

Chapter: 5

Suggestions and Conclusion

After analyzing the research topic, “Rights of women, a case study of Bakssa District.” It can be concluded that, women are still struggling to find the equal place in the society. Women’s equal participation in all activities in society is a fundamental pre-requisite not only for gender equality, gender justice and genuine democracy but also for the reconstruction of the society. Women still have a long way to go for equality and gender justice.

The study began with the following research questions.

1. Why women are neglected or discriminated specially in education, health, and politics?
2. Are the traditional rules created only for women?
3. Does the gender roles neglected in the Society?
4. Why women are generally excluded from access to power structures and participation in decision-making?

For the first question opinion gathered from respondents, revealed that in the traditional society, women’s role was naturally limited to the family as a house worker. The study also observed that the family members encourage them to give more time in housework than study, majority of the respondent think that they are engaging more time in housework than study and they are discriminated by their family for choice of the stream or course. Education is the key that opens the door in life .Women which constitute, almost half of the population required equal measures to education, but they are the deprived sections of the society due to orthodox male dominated society. The study observed that majority of the respondents is dissatisfied with health care facilities specially in family planning and maternity service. The health services which are provided by the government are not received by many of the women. No counselling from either the doctor or any other health personal, absence

of Doctor, shortage of medicine, lack of maternity facilities in emergency situation are the main cause of dissatisfaction.

The study also observed that majority of the women was not satisfied because of the discriminatory attitude by their family. Most of the respondent thinks that there house hold work is not recognized because it is non-salaried character. So, the works of women in every respect whether paid or unpaid should be given due respect and consideration for building a better society. Economic empowerment is necessary for women to get justice and equality, without economic growth women cannot be exercising their rights. Economic participation of women and their presence in work force is important. It leads towards an important step to raise the household income. It gives them a greater role in decision-making on important issues within their family. Economic empowerment of women was the key to achieve gender equality as well as wealth and wellbeing of the nation. "Empowerment of Women is about helping them to stand on their own feet, help them take decisions in their life without any restriction of relatives or the society. In India, women are treated badly in every field be it political, social, education, sports and technology and innovation. Thus, it is essential that they are empowered to be independent and self-reliant. They should be empowered so as to protect themselves and to secure their respect and dignity.

For the second and third question opinion gathered from the respondent revealed that women suffer from gender discrimination because of our societal structure. The study observed that; majority of the women think that tradition and custom are the main hindrances of women rights. Women have not been given their actual status in the society, socially, women are ignored a lot in the society, and still they have been victim of various social traditions. Though, constitutionally they enjoy equality but this equality is more in legal terms rather than reality.

For the fourth question opinion gathered from the respondent in the study that majority of the women think that, they have been completely ignored by male dominated society and political parties in case of power politics and decision making process.

It was observed that most of the women are not able to participate independently in the decision making process, they are dependent on the male counterparts. Male dominate the women in decision making process. Majority of respondents think that Male dominated Society is the main reason of low participation rate of women in politics. Most of the women are not satisfied with the present level of participation of women in politics. They think that women participation in state level and national is still very low.

The summary of the findings is that:

1. The educational status of women in Baksa also is not very satisfactory. The female literacy rate in Baksa During field survey it was found that the conditions of Education facilities are not appreciable. Majority of the women were not satisfied of government performance on education.
2. Disadvantaged health condition is one of the major problems which are faced by women of the District. After analysing it is shows that maximum of the women were not satisfied of government performance on Health care facilities
3. Women suffer from gender discrimination because of our societal structure. Tradition is firmly rooted in our society. So it is the time to root out the traditional belief system, superstition and societal restriction.
4. Majority of the women were not satisfied for the discriminatory attitude by their family and society. So, the works of women in every respect whether paid or unpaid should be given due respect.
5. Majority of the women think that, they have been completely ignored by male dominated society and political parties in case of power politics and decision making process.
6. Majority of the women, even many literate women do not know about Human rights of Women. So, there is immense need of proper Human Rights Education.

On the basis of the research findings, the following recommendations may be suggested:

1. Education plays an important role as a foundation for women development. It should be an intrinsic part of any strategy to address the gender based discrimination against women that remains prevalent in our society. Education to women is the foremost requirement in improving the status of women in the society. Educated women are more likely to stand up for themselves, understand their rights, and participate in household decision making and to contribute to community or national politics. A well educated woman can face the challenges of life without any fear. Education can help empowering women. It is one of the main reasons as to why women education is necessary.

