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## **Education of Women; Physical and Intellectual Development with Conservative Surroundings: A Case Study of Government College Girls of Bhilwara District**

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### **Abstract:**

Rajasthan is known for offering the most colourful life. Rajasthan is physically, administratively and traditionally a miscellaneous region. The present paper deals with the education of women students of the Bhilwara district of Rajasthan, where girls are facing numerous problems, including gender and caste discrimination. The education system of India causes peer reception, individual fights and anxiety about professional choices which make women more helpless. The Girls feel problems at various places as mental and physical disturbance with societal pressure for their educational growth. The educational growth for the girls requires values like increasing the positive effects of societal motivation with early identification and appropriate interference.

In Bhilwara district, it is noticed that here girls' awareness about education is less and teacher's behaviour towards the classroom is passive. Most of the girls come from poor-uneducated families therefore, they feel humiliation amidst the rich students. Henceforth, this study is intended to study the intellectual growth and the output from the government policies for these girls. There are very few studies shown about Bhilwara in the context of education, that too provides very short information. This study focuses on every college going girl who are facing various problems to complete the higher education. The main thrust area of this paper is to work on physical, psychological and intelligent development of girls who are in the age group of 18-23 years and to examine the actual efforts done by the government.

**Keywords:** Discrimination, Education of Women, Excellence of Teaching, Financial Support, Government Policies, Higher Education, Literacy Rate, Physical and Intellectual Development.

## **Introduction**

The Govt. of India declared elementary education as a basic human right of every child. The Present study is important in the context of Rajasthan because here female literacy rate is less in comparison to the other states. Bhilwara is a district in the state of Rajasthan, it is said that in ancient times due to the settlement of Bhil community of Rajasthan, this particular area known as Bhilwara, although there are very less Bhils reside here. In the coming times Bhilwara developed as a Textile city of Rajasthan. This study focuses on the problems and status of the college going girls of the Bhilwara district. Still Rajasthan, especially Bhilwara district has a long way to go.

Discrimination against women begin already before her birth in the form of abortion. The attitude of society is always negative for the woman. It is often noticed that generally it is wish of a family to get a baby boy from an expecting mother. A woman can use less rights in comparison with men in our society. In this situation only education can help to make the women's life better and make her empowered for rights. The attitude of parents in Indian society, especially in rural area is very negative that is why, girls are lagging behind the boys in most of the sectors whether it is education, health or employment.

The present literacy rate and child sex ratio are the indications towards the real situation of the ladies. Even the Researchers himself have been experiencing the biased attitude of the society. Here the preference is given to sons over the daughters, it is the dark reality of our society that we have to accept. Girl child feels as if she is a burden in the family, her early marriage is a big reason that restricts her to get the education. Lack of education is the also a cause for female enslavement. It hinders the ability of a girl student for her intellectual stimulation and to recognize her own identity.

## **Rajasthan Literacy Rate 2023**

According to the Census of Government of India, Sex Ratio in Rajasthan is 928 i.e., for each 1000 male, which is below national average of 940 as per latest census. In 2001, the sex ratio of females was 921 per 1000 males in Rajasthan. According to Census 2011 the Literacy rate in Rajasthan has seen an upward trend and is 66.11 percent as per latest population census. Of that, male literacy stands at 79.19 percent while female literacy is at 52.12 percent. In the education section, total literates in Bhilwara city are 257,030 of which 145,483 are males while 111,547 are females. Average literacy rate of Bhilwara city is 82.20 percent of which male and female literacy was 89.57 and 74.25 percent. The sex ratio of Bhilwara city is 922 per 1000 males. Child sex ratio of girls is 899 per 1000 boys.

