



E-ISSN: 2664-603X
P-ISSN: 2664-6021
IJPSG 2025; 7(3): 108-117
www.journalofpoliticalscience.com
Received: 01-02-2025
Accepted: 02-03-2025

Somya Meher
Student, Department of
Political Science, Utkal
University, Odisha, India

Advancing women's empowerment in India: The role of globalisation

Somya Meher

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.33545/26646021.2025.v7.i3b.469>

Abstract

Throughout human history, women have faced different kinds of challenges, like discrimination on the basis of gender, limited opportunity, subordination, and social pressure. On the other hand, with the rise of globalisation, the world is considered to be a small village, which created global supply chain integrated national economy with creating economic interdependence and also national financial sector connected with global economy. This integration between national and global economy has fostered job creation beneficial for both men and women. Gradually, society has come to accept that women have equal participation in workforces. The 1991 economic liberalization transformed the economy, leading to a favourable environment for employment and income generation for both men and women. These policy changes status of women made him self-independent, self-confident, and contributed to the development of the national economy. Globalization had played significant role in reducing the gender disparity and promoting equal opportunity for both men and women in workforce. The role of women in every sector is increasing gradually. The main purpose of this paper is to assess the role of globalization in transforming gender equality and empowering women in India. It examines whether globalisation reinforcing or challenging patriarchal structure in India. Another objective is to evaluate the role of various policies and programs of government promoting and enhance women's empowerment in India.

Keywords: Government, patriarchal, examines

Introduction

The Rise of globalization has been driving forces behind significant socio-economic, political transformation on global scale, influencing the traditional structure of patriarchal society. Globalization plays a key role in improving the better living condition and higher wages for its workers. Globalization has opened the door for women to gained opportunity to claim their right, freedom and helping them to achieve their self-dependence. India made its strong commitment to the international convention "Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women" in 1993. Various conventions have been signed by the Government of India, other nations, and international organizations to promote women's awareness of their rights. In past women were not aware their right, but now in the age of globalisation Women are engaging in different professional fields, including public agencies, corporate entities, and others.

Women empowerment and gender equality are global issues. Both the term aims to give women the power and control of their life, to do anything they want, and to do what they were not allowed to do once upon a time. Women empowerment can be described as improving and increasing the social, economic, political, and legal strength of women to provide equal rights to women. This made him live freely with their life, with a sense of selfworth, respect, and dignity. Get equal opportunity for education and get equal opportunity without any gender bias.

Evolving position of women in India

Women's status in India has progressed gradually over time. Mainly influenced by social, economic, and cultural political factors. During Vedic period, women enjoyed some relative status in society. In this period, women had the right to access education, equal property rights, and remarriage was allowed. Without his wife, men could not undertake any religious rituals, and marriage was not permissible

Corresponding Author:
Somya Meher
Student, Department of
Political Science, Utkal
University, Odisha, India

Marriage was regarded as a union for seven lifetimes. This highlights that complete gender equality is evident throughout every part of the society. No sector is exempt from the recognition of equal rights and opportunities for all. After the Vedic period, there is a gradual decline in the status of women. Educational, religious practices for women decreased, and practices like child marriage began to emerge. Women's freedom was curtailed during the ancient and mediaeval periods. Practices like child marriage and sati-Pratha begin to emerge. The status of women becomes so rigorous during the mediaeval period that practices like Parda, Sati, and child marriage become more widespread. In this response, some women like Raja Sultan, Rani Padmini, and Rani Durgawati play perverted roles, and the Bhakti Movement and Sufi Movement try to provide some freedom to express. After the mediaeval period, certain changes were brought during the colonial period. British colonial rule introduced certain reformed statuses for women. Social reformers like Raja Rammohan Roy, Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar, Savitribai Phule, and others raise their voices against ill practices like sati, child marriage, and education for women.

Various acts came into existence, such as the Widow Remarriage Act, 1856, and the Abolition of Sati, 1829, where Pandita Ramabai, 1858-1822, was one of the prominent social reformers and advocates for women's status in India. Her view on the status of India is critical and progressive; she is strongly against things such as child marriage and widowhood. One of her major concerns was the treatment of widows. Only for this reason, he founded Sarda Sadan in Pune to provide education and vocational training for widows

After India got independence, the Constitution of India provided equal status and opportunity for women in every aspect. Various legal reforms like the Hindu Remarriage Act 1955, the Dowry Prohibition Act 1961, and the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence 2005 were introduced for the protection of women's status. Women have played significant roles in economics, politics, and various professions. For instance, Indira Gandhi, Kalpana Chawla, and Pratibha Patel became the role models. The government and NGOs contribute their efforts to make women.

