

Socio- Economic Empowerment of Women in Global Era: With Special Reference to India

Shikha Dubey¹, Ajay Dwivedi²

¹Junior Research Fellow, Department of Financial Studies, Veer Bahadur Singh Purvanchal University Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh

²Professor, Department of financial studies, Veer Bahadur Singh Purvanchal University Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh

Abstract

Purpose: India has the distinction of developing one of the world's longest continuing cultures, which has continuously adapted to the evolving political and socio-economic material and unique events of its history. It is often presumed that, by an unquestionable lack of work or elevated jobs, women will bear the cost of economic liberalization. but the theory of trade shows that women, particularly in emerging economies can contribute a lot due to trade liberalization and increase in foreign trade, women have proven to be a remarkable cohesive unit of the community, which in the stage of rapid societal changes has demonstrated great resilience and adaptability.

Design/ methodology/ approach: This research is qualitative in nature and based on both primary and secondary data both.

Research objective and implications: The research's primary emphasis is to explore the impact of globalization in raising the socio-economic status of women and to highlight the positive as well as the negative impact of globalization on women's livelihood.

This paper will be helpful for various policymakers, researchers, government bodies, and various stakeholders of the society to know the contribution of microfinance in rebooting the Indian economy by poverty alleviation.

Keywords: Women Empowerment, Gender Inequality, Globalization Trading, transnational feminism.

Management Insight (2020). DOI: 10.21844/mijia.16.1.4

Introduction

Women empowerment is the process of making women educationally, mentally, physically, and economically confident. In a broader context, women's advancement applies to strengthening their role in society's power structure. The term empowerment of women basically implies that women also have the strength or ability to regulate their livelihood and raise their status in socio-economic and political terms.

India has the distinction of developing one of the world's longest continuing cultures, which has continuously adapted to the evolving political and socio-economic material and unique events of its history. Globalization is indeed a trend that tends through progressive reforms of economic policy (like modernization and privatization) as well as increases in the flow of money, commodities, services, and labor.

Corresponding Author: Shikha Dubey, Junior Research Fellow, Department of Financial Studies, Veer Bahadur Singh Purvanchal University Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh, E-mail: dubeyshikha27@gmail.com

How to cite this article: Dubey, S., Dwivedi, A. (2020). Socio-Economic Empowerment of Women in Global Era: With Special Reference to India. Management Insight, 16(2)23-31

Source of support: Nil

Conflict of interest: None

Received: 08.02.2021; **Accepted:** 07.04.2021; **Published:** 14.07.2021

The economic model of the influence of globalization on development and well-being scarcely differentiates among genders.

In evaluating the impact of globalization on women, there are two schools of thought. The first One is essentially optimistic and with some reservations, believes that perhaps the inclusion among all people, including females, in global trade and also in capital markets would strengthen their economical state. The traditional role of women in homemaking, agriculture,

livestock, animal husbandry, handicrafts, handlooms, etc., has been eroded by globalization and has resulted in a comparatively better world for women. Females have far more occupations, been more interested in avenues that are traditionally reserved for men, have taken a more influential part in society, not only confined to the home. The quantity and quality of jobs available to the majority of women in India have been influenced by it.

As India is a male-dominated country, from the ancient times it has been seen that all political power or administrative power is given to males only, participation of women either in entrepreneurial activities or in politics or in administrative jobs is absolutely negligible. The definition of women's empowerment is taken from the sense of human rights. It entails essential necessities, financial security, building capacity and training opportunities and justifies social life, descriptively, empowerment stands for the development of persons connected to weaker segments in the Indian concept, and it means that empowerment is not political empowerment but socio-economic and cultural empowerment too.

Literature Review

Dr. T.H. Murthy (June 2016)

The analysis reveals that, In all developed countries, including India, the literacy share of females is about 50 percent. Political empowerment is equally relevant apart from this economic presence. All the efforts to improve women's conditions rely on the government's external will, financial support, emotional engagement, and women's self-confidence.

that, no doubt the role of women is indispensable in the globalization process. Gender equality established. Despite this still the literacy rare of females is around 50 percent in all the developing countries including India. Apart from this economic participation, political empowerment is equally important. All the possible efforts are done to improve the conditions of women depend upon the external will of the government, financial resources, emotional commitment, and self-confidence of women.

