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EDUCATIONAL ASPECTS AMONG WOMEN CONSTRUCTION WORKERS IN GULBARGA CITY

Dr. Ashwini

Assistant Professor Department Of Studies and Research in Sociology Tumkur University, Tumkur.

Abstract:- Women education in India has also been a major concern of both the government and civil society as educated women can play a very important role in the development of the country. Education is milestone of women empowerment because it enables them to responds to the challenges, to confront their traditional role and change their life. So that we can't neglect the importance of education in reference to women empowerment India is poised to becoming superpower, a developed country by 2020 .The common characteristics of the women construction workers are illiteracy, poverty and exploitation in the society. The major factor behind all these disadvantages for the women construction workers is that majority of them are illiterate or low educated. Hence, there is need to examine the educational aspects of the women construction workers.

Keywords: Construction worker, Education, Donation.

INTRODUCTION

Construction sector is the largest employer in India after agricultural labour in the unorganised sector, yet the women construction workers are not allowed to acquire skills. India's three crore construction workers are literally the builders of modern India. They build the roads and highways, the railway tracks and airports and ports that connect the vast sub-continent and make India one country, spanning all its distances and diversities. Construction workers are the backbone of the economy as they create the infrastructure necessary for industrial growth. In a globalising economy, it is they who are constructing the new economic zones, the IT cities, the call centers and mega malls that are creating new forms of wealth today. It is they who are laying the cables for a rapidly expanding country-wide telecommunications network. Yet these workers, who are creating the base of the new economy, themselves live in a time warp, trapped in low skilled, low paid, insecure working conditions, bound by feudal working relationships, often literally in bondage. About one-third of these workers are women and children. Economic Empowerment: Women's economic empowerment is absolutely essential for raising their status in society. Several studies have also indicated that women's, employment leads to better education, health and skill development of their family and certainly better opportunities for the girl child. The government declares the year 2001 as the year of "Empowerment of Women".

WOMEN IN THE INFORMAL SECTOR

There is a total lack of job security and social security benefits. The areas of exploitation are high resulting in long hours, unsatisfactory work conditions and health hazards. The organized sector takes advantage of this vulnerable position of the labour force in the informal sector and large industries are now finding it advantageous to decentralize production to make use of works in the informal sector.

Education Aspects:

The educational background of the women construction workers that is education of the parents, self and education of their children are discussed is given below.

• Education level of Father, Mother and Husband

Education of the father, mother and husband plays an important role in making decisions and providing adequate importance and status to the women family members. Hence, it was asked to the women construction workers to furnish information about the education of their family members. The collected information is furnished in the following table:

Table No. 1 Education level of Father, Mother and Husband

Particulars	Father		Mother		Husband	
	No's	%	No's	%	No's	%
Illiterate	76	50.67	99	66.00	55	66.26
Primary	43	28.67	36	24.00	18	21.68
Secondary	31	20.66	15	10.00	10	12.05
Others	--	--	--	--	--	--
Total	150	100	150	100	83	100

It is noted from the above table that on father's education, about 76 (50.67%) of the respondents stated that their fathers are illiterates, followed by about 43 (28.67%) of the respondents stated that their fathers are completed primary education and the remaining 31 (20.66%) of the respondents stated that their fathers are completed secondary education.

On the education of mothers, about 99 (66.00%) of the respondents stated that they are illiterates, followed by about 36 (24.00%) of the respondents stated that their mothers completed primary education and the remaining 15 (10.00%) of the respondents expressed that their mothers completed secondary education.

On the education of the husband, of the married women construction workers covered under the present study (83), 55 (66.26%) are stated that their husbands are illiterates, about 18 (21.68%) of the respondents expressed that their husbands completed primary education and remaining 10 (12.05%) of the respondents expressed that their husbands completed secondary education.

• Children attend to School:

Majority of the women construction workers covered under the study are married and have children. Hence, it was asked to the respondents, whether their children attend the school. The collected information is presented in the following table:

Table No. 2 Children attend to School

Particulars	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	83	75.45
No	27	24.54
Total	110	100

The above table made it clear that about 83 (75.45%) of the respondents stated that their children are attending to the schools, whereas only 27 (24.54%) of the respondents stated that their children are not attending schools. Even though the respondents are illiterates or under-educated, they have realized the importance of education in life. Hence, majority of the women construction workers covered under the study are sending their children to schools to get education.