Impact of globalisation on women's empowerment in India

In the late 20th century, India adopted LPG systems to deal with several economic crises. It resulted in India emerging as one of the fastest-growing economies globally. The country shifted from a stagnant economy to a dynamic, market-orientated economy. It has also brought positive impacts for women, providing new ways to raise their self-esteem not only in the government sector but also in various private sectors. According to the World Development Report of 2012, it states that "trade openness and the spread of information and communication technology have increased women's access to economic opportunity and, in some cases, increased their wages relative to men's" (Roy, 2017). Globalization has expanded job opportunities for women, boosted their wages, and made them able to contribute to family income. This led to the increasing self-confidence within him.

Positive Impact of Globalisation

More Opportunity: Globalization has transformed the women's traditional role in homemaking, farming, domestic work, and animal husbandry, opening up new employment

opportunities and economic participation and resulted in a better environment for women. Due to globalisation, women are able to involve productivity labour inside and outside their house, which helps to increase living standards and also increases their confidence.

Changing roles in family, marriage, and caste: Globalisation has certainly changed the institution of patriarchy in India. Women are going to become holders of various important positions and achieve their own choice. Modern families have become more common, accessing every freedom for women, and marrying within caste has become less important.

Globalisation increased the political participation of women. Globalisation significantly increases participation of women and makes them stronger to raise their voice for various issues and get them resolved through their direct participation. For instance, Jayalalitha became CM of Tamil Nadu in 1991, Mayawati became CM of Uttar Pradesh in 1995, Sushma Swaraj became Delhi's first woman CM, and also, participation of women in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha increased gradually. For instance, in the 1991 Lok Sabha election, 39 women MPs were elected, 44 in 1996, 49 in 1998, 78 in 2019, and 74 in 2024. This trend has increased every general election

Negative Impact of Globalisation

Dual Responsibility: Managing the traditional role of a woman in the household with the new role of a working woman has become a major challenge faced by working women.

Feminization labour Although women are getting various opportunities and jobs, they are fit for certain kinds of jobs, often called pink-collar jobs, for instance, teaching, nursing, and hospitality. Anything that, apart from this job, is considered by TABO by families and some restrictions on women to enter this job. Gender wage disparity. Globalisation has provided more opportunities to women, but it has not addressed the inequality in society, still the employment of women more than the men.

The role of the government in advancing women's empowerment in India

In 1991, Government of India set National Commission for Women to protect and safeguard women's legal rights. This commission's objective is to review the constitutional and legal safeguards for women and recommend remedial legislative measures. The government of India declared 2001 as the Year of Women Empowerment. The National Policy of Empowerment of Women was passed in 2001. Advancing, developing and empowering women is the primary objective of this policy. Creating a supportive environment through Positive economic and social policy for empowerment women and helping them to reach their full potential

Policy Formulated by the Government of India for the Empowerment of Women and the Marginalised Section of Society

- **Integrated Child Development Scheme (1975):** This policy aim is to provides nutrition and health care service to pregnant and lactating women.
- **Targeted Public Distribution System (1997):** This policy aims to provide subsidized food grains to economically weaker section and many states issue ratio card in women name for enhancing their decision-making role.
- **Antyodaya Anna Yojana (2000):** This policy provides

highly subsidized food grains to the poorest of the poor and ensuring food security.

- **Mission shakti (2001):** It was launched by government of Odisha aim to empower women through SHGs and providing financial support and entrepreneurship.
- **Sarva Shiksha Abhiya (2001):** Its aim to provide universal elementary education and reducing gender gap in school.
- **Janani Surakhya Yojana (2005):** This policy safe motherhood scheme under national health mission to reduce maternal and infant mortality.
- **Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee act (2005):** This policy primary objective of guarantees 100 days of wage employment to rural household and promoting financial support for women.
- **Mamata scheme (2011):** This policy launched by government of Odisha aim to provide financial assistance to pregnant women during pregnancy.
- **Beti Bachao Beti Padhao scheme (2015):** It aims to address gender gaps and promote girl education in india.
- **Ujjwala Yojana (2016):** This policy provides free LPG connection to women from below poverty line (BPL) household, reducing use firewood and promoting clean cooking fuel
- **Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana yojana (2017):** This policy provides financial assistance to pregnant women for better maternal health and nutrition.
- **Subhadra Yojana (2024):** This policy launched by government of Odisha aim to empower women age between 21 to 60 by providing direct financial assistance. Eligible women receive a total 50000 within five years.

This policy and Programme reflect India and across the state commitment to empowering women education, employment, entrepreneurship, ad social security in the post globalisation era. In 2023 women reservation bill provide 33% reserves seat in parliament and state legislative assembly. This aim to increase women participation and leadership.

Gender Budgeting in India: The gender budget was first introduced in the budget session 200506. The ministry of women and child development plays a key role in coordinating gender budgeting across various sectors. Several initiatives like Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, Mahila shakti Kendra and National Mission for Women Empowerment. The Government of India adopted a separate gender budget system for the development of women. The ministry organized and funded various training program and workshop both at the center level and across various states. It is one of the powerful tools for achieving gender equality in mainstreaming so as to ensure that the benefits of development reach women as much as possible.