G. Hassan Lone & Wakar A. Zargar (2017)

convey that In certain cases, women perceived to be less fortunate have rather clear beliefs. Therefore, it seems important that women should be encouraged and modernized in terms of their status, value, education, and knowledge of health. India's gender imbalance is a known and well-documented reality, but its reasons and its prospects remain a mystery.

Elisabetta Ruspini (2020)

Globalization seems to be an irreversible, ineluctable process which, at the same time, has not weakened inequalities. Globalization has its winners and losers, and these two groups are not necessarily entirely separable. The global nature of the women's movement is both a cultural and a political aspect of globalization: feminism is increasingly transnational. Women are active agents and globalization can offer them new opportunities for challenging existing gender injustices and to express their multiple gender identities. "cross-cultural feminist work must be attentive to the micropolitics of context, subjectivity, and struggle, as well as to the macro politics of global economic and political systems and processes".

Kavita Gupta (2020)

According to her the primary reason for their failure may be summarized as illiteracy, ignorance of their decision, the domination of male family members behind their position, the apathy of administration; passive approach of women, etc. The goal of rural women's empowerment is yet to be achieved and therefore requires more sincere and systematic and varied efforts.

Charles Wankel (2011)

Cultural, Socio-Political and Economic Perspectives This century has emerging towards rapid developmental changes in the social sector of India. It has affected all the sectors of the country. Women considered less privileged in many ways hold very strong views. So, it seems necessary that women's empowerment and modernization should take place in the light of their status, importance, education, and health awareness.

Despite the obvious prejudices and restrictions that Indian women face, the methods and ways by which to improve their situation are not clear. While it is possible that modernization and empowerment of women will reduce the gender disparity.

Mercedes, Miriam, and Maria (2006)

globalization must be analyzed from a multidimensional perspective taking into account the real experiences of the actors in their adaptation to globalization. Globalization is neither a cure-all nor an absolute plague. In the case of women the positive aspects have to do with a greater agency for women, greater employment opportunities out of the household, massive incorporation of women into the labor market, narrowing the income gap, which leads to an improvement of their economic status, improvement of women's education thanks to the introduction of new technologies, application of labor regulations to overcome traditional discriminating practices, improvement of their position within the household by achieving greater personal autonomy and independence.

Ruth Pearson (2004)

According to Ruth Pearson, the labor force participation of women had doubled worldwide; but if we add to this women's involvement in all kinds of market oriented activities, it would be hard to find any group of women who could not be said to be economically active. Economic participation is manifold and the entitlements which accrue from it should include, but not be limited to, the ways in which money income can be increased. Poor women need money, but increases in wages will not on their own make women either Being exploited by capital is the fate of virtually all women in today's global economy, but the exchange value of their labor will not on its own provide the basis for women's empowerment.

Research Methodology

For this research paper, all primary and secondary data are sedated. A close-ended standardized questionnaire focused on evaluating the effects of globalization on women's socio-economic development was used to

collect primary knowledge. For this study, a sample size of 100 women was taken from all over the country.

Other than that, secondary data has been gathered by newsletters, magazines, research papers, census statistics, and wise & global studies from several other nations.

The objective of the Paper

- The research's primary emphasis is to explore the impact of globalization in raising the socio-economic status of women.
- To highlight the positive as well as the negative impact of globalization on women's livelihood.

Women in India:

Over the time of known Indian history, the role of women in India has shifted amniotically. In India, traditions such as female infanticide, dowry, child marriage, and the tabu on widow remarriage have lasted for a long time and have proven difficult to root out, particularly in northern Indian caste Hindu society. Measuring aimed at reform, including Bengal sati regulation, 1829, Hindu widow's remarriage act, 1856, female infanticide prevention act, 1870, and age of consent act 1891, were introduced during the British East India Company rule (1757-1857), and the British Raj (1858-1947). Under India's constitution, women's rights primarily entail liberty, independence, and protection from discrimination: India also has separate laws regulating women's rights.

Women and Globalization

Although globalization has expanded women's prospects, on the one side, its potential to substantially minimize gender inequality, remains unmet. In addition, in different countries, globalization impacts women differently, and also some women are much more marginalized than others. The traditional role of women in homemaking, agriculture, livestock, animal husbandry, handicrafts, handlooms, etc., has been eroded by globalization and has resulted in a comparatively better world for women. Females have far more occupations, have been more interested in avenues that are traditionally reserved for men, have

taken a more influential part in society, not only confined to the home. The quantity and quality of jobs available to the majority of women in India have been influenced by it.

