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The Role of Government in Ensuring Gender Security in India: An Analytical Discussion

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Abstract:

*In primitive society, there was no such distinction between men and women in India. But since the emergence of class society and patriarchy in India, the question of gender inequality and security has become increasingly relevant. In every society, religion has placed women under men. Almost all religions talk about women's male dependence, women's intricacies, **women's imperfections**, women's biological weakness, etc. In some religions, women are described as the gates of hell. The recent **Kanyashree project and Lakshmi Bhandar project** have been particularly significant in India, especially in West Bengal, for the financial security of women. Real development of society is never possible without ensuring security for women in education and culture. The **Betty Bachao Betty Padoo program** has been taken up by the central government. In a word, it is necessary to create a healthy environment in which men and women have the opportunity to grow up equally. The participation of women is much lower than that of men in all areas of the Indian Army, Navy and Atomic Energy sector. According to the United Nations, India is a middle-income country. And India ranks at the bottom of the world in terms of health care in terms of gender inequality. India has the **highest number of abortions** among women compared to other countries. There is a tendency in post-birth India to feed daughters less than sons. So **malnutrition** can be noticed in women from birth in India. About two-thirds of the health workers in the country are men. According to data available in rural areas, only **6 percent of all doctors are women**. A study in 2000 in India found that more than 70 percent of Indian women are iron deficient. With the development of information technology, women have been able to raise their issues through various social sites and an opportunity has been created to get public opinion about them. Arrangements have been made to reserve seats for women in the local self-government system to ensure gender security in women's politics. Notice that the voter turnout was lower for women than for men, with 67.09 percent for men and 65.63 percent for women. The 1975 United Nations Women's Conference is a strong step in establishing women's security. The biggest disaster has come down to the lives of women in **the Covid-19 episode**. **Women lost 1.8 percent***

more jobs than men. Today, women are deprived of both housework and malnutrition. Women are also being subjected to various forms of domestic violence at home due to long-term lockdown.

Key Words: Women's imperfections, Kanyashree project and Lakshmi Bhandar project, Betty Bachao Betty Padao, Highest number of abortions, Malnutrition, only 6 percent of all doctors are women, 70 percent of Indian women are iron deficient, Covid-19 episode, Women lost 1.8 percent more jobs.

Introduction: India is one of the largest democracies in the world. India is the second most populous country in the world. The right to equality, irrespective of race, religion, caste and gender, has been ensured in India for the protection of human beings in all aspects of socio-political, economic and cultural aspects. Politically, too, the right to vote for all adults, regardless of gender, has been recognized to eliminate gender inequality. But despite this, gender differences between men and women exist in the Indian society. In primitive communist society, there was no such distinction between men and women in India. But since the emergence of class society and patriarchy in India, the question of gender inequality and security has become increasingly relevant. The famous German sociologist Friedrich Engels, in his book *The Origin of the Family, Private Property and the State*, identifies private property ownership, division of labour, and the emergence of class as the primary causes of women's subjugation and subjugation to men. In the traditional Indian traditional social system we have seen no significant difference between men and women. The Indian Constitution has taken various measures to eliminate inequality between men and women, such as equality in the eyes of the law, the right to equal protection by law. Gender security 'need is very much needed for the development of women and the development of society today. In every society, religion has placed women under men. Almost all religions talk about women's male dependence, women's intricacies, women's imperfections, women's biological weakness, etc. In some religions, women are described as the gates of hell. As a result, it is clear that religion has been judging discrimination against women for ages. Which is acting as a huge barrier to gender security in society. But now in India, in a secular environment, there is opposition to this one-sided notion of religion against women. At the government level, various programs have been taken in India for gender security.

Economy and Gender Security: In patriarchal Indian society, the economy is highly discriminatory. In patriarchal Indian society, only men are eligible to earn. In Indian society, only men have the right to be employed as business officers. This right of women is not recognized here. In contemporary Indian society, especially in rural areas, women do not have economic rights and freedoms but in this society women's right to earn money or freedom of employment is denied. In this type of Indian society, women have to be subordinate to men from the very beginning. Through this discriminatory economy, women have declared jihad and gained the right to work and the freedom to pursue a career and livelihood. Gender security is strengthened through the economic empowerment of women.

At the government level, various measures have been taken to protect Indian women, such as women's freedom of income. Emphasis has been placed on making women self-reliant in all aspects including economic aspects. Judging from the economic point of view, we see that women in India are victims of widespread discrimination. In many cases, women are deprived of their personal property rights. In the father's house, women are not recognized as their own property before marriage. And women have been deprived of property rights while the husband is alive in the husband's house after marriage. Thus women are deprived of property rights for a long period of their lives. As a result, on the one hand, such women do not develop their personality and on the other hand, their lives become insecure economically. This picture can be seen in most of the houses in rural areas. This inequality is a bit less in urban areas. Although laws on equal pay for equal work for men and women, laws on inheritance of property, etc. have been introduced, gender inequality will never be eliminated and security for women will never be ensured without providing economic protection. The recent Kanyashree project and Lakshmi Bhandar project have been particularly significant in India, especially in West Bengal, for the financial security of women.