The National Mission for the Empowerment of Women: The Government of India launched the National Mission for the Empowerment of Women on International Women's Day in 2011. This program was started to enhance and support the holistic development of women across the country. This mission serves as unified platform, streamlining to various government program dedicated to women welfare and development. The mission aims to provide a single window service for all programs run by the

government for women.

Sustainable Development Programme: India has signed various international agreements, including the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. The fifth Sustainable Development Goal is directly related to the empowerment of women. The country has implemented numerous policies and initiatives for women's empowerment. The Ministry of Women and Child Development is separated from the Ministry of Human Resources Development. It is a nodal agency of the Government of India, responsible for the formulation and implementation of policies and programs related to the welfare, development, and empowerment of women and children

Government Enactments

The government of India introduced and passed several laws for the eradication of many social evils from time to time. Some of the significant enactments are mentioned here.

- Hindu Widow Remarriage Act, 1856
- The Hindu Marriage Act, 1955
- The Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961
- the maternity benefit Act, 1961
- The medical termination of pregnancy act, 1971
- The commission of sati Act, 1988
- The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005
- The prohibition of child marriage act, 2006
- Sexual Harassment of Women from Workplace Act, 2013
- The Criminal Law Act, 2013

Conclusion

Globalization has played primary role in advancing women empowerment by expanding economic opportunities improving access to education and promoting gender equality on global level. Various NGOs and various organizations were founded and created for the protection and defence of women around the world. Women have not only secured their place in employment but also in governance. The voice of women is increasingly heard in Parliament. It is only through globalisation and with the help of government NGOs that proper strategies are prepared to empower women and bring them into the mainstream development process. By doing so india also can move closer to true gender equality in increasing interconnected era. "Empowering women is a prerequisite for creating a good nation, when women are empowered, a society with stability is assured." - A P J Abdul Kalam.

References

1. Acharya AP. Empowerment of Women in India and Cultural Globalization. *Int J Res Hum Soc Sci.* 2016.
2. Angadi M. Globalisation and Indian Women: An Overview. *Int J Creat Res Thoughts.* 2015.
3. Baishya DD. Impact of Globalisation on Indian Women. *Int J Novel Res Dev.* 2021.
4. Deb MD, Singh DS. Globalisation and its impact on women in India: A review. *Int J Appl Res.* 2016.
5. Sudharani D. Globalization and Women Empowerment. *IJARIE.* 2021.
6. Ghosh MK. Women Empowerment: A Weapon to Sustainable Development of India. *Int J Multidiscip Stud.* 2020.
7. Hazarika D. Women Empowerment in India: A Brief

- Discussion. Int J Educ Plan Admin. 2011.
8. Khare K. Women Empowerment in the Age of Globalisation. Int J Polit Sci. 2021.
 9. Kumari JS. Impact of Globalization on Women in India: A Critical Review. Int J Adv Res Sci Commun Technol. 2022.
 10. Murthy DT. Women Empowerment in the Globalized Era - An Analysis. Shanlax Int J Econ. 2016.
 11. Singh Prof S, Agarwal D. Women Empowerment in India: A Critical Analysis. Tathapi. 2020.
 12. Roy A. Economic Globalisation and Gender Equality: A Case Study of India. J Adv Econ Finance. 2017;2(2):117–26. Available from: <https://wcdhry.gov.in/schemesfor-women/>
 13. United Nations. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. Available from: <https://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/#:~:text=The%20Convention%20on%20the%20Elimination,bill%20of%20rights%20for%20women>
 14. Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of Odisha. Mamata Scheme. Available from: <https://wcd.odisha.gov.in/ICDS/mamata>
 15. Government of India. Subhadra Yojana. Available from: <https://www.india.gov.in/websitesubhadrayojana-odisha>
 16. Government of India. Official Website of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. Available from: <https://www.india.gov.in/official-website-sarva-shikshaabhiyan-0>
 17. Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana. Available from: <https://pmuy.gov.in/>
 18. Government of Maharashtra. Antyodaya Anna Yojana. Available from: <https://mahafood.gov.in/scheme/antyodaya-annayojana-aay/>
 19. Government of Maharashtra. Targeted Public Distribution System. Available from: <https://mahafood.gov.in/targeted-public-distribution-system/>
 20. National Center for Biotechnology Information. PMC4925843. Available from: <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC4925843/>
 21. Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India. Mission Shakti. Available from: <https://missionshakti.wcd.gov.in/>
 22. Government of India. Laws Related to Women. Available from: https://www.indiacode.nic.in/handle/123456789/5524?view_type=browse
 23. National Commission for Women. List of Laws Related to Women. Available from: <http://ncw.nic.in/important-links/List-of-Laws-Related-to-Women>
 24. National Commission for Women. Laws Related to Women. Available from: <http://ncw.nic.in/important-links/Laws-Related-to-Women>