Globalization's Approach to Women's Socio-Economic Emancipation.

The shortage of sufficient funds to finance the financial growth of domestic businesses has been a major issue for developing countries. Small to the medium-sized firm specifically owned by a woman that have historically been left out of the capital markets because women were considered as less creditworthy to make repayment of a fund or to make their business profitable, today have the potential for financial growth and technology development, helping them to generate jobs and boost incomes.

Via foreign direct investment, which is part of an international corporate system to create a permanent role in another economy, globalization will pervade an economy, which essentially gives tremendous exposure to everyone not only to get employed but also to keep them updated with different techniques and skills, particularly for women who have not had much exposure to doing a job or have skills.

Increased access to international growth has come from globalism. Trade transparency and the emergence of information and communication technology (ICTs) have improved women's access to employment opportunities and, in some cases, increased their incomes and earned them equal pay for their work.

In addition to its economic purpose, foreign interactions rely on and operate to disseminate norms and concepts, resting on the basis of common norms. The more people engage in international practices, more and more theories and traditions prevailing in different cultures are adopted by them.

Socio-Cultural Advancement of Women Cos of Globalization:

India distinguishes itself as one of the world's oldest continuing cultures, which has continuously adapted itself to the evolving political and socio-economic material and unique events of its history. In the stage of

rapid social changes, her family structure and women have proven to be a remarkable cohesive unit of society that has demonstrated great resilience and adaptability.

A variety of significant changes in the institutional system have been brought on by social modernization. The awakening of a woman's conscience was one of its greatest influences. The evolving status of women attracted a lot of attention around the world with rapid economic growth and the rise of the women's movement.

From the submissive, reliant, and childbearing conventional woman to the independent woman seeking equal justice, autonomy, and freedom, the role of women started to shift, taking similarly strong professional obligations. The role of women has really been influenced by the effects of modernization.

The system of patriarchy in India has received a big threat from globalization. They have since been speaking up for their interests as women take up work and gain social mobility. It has become easier for women to assertively demand their rights and ask for representation in an atmosphere that is not stuck in ancient mores, as nuclear families have become more widespread.

Women in India are inspired by women worldwide to fight for their rights as countries move together and borders vanish in the globalized world. There are few notable exceptions to the generalizations above, of course.

Adverse Impact of Globalization on Women:

The number of poorly paid, part-time, and exploitative jobs for women has risen by globalization. Increased rates attributable to demand for an open market are more sensitive to women's shifts. Older women's lives have been pitiable with rising nuclear households, often spending their later days in old-age homes and loneliness.

This problem has further aggravated the feminization of the population. Likewise, male migration from rural areas to urban areas has put women under a threefold strain of house-building, agriculture, and rural jobs. Around the same time, women's migration has led to intensified abuse, including sexual exploitation and

prostitution, for economic purposes.

Findings:

Globalization and Women Empowerment.

- 60% of women strongly or partially believe that “globalization has given a new dimension to the empowerment of women”, whereas others are either Neutral (12%), disagree (19%), or firmly oppose (9%).

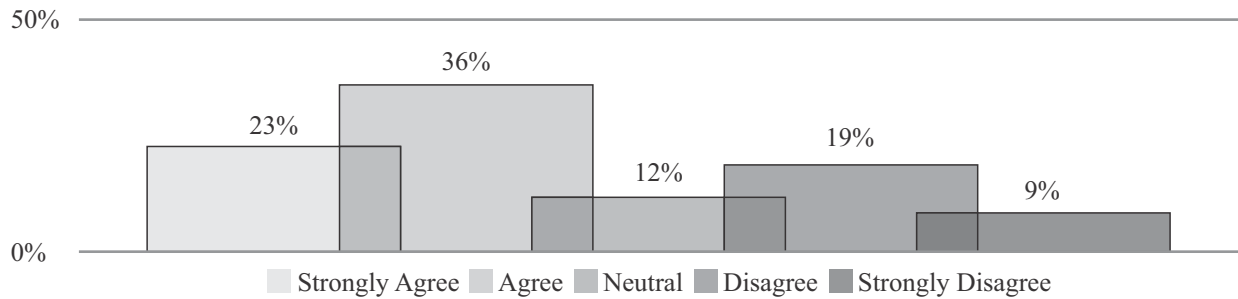


Fig-1: The view on women's empowerment has indeed been transformed by globalization

- 63% of the sample has seen the positive side of globalization and strongly believed that it has strengthened women and increased their confidence

and self-esteem and Reducing the inferiority complex of women.