In Baksa district the majority of the women were dissatisfied of government performance on education particularly with the school facilities. So, government should be take immediate action for improving the infrastructure and other facilities especially for girl's common room, girl's toilet, etc.

There is only one College which have the entire stream (Arts, Commerce, and Science) in the study area, so it should be increased and government have to take necessary action. Parents should engage their girl children more time in study then household work .Also they should give liberty to their girl child for choice of stream of education.

2. The society and families attitude towards women should be changed; so that women do not have to face discrimination. The family and society should give respect of women's work, whatever; it is paid or unpaid work.

The present family system of life is the main cause for women right violence. Men enjoy unquestionable power in the traditional family system. Therefore, the family system, which project women as inferior to men, needs to be changed.

Creating awareness among women against the social evils is another important aspect in the society. Due to the various social customs and taboos, they often cannot and do not want to bring change in their own traditional lifestyles, so there is a need for creating socio-political consciousness among women. All steps will fruitful be if they themselves think for change.

The society and the family can raise the status of the working women. The spouse and other family members have to be supportive of the woman's work outside the home. India is traditionally patriarchal society; therefore, without the encouraging and liberal mindset of the average Indian male, a real elevation of the working women's position in the society is going to remain a distant dream. By and large, an encouraging and secure social environment and a proactive support from the family, corporate, government and other social networks can help to change the Indian Working Women's status for the better.

3. Access to quality healthcare is important determinant of women's health. Government should provide quality health care accessible to all women specially for poor women in rural area. The health services should be located as close to the people and ensure maximum benefit to the communities served. Government should increase budgetary allocation of health, particularly in primary health care and maternity facilities. There is an urgent need of a multispecialty hospital in the district.
4. Political empowerment is one of the important ways for improving women status. It is unfortunate that most positions of political and legal authority are continuously occupied by men. In India only 10% of parliamentarians are women. Active participation of women in the political process is very important. Without women the progress of a society is not possible.

Economic independence is necessary to play an active part in the social and political life. It is necessary to inspire women to be financially independent

and also essential to encourage women's participation and involvement in the political process.

There should be a positive familial and societal attitude towards women's participation in the political process. Even today many people think that political area is not a suitable place for women. So, the male family members should encourage and co-operate women to take part in the politics.

Constitution should be amended to give reservation to the women in parliament and state legislatures. All women leader of various political parties should come on common platform with the single target of passing of women reservation bill.

5. Human rights education should be imparted to the students of schools and colleges. It will enable them to understand the worth and dignity of each and every individual. Human rights education teaches people to aware their own rights and respects others rights as well as give courage to defend them in all circumstances.

Frequent awareness programmes for the common women should be organized in order to make them aware about their rights. Human rights groups and committees at schools, college and universities levels are required to be formulated to educate the student's community and public about the violation of women rights.

6. Developing positive attitude towards women is necessary. Women's empowerment would be achieved only when the attitudes, ways of thinking and feeling are positive towards women.
7. Economic security is a must for improvement of women's status. The voluntary organizations should take up concrete steps, if necessary in collaboration with the governmental agencies to provide more and more

employment opportunities to women. Economic independence is not alone sufficient. Also need to create a sense of social security; the voluntary organizations can play an important role in this regard.

8. Women require active governmental support for their social and economic uplift and empowerment due to the existing gender inequalities.
9. Emphasis should be given on the formation of special Human Rights Enforcement Machinery for the protection and enforcement of human rights properly. Special attention should be given on the establishment of special courts to deal cases of crime against women.
10. Legal aid should be made available to women at the time of distress. An attempt should be made to provide legal literacy to women to make them aware of their rights. Political willingness and commitment to eradicate violation of women rights is highly required.
11. The mass media should take a supportive and definite role in publishing the violation of rights against women. The media must be given maximum coverage to the violation of rights of women. Social activist, academicians, public servants and lawyers should play a definite role in activating the rights of women.
12. The women are not getting equal wages for equal work basically in unorganized and private sectors. They should be given equal: wages for equal work. They are being exploited for service and employment because they have no say in private sectors. Special Mechanism should be made to look after all these violations of women in private sectors.
13. Support from the family is indispensable for a married woman who is tortured at her matrimonial home. Usually, parents think that once the girl is married off their responsibility upon her is over. For the fear of social humiliation,

even if inhuman torture is meted out to a girl, the parents instead of rescuing her try to patch up the issue. Therefore, the support from the family at the time of distress will obviously help the girl to take a right decision and to come out of the trauma.

