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Research Article

Bharat Nirman Scheme and Its Influence on Women's Empowerment in Marathwada Region

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Abstract:

This research paper focused on the impact of the Bharat Nirman Scheme (BNS) on women empowerment in the Marathwada region. While considering the rural women empowerment by BNS, it has played a vital role through India in the rural area. Marathwada region is an underdeveloped region. Out of total population in Marathwada, women's are 48.22% according to the population census 2011 of India. The research is based on both primary as well as ass secondary sources of information. It has selected 240 rural women in Aurangabad, as a sample from Aurangabad, Beed, Nanded and Higoli districts of Marathwada Region on the random sample selection technique. Survey has taken with the support of the interview schedule. The various questions were asked to beneficiaries of these two schemes and the analyses of the questionnaire. The assessment of BNS is limited to only safe drinking water and rural housing.

Keywords: Bharat Nirman Scheme, Women Empowerment, Marathwada Region, Rural Housing, Drinking Water Scheme, etc.

Introduction:

Women empowerment is a decisive factor in the process of the development at national, provincial, village and community levels. Emphasizing the role of women in society, Jawaharlal Nehru had said: "Women should be uplifted for the upliftment of the nation, for if women are uplifted society and nation are uplifted too" (Menon, 2004).
The empowerment of women entitles the prospects of leading to the assured progressive growth of a society. This can only be achieved by allowing women to have their say in familial, social, economic and political spears.

Meaning of Women Empowerment

Empowering women means to enable women to do certain things and in most cases, it connotes women wielding political power. Viewed in a board spectrum, the very concept of empowerment of the women which is based on equality between genders is a comedown conscious and continuous process comprising enhancement of skills, capacity building gaining self-confidence and meaningful participation in decision making. It helps them articulate theirs as well as others right and participate actively in the democratic processes (Duwarah, 2015).
After independent, the government of India took several steps in favour of women's empowerment in India. They tried to make equality in gender i.e. equality in male and female. The process of women empowerment started in the first five-year plan in 1950. In 11th five year plan there have been efforts to the empowerment of women's included in plan objective. (आपटे ज. श., २००८). On January 31, 1992, the Union Government of India established a National Women Commission to study the problems of women in India. Many state government fallow the union government and

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established their state-level women commission, Maharashtra State also established the "Maharashtra State Women Commission" (Patil, 2013).

Maharashtra is a leading state about the women's right. Therefore the participation of women's in society is increasing rapidly. There are continuous efforts are being made in the Maharashtra State in favour of women empowerment. Particularly in the context of mother and child upbringing women's health, integrated women development through national development programmes, food for infant before and after birth, various schemes for pregnant women etc. are leading programmes run by the government of Maharashtra (Maharshtra, 2002).

Maharashtra is the first state in India announced a policy about women's in the year 1994 for women empowerment (Varsha Fadke, 2010). This policy helps to solve the fundamental problems of women. Maharashtra government changed the name of the department from 'Women and Child Welfare' to 'Women and Child Development'. Through welfare to development and development to women, empowerment is the approach of women's policy 1994 (Gorde V, 2002).

Government of Maharashtra planned a new policy about women's in the year 2001 has been made to include NGOs, government's schemes, programmes of women empowerment and voluntary institution. Increasing participation rates in Panchayat Raj Institution.

Bharat Nirman Scheme (BNS) was a time-bound business plan for rural development in India. This scheme played an essential role in rural development. Under this BNS scheme roads are created and upgraded in a rural area, safe drinking water supply, housing, electrification, irrigation and telephone etc schemes are implemented by state and union government in collaborative approach (Patil, 2013).

Table No-1.1 Socio-Economic Condition of Respondent

[In Percentage]