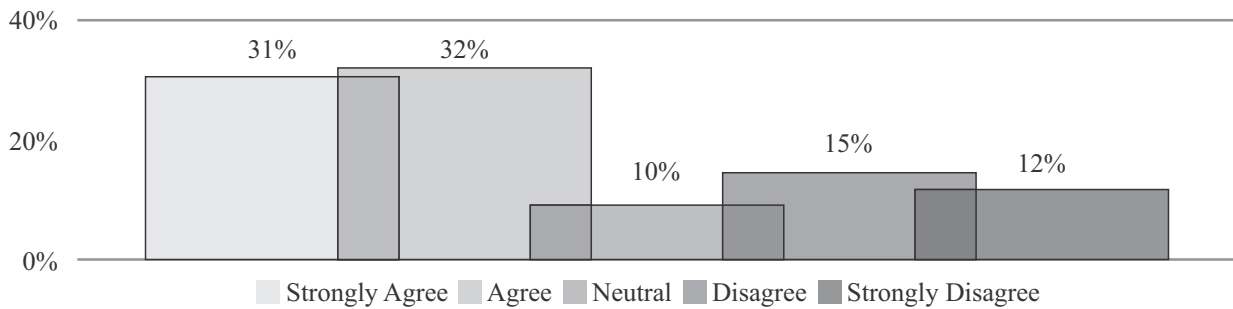


Fig-2: Globalization has strengthened women and increased their confidence and self-esteem and Reducing the inferiority complex of women

- Approximately 2/3rd (66%) of the sample vehemently agrees that Globalization has created an incentive for marginalized women to come out of

their cells and explore themselves, whereas 1/4th (25%) of the sample, disapprove of this thought.

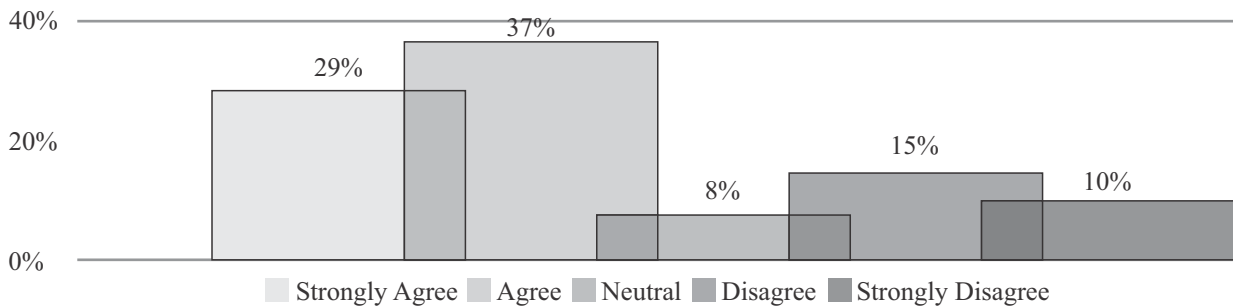


Fig-3: Globalization has created an incentive for marginalized women to come out their cells and explore themselves

- 67 percent of the total of the properly understood that digitalization breaks the distance barriers down and women are exposed to the outside world, where 21% differ with it.

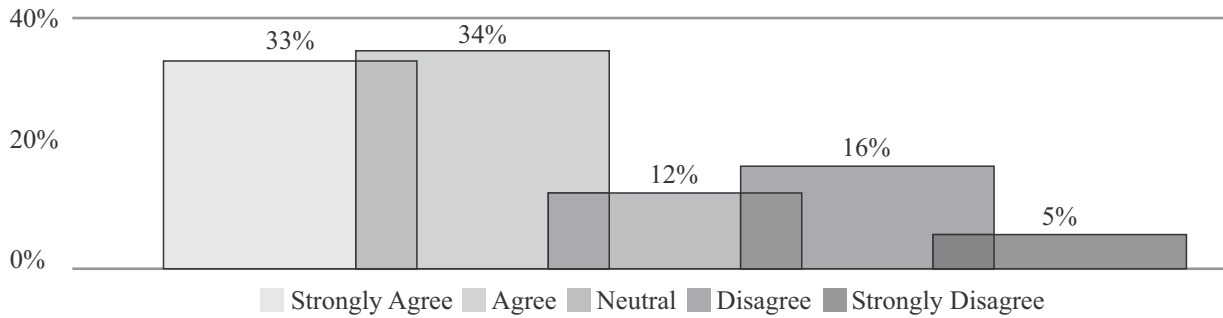


Fig-4: The distance walls are torn down by digitalization and women are open to the outside world

- Almost 1/3rd (30%) sample thinks that there is no correlation between globalization and health reforms like childcare, sexual and reproductive knowledge, whereas a quarter of the whole population disagree with this statement on the other hand 50% sample supports this statement.

