



The Role empowerment of women through ICT.

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Abstract:-

The status of women is considered to be inferior even after her great contribution to society. It is the right time for women to stand for her. Women empowerment is a burning issue these days. Various NGOs are working for the betterment of women and give them training for self-independence. Government is also taking this issue seriously and has announced various policies in favor of women. In this scenario Information and Communication Technology is also playing an important role. Therefore their participation in ICT must be taken into consideration. Women must be given a chance of adopting new technology. If it is done they can develop their skills in business, share markets. ICT is main source of women empowerment. With the use of it women can understand issues related to their education, health and jobs. Through ICT women can achieve technique of decision making.

Key-words- Women, ICT, jobs, empowerment, decision making, Education, and Social Change Awareness.

Introduction:-

Nature of our society is male dominating from starting so work done by women were never recognized and appreciated. Nobody has ever mentioned about their contribution in music. The famous musician Jane Pirone has created www.drummergirl.com as a reaction to negative experiences faced by her. Her motto was to encourage future female drummers like her. Her

efforts also bring to notice the importance of ICT as without paying anything all the people can get information about female drummers on web. She has mentioned that WWW gave her a platform to bring social change. Competiveness of the countries mainly depends on the present status of ICT sectors. The government business and individuals are the important stakeholders who have responsibility of adopting new technologies. There are three basic tools in the new era of globalization. They are knowledge, information and information technology. Without them situation of a person seems to be backward. ICT has been used as the instrument to provide, store and control the information. The country needs wide scope of developments. It is possible if information and communication technologies are used with positive thinking. The problem of poverty can be brought under the control and the task of women empowerment can be successfully implemented.

Problems of Women education-

Knowledge and information lead a person to save him or her from poverty. They will help women in the process of development at all levels of life. When we look back into the traditional way of life women were far away from the stream of education, information and knowledge. They were kept within limit by social, cultural and domestic codes. India is developing country where women are conservative. It is fact that without women development one may not think of standard living. Women and girls are given education up to tenth level and are not allowed to complete higher education. Women are also prohibited travelling and discussion with male beings. These are the basic causes for women to remain backward in technology based knowledge. If women are given priority in the field of technical education and ICT it will become their knowledge asset and they will be recognized as the equal contributors of the technological field. Women are well known of the local atmosphere: therefore they can easily understand socio-economic needs of women section in the society.

Need of ICT Education to women:-

In India, as elsewhere in the developing world, women play a central role in family, community and social development. However, women often remain invisible and unheard. Women more than men have to balance the complexities of surviving in extreme poverty, yet these women are

excluded from discussion because they are often illiterate, they lack confidence and they lack mobility. ICT offer the opportunities for direct, interactive communication even by those who lack skills, who are illiterate, lack mobility and have little self-confidence. Here are some aspects of life which have a direct influence of ICT especially on women:

- (i) Women's increased access to job Market and improve entrepreneurship using ICT
- (ii) Increase of average household income in villages
- (iii) Women empowerment
- (iv) Shrinking Information Asymmetry through ICT.
- (v) Improved Governance
- (vi) Indigenous Knowledge
- (vii) Easy-Family communication
- (viii) Increase Social awareness

What will be results?

If the women are given a chance of gaining knowledge of ICT they will have job opportunities at high proportion. The women can get a source of income if they are made expert in Internet Work. They may go anywhere in the native land or abroad for work according to their abilities. ICT is a new way of interaction between two people, government officers and public and various institutions. ICT is useful to store the information which is useful for the future time. Responsibility of task can be shouldered by the women community. The views and attitudes are changed from time to time. People live in different parts of the country and outside. Therefore, sharing of views is the need of the present time. It helps to change mind and attitude of the person.

The problems-

There are many obstacles in the way to begin ICT education to the women community. Expression of thoughts is the basic human right. Inferior status, low education or illiteracy, low income source and socio-cultural facts do not allow them to seek external information. Because of this they are not acquainted with market economy.

Benefits-

1. ICT can give them opportunity to have contact with people to share views regarding business, share markets and developments of different works.
2. This is main source for women's empowerment and participation of women in various democratic activities.
3. If the women are provided the facilities of ICT they can have a scope for job and can understand the issues related to them and the society which are known and unknown to them.
4. Through ICT women can enlarge the power of decision making. Women's ability of working will be disclosed to the men beings in the field of economics.

Women are busy only in the family needs and meetings which do not allow them to be acquainted with global economic sphere. It is need in the present time to equip them with computer use, English language and business skills. The difference between women having ICT skills and unknown of ICT will automatically be ceased.

Women's empowerment is focused on increasing their power to take control over decisions that shape their lives, including in relation to access to resources, participation in decision-making and control over distribution of benefits. For women who can access and use them, ICT offer potential, especially in terms of reducing poverty, improving governance, overcoming isolation, and providing a voice. However, existing persistent gender discrimination in labour markets, in education and training opportunities, and allocation of financial resources for entrepreneurship and business development, negatively impact on women's potential to fully utilize ICT for economic, social and political empowerment. ICT training helps women in the work like disaster management, leadership, health, child development and education. There are some best examples of ICT use in Pondicherry. It has been helping the women in the small products like soft toys, candles, bags and many utility products. Gujarat state uses information and technology in the dairy sector. ICT is useful tool for the exchange of information between the farmer women and the union. Due to use of information technology women can manage cattle industry and develop production of quality milk. It also helps dairy officials to organize veterinary, artificial insemination and cattle feed.

Warna Project uses information system in Marathi. It is used for selling agricultural products in Pune and other big places in the State of Maharashtra. The women and men in the villages update information every day. Women empowerment is in the center of human and national development. It is responsibility of everybody in the society to take efforts to have women participation in the ICT programmes. Their talent and abilities in business must be used. If women are allowed to participate in the various segments of economy it will help the national economy to become stable.

Conclusion:-

Women must be given learning in science and technology so that they can understand difficulties of health, economics, and poverty. Women entrepreneurship in science and technology will help women to get recognition as the contributors and leaders. The women will do the best for the society. The majority of women in the developing world do not have access to ICTs due to variety of barriers as such the infrastructural, social, cultural and linguistic. To make women independent, powerful and strong in all fields with the help of ICT necessary actions are to be taken at regional, national and international level. ICT has made a tremendous impact in imparting knowledge on modern technology and its uses. NGOs, SHGs working in the field, governmental agencies and other private agencies have also extended their help to promote ICT among the women.

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