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Women's Participation in Democratization and Decision Making in the Politics

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ABSTRACT

Since 1900, 'Women's Empowerment', 'Democracy' and 'Democratization' have been key issues in the global political debate. In the context of democratization, be it global politics or domestic politics - the overall micro-observation and knowledge of politics is now widely practiced. Among the southern European countries, the third wave of democratization began with countries like Portugal and Spain. The wave, which began in 1974, swept across southern European countries, including Africa, the Soviet Union, Eastern Europe, South Asian countries, and Latin America, and wiped out many undemocratic regimes in most parts of the country. All these uprisings for democratization were born out of the people's movement and enthusiastic participation as well as the activism of the citizens. The participation of women in this wave of democratization in this country and abroad was also remarkable. Women were actively involved in the process of democratization through self-help groups, working groups, NGOs, social movements, elections, social media, etc. This active participation of women was what enabled democratization.

Later the Congress Party the most important political party of the time nominated 32 women candidates in 1985 Loksabha Election, while only 19 women candidates were nominated in 1980 and 17 in 1990. This has had an inadequate influence of women on the inter-party power structures of the Congress. This means that while getting nominations of women candidates, you see a steady decline.

The active participation of women in politics has always been an issue of discussion in Maharashtra. This participation can be divided into two parts, one is to participate in the voting process and the other is to contest elections with active participation. However, the participation of women in both these processes is not so great. The number of women candidates in the 2019 Maharashtra Assembly elections was negligible. Women are considered to be just as important factor as men in determining the turnout in any election.

Introduction

After a successful Mars mission a few years ago, 20 percent of the scientists working at ISRO are women. It is natural to feel that these numbers should increase after this admirable performance. Women are not independent from the ancient Indian social system and are considered secondary in patriarchal culture. We can see that the patriarchal culture has changed a little in today's modern age. It was secondary in every field, social, economic, religious, political. She had no authority in politics. Therefore, in the history of ancient India, very few women ruled the state, and running the state did not fit into the religious tradition. We found in a patriarchal culture, women are neglected. After the independence of India, the Indian Constitution enacted a number of laws to change the economic, social, political, educational and religious status of women. Laws were enacted from gender equality to economic rights. Similarly, a law was enacted to strengthen the Indian democratic system to allow women to participate in politics and to give reservation to women in local bodies.

Given the role women have played in this wave of democratization in the country, it is likely that democratic politics will take a new turn. It was hoped that the increasing participation of women in politics would not only change the quality of democratic politics, but also make the idea of democracy more and more meaningful.

Do women exercise their rights in the political arena in this research essay on women's participation in politics and reality? Are women given less importance politically than male candidates? Has the women benefited from this law? How much women actually use this law, just as much as men interfere in the rights of women. It is the intention of the researcher to shed light on all these factors. Therefore, the above topic has been selected for the research topic.

Hypothesis:

1. Women are involved in politics.
2. In the political system, men interfere in women's rights.
3. Women benefited from reservations.
4. There are limits to women's rights.
5. Women are not given much importance in the decision making process.

Objectives:

1. To study the political participation of women.
2. Find out if reservations benefit women.
3. To study whether women's rights are dominated by men in the political arena.
4. Exploring the limitations of women's rights.
5. To verify whether women are given priority in the decision making process.

British political participation:

The British monarchy came to trade in India and established the monarchy in India. The British had established political supremacy by destroying the Indian monarchy. Along with the political system, the British tried to make progress in social, educational, political and economic matters. While reforming the society, social reformers like Mahatma Phule, Shahu Maharaj, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar, Raja Ram Mohan Roy supported the British. So in the social sphere the British had tried to make some improvements. He had tried to ensure the overall development of women as

well. Many British officials felt that women should be freed from traditional social constraints. Therefore, during the British period reforms like Satibandhi Act, Economic Rights, women's education and separate schools for girls were introduced by the British. As a result, we can see that some Indian women are educated. In many Anti-British provinces, many women had asserted their rights through political participation. During the British monarchy many women had participated against him. So there were some limited rights. As a result, political awareness among women was high.