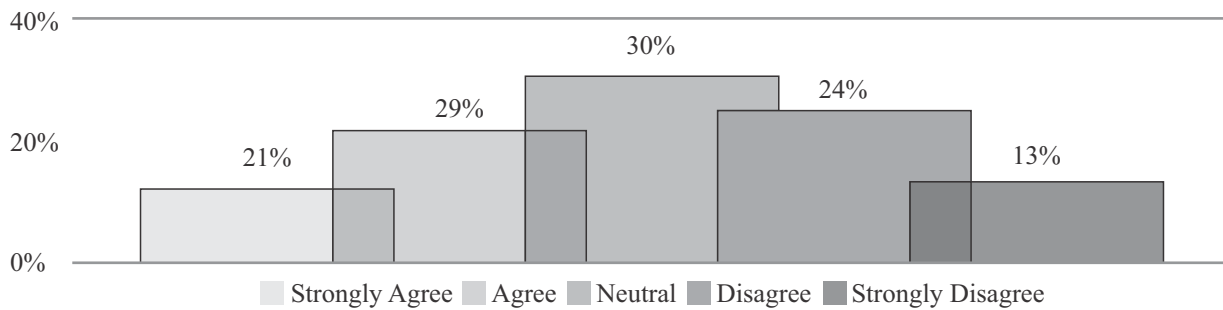


Fig-5: There is health reforms by globalization, that involves childcare sexual and reproductive knowledge?

Globalization and Economic Empowerment

empowered women and help them to achieve economic freedom.” Data is skewed as most of the population i.e., 78% favor it.

- For the statement “Globalization has financially

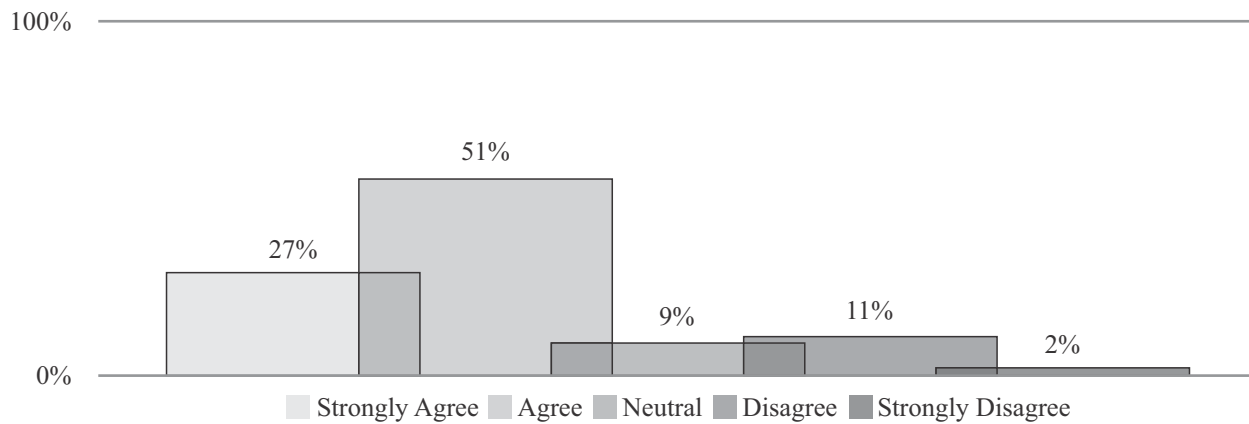


Fig-6: Globalization has financially empowered women and help them to achieve economic freedom

- 61% of the sample concurred with the statement “A country's economic growth is closely linked to women's financial freedom.” Whereas 29% sample deviates from this view.

