially for girls, the funding of related research, and the promotion of other projects for the benefit of these populations.

b) **Equity to National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC):** On 30/09/1994, it was merged as a non-profit organization in accordance with Section 25 of the Companies Act of 1956. The prime goal of NMDFC is to support economic and developmental initiatives for "Backward Sections" of minorities, with a preference for women and certain vocational groups.

c) **Grant in Aid Scheme to State Channelizing Agencies of National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation:** The National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation will directly help SCAs as part of its Grants-in-Aid program, which is its primary goal (NMDFC). The support will not be available for the creation of permanent assets or liabilities. The goal of the program is to reinforce the arrangement of SCAs in order to advance their operations, including the recovery of loans.

**Budgetary Allocations To Ministry Of Minority Affairs,  
2006-07 To 2013-14**



Figures in Rs cr  
Source: Union Budget

Fig.3. Budgetary Allocations

## 6) Prime Minister's 15 Points Programme

a) **Prime Minister's New 15 Points Programme for the Welfare of Minorities:** The Hon'ble President announced that the administration would change the 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities with a view to include program-specific involvements in his address to the Joint Session of Parliament on February 25, 2005. The Prime Minister said, among other things, in his address on Independence Day 2005 that "We will also rethink and rework the 15 Point Programme for Minorities".

## 7) Follow-up on Sachar Committee Report

a) **Follow-up on Sachar Committee Report:** The main goal of the Sachar Committee Report brought the matter of Muslim Indian inequality to national kindness, sparking an argument that is still ongoing. The Committee suggested setting up an Equal Opportunity Commission to deliver.

## Women's Empowerment through Non-Government Organisations

### Definition of Non-Governmental Organization

S.L. Goel and Kumar, "NGOs are non-profit making voluntary service-oriented organizations for the benefit of its members. They are flexible, democratic and work without external control with specific aims and objectives".

David Sills, "NGOs are a group of persons organized as a basis of voluntary membership without state control for some common interests of its members."

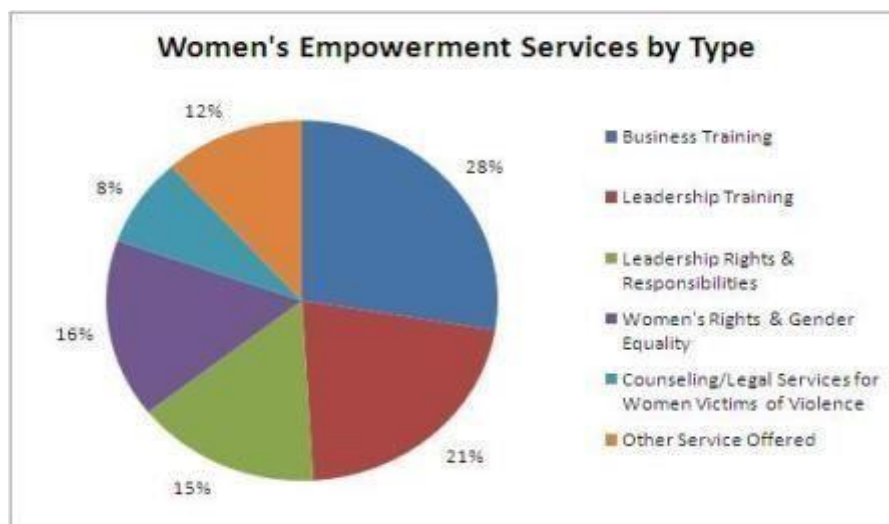


Fig.4. Women's Empowerment



### Characteristics of NGO

The following figure depicts the key attributes of an NGO:

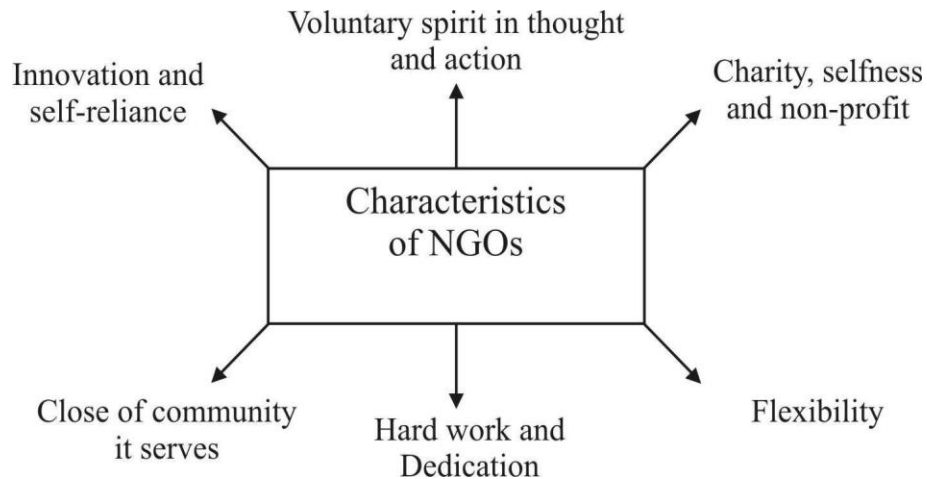


Fig.5: Characteristics of NGOs

Source: S.L Goal and Kumar

### Types of NGOs

The alignment and equality of cooperation, which are obviously shown in the graphic, may be used to determine the kind of NGO:

