Prospects and Challenges for Women Empowerment in Information and Communication Technologies

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ABSTRACT: There is a growing recognition of the extra current and wider opportunities that era provides in advance than the society inside the contemporary times. Virtual generation has revolutionized the world as by no means in advance than fast variations have taken vicinity in the global situation. The virtual zone in India has not created a massive range of employment alternatives but has additionally outcomes in new dimensions for tough careers. As for empowerment of women is taken into consideration virtual India leads same opportunities for women, guys of every age irrespective of stable creed and faith. The existing paper pursuit to have a look at the distinct ways in which virtual India had benefited girls empowerment in terms of employment and to discover the positions of girls in rising areas of digital India in urban as well as in rural regions. With the emergence of digitization on the countrywide schedule and the assertion of virtual India regulations through numerous kingdom governments have recognized the "Convergence of middle generation and E-Governance" because the tool for real governance, sustainable improvement, globalization of monetary machine and social empowerment to democracy.

KEYWORDS: Women Empowerment; Digital India; ICT

I. INTRODUCTION

Professionals believe that this century belongs to the power of Knowledge, Information and statistics. Growth in information technology have significantly concentrated the geographical barriers and computers have enormously enhanced the capacity to accumulate and access information everywhere. The possibilities for information access are infinite. The information technology has grown in the last one decade very rapidly and breaking many existing paradigms and has thoroughly established its rights to existence in our lives. Across the globe, countries have recognized Information and Communication Technology as an valuable contrivance in catalyzing the economic activity in well-organized governance, and in developing human resources. ITC has added about exceptional modifications in the way humans communicate; behavior commercial enterprise, delight and social interface.

The evolution of recent forms of technologies and creative sorts of technical programs makes the lives of the people better and extra comfortable in several ways. There is even greater realization that instead of a solitary - trail technology, lateral integration of technologies can deliver surprising results and the world seems to be moving towards such congregate systems. Globally, humans are experiencing an extraordinary transitioning. While increased technology acceptance has helped many people in their daily lives, for some groups, digital disparities still remains and this is attributable to their lack of technical skills. Information technologies united with the power of knowledge can enable women in developing countries to join the battle for social, economic and political empowerment. Constraints of Indian women over the ages are patriarchy and social pressures, caste based femininity and social restrictions, insufficient access to productive resources, scarcity and powerlessness.

II. IMPACT OF "IT" AND GLOBALIZATION ON WOMEN'S WORK AND A POSSIBILITY IN DIGITAL INDIA FOR WOMEN

A massive organization of running women of India is in the rural and unorganized sectors. Socially the majorities of Indian women are nonetheless lifestyle bound and are in a disadvantageous function. for the reason that globalization is opening up the Indian economic system abruptly at a very excessive velocity, for the duration of the beyond a long time, advances in records technology have facilitated a global communications community that transcends national obstacles and has an effect on public coverage, non-public attitudes and behavior, mainly of youngsters and teenagers.

III. SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION FOR WOMEN

Technology and era schooling is vital for women to paintings in IT as computer programmers, engineers, systems analysts, and architects, but women's low enrollment in math and science guides impedes participation in those IT fields globally. It's far interesting and lucky, however, that there may be a remarkable deal of variant within the probabilities of women enrolled within the natural sciences, laptop technology, and engineering in growing nations. In fact proof indicates that younger girls in developing countries are not as affected as U.S. ladies by way of attitudes that computer technological know-how isn't always the precise discipline for girls to enter. IT training and virtual literacy means assisting women to get entry to training and educational possibilities in STEM (technology, generation, engineering, and math) and IT (facts era).

We are able to invest in canvas that helps empower girls and women to pursue possibilities in these fields. The single most crucial issue for increasing the capability of women and girls to take gain of IT opportunities is education. This requires interventions in any respect degrees, from literacy via scientific and technological education. To prepare women to go into IT fields, the focused efforts of the beyond 10 years to make sure get admission to to fine fundamental schooling for ladies must be continued and bolstered, with IT included into the applications. Indeed improving the excellent and attain of basic education via it's far increasingly more important to mitigating the gender divide for girls in developing countries. Not only admission to to basic education for women they need to be prepared with capabilities to prepare them for a range of roles in IT as customers, creators, designers, and managers. Therefore, efforts should be made on growing the range of ladies and girls analyzing IT-related subjects in formal education and looking for IT schooling outdoor of college [1].

IV. INFRASTRUCTURAL ISSUES FOR WOMEN

For the reason that more women than men live in rural areas, the gender hole in net get admission to runs parallel to the rural/city divide. In rural areas where ladies contain 60 percent of the populace, the resources and infrastructure for IT often are lacking. Connectivity is generally to be had only in capital and possibly secondary cities in growing nations. With their special duties for youngsters and the elderly, however, women may also locate it more hard than men emigrate to town and cities. Therefore, growing women's get entry to to IT entails growing the provision of conversation in regions where girls stay. Extension of infrastructure, specifically wi-fi and satellite TV for PC communications, to rural and peri-city regions is important to this process. in addition, get right of entry to efforts need to cognizance on the status quo of common use facilities along with telecenters, network cell phone shops, and other public places convenient and accessible to women.

V. ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT FOR WOMEN

IT can assist women's economic activities in farming, rural development, trade, inputs, weather, markets, new production techniques, and farming technologies. Traders and other entrepreneurs also could benefit from marketing information and the opportunity to disseminate information about their businesses. While business-to-consumer (B2C) ecommerce has generated a great deal of excitement, entry into the industry can be difficult. Women's handicrafts can find niche markets, but marketing and management skills are needed, and supply and delivery problems must be

addressed. Some successful developing country ebusinesses have targeted their Diaspora markets, for example, and taken advantage of access to local delivery options. Profitable opportunities also exist for women's small

VI. EGALITARIANISM AND POLITICAL EMPOWERMENT FOR WOMEN

Information era is a powerful device to enhance governance and make stronger egalitarianism in India. It's far particularly beneficial for giving a voice to women in growing countries who so often have been remote, invisible and voiceless. It acts like as a device for women's networking inclusive of social and political encouragement. Virtual India is helpful to reinforce women's participation in the political manner, enhance the performance of elected women officials, growth with right of entry to to authorities and its services, and disseminate information. "Any generation that isn't appropriate for women's is not without a doubt suitable technology." the priority raised in this expression is applicable to all walks of life in which technology is an eminent and effective tool which could result in a change.

Women are exceptionally uncovered to outstanding discrimination in monetary, education, health and social offerings get right of entry to international levels. It includes formal quarter and informal region employment, in addition to self-employment in farming, trading and crafts production etc. there are numerous possibilities for facts era to improve girls's economic activities within the discipline of trade, governance, schooling, health and employment in formal in addition to in casual region. Digital India conveys lot of opportunities to girls inside the paintings conditions and small commercial enterprise. Teleporting, bendy time slot and work from home arrangements are a number of the gender dimensions of statistics generation exercise. keeping these records in mind, the proposed look at recognized the desires of infrastructure and coverage intervention to make ICT region to make contributions towards improving empowerment of ladies in India. there's want for the acquisition of basic capabilities which are had to use the technologies correctly and thoroughly. it is also vital to have a clean expertise of the desires of the target organizations [2]. According to the International World Telecommunication display, more men than women use the internet: globally, 37% of all women are online, compared with 41% of all men. This corresponds to 1.3 billion women and 1.5 billion men. The gender gap is more pronounced in the developing world, where 16% fewer women than the men use the internet, compared with only 2% fewer women than the men in the developed world [3].

VII. ROLE OF URBAN- RURAL WOMEN IN ICT

The urban educated women need information mainly pertaining to: Research, Educational opportunities including prospects abroad, Career advancement facilities, Job/ employment prospects in India and abroad, Matrimonial, Fashion and market values, Health and child care facilities which includes sexual and reproduction activity, Art and entertainment, Social support system for working women, Legal rights and provisions. **The urban lower middle class** women however, specially need information on: Expensive educational facilities, Career advancement and job opportunities in the city itself, Matrimonial within the restrictions of caste and class, Inexpensive health and childcare, Inexpensive social support systems for working women, Legal rights and provisions against social injustice, domestic violence, Dowry system etc. A large chunk of women who have been adversely affected by the globalization process are the poor urban slum dwellers and women. To say the least they are the most marginalized people in the urban sector. They may need information on the following grounds [4] (Health services and child care facilities which are available free of cost. Job opportunities in the low paid informal sector including domestic services, Housing availability specially in slums, Free educational facilities for their children specially for boys, Information regarding government programmes for the poor and how to deal with the procedure, Legal provisions against sexual harassment, domestic violence and social injustice).

VIII. CONCLUDING INTERPRETATION

The femininity and technology perception comprises many dimensions, which has very broad spectrum. Technology to smooth the progress of women's productivity, Technology to reduce women's hard work, Technology to empower women, Technology to remove hurdles in women's growth, Role of women in technological fields,

Familiarity of women in handling technology related issues, revelation of women to technological circumstances at national and international levels, Gender sensitivity in technological aspects. Information technology is the common denominator that links people, irrespective of political and social alignments. This is why it becomes even more important to evaluate and assess the role of communication technology in making women more powerful, particularly from the point of view of entrance and utilization. Gender equality presupposes elimination of all kinds of bias against women and communication technology involvement can speed up the pace of equality through gender sensitization. Communication technology can be used to convey information and that in circle will lead to enthusiasm, mobilization and action. It covers different approaches–welfare, participatory and catalyst with women as change agents. Information, reinforced with success stories, can motivate women to adopt healthy lifestyles [5]. For instance, information on immunization, child mortality, maternal mortality, sanitation, nutritional alertness and causes, prevention and treatment of disease could be circulating broadly via communication technology. Digital India have created new jobs in the field of information processing for educational sector, baking, insurance, e-commerce, printing and publishing specially for women. However, it depends on availability of good telecom infrastructure, IT training in educational institutes, in marketing and business development supported by conducing policies of the government. The information and communication technology Initiatives will achieve the desired goals for women empowerment in future: Improved access to and control of technology for women and girls, especially in remote areas. Resourceful technology-based solutions to key gender equality issues like violence, health, and economic, political empowerment and secure online spaces for women. ICT will make stronger, more inclusive national and international engagements of women, collaborating regularly to share resources and ideas, and develop common advocacy strategies.

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