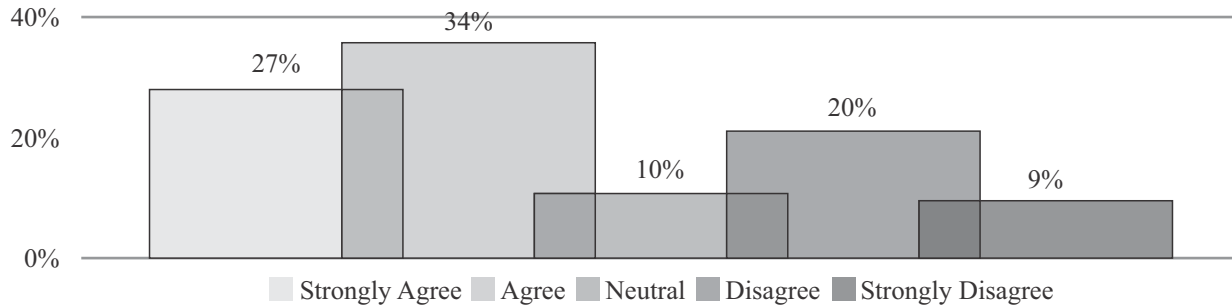


Fig-7: A country's economic growth is closely linked to women's financial freedom

- More than 72% of the sample found that economic freedom or economic independence helps women in raising their status of living however 15% of the sample are not finding any correlation between these two variables.

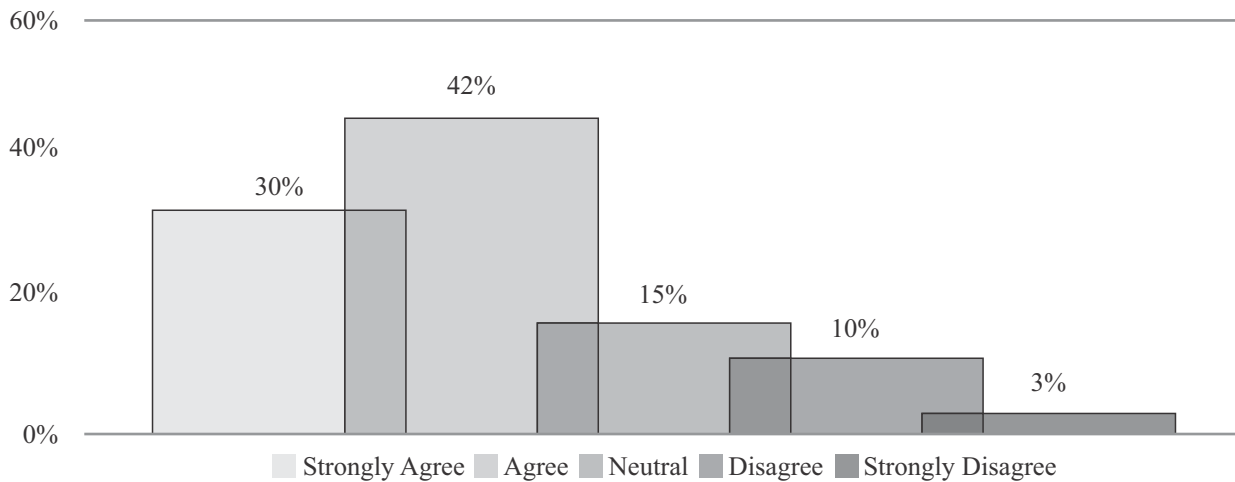


Fig-8: Women will increase their quality of living by economic freedom

Social and cultural barriers as an impediment to empowerment

that social taboos, superstitions, unhealthy traditions, and customs hinder women's liberation.

- About 80 percent of the study overwhelmingly agree

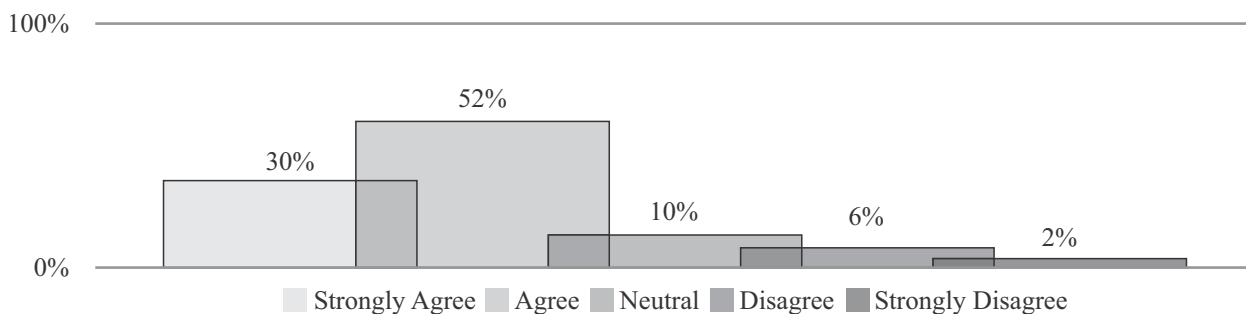


Fig-9: The liberation of women is impeded by social taboos, superstitions, unhealthy traditions and customs

