

Impact of technology on women's empowerment

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Abstract:

Women empowerment means the process of enabling women to control their lives. Besides it is also a process of enabling them to claim their rights. It requires equal access to education, financial independence and decision making power. When women are empowered, They can obviously contribute to the economy and decision making process. In this connection education plays an important role in empowering women by providing them with knowledge and skills. In spite of significant progress in recent time women have to face barriers or challenge. In the greater society, it is noted that women frequently face a lot while approaching to gain education, healthcare and economic opportunities. In this regard new technology can play a significant role to empower women. Now use of mobile phone, social media can address women empowerment as well. In addition to that technology like ICT also provides women with access to new jobs and profession. It also helps women to participate in interacting learning. On the other hand technical transformation provides new avenues for the economic improvement of women. It can help in contributing to greater equality in the professional world. This study aims to examine how technologies promote women empowerment in various domain like education, empowerment, health economic and political field as well. Besides it also discusses same of the barriers faced by the women in the way of empowering them at all.

Keywords: gender equality, technology, Social media, avenues, empowerment, profession, transformation.

Introduction:

Women empowerment is the process of achieving equal rights self reliance and independence. In other words it gives women the freedom and opportunities to make their own decision. Accordingly it is the process of allocating resources to women without any discrimination an the basis of sex. In Present time women are able to work in their work place like other male employees. Inspite of such progress women and girls frequently face discrimination and inequality in various aspects of life. In such circumstances powerful technology is urgently needed to empower women in different fields as well. It is notable that technology has already brought a lot of benefits to greater society. In this regard some fundamental changes have been introduced by the technology in various domains like healthcare, education, employment economic and political participation. The paper makes a goal to find out how technology can strengthen women to a great extent. It focuses the need of inclusion of women in the technological revolution and the importance of joining the digital divide. Moreover the paper has on attempt to discuss the challenges as well as powerful solution in order to empower women in the rural and urban society. In recent time technology has become a powerful tool for advancing women empowerment in the society.

It is noteworthy to say that digital technologies are able to change the lives of women by increasing access to education, Healthcare to promote women's economic empowerment and political participation. Moreover mobile phones becoming useful media can expand access to information especially in low income and rural areas where traditional opportunity is not immense. Accordingly social media helps to share ideas, thoughts and opinion with others in safe and secure environment. It can be used to spread information on issues like sexual harassment and other youth unruliness.

Objectives:-

- (a) To explore the role of technology in promoting women's empowerment.
- (b) To identify the challenges that women face in utilizing and adopting these technologies.
- (c) To Provide the suggestions to ascertain the program of women empowerment.

Impact of technology to empower women:-

In many ways technology has played an important role to ensure women empowerment. It has provided great opportunities for women to access education and job Opportunities. In this Connection online courses and remote work have made the women able to access education and job opportunities without physical presence. Consequently the numbers of women increase in various fields.

Technology has provided avenues for women in political and social activities. The use of social media like Twitter and facebook has helped the women in expressing their opinion and social debates. It has increased their representation in decision making process as well.

Technology has paved the way for women to access health care service. Women can approach health care service through the use of telemedicine without physical presence. It is important for women in remote areas who have limited access to health care service.

Technology helps women to become financially independent. In this regard many women are using their skill in areas like graphic design writing and programming to earn a living, and Then contribute to economy. Moreover Social media is another powerful tool that helps women to connect, Share ideas, and support each other. Besides facebook, Twitter and instagram allow women to build communities, Share Their Stories and raise awareness about important issues. Accordingly women voices are being heard more than ever, and they are using technology to push for change, fight for their rights, and support other women. Besides women can use their phone mobile phones to learn about family planning or find job opportunities near by.

Education for women is important for their empowerment as it enables women to develop their skills and knowledge to participate in economic and social life. Uses of technology greatly expand access to education particularly in rural areas. Women can perform online courses from anywhere with an internet connection. It makes education and learning more accessible to women in rural areas. By improving access to education technology can help women to overcome the barriers prevented them from participating in the society.

Digital technologies bring economic opportunities for women. In this regard E-commerce platform helps them to connect buyers of remote place and sell their products. It also makes women to access financial services like mobile banking.

Roll of Technology:-

Technology plays an important role in empowering women by providing them with access to information, education, and economic opportunities. Women can improve their skills, start business and participate fully in society with the help of digital tools. This article discusses how technology play a vital role in empowering women breaking barriers and creat new opportunities for themselves and their communities. one of the key ways technology empowers women by providing better access to education. Now online course, educational app and digital platforms have made learning more accessible, even in remote areas where school may be scarce. women and girls can now learn new skills, improve their literacy, and gain knowledge that helps them in their carriers or personal lives. This help women in remote areas overcome Traditional barriers like limited schooling opportunities from the historical point of view Women in many region have had limited access to equality education due to cultural, economic and social constrain. However the rise of online learning platform has democratic education; offering women the opportunity to pursue course and degree.

Technology has also opened doors for women to become a person having responsibility for business Digital platform like e-commerce websites, social mediaand mobile apps have made it easier for women to start their own business. women can now sell products, provide services or promote their skills through online platform without needing capital investment. This help women gain financial independence and contribute to their families.

