

Paper-women education

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National committee on women's education in India

Abstract

Women play a prominent role in the cultural, social, political and economic life of a country. In fact, women's education was encouraged in ancient Indian society. That is why, they are given due respect and have equal rights to receive education. According to the Vedas, women should have the opportunity to attain knowledge of Vedas .Separate organizations had been set up to provide education to the women during the Buddhist period. But no importance was given to women and their education during the Muslim period.

At the end of nineteenth century, some progressive Indians and Englishmen like Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar, Gandhiji, David Hare and Annie Besant worked for making women aware of education .After independence the national government considered the expansion of women's education has been continuing and the girls belonging to remote areas and SC/ST are being encouraged to receive education.

Recommendation of Commissions and Committees on Women Education:

Our national and social leaders felt that no national development can take place without women's education. Therefore education of women has been regarded as a major programme in India. In fact after the independence of our country the central government, state government and non government institutions have taken all efforts to encourage women's education.

Preference has been given in the five year plans of India for the expansion and development of women's education. In order to minimize existing gap between the education of boy's and girl's and to expand and develop the women's education, the govt. of India has appointed commission and committees. Let us look at the recommendations put forth by different education commission and committees.

University Education Commission (1948-1949):

The University Education Commission is popularly known as RadhaKrishnan Commission. This commission analyses the problems of women education at the college and university level and the following recommendation.

1. Amenities of life:

The ordinary amenities of life should be provided for women colleges originally planned for men but to which women are being admitted in increasing numbers.

2. Educational opportunities:

There should be no curtailment in educational opportunities for but rather a substantial increase in them.

3. Educational guidance:

There should be an intelligent educational guidance by qualified men and women to help women to get a clear view of their real educational interests and to provide good education according to their needs and capacities.

4.Normal place in society:

Women should be helped to find their normal place in society both as citizen and women.

5.Cultural and social responsibility:

Men should be encouraged to extend right courtesy and social responsibility in mixed colleges.

6.Equality in co –educational institutions:

In co educational institutions due weight age should be given to women.

National Committee on Women's Education (1958):

Educational panel of the Planning commission recommended on July 1957 that, "A suitable committee should be appointed to go into the various aspects of the question relating to the nature of education for girls at the elementary, secondary, and higher stages and to examine where the present system was helping them to lead a happier and useful life". The Govt. of India appointed the national committee on women's education under the Chairmanship of Smt. Durgabai Deshmukh. The committee made the following recommendations:

1.Universal enrollment:

The attempt for expansion of girls education should aim at universal enrollment of girls in the age group 6-11 by 1979 and in the age group 11-14 by 1981. 2. Improvement programme: The recommendations made by the CAME for the improvement of women education should be implemented and for this purpose cent per cent assistance should be provided.

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The programmes include:

- (a) Construction of teacher quarters. (b) Provision of school teachers. (c) Provision of allowance for the lady teachers working in the villages (d) Provision of hostels (e) Provision of school uniforms. (f) Provision of mid-day meals. (g) Construction of sanitary blocks.

3. Facilities in isolated and backward areas:

The girl students of backward hilly and isolated areas should be provided with facilities such as free transport and free residential accommodation to encourage them to get education.

4. Publicity programme:

Publicity programme should be launched to awaken the people towards the need of women's education. For this purpose documentaries and films concerning women's should be prepared and displayed.

5. Education for adult women:

Central Social Welfare Board should start condensed courses to give suitable education to adult women.

6. Scholarships:

There should be provision for an adequate number of scholarship to encourage the girls to continue their education.

7. Close up the gap:

The gap between the men and the women should be filled as per as possible.

8. Encouragement to co-education:

Where it is difficult to start separate schools for girls co education should be encouraged.

9.National council for women's education:

National Council for women's Education should be set up for studying the needs and problems of women's education at the national level.

10. State council for women's education:

At the state level state council for women's education should be set up.

11. Women's education in five year plan:

Women's should get an important place in five year plans and the planning commission should make estimation for women's education requirements.

Suggestions of Durgabai Deshmukh Committee (1959):

1. The central and state governments should give priority to the education for girls.
2. In the central ministry of education,a department of women's education should be created
3. For proper education of girls, a director of women's education should be appointed in each state.
4. Co -education should be properly organized at the higher level of education.
5. In the first phase of development, provision of free education should be made for girls up to class 8.
6. Facilities in choice of optional subject should be made available for girls.
7. Education of girls should be given due encouragement in rural areas.
8. Programmes for development of adult women's education be properly initiated and encouraged.

9. Girls should get training facilities on a liberal basis.
10. A large number of seats in various services should be reserved for them.