

ROLE OF WOMEN ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF INDIA

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Engendering Development by Engaging Women Politically through the Policy of Quotas

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ABSTRACT

Women subordination was seen as having its roots in their exclusion from the market sphere and their limited access to, and control, over resources. The key was then to place women 'in' development by legislatively trying to limit discrimination and by promoting their involvement in education and employment. It is recognized that it is not sufficient to add women and girls into existing processes of development but there is also a need to problematise why they are excluded, advocating that the focus should be on addressing the imbalances of power at the basis of that exclusion. The questions on the notion of 'development' and its benign nature implied a need to shift from a narrow understanding of development as economic growth, to a more social or human centered development. There was also a shift in understanding development as meaning economic development to a more holistic social development focus. Representation of balanced sex ratio in institutions of power is a critical demographic variable affecting government decisions and policies and distribution of power. Gender equality and women representation in the structures of power are integral to human development. The paper explores the changing sex ratio political representative bodies and the consequent perception of women as self-confident being, with the implementation of right to take decisions for the citizens.

Key Words: Human Development, Political Representation, Quotas, Social and Political Mainstreaming

Women's subordination was seen as having its roots in their exclusion from the market sphere and their limited access to, and control, over resources. The key was then to place women 'in' development by legislatively trying to limit discrimination and by promoting their involvement in education and employment. It is recognized that it is not sufficient to add women and girls into existing processes of development but there is also a need to problematise why they are excluded, advocating that the focus should be on addressing the imbalances of power at the basis of that exclusion. GAD also questions the notion of 'development' and its benign nature.