D	***Age***				Total	***Cast***				Total
	21-30	31-40	41-50	50 Above		OPEN	OBC	SC	ST	
A	0.0	40.0	26.7	33.3	25	53	13.3	33.3	0.0	25
B	0.0	33.3	40	26.7	25	40	26.7	33.3	0	25
H	0.0	6.7	40	53.3	25	40	26.7	26.7	6.7	25
N	6.7	6.7	40	46.7	25	13.3	33.3	33.3	20	25
T	**1.7**	**21.7**	**36.7**	**40**	**100**	**36.7**	**25**	**31.7**	**6.7**	**100**
	Religion					***Marital Status***				
	Hindu	Muslim	Buddha	Other		Married	Un Married	Divorced	Widowed	
A	73.3	6.7	20	0.0	25	93.3	0.0	0.0	6.7	25
B	66.7	0	33.3	0.0	25	100	0.0	0.0	0.0	25
H	73.3	6.7	20	0.0	25	100	0.0	0.0	0.0	25
N	66.7	0.0	33.3	0.0	25	93.3	0.0	6.7	0.0	25
T	**70**	**3.3**	**26.7**	**0.0**	**100**	**96.7**	**0.0**	**1.7**	**1.7**	**100**
D	***Education***					**Total**	***Type of Family***			
	Primary	Secondary	Higher Education	UG/PG	Un Education		Joint Family	Separate Family		
A	46.7	6.7	0.0	0.0	46.7	25	33.3	66.7		25
B	46.7	13.3	0.0	0.0	40	25	40	60.0		25
H	40	13.3	13.3	0.0	33.3	25	20	80.0		25
N	13.3	40	6.7	6.7	33.3	25	13.3	86.7		25
T	**36.7**	**18.3**	**5.0**	**1.7**	**38.3**	**100**	**26.7**	**73.3**		**100**

Source: Field Survey

A-Aurangabad, B- Beed H- Hingoli N-Nanded T- Total D-District

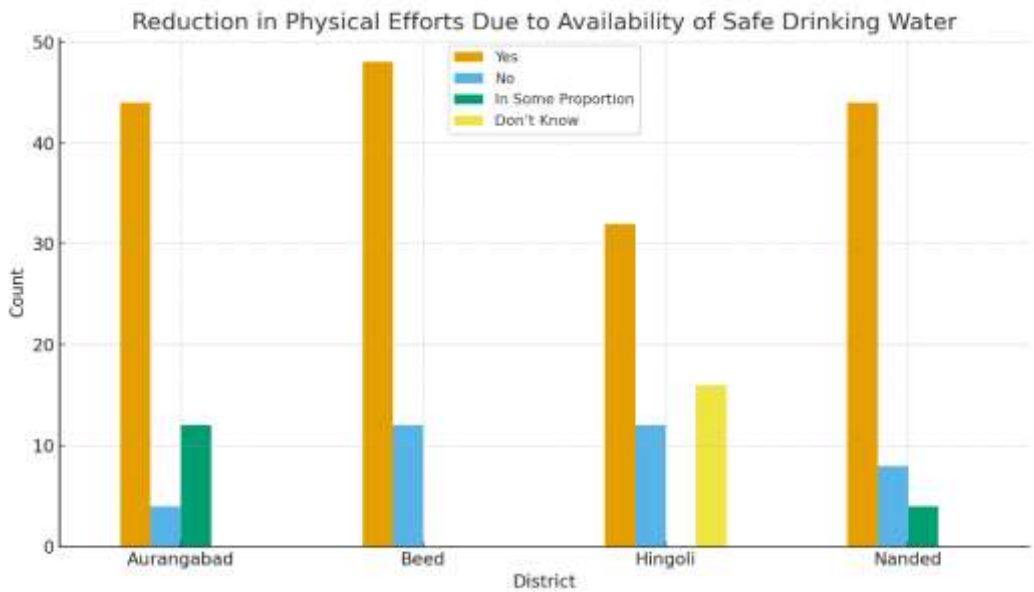
Due to the BNS, the empowerment of women is studied on the ground of filling up questionnaires. In Marathwada, classification of the female respondent based on age group is 21-30 aged 1.7%, 31-40 aged 21.7%, 41-50 aged 36.7% and above 51 aged are 40% respectively. Classification of the female respondent based on category I found that in open category females are 36.7% in OBC 25%, in SC 31.7% and ST 6.7% etc. based on religion 70% belongs to Hindu, 3.3% belong to Muslim and 26.7% belongs to Bauddha respectively.

While studying about the marital status of the female's respondent, it is found that 96.7% married, 1.7% divorced and 1.7% are widow. Educational status is as -36.7% primary, 18.3% secondary, 5% higher secondary, 1.7% UG/PG and 38.3% females are uneducated respectively. 26.7% lives in joint family while73.3% lives in Separate family.