• Education to Women is necessary:

Many of the women with their conventional ideas, thinks that there is no need of education for women. But in modern days, such ideas changed that majority of women knows about the importance of education in the life. Hence, it was asked to the women respondents covered under the present study, whether there is need of education for the women in the present society. The collected information is presented in the following table:

Table No.3 Education to Women is necessary:

Particulars	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	97	64.67
No	53	35.33
Total	150	100

It is interesting to know from the above table that about 97 (64.67%) of the respondents agreed that the education to women is necessary and the remaining only 53 (35.33%) of the respondents do not agreed to the same. The women construction workers covered under the study realized the importance of education to women and as such majority of the respondents are agreed that education to women is necessary.

• **Aims of Education with regard to Girls:**

The above table disclosed that about 97 of the respondents agreed that there is need of education for girls. Hence, they have also mentioned the aims of education with regard to girls as under:

Table No. 4 Aims of Education with regard to Girls

Particulars	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Make them play women's traditional role as Housewife	26	26.80
Make them fit for modern life	15	15.46
Make them to work outside like Men	56	57.73
Total	97	100

The above table revealed that of the 97 (100%) respondents who have children, 56 (57.73%) aimed to educate girls so as to make them to work outside like men, followed by about 26 (26.80%) of the respondents aimed to educate their girls to make them play women's traditional role as a housewife and the remaining 15 (15.46%) of the respondents stated that the aims of education to girls is to make them fit for modern life. It is interesting to note that majority of the women respondents agreed that education to women is to work outside like men.

• **Paid Donation to seek Admission to School for Children:**

It was asked to the women construction workers, about whether they paid donation to seek admission to school for their children. The responses of the women construction workers covered under the present study are as under:

Table No. 5 Paid Donation to seek Admission to School for Children

Particulars	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	--	--
No	83	100
Total	83	100

Of the respondents (83) furnished information about children' education, all the respondents stated that they have not paid any donation to seek admission to school for children.

• **Favour Private Coaching and Tuition for Children**

Presently majority of the parents are sending their children to tuition or private coaching. It was asked to the respondents that whether their children are attending tuition or private coaching. The following table furnished the information collected.

Table No. 6 Favour Private Coaching and Tuition for Children

Particulars	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	15	18.07
No	68	81.93
Total	83	100

The above table revealed that only 15 (18.07%) of the respondents favour private coaching and tuition for their children, whereas 68 (81.93%) of the respondents do not favour private coaching or tuition. Majority of the respondents are not preferring and supporting the private coaching and tuition for their children, may be because of their poor economic conditions.

• Occupation for Children:

Each guardian or parent decides the occupation that their children choose in the future. For this purpose, it was asked to the respondents regarding the occupation and profession for their children in future. The collected data is presented in the following table.

Table No. 7 Occupation for Children

Particulars	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Doctor/Engineer	08	9.64
Teacher	49	59.03
Agriculture/Business/Industry	14	16.87
Administrator/Govt. Job	08	9.64
Any other	04	4.82
Total	83	100

Of the respondents who have school going children (83), about 49 (59.03%) are stated that they have teacher profession for their children, followed by 14 (16.87%) of the respondents have agriculture, business and industry for their children as occupation, about 08 (9.64%) of the respondents have Doctor or Engineer profession for their children, about 08 (9.64%) of the respondents stated that they have administrator or Government Job for their children and the remaining 04 (4.82%) of the respondents expressed that they have other occupation for children. The teaching profession is more popular as majority of the respondents agreed that they have aim to prepare their children, so that they become future teachers.

CONCLUSION:

The educational background of the women construction workers that is education of the parents, self and education of their children are discussed is given below. It is noted from the above table that on fathers education, about 76 of the respondents stated that their fathers are illiterates, followed by about 43 of the respondents stated that their fathers are completed primary education and the remaining 31 of the respondents stated that their fathers are completed secondary education.

On the education of mothers, about 99 of the respondents stated that they are illiterates, followed by about 36 of the respondents stated that their mothers completed primary education and the remaining 15 of the respondents expressed that their mothers completed secondary education.

On the education of the husband, of the married women construction workers covered under the present study, 55 are stated that their husbands are illiterates, about 18 of the respondents expressed that their husbands completed primary education and remaining 10 of the respondents expressed that their husbands completed secondary education.

The women construction workers covered under the study realized the importance of education to women and as such majority of the respondents are agreed that education to women is necessary.

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