Culture and Gender Security: Real development of society is never possible without ensuring security for women in education and culture. In order to develop women's education and culture, on the one hand, fundamental rights, basic duties and guiding principles have been emphasized on women, while positive discrimination for women has been introduced in accordance with the Constitution. Various public welfare schemes for women have been adopted through various five-year plans. The biggest flaw in India's rural education system is the tendency to exclude women from the education system as the majority of the rural population suffers from poverty and unemployment. Therefore, in rural life, there is a tendency to keep girls away from the education system and to marry at an early age. Girls go to their father-in-law's house after marriage so there is not much benefit in educating girls by spending more money so most of the rural families are more interested in educating boys than girls. But if we look at the 21st century, we see that various educational programs for women have been taken up by the central or state governments. The Betty Bachao Betty Padao program has been taken up by the central government and the West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's Kanyashree project is particularly noteworthy in this regard. Student credit cards have also been provided through which loans up to Rs 10 lakh have been provided for studies in West Bengal. However, such an argument that men are responsible in all cases for gender protection and gender inequality is not correct. In many cases, women are particularly humiliated by women.

Environment and Gender Security: Another aspect of India's gender security is the environmental protection of women. In a word, it is necessary to create a healthy environment in which men and women have the opportunity to grow up equally. But in many cases in India it has not been possible to create such a conducive environment. In most of the states of India, various superstitions, social customs, religious barriers have repeatedly stood in the way of women leading a normal life. In most states of India, for

example, an orthodox attitude towards women can be observed. As a result, women do not get an open environment like men. There are many obstacles or obstacles in their way of growing up. In India, there are two different environments in all areas of development such as education, health, sports, music and so on. In different areas of life development, girls have to face various setbacks. This is not the case with the lack of government initiatives, but the biggest obstacle to government initiatives is the human mentality. Most families have a protective attitude towards women. Women are deprived of various opportunities to grow up in society. The gap between men and women can never be bridged without proper environment. If the gap between men and women cannot be bridged, on the one hand, it will be noticeable from the social point of view and on the other hand, the issue of protection of gender will be neglected.

Energy Sector and Gender Security: In India, there is a wide gap between the participation of men and women in the various fields of energy security. The participation of women is much lower than that of men in all areas of the Indian Army, Navy and Atomic Energy sector. So it can be said that the overall security sector has become a matter of considerable concern due to the low participation of women in all the security sectors of the country. Keeping women out of the country's security zone means keeping them out of their own safety zone as well.

Health and Gender Security: Women's safety is compromised in terms of health protection. Most of the total population of India is poor, so a large section of women's in India is not fully nourished due to the lowest position in the socio-economic field. Although women are the ones who make health decisions at home, women themselves are the victims of malnutrition. That is why women are the key to health protection not only at home but all over the world. Health is very important in human life. Because human well-being and growth is controlled by health. Women can contribute to economic gain by resolving gender, class or ethnic inequalities by improving health care and health, building human rights and increasing the level of savings and investment. According to the United Nations, India is a middle-income country. And India ranks at the bottom of the world in terms of health care in terms of gender inequality. India ranks 137th out of 187 countries in healthcare in 2011. A report on health awareness in India shows that women are worse off than men. Gender inequality started even before the birth of India. India has the highest number of abortions among women compared to other countries. Having a daughter in the womb is a huge stressor for Indian women during pregnancy. There is a tendency in post-birth India to feed daughters less than sons. So malnutrition can be noticed in women from birth in India. Many studies have found that hospital admissions rates are much higher for men than for women. Women are often neglected when there are signs of illness in the family. It is often noticed that women suffer from various major diseases due to lack of proper treatment. In the case of different immunizations, the rate of immunization of men is much higher than that of women. About two-thirds of the health workers in the country are men. According to data available in rural areas, only 6 percent of all doctors are women. Out of 10,000 doctors in a rural area, only 0.5 per cent are female allopathic doctors.