City Population	<b>359,483</b>	187,081	172,402
Literates	<b>257,030</b>	145,483	111,547
Children (0-6)	<b>46,812</b>	24,650	22,162
Average Literacy (%)	<b>82.20 %</b>	89.57 %	74.25 %
Sex Ratio	<b>922</b>		
Child Sex Ratio	<b>899</b>		

Literacy	66.11 %	60.41 %
Male Literacy	79.19 %	75.70 %
Female Literacy	52.12 %	43.85 %

### Schemes launched by the Central/ State Government

Higher education is one of the significant aspects of any country. Several schemes have been launched by the central/ state government. The following information has been taken from the directorate of college education, Rajasthan.

The following information have been taken from the website of Department of college Education, Rajasthan.

- The state Government has started free coaching classes for the competitive exams.
- The colleges are organizing Summer Camp for skill development of the girls.
- Rajasthan government has started various programs for education, IT skills, women's rights awareness, women's health and self-defence training.
- Rajasthan Healthier Youth and Moral Education (RIME) program has been started by the department for health awareness among the students studying in government girls' colleges under the Nirogi Rajasthan campaign of the state government.

- Under Widow/Abandonment Chief Minister (B.Ed.) Sambal Yojana, female students are getting benefits.
- Training of NCC at college level for the senior wing girls' divisions. NCC provides Drill, Arms drill, Weapon training, Warfare tactics, Field craft. NCC organizes leadership, Personality development and Environment and ecology, Hygiene and sanitation, Civil defence, Disaster management, social services to help the girls.
- Rangering is for the development of young girls' full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potential as an individual as well as responsible citizens.
- The State government has initiated a scheme of setting up a Youth Development Centre to inculcate employable skills in college girls.
- Beti Padhao Beti Bachao "Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao", is a countrywide effort to improve for the Girl Child & empower their education. The core thrust areas of this movement is to avoid *gender*-based discernment, to safeguard educational welfare. and protection rights of women.
- PRAGATI –A Scheme by the government of India to encourage and support the girl child to engross in technical education. The scheme conceives of providing a scholarship.
- The education department at the district level has the accountability for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Department of Social Welfare.
- Indira Gandhi Scholarship for Single Girl Child to the research scholar girl who is pursuing research.
- Aapki Beti Yojana a program by Rajasthan government to provide financial help for the education and marriage of the daughters.
- National Scheme for Incentive Girls for Secondary Education for students enrolled in class 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Rajasthan Scholarship Scheme to help girls to get admission in US Universities.
- Devnarayan and Kalibai Scooty Scheme- Under this scheme, the girl students of backward classes (Banjara, Lohar, Gujjar, Raika, Rebari) of Rajasthan will be included. The state government will provide benefits to the girl students from class 12 to post graduation.
- Mukhyamantri Rajshree Yojna: In order to inspire and empower the daughters, to educate and empower them, the government has started the Chief Minister Rajshri Yojana from June 1, 2016. The purpose of this scheme is to increase the rate of

daughters' birth rate, so that daughters get good upbringing and read daughters and go ahead.

- Garima Balika and Sanrakshan Scheme to reward and give recognition to various individuals and organizations for their commendable work in the field of protection of girl child.
- In 2015-16, 200 'Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya' (KGBV) were functioning and 19,553 girls were studying in these schools.
- Mewat Balika Awasiya Vidyalaya' for girls are running. These residential schools for girls are in Mewat region which is largely educationally backward. 419 girls are being benefited by this intervention.
- 'Meena Manches' have been constituted in 9,206 Nodal Schools and 200 KGBVs by involving girls studying in the classes VI to VIII to create awareness in the community on the social issues viz child marriage, dowry system etc. and motivate parents of irregular, dropout and never enrolled girls to send their daughters to school.
- Under the Secondary education department, several girl child centric initiatives have been undertaken such as Bicycle distribution, Fixed Deposit Receipt (FDR) for KGBV enrolled girls, Gargi Puraskar, Chief Minister's Hamari Beti Yojana, Balika Shiksha foundation etc.
- Child Marriage free Rajasthan Abhiyan Child Marriage free Rajasthan Abhiyan, by Rajasthan women and child development minister in the year 2016-17, a special campaign, "Sanjha Abhiyaan-Bal Vivaah Mukta Rajasthan" has been launched in the state with the support of UNFPA and UNICEF, with a motive to make Rajasthan a child marriage free state. to take unified action against child marriage. Fact-file: Child Marriages in Rajasthan •
- School on Wheels Campaign Rajasthan, launched a mobile 'library-cum-school on wheels. It was set up by an NGO, Tabar Society. The scheme aims to spread awareness about education among the nomadic and tribal children.
- The Government is providing resident hostels from UGC, Social justice and Tribal welfare departments for the girls. These hostels have facilities of housing, food and education.
- Mukhya Mantri Ekal Nari Samman Pension Yojana for Widow, Divorced, Parityaktya Women aged 18 years and above are getting pension of `500 per month.