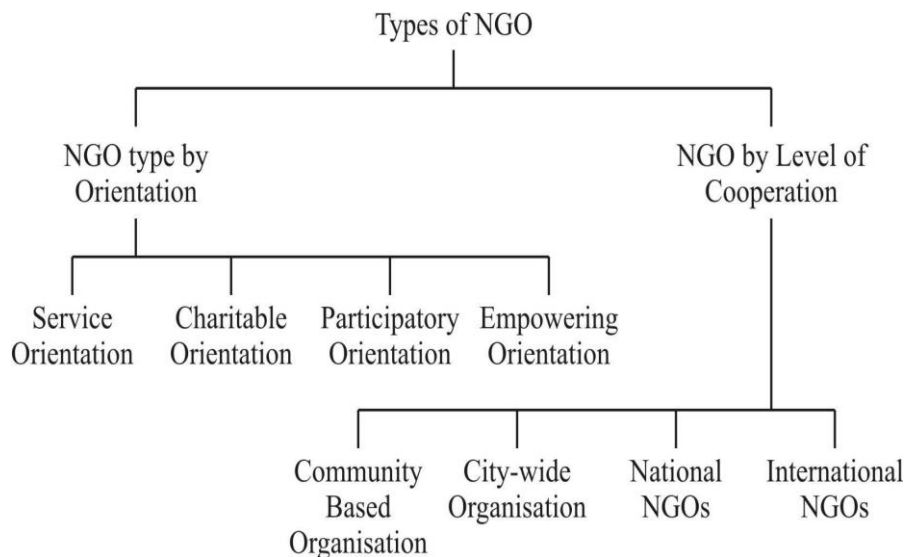


Fig.6: Types of NGOs

Sources: S.L Goal and Kumar



### **Role of NGOs towards Women's Empowerment**

Both the government and the majority of NGOs have made women's empowerment their top priority. Volunteerism supported by NGOs working towards progress plays an important role in rural development, which depends on the active participation of volunteers via Non-Governmental Organizations. Below are some of the NGOs' various responsibilities in empowering women:

- Enlightening the Rural women
  - Adding to government energy sources
  - Efforts to Shaping the Rural Women
  - Develop several models and experiments
  - Promote women's participation in their own liberation
  - Assembling the best resources
  - Helping Rural Leadership
  - Stepping in for the Rural Women
  - Encouraging Skill in Rural areas
  - Giving Rural Women Real and Effective Training
  - Assessment and Monitoring
  - Effect assessment
  - Planning & Execution

### **Planned Areas for NGOs to Focus on Women's Empowerment NGOs may play a significant role in empowering women via self-employment in the following ways:**

1. **Training and Skill Expansion:** In India, women contribute to the workforce a total of 22.7 percent, with major employees earning 16.03 percent and marginal workers earning 6.24 percent. Women found 90% of the total marginal workers in the nation. There are regional differences in work contribution rates within the country from 4% to 34%. Women often find service as casual labor in agriculture and the rising informal sector. Efforts by NGOs emphasize the empowerment of poor women. Their goal is to train and offer them chances of self-employment to progress their social and economic status.
2. **Lawful Awareness and Property Rights:** In rural areas of India, just 13 percent of women have access to land inheritance rights. In the village, usually, the daughters marry and leave the village, and hence no legacy rights exit. The government schemes also allot land to male household heads. An adult son gets a reward for displacement, but the adult daughter isn't allowed to enjoy her right to receive. NGOs are working towards the lawful empowerment of women to generate alertness regarding their legal rights and also help them buy land by spreading loan facilities.
3. **Fair Trade:** The idea is to eliminate as many intermediaries as possible so that the product may still be reasonably priced when it reaches the customer. Fair Trade is about giving poor people control. It is an energetically developing business concept. NGOs often act as organizers in the process, especially when women are willing to take up the process. NGOs that fight for women's empowerment support them financially.





4. **Self-Help Groups:** Self-help groups are tiny organizations that are usually founded by women in rural communities. The basic meaning of everyone in the SHG is to spend in some small business and gain small profits. The NGOs that are women-centric usually financially fund these people with initial loans with the least interest rates for initial investment, which those women can pay back after gaining profits.
5. **Skill Training:** Over 10% of manufacturing in India's agricultural and rural-oriented businesses comes from small-scale cottage enterprises. Government programs pay attention to skill training, marketing, coordination and inter-institutional linkages and render guidance to the government on policies concerning the small-scale sector.
6. **Capacity Building:** The practical capability of the individuals managing to deliver the cooperative support service must be improved and adapted to the specific requirements of the cooperative societies. Keeping in view the current state of economic liberalization, immediate essential measures must be taken by government institutions, the co-operative sector, the private sector, NGOs, and national and international agencies to adequately provide self-employed women with info, knowledge, technology, training and managerial techniques.

### **Summary**

On January 29, 2006, the MoMA was separated from the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment. The goal is to ensure that the needs of the recognized religious minorities—Christians, Muslims, Buddhists, Parsis, Jains, and Sikhs—receive special attention. The ministry is tasked with constructing an overarching policy and planning framework and coordinating, assessing, and reviewing development programs for the benefit of minority populations. Right to Equality Articles 14-16 of the Indian Constitution provides equal protection for both genders. Discrimination based on a person's gender is not tolerated under any circumstances. During India's independence in 1947, women were granted the ability to vote, a full century before most Western countries granted women the vote. The GOI is committed to closing the gender gap and has initiated a number of programs for that purpose. The GOI has instituted a number of programs to improve the lives of its citizens, including the “Support to Training and Employment Programme” for Women, whose primary focus is on disadvantaged women who live in rural areas and cannot travel to larger cities to acquire job-related skills. The ability to work for oneself would be aided by this. Indian officials want to educate 500 million citizens by 2020. By offering access to primary education, coaching for self-employment, vocational training, legal assistance, and defense for females, along with self-awareness programs, Non-governmental organizations and SHGs play an active role in empowering women. This is why they care so much about women's empowerment.



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