Political Participation of Post-Independence Women:

The British rule ended in 1947 and India gained political independence. The political leadership of independent India was in the hands of men due to patriarchal culture. India's political history is that from 1947 to 2020, all the prime ministers except Indira Gandhi became men. This means that the participation of women in political leadership is very low. But as time goes on, you can see that the participation of women in the political arena is increasing. There are lots of examples we may know. The first women President was Pratibha Patil. It is learned that Mayawati, Mamata Banerjee and Sheila Dikshit have been appointed as Chief Ministers. The dominance of women in the political arena is very low in Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha and Vidhan Sabha. This means that the political dominance of women at the state and national level is low. This proportion appears to be much lower than that of men. At the national level Sonia Gandhi, Nirmala Sitharaman, Late. Sushma Swaraj, Late. Jaylalita these women were represented themselves as a leader in the politics of India. But the proportion is much less than men. We can see Mamata Banerjee (West Bengal), Mayawati (Uttar Pradesh), Supriya Sule (Maharashtra) doing certain political work at the state level. But considering the whole of India, the proportion of women is very small compared to the political work of men. This can be said for sure. This is because Indian culture is patriarchal. At the same time, women's participation in politics is low in India due to men's mentality and tradition. The result is a lack of female dominance and leadership at the state and national levels. During India's parliamentary common elections Women turnout was 65.64%, as compared to approximately 67.10% numbers for men. The representation of women in Parliament of India is ranked 20th from the underside.

Participation of women in Maharashtra in the political arena:

Maharashtra is known as a progressive state. Shahu Maharaj and Mahatma Phule from Maharashtra have inherited the legacy of reformist leadership like Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar. Women should make progress in various fields like social, economic, family, political and religious. Many important laws were enacted for this purpose. As a result, women are developing holistically and women are getting opportunities for political leadership. As a result, women are trying to dominate the political arena. Reservations have been given to women in local bodies to give them a chance in political leadership. The positive result of this is that women leadership is being formed in local self-government institutions and it has been proved that women can lead politically and exercise their powers in a good way. In the case of Maharashtra, when considering the state assembly, the proportion of assembly members in every assembly election is noticeable. In the 1962 general elections, only 13 women MLAs

were elected out of 264 seats. In the 1967 general elections, 9 out of 270 women members were elected. In 1978, 8 out of 280 women members were elected. In the 1980 Assembly elections, 19 women MLAs were elected. In the 1985 general election, 16 out of 288 were women MLAs. In the 1990 elections, there were 6 women MLAs. In the 1995 Assembly elections, 11 out of 288 women MLAs were elected. In 1999, out of total members there were 12 women MLAs. In the 2004 assembly elections, out of 288, 12 were women. In the 2009 elections, 11 out of 288 women were elected as members. In the 2014 elections, 20 out of 288 women MLAs were elected to the Legislative Assembly. In the recent 2019 assembly elections 24 women were elected as MLA. This is the highest ever 8.33% of women MLAs in the 2019 elections. From all the above statistics, it is clear that in a progressive and respectful state like Maharashtra, the number of women in the Maharashtra Assembly elections is very low and negligible compared to men.

Local Government Leadership:

The state of Maharashtra is known as a state that gives women the opportunity to give political leadership through local self-government bodies. Compared to other states, Maharashtra has a greater opportunity for women in local bodies. Gram Panchayat, Panchayat Samiti, Zilla Parishad, Nagar Parishad, Nagar Panchayat, Mahanagarpalika, Nagarpalika, etc. are recognized as institutions that make overall progress in a democratic way at the local level through local self-governing bodies. These local self-governing bodies have been in the hands of men since the independence of the country. But the reservation was announced to give an opportunity to all sections of the society to take political leadership through local self-government. Reservations were also given to women so that they could have the opportunity to lead politically through this local self-government body. As a result, it was proved that women can also lead through local self-government bodies. After the 1990s, women had the opportunity to participate in local self-government in large numbers. From the Gram Panchayat level to the Sarpanch to the corporator, Panchayat Samiti member, Zilla Parishad member, to the mayor of the corporation, women got the opportunity to lead and today we see many women working in the position of rights. Recently, Kishori Pednekar is the mayor of Mumbai Municipal Corporation, the financial capital of the country. This has been made possible by the opportunity given to these women. It is clear from the above study that giving opportunities to women in local self-government has a positive effect.

Conclusion:

While studying women's political leadership, women were given rights positions in local self-government bodies. But this position of authority appears to be exercised by men under their control. At the same time, it is clear that in many places husbands are interfering in this right. Even though there is a woman sarpanch at the gram panchayat level, it is seen that her husband interferes many times and takes over the power. Women are not given a chance for their merits and authority. In all these decision-making processes, the male class is in control and trying to show its dominance. This is evident from local studies. Even so, owning one is still ahead of the reach of the common person. As a result, electoral politics, the language of women's empowerment, no matter how loud and festive we speak, seems to be

happening in a conventional way and within a certain framework. Institutional politics, electoral politics and the politics of mass movements are the three major dimensions of democracy-politics. If democracy is to be enriched and enriched, electoral politics, along with institutional and agitational politics, needs to be increasingly free of corruption, free of arms and free of finances. It provides opportunities for women leadership and women who want to pursue their careers in the political arena. And we see women in political leadership. This is clear from the above study.

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