- 58% of the respondents agree that the presence of gender in social activities is largely opposed by family members, and women lack the right to free

channels of speech, where 20% are neutral and nearly 22% of the study reject this opinion.

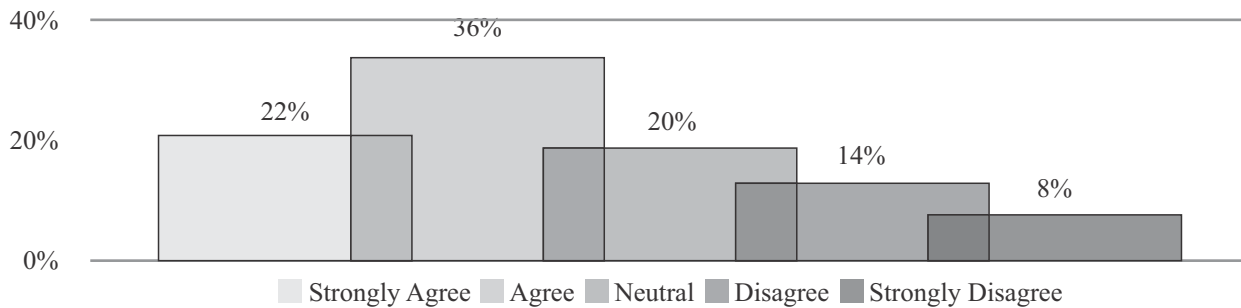


Fig-10: The members of the family overwhelmingly condemn the inclusion of gender in social events, and women lack the right to open avenues of expression

- 76 percent of respondents believe that fear of social welfare, domestic violence and abusive activity, etc.

is the threat to women's empowerment, where 18 percent reject the perception.

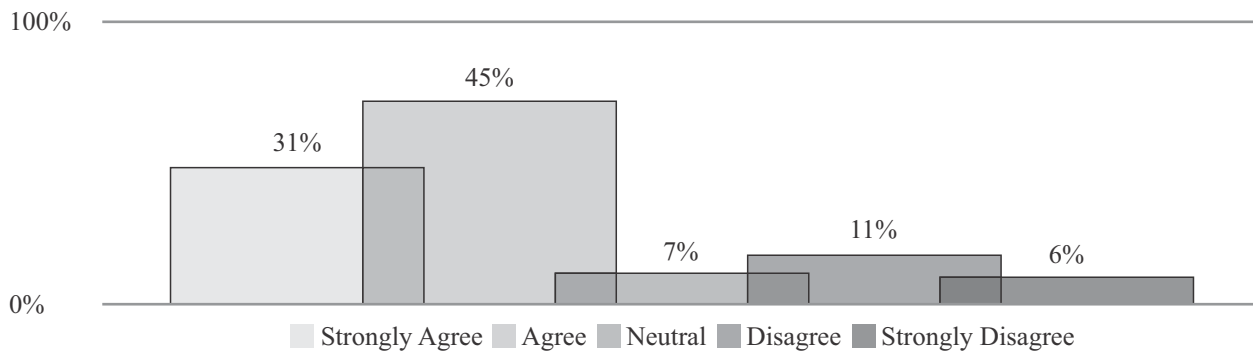


Fig-11: The obstacle to women's liberation is fear of social security, domestic abuse and violent conduct, etc.

Conclusion

Indian women participation in a globalised economy will increase only when they get equal chance for income generation in comparison to the male person ,safe workplace ,financial support by government and financial institutions and mental (psychological) support from society. It is often presumed that, by an unquestionable lack of work or elevated jobs, women will bear the cost of economic liberalization. but the theory of trade shows that women, particularly in emerging economies can contribute a lot due to trade liberalization and increase in foreign trade, women have proven to be a remarkable cohesive unit of the community, which in the stage of rapid societal changes has demonstrated great resilience and adaptability. Women are regarded as major societal players in the

modern age. They are largely responsible for meeting the targets of higher schooling, a good diet, and rising family income levels. Their efforts contribute to ending poverty and hunger.