14. For improving the status of women, empowerment of women is essential. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru had said that “to awaken the people, we should first awaken the women, because once a women has been awakened then the whole nation and family gets awakened with her.” The major benefit of Women Empowerment is that there will be an overall development of the society. So, Economic security is a must for improvements of women’s status. Economic freedom creates self-confidence and provides social security. The voluntary organizations should take up concrete steps, if necessary in collaboration with the governmental agencies to provide more and more employment opportunities to women.

Conclusion:

The present study analyses the status of women rights on the basis of the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the major objectives of the convention is elimination of the discrimination against women. In the article 5 of the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) discusses about the abolition of discrimination and traditional convention which are based on the thought of the superiority or the inferiority. But in field survey it is found that women suffer from gender discrimination because of the societal structure. Tradition is firmly rooted in the society. Tradition has given a framework to think and treat a woman within a boundary. So it is time to root out the traditional belief system, superstition and societal restriction and form a liberal society where both men and women will get equal respect, equal right and privileges. Regarding the position of women in society, 73.96% respondents are in favour of the option that there is a strong discrimination against women mainly in the tradition and customary practices. 63.65 % respondents think that the status of women in the Society is inferior to man. So it is a fact that,

inequality on the basis of sex has become part of a male dominated society. The study reveals that society shows the different approach about women, because of their vulnerable position and economic dependency. Maximum numbers of respondents think that there is a strong discrimination against women because of tradition and customary practices and believes that these are main hindrances of women rights. Maximum numbers of respondent think that the status of women in the society is inferior to man which constitutes 63.65% of total sample. Therefore it is a fact that, inequality on the basis of sex has become part of a male dominated society.

In the article 7 of the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) reveals that States Parties have to take all suitable way to abolish bias against female in the political and public life of the state

However in field survey it is found that, in the field of political participation, 59.04% respondents are in favour of the option that patriarchal society is the main reason of low participation rate of women in politics and decision making process.

Most of the respondents believed that their voting behaviour were influenced by their family members, which constitute 52.85% of the total sample. Maximum numbers of respondents agreed with this view that the male dominate the women in decision making process, which constitute 83.01% of the sample. Most of the respondents were dissatisfied with the low level participation of women in politics and think that patriarchal society is one of the main reasons of low participation rate of women in politics and decision making process.

In the article 10 of the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) says that there should be equivalent privileges with male in the ground of education. But in the present study it is found that there is a gap between Female literacy rate of Assam and Baksa district. According to Census of India 2011 the male-female literacy gap of Assam and Baksa district were 11.58 and 13.6 respectively. So it is indicate that the condition of female literacy in Baksa is lagging behind compared to State literacy rate of female. As per as government performance is concern, in the field of education majority of women (51.42%) were not satisfied of government performance about the women education. Majority of the

respondent think that they are engage more time in housework than study also most of the respondents are not satisfied with their school facilities. Majority of the respondent think that they are discriminated by their family for choice of stream. .

Article 12 of the Convention on the Elimination of all forms Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) advocate that, States Parties have to obtain every suitable method to abolish bias against female in the ground of health care. But in the field survey it is shows negative picture regarding health condition of women specially in maternity facilities. Poor health is one of the main problems which the women of the Baksa District are facing since long period. Majority of the women were not satisfied of government performance on Health care facilities.

After analyzing the Topic, it can be concluded with proved conviction that violation of women's rights has become a matter of serious concern. Violation of women's rights has emerged as one of the most visible social issues of all over the world. It is the biggest threat to development of human beings. In fact, women's human rights have been violated by the unjust acts. Today the issue is closely related with the problem of development. Therefore, protection and promotion of women rights is essential. It is observed that though the Human rights have been universally accepted however, a successful mechanism to enforce them to yet to be developed. The Indian women have to go a long way to attain their rights in socio-economic, political and cultural fields. After 73 years of country's independence women are still one of the most powerless and marginalized section of society and they are treated as 'inferior' in their own families. The social condition is not encouraging for the safeguard of women's human rights and that the protective laws make little meaning in the lives of majority of women. It is a fact that even the state in India has not attempted effectively to outlaw to change the relation of dependence within the family. Thus, society and state also contribute to continue the subordinate position of women and deprive them of their basic human rights. Family, as a major agent of socialization process is also responsible to a great extent for the present condition of women.