## Findings and Suggestions

A critical examination of the data exposed that, in spite of high enrolment in all stages of education, the literacy rate is quite low in comparison to the other categories. Despite several Central and State government schemes for girls, education still remains inaccessible.

In case of Gender Equality Index, the normal GPI for women population in Bhilwara is lower in higher education in comparison to another district of average GPI. Despite several plans and programmes for the education of women in Rajasthan, the condition is weak. Conceptually speaking, there is an urgency for the government of Rajasthan to rethink the policies and programmes specifically on education to bring it on the ground. Further, there is slight evidence present on tribal-related problems in Rajasthan. Scholars and experts have to work rigorously in this domain for the welfare of the women students.

Findings suggest that more educational opportunities for women are required.

- Economic provision to deprived families, and growing consciousness in rural areas will drive towards an optimistic impact.
- There must be a facility of open mode of education for the employed students to continue their education without being part of the formal education.
- It should be the duty of a state to undertake a detailed work of college development to classify the colleges which are short in enrolment and infrastructure.
- The professors should be up-to-date in their subject and enthusiastic about their profession. The society should be attentive enough on scarcity of teachers, proper classes and fair in the recruitment methods to meet the current requirements of the instructive organizations in any particular area.
- The hostel warden should be from the college teachers who are employed there. They should be conversant with the local dialect and must teach students in their native languages to keep their interest in education and learning. These hostels are started in district towns to overall development of the female students.
- The Progressive students should be invited in the college to talk, gender disparity, renovation, health and profits levels.
- The issues and cases regarding harassment of women should be solved quickly by the Women Cell of the college.
- There is very little update in the syllabus in the state universities. Excellence of teaching has been substituted with measurable teaching.

- Education has become a commercial nowadays, college teachers are not able to provide proper efforts to their teaching work due to non-teaching works assigned to them.
- Students from deprived families are put to more drawbacks, meanwhile they are not intellectually ready for the competitive examinations that have prejudice for the city's rich students.
- Many colleges opened in the countryside are in non-workable condition, are running in a single room, under-enrolled and have very poor infrastructure.
- The information of research plans, seminars and conferences should be available and an exposure should be given to them.
- The facility of the library must be open at least for twelve hours in a day but in government colleges the post of librarian is everywhere vacant.
- The digitization of libraries is the current need for the students, so that students can access it from anywhere.
- Despite the provision of several scholarships, the enrolment rate is lower and the dropout rate among the tribal students is higher than the other sections of the society. They have very little representation in technical, engineering and medical courses.

### **Challenges in Higher Education**

- Issues in higher education are increasing day by day and facing many problems. Guaranteed access to qualitative education for students coming from poor families is a key challenge.
- Higher education in rural areas has many problems such as teaching techniques, low research ethics, uninterested, empty rooms and environmental problems, earnings, gender, and cultural disparities. Apart from this, students are exploited by private colleges and universities.
- A programme is necessary for the educational institutes to update their syllabus time to time which is dynamic and related to the current scenario of the market. There are very less placements happening in Bhilwara because of lack of information.
- Alumni networking is beneficial for institutions because they can understand the various issues of the institution being the part of the same institute once.
- The whole things are online nowadays such as entrance fee, process is online and scholarship can be applied through online portals, but problem is that girls' students cannot access freely due to high price have to pay for the same.