One good thing to observe here is that women are so optimistic about the changes that globalization has brought for them and they believe that globalization has the potential to remove gender biases and works as a catalyst in women's socio- economic growth.

Suggestions and further recommendations

- The Government of India should frame and implement a strict policy for the private sector in Indian industry for providing a safe and fixed participation of women so that women could get a

greater chance for getting herself more empowered.

- socio economic empowerment can happen only in this globalised world when Government and male Society both support their woman to become literate by giving her decision making power, political power, financial security, building capacity.
- Government of India should try to frame the policy in which rural women will get equal chance to get herself empowered, like urban women in India so that the huge gap in between rural and urban women get equalised.
- Those sector which are traditionally reserved for male person only, should now be opened and filled with female in the same proportion .if we want socio economic empowerment of our women in the globalised world .
- Indian women participation in a globalised economy will increase only when they get equal chance for income generation in comparison to the male person ,safe workplace ,financial support by government and financial institution and and mental (psychological) support from society.
- In a globalisedworld ,women empowerment in India can be achieved only by giving equal opportunity to women in participation in economic activities in India so that the workplace of Indian industry will be culturally diversified and balanced.

References

- Akhter, R., & Ward, K. B. (2009). Globalization and gender equality: a critical analysis of women's empowerment in the global economy. In *Perceiving gender locally, globally, and intersectionally*. Emerald Group Publishing Limited.
- Bacchus, N. (2005). The effects of globalization on women in developing nations. Honors College Theses, 2.
- Duflo, E. (2012). Women empowerment and economic development. *Journal of Economic literature*, 50(4), 1051-79.
- Ganguly-Scrase, R. (2003). Paradoxes of globalization, liberalization, and gender equality: The worldviews of the lower middle class in West Bengal, India. *Gender & Society*, 17(4), 544-566.
- Geo-JaJa, M. A., Payne, S. J., Hallam, P. R., & Baum, D. R. (2009). Gender equity and women empowerment in Africa: The education and economic globalization nexus. In *Race, Ethnicity and Gender in Education* (pp. 97-121). Springer, Dordrecht.
- Ghosh, J. (2004). Globalization, export-oriented employment for women and social policy: A case study of India. In *Globalization, export-oriented employment and social policy* (pp. 91-125). Palgrave Macmillan, London.
- Gray, M. M., Kittilson, M. C., & Sandholtz, W. (2006). Women and globalization: A study of 180 countries, 1975-2000. *International Organization*, 293-333.
- Gupta, K. (2020). Globalization and Women Empowerment. *Journal of Social Sciences & Multidisciplinary Management Studies*, 1(1), 1-4.
- Kofman, E., & Youngs, G. (Eds.). (2008). *Globalization: Theory and practice*. A&C Black.
- Lone, G. H., Zargar, W. A., Lone, H. G., & Zargar, W. A. (2017). Revisiting Women Empowerment in Modern Era. *IRA-International Journal of Management & Social Sciences*, 9RUSPINI, E. (2020). From the effects of globalization on women to women's agency in globalization.
- Mehta, P., & Sharma, K. (2014). Leadership: Determinant of women empowerment. *SCMS Journal of Indian Management*, 11(2).
- Metcalfe, B. D. (2008). Women, management and globalization in the Middle East. *Journal of Business ethics*, 83(1), 85-100.
- Murthy, T. H. (2016). WOMEN EMPOWERMENT IN THE GLOBALIZED ERA-AN ANALYSIS.
- Nassani, A. A., Aldakhil, A. M., Abro, M. M. Q., Islam, T., & Zaman, K. (2019). The impact of tourism and finance on women empowerment. *Journal of Policy Modeling*, 41(2), 234-254.
- Neumayer, E., & De Soysa, I. (2011). Globalization and the empowerment of women: an analysis of spatial dependence via trade and foreign direct investment. *World development*, 39(7), 1065-1075.
- Pearson, R. (2004). Women, work and empowerment in a global era.
- RUSPINI, E. (2020). From the effects of globalization on women to women's agency in globalization.
- Qazi, S. R. Impact of Globalization on Empowerment of Women.
- Wankel, C. (Ed.). (2011). *Ethical Models and Applications of Globalization: Cultural, Socio-Political and Economic Perspectives: Cultural, Socio-Political and Economic Perspectives*. IGI Global.