According to the National Health Survey of the Government of India, maternal mortality in rural areas is about 132 per cent higher than maternal mortality in urban areas. However, in recent times, the Indian government has been taking various steps to eliminate gender inequality. The Government of India established the National Commission for Women in 1992 and the Government of India established the National Rural Health Mission in 2005. One of the main objectives of this mission was to reduce maternal mortality and infant mortality. In addition, one of the goals of NHRM-2005 was to create universal access to public health services and to maintain the gender balance of nutrition in the overall health of the people. Mental and physical health conditions are dramatically affected by malnutrition. India currently has the highest number of malnourished women among developing countries. A study in 2000 in India found that more than 70 per cent of Indian women are iron deficient. One of the major causes of malnutrition in India is the role of gender in the distribution of food resources. In addition, various studies in India have shown that married women are more likely to be malnourished than unmarried women. As modernization has increased in India, it has been noticed that the chances of women getting breast cancer have increased. Overall, the government has not been as successful in providing health care to women in India as it should have been.

Information Technology and Gender Security: Twenty-first century India has witnessed a tremendous development in the field of information technology. People have become increasingly dependent on e-learning and the emphasis on digital transactions, especially since the Covid-19 epidemic in March 2020 caused long-term school-college closures. With the development of information technology, women have been able to raise their issues through various social sites and an opportunity has been created to get public opinion about them. These days, women can easily draw attention to various issues of domestic violence, mental and physical abuse through social sites. Later, policy makers can easily enact various laws on these issues. And may provide for punishment if the crime or violence is complex. With the development of information technology, women in rural areas often have the opportunity to become more aware about education and health and their livelihood develops. In countries like India, the development of ICT is one of the tools to eliminate gender inequality.

Politics and Gender Security: Politics in the 21st century is a field from which no human being can keep himself away. Personal development takes place through political participation. But looking at a country like India, it is seen that women's political participation is comparatively less than that of men. As a result, women are less familiar with political awareness, political activism, and policy-making processes. Arrangements have been made to reserve seats for women in the local self-government system to ensure gender security in women's politics. Notice that the turnout was lower for women than for men, with 67.09 per cent for women and 65.63 per cent for women. India ranks 20th in the world in terms of women's representation in Parliament. We have got women in two important political positions in India, both the Prime Minister and the President, and we have got women as Chief Ministers in several states. There are several barriers to women's

political participation in India such as patriarchal society, inequality, sexual violence, illiteracy, superstition, etc. The participation of Indian women in politics has increased a lot in recent times. For example, in the 17th Lok Sabha elections in 2019, a political party called Tamil Katchi in Tamil Nadu fielded women candidates in 50% of the seats. And in the 2021 Tamil Nadu Assembly elections, it fielded women candidates in 117 of the 234 seats, according to Fifty Fifty ratio. Judging from various aspects, in order to ensure gender security in India, more women should be involved in politics and all obstacles to women's political participation should be removed as much as possible.

Globalization and Gender Security: India's trend of globalization has progressed since the 1990s and this momentum has had a profound effect on all aspects of India's socio-political economy. Various issues related to women's dignity and women's rights became much more active in the 1970s and 1990s. The 1975 United Nations Women's Conference is a strong step in establishing women's security. Once a time, the protection of women was only in the hands of the state, but today it is not. Today, women's security is protected by international organizations, various non-governmental organizations and various influential international authorities. This expansion of political power gives new impetus to various feminist movements. As a result of the worldwide changes in the economy, women have gained an important place in the financial field and women have been able to engage themselves in productive activities. As a result of globalization, women have gained an important place in the world market which is especially important in establishing social security for women.

COVID-19 and Gender Security: The biggest disaster has come down to the lives of women in the Covid-19 episode. Especially that all women are employed in the workplace. In the unorganized sector, women are much safer than men. According to the McKinsey report, women have suffered the most financially in the Covid-19 episode. Women lost 1.8 percent more jobs than men. Today, women are deprived of both housework and malnutrition. Women are also being subjected to various forms of domestic violence at home due to long-term lockdown. Covid-19 episode the condition of sex workers has become extremely vulnerable. Covid-19 will be read Women also face a major crisis in education the number of school dropouts for women is much higher than for men.

Conclusion: Discussing various aspects of gender security in India, it is clear that women are much more neglected here than men. Government and private initiatives have been taken in various aspects of social, economic, political, cultural but growing unemployment, poverty, corruption, illiteracy, prejudice, patriarchal society in India is working as a huge obstacle in the way of women's development. In addition, the recent COVID-19 situation has signaled a major shift in India's economy, with women being the most affected. Today, in the 21st century, the security of women is being severely hampered not only in India but also in other parts of the world. In 2021, for example, we can talk about the rise of the Taliban in Afghanistan. Where it has been said to keep women away from any kind of modern education system. In today's advanced modern society, the idea of establishing

gender equality without ensuring the protection of women is nothing but an absurd plan. Therefore, ensuring the safety of women should be the sole duty of every state today.

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