- The vacant post of non-teaching faculties and computer operators should be filled in the government colleges and internet related facilities should be enabled for the girls in the college itself.

### **Efforts by the Society**

- In Rajasthan, women who are from the rural areas, are more affected by illiteracy. The social initiative to improve the framework and create public ownership of government, it requires girls' enrolment, preservation, and academic performance.
- The monitoring and assessment should be properly done for the enrolment and presence. Much of the information conveyed to a young girl is limited and too many boundaries are for the actions and behaviour.
- After examination, it is felt that the social background of a student affects the condition of a woman. It requires us to carry them out of the conservative beliefs, misconstructions and restrictions, and inspire a safe and hygienic environment.
- A majority of girls are from low levels of care and gender discrimination is very much predominant in families.
- Psychosocial health for the adolescent daughters is also required.
- Child marriage in Bhilwara, is still a main apprehension to achieve the sustainable growth, the danger of premature marriages in Bhilwara is too much in practice. Currently the marriage age for a woman in Bhilwara is between 16 to 24 years. the gender gap in literacy followed by communal custom.
- The enrolment of poor students should be increased, they should get exemption from admission and exam fee and felicitated by scholarships, and should be given medical facilities.
- 'Drama' and Folk-songs and Stories are more effective methods to improve the methods in education.
- While professional ambitions exist, at individual and public-levels that may disturb girls' readiness. Girls suffer for the education fee, partial access to physical activity, and early marriage, as well as lack of knowledge for service exposures.
- Moreover, limited parental engagement and traditional attitudes about opportunities for girls may adversely influence the lives of girls.

- While many girls aspired for a professional, technical or administrative career, college outcomes suggest that many girls are not qualified to meet eligibility criteria for market-oriented skills.
- The curriculum should suggest that a college education is required to enable them to pursue their career aspirations.

### **A Case Study of Bhilwara's Govt College Girls**

- For one, considerable proportions had discontinued their education before they had completed graduation. Basic over-all knowledge is limited – just 60 % knew the name of the MP/MLA their constituency, 50% knew the parliamentary system of India, and 30% could identify a state and district neighbouring on the map.
- On average, girls answered correctly to six of the ten issues about the current political scenario.
- Access to language skill is not very important, it is required for efforts for employment.
- Students who had ever practiced a Spoken -English programme, half learned the skills and a few (10%) had self-defence skills, all of which they planned to use in their coming future.
- In addition, 70% had undertaken a course in basic computer science and typing, which may not have direct employment but definitely will help them out.
- In contrast, comparatively less had undertaken a course for which self-defence, stage-management, documentary making basic programming (8%) skilled.
- Professional Training Skill (Girls Who Had completed the course) as Textile and Designing, Crafts, Beautician and Makeup Artist, Data Operator, Cooking, Food and Nutrition.
- All right for a woman to work after marriage if husband is earning well 84.8 Girl does not deserve to be beaten if she returns late from work.

### **Conclusion**

College, where girls spend much of their time, is an ideal setting for student's mental and physical growth. In college, teachers should have daily interactions with adolescent female students and should detect changes in their behaviour, before girls become a full-grown woman. As a result, an institute for them can prove a valuable resource in providing intellectual and physical health services to these adolescents' girls. Everything is changing, so is the society

also, but still there are some problems for the girls who are not able to cross the gates of their home. Although the literacy rate in Rajasthan has enlarged over the years, the label of state is not going. Now-a-days there are big transformations in literacy rates between male and female in urban areas but in rural areas it is still low. To achieve the goal of world-wide education, more attention should be paid on female literacy. The literacy gap between the gender must be reduced. For that, financial support should be provided to the underprivileged girls to recover their socio-financial situations, especially in rural areas. In this respect, local agencies and NGOs should be invited. More colleges should be opened in the state to improve the teaching standard by employing faculty to value education and research.

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