In many parts of the world women face obstacles in gaining formal employment due to discriminatory practice or cultural norms or economic constraints. Technology pave the way to economic independence by enabling women to start and go their business online. The rise of E-commerce, social media platforms have created a Thrilling vibrant landscape for women to reach global audience and build successful enterprises. platform like instagram and facebook have allowed women to launch business with minimal investment. Besides they are selling hand made goods offering professional service, women are able to tap in to the global marketplace and compete on equal footing with their male counterparts.

women can access medical service, track their health and even consult doctor remotely through the help of mobile health apps. Besides the availability of health related information through website apps and online communities has given women greater control over their health. on the other hand online consultations have made health care more accessible particularly for women in rural areas.

Social and political empowerment:-

Social media and online forum allow women to raise their voice, connect with others and organize for change. These platforms provide a scope for women to discuss issues such as women's right. Through online campaign, women can influence public policy, support each other and spread awareness about important social issues. In many cases Technology has helped women challenge social norms and demand equal rights. technology has also played a vital role in promoting womens political participation and leadership. Besides Social media has become a crusual tool for political campaign enabling women to run for office, engage with voters and challenge the political status.

Some schemes launched by Govt. of India to empower women:-

The Govt. of India has launched various schemes for the women empowerment through educational, social, economic and political upliftments. Besides the government has also taken some

initiatives for digital literacy of citizens including women so that they can operate digital devices like computer, smart phone etc. Such initiatives is like Pradhan Mantri Gramin digital saksharata Abhiyan under digital India. It covers 6 core rural households. The percentage of women is 53% of total enrolled.

On the other hand Ministry of women and child development has taken a number of initiatives to empower women through this scheme. Another program arranged by Govt. of India is Mission Sakti. The goal of this program is to strengthen interventions for safety and security and empowerment of women. It is implemented during 2021-22 to 2025-26.

Accordingly the government launched umbrella scheme on 22nd Nov 2019. This scheme basically for protection and development of women. In addition stree shakti scheme is launched by the government of India on 2000-01 to strengthen the economic development of rural women and make themselves reliant. Further more Mobile app "HIMMAT" is a women's safety mobile application of Delhi Police. It was launched by Home Minister Rajnath Singh on 1st January 2015. This basically launched for women who travelled alone at night. Accordingly Ministry of women and child development launched an online complaint management system titled Sexual Harassment electronic-Box (She-Box) on 24th July, 2017 for registering complaints relating to sexual harassment at work place. The protection of women from domestic violence and cyber criming protection of women from Domestic violence Act, 2005. The parliament of India enacted this act to protect women from domestic violence. The information technology Act, 2000 is an Act of Indian parliament for the cyber crime against women and children.

Challenged of women empowerment literacy and language barriers:-

Literacy among rural women often reduces their approach and scope for knowledge. Digital literacy also limits their access to technology. The most recent census (Government of India 2011) estimates the female literacy rate in India more than 65% over all while lack of education prevents the women from gaining their empowerment.

Now majority of women face difficulties in learning how to use the technology. But frequent efforts to close the digital divide, more women are gaining access to the tools they need to succeed. on the other hand technology offers immense potential for women's empowerment, it is essen to acknowledge that challenges remain. The digital gender divide continues to be a barrier in different parts of the places of the world. women in rural areas, low income household often lacking access to technology and internet. without reliable access to digital tool, women are unable to benifit from the opportunities technology offers. ThereafterThereafter issues like online harassment, cyberbullying affect women, especially those who are active in digital activity.

Challenged of Gender equality:-

Illiteracy and language barrier :- Illiteracy among rural women often restricts their approach and scope for knowledge making them shy and suffer from low self esteem. Digital illiteracy also limits their access to technology. The most recent census (Government of India, 2011) estimates the female literacy rate in India at a little more than 65% over all. Lack of education prevents the women from their empowerment.

Lack of infrastructure :- Modern facilities and infrastructure are largely unavailable in a majority of rural areas. Thus the women in such areas are far from learning technological learning.

Workplace Sexual Harassment :- It is one of the major challenges faced by women scientist at workplace. This affect their carrier growth. Digital divide is an another major challenge on the way of gender equality.

Cyber security and on line harassment is another challenge that women face in their lives. It affects their mental health and well being.

Suggestion:-

I. It is urgently needed to include women in the development of technology So that they can use it effectively.

II. To protect women from on-line harassment. It is essential for strong cyber security polices and tools.

III. Accordingly gender inclusive, AI systems must be developed in order to promote diversity and inclusion.

IV. By increasing digital literacy programs and internet connection and access to technology digital divide can be removed. Addressed

V. It is necessary to provide women with access to digital skills training and mentorship opportunities which will increase their economic opportunities and enhance their social and political participation.

Conclusion:-

In conclusion it can be noted that technology is a powerful tool fore empowering women. On the other hand digital innovation can change the lives of women increasing access to education and healthcare. It promotes economic empowerment and political participation as well.

Since its independence, India has placed gender equality and women's empowerment on its agenda. The government of India has adopted various measures and launched plenty of schemes for favour of women and girls across the country. Besides some Acts to protected the women in their work place are enacted, yet gender inequalities remain deep and persistant in India in many sectors like education, health and economy. Such inequalities must be addressed including limited access to technological tools and resources, on-line harassment and gender gaps in the technology sector. Thus it is distinct that the use of technology had an important role on the way of gender equality. It has provided many scopes for women to participate in political and social activities.

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