Emerging Role of Women in Nation Building

Neelam Juneja* and D. D. Aggarwal**

Women constitute approximately nearly half of the population of our country. If they are given the task for the development of the country, they can make a wonder because they are more dedicated, more hard working, more sincere, more devoted to the cause. Now, the women are coming out of their inferiority complex and are shouldering all kinds of responsibilities with men. The present paper is an attempt to analyze emerging role of women in nation building with suitable examples. It has been shown that women have struggled hard to establish an identity of their own after independence in India.

[Keywords: Status, Emerging role, Nation building, Indian society]

If all is well with women it will be well with the society and ultimately the nation. In India women constitute nearly 50% or half of the total population. The role and contribution of women towards family in particular and towards society and nation building in general is of immense importance in the backdrop of rapidly changing Indian society in the context of liberalization, privatization and globalization. In India and elsewhere in the world, women play a significant role both in care (home) economy and market economy. Going by the saying that “an educated mother creates an educated nation” is very apt if we are to build a nation in terms of peace and harmony. Educated mothers can inculcate their values and

* Ph. D Research Scholar, Mewar University, NH-79, Gangarar-312901, Chittorgarh, Rajasthan (India) E-mail: <neelam.jarora1@gmail.com>
* Associate Professor (Guide), Department of Adult, Continuing Education and Extension, University of Delhi, Delhi - 110007 (India)
morals amongst their children in effective manner. Rural women are although illiterate or less educated, but they are developing spiritual, scientific and leadership skills by doing yoga, exercising and social work in specific areas.

As a mother, women want secured environment for their children and better future. She wants to see them prosper and make their hopes a reality. She transmits the moral values to their children, reduce the stress by motivating/educating their children and equipping them with the qualities of values to face the challenges in the life. She is a pillar of home. Women’s role in the family is extremely significant which cannot be described in words.

After performing her duties towards family and domestic jobs, she wants sense of relief, a sense of dignity and sense of freedom by involving herself in social activities, job in specific area, welfare of the society and help the needy people.

Women’s status can be assessed by the respect and their position in society. No country can be developed and achieve objectives without taking advantage of women’s potentialities and rational decision. Any business/industrial enterprise is a key to economic development of a country, which cannot be possible without having rational decision of women entrepreneurs, as I feel. Women play a vital role in the social, economic and political development of the society provided they are conscious of their rights and responsibilities.

Women’s role is varied from time to time starting from ancient to modern times. After independence women in India have advanced in many fields. In some fields her progress is a landmark, particularly in the field of education, management, health care and office administration. Women now outnumber men in urban areas. No body could imagine that such tremendous achievements, she could gain in a few decades. Women have become effective in each and every sphere of life.

I would like to opine that education is very effective tool for settling the problems amongst all human beings. Education creates leadership quality especially in women and young girls that is why modern women are inclined towards the social activities and improving their social status. They attend social functions and value her importance in social life. Women are participating in economic and political activities too. Today’s Indian women are excelling in all the fields such as, medicine, engineering, horticulture agriculture, music, writing etc.

In depth analysis of history would reveal that optimum progress of a nation depends mainly on how the women are treated by the society. If all is well with women it will be well with the whole nation. Impediments in women’s progress sprout from many sources: religion, customs, traditions and all other which can be avoided for the betterment of women.

Here are the names of some inspirational women who were the first Indian women to make history in their chosen field of work and became motivational force for women community:
Pratibha Devisingh Patil ji, born 19 December 1934, is an Indian politician who served as the 12th President of India from 2007 to 2012; She was the first woman to hold the office.

Kalpana Chawla (March 17, 1962-February 1, 2003) was born in Karnal, India. She was the first Indian-American astronaut and first Indian woman in space. She first flew on Space Shuttle Columbia in 1997 as a mission specialist and primary robotic arm operator.

Bachendri Pal, born 24 May 1954 in a village in the Himalayas, is an Indian mountaineer, who on the 23rd of May 1984 became the first Indian woman to reach the summit of Mount Everest. She was a gifted student who came from a family of moderate means, and encountered stiff opposition from her family and relatives when she decided to opt for a career as a professional mountaineer rather than as a school teacher.

Kiran Bedi ji, the First Indian Woman to become an IPS Officer, born on 9 June 1949 in Amritsar, Punjab, is an Indian politician, social activist, former tennis player and a retired police officer. Bedi joined the Indian Police Service (IPS) in 1972, becoming its first woman officer.

Indira Gandhi ji, who served as the India’s Prime Minister from 1966 to 1977 and then again from 1980 until her assassination in 1984, is the second-longest-serving Prime Minister of India and the only woman to hold the office. Indira Gandhi was the only child of Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru.

Kanchan Chaudhry Bhattacharya was the first woman to become Director General of Police of a state and retired on 31 October 2007 from service. She was the second woman IPS officer in the country after Kiran Bedi.

Flight Lt. Harita Kaur Deol was a pilot with the Indian Air Force. She was the first woman pilot to fly solo in the Indian Air Force. The flight was on 2nd September 1994 in an Avro HS-748, when she was 22 years old.

Savitribai Jyotirao Phule (3 January 1831-10 March 1897), the first woman Teacher in India...without whom women could not possibly be educated so much as they are today, was an Indian social reformer and a poet. Along with her husband, Jyotirao Phule, played an important role in improving women’s rights in India during the British rule. The couple founded the first women’s school at Bhide Wadai in Pune in 1848. She also worked to abolish discrimination and unfair treatment of people based on caste and gender.

Sarojini Naidu was the first Indian woman to become the president of the Indian National Congress and the first woman to become governor of Uttar Pradesh. She began writing at the age of 13.

Vandana Luthra, a big name in the corporate and entrepreneurial world, is the founder of VLCC Health Care Ltd.; a beauty and wellness brand represented in Asia, the Gulf Cooperation Council and the Africa. She was born in New Delhi on
12th July 1950 to a mechanical engineer father and a mother who ran a charitable yoga ashram along with an Ayurveda doctor. VLCC was incorporated in 1989 as a beauty, slimming and wellness centre at Safdarjung Development Area in New Delhi when Vandana’s elder daughter was merely 3 years old. She wanted to promote health and fitness, moreover, she loved cutting giving hairstyles to people and experimenting facials on her mother’s face which later turned out to be an implementation in the form of such a huge empire.

Mrs. Sudha Gupta is an extraordinary educationist who had the will power and courage to turn her dreams into reality. She is truly a pioneer in the field of early education and is accredited to have started the first chain of pre-schools in India, Mothers Pride. She envisions children as the future of entire mankind and firmly believes that instilling lifelong moral values in toddlers could be a tiny step forward towards creating global citizens, which in turn could make the world a better place to live in.

Mrs. Sudha Gupta was like any other Indian housewife. Her life revolved around her children, her husband and family. One day Mrs. Sudha approached a reputed pre-school to enrol her son, but to her disappointment her son was denied admission. This sparked off an amazing idea, she thought about starting her very own pre-school which would employ a holistic approach for the all-round development of the child. Thus in the year 1996, she started her very own pre-school, Mothers Pride in Paschim Vihar, Delhi with a motto “Love Blossoms Here”.

Thus, it must be emphasized that women have struggled hard to establish an identity of their own after independence in India. In the present chaotic world, only women can handle any difficulty with patience and perseverance.

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