

ABSTRACT

Issues relating to women are very much important in so far as the contemporary political debates are concern. Women and gender related studies show that there is no way but to empower the women in all respect, if we want a peaceful, progressive and secured society. The word ‘Empowerment’ means control over material assets, intellectual resources and ideology etc. It involves power to, power with and power within. Some define empowerment, as a process of awareness and conscientization, of capacity building, leading to greater participation, effective decision-making power and control leading to transformative action. With reference to women the power relation that has to be involved includes their lives at multiple levels, family, community, market and the state. Importantly, it involves at the psychological level of Women’s ability to capture which resist change like India.

The questions surrounding women’s empowerment, the condition and position of women have now become critical to the human rights based approaches to development. The Cairo conference in 1994 organized by UN on Population and Development called attention to women’s empowerment as a central focus and UNDP development the Gender Empowerment measures (GEM) which focuses on the three variable that reflect women’s participation in society-political power or decision-making, education and health. 1995 UNDP report was devoted to women’s empowerment and it declared that if human development is not endangered it is endangered a declaration which almost become a lei motif for further development measuring and policy planning. Equality, sustainability and empowerment are emphasize and the stress was, that women’s emancipation does not depend on national income but is an engaged political process.

‘Women Empowerment : A Study on Bongaigaon District 2002-2012’ is a very fantastic and important topic to study. It is almost unquestionable that progress of women will ultimately lead to the progress of Society and the Country. For this purpose all social barriers and constraints related to the way of women progress must be eradicated. For this purpose we have tried to discuss the prevailing social norms on women like Purdah System, Superstitions, Male domination over women, Dowry related cases, Domestic violence and such other social evils vis-a-vis the opportunities provided for women empowerment etc.

In this regard, it is obviously mentionable that we have divided the ‘Thesis’ into six chapters to make our study rational and objectives. During our study period, we collected data and information from both primary and secondary sources. On the basis of those data, we have come to know that the condition of women in Bongaigaon District is not satisfactory. They are backward in almost every aspects of livelihood. There are enormous problems specially in the SC, ST, OBC and Minority people. The data and information is verified and hypothesis is tested with utmost care. After proper analysis of those data, it is observed that the women in Bongaigaon District needs socio-political and economic help to uplift their status.

Therefore, we searched the way of solution of these problems and offered some suggestion in this regard. One of the major suggestion is to “Empower” women in all respect. The process should start from the family and to be reached in the highest level of Government authority. For this purpose, we must have to set our mind in dynamic way.