Table No-1.2

Reduction In Physical Efforts Due To Availability of Safe Drinking Water						
District	**Count and percentage**	**Yes**	**No**	**In Some Proportion**	**Don't No**	**Total**
Aurangabad	Count %within District	44 (73.3)	4 (6.7)	12 (20)	0 (0.0)	60 (25)
Beed	Count %within District	48 (80)	12 (20)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	60 (25)
Hingoli	Count %within District	32 (53.3)	12 (20)	0 (26.7)	0 (0.0)	60 (25)
Nanded	Count %within District	44 (73.3)	8 (13.3)	4 (13.3)	0 (0.0)	60 (25)
Total	Count %within District	**168** **(70)**	**36** **(15)**	**36** **(15)**	**0** **(0.0)**	**240** **(100)**

Source: Field Survey



Under BNS in villages due to the drinking water availability 70% female said that physical efforts are reduced, which includes, lifting water from wells, bringing water from far away, bringing water from hand pump etc. And the proportion of physical labour changes over the season to season in the rural area. In summer to bring drinking water for animals is challenging in the rural area. Because the groundwater level of wells goes down. 15% of the female respondent replayed negative and 15% said in some proportion physical efforts reduced.

Table No-1.3 Illness Faced by Respondent Because of Bringing Drinking Water from Far Away

District	Count and Percentage	Yes	No	In Some Proportion	Don't Know	Total
Aurangabad	Count %within District	24 (40)	32 53.3	0 0.0	4 6.7	60 (25)
Beed	Count %within District	32 53.3	24 40	4 6.7	0 0.0	60 (25)
Hingoli	Count %within District	48 (80)	12 (20)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	60 (25)
Nanded	Count %within District	36 60	20 33.3	4 6.7	0 0.0	60 (25)
Total	Count %within District	**140** **58.3**	**88** **36.7**	**8** **3.3**	**4** **1.7**	**240** **100**

Source: Field Survey

Due to the bringing drinking water far away from the home, if there any illness faced by you? While answering this question in Marathwada region 58.3% response are positive by this it is clear that female members of that family have to face a lot of illness problems, it includes, knee ache, headache, etc. 36.7% response is negative and 3.3% said in some proportion and 1.7% said 'Don't Know'.

Table No-1.4 Reputation in Family and Society due to Getting House on Her Name

District	Count and Percentage	Yes	No	In Some Proportion	Don't Know	Total
Aurangabad	Count %within District	40 (66.7)	8 (13.3)	12 (20)	0 (0.0)	60 (25)
Beed	Count %within District	36 (60)	16 (26.7)	8 (13.3)	0 (0.0)	60 (25)
Hingoli	Count %within District	20 (33.3)	24 (40)	12 (20)	1 (6.7)	60 (25)
Nanded	Count %within District	32 (53.3)	12 (20)	12 (20)	1 (6.7)	60 (25)
Total	Count %within District	**128** **(53.3)**	**60** **(25)**	**44** **(18.3)**	**8** **(3.3)**	**240** **100**

Source: Field Survey

Does women's statuses in society are increased due to the house registered on her name? to answer this question 53.3% respondent said 'Yes' because the amounts of *Gharkul* releases on the name of female owner members of family and society gives respects to her. Ultimately she feels that the social status increased. 25% of the total female respondent said 'No' and 3.3% said don't know while 18.3 % female respondent said 'in some proportion'.

Table No-1.5 Increasing Living of Slandered of Women's due to Having House

District	Count and Percentage	Yes	No	Total
Aurangabad	Count %within District	40 (66.7)	20 (33.3)	60 (25)
Beed	Count %within District	36 (60)	24 (40)	60 (25)
Hingoli	Count %within District	40 (66.7)	20 (33.3)	60 (25)
Nanded	Count %within District	44 (73.3)	16 (26.7)	60 (25)
Total	Count %within District	**160** **(66.7)**	**80** **(33.3)**	**240** **100**

Source: Field Survey

After availing a house slandered of living increased, said by 66.7% of the respondent. Having own house is proud, it gives a positive approach in her life and affects other parts of life too. And responding 'No' is 33.3%.

Table No-1.6 Satisfaction by Safe Drinking Water and Housing Scheme under BNS

District	Count and Percentage	Yes	No	In Some Proportion	Don't Know	Total
Aurangabad	Count %within District	24 (40)	24 (40)	12 (20)	0 (0.0)	60 (25)
Beed	Count %within District	12 (20)	12 (20)	32 (53.3)	4 (6.7)	60 (25)
Hingoli	Count %within District	28 (46.7)	8 (13.3)	24 (40)	0 (0.0)	60 (25)
Nanded	Count %within District	40 (66.7)	0 (0.0)	20 (33.3)	0 (0.0)	60 (25)
Total	Count %within District	**104** **(43.3)**	**44** **(18.3)**	**88** **(36.7)**	**4** **(6.7)**	**240** **100**

Source: Field Survey

While knowing about the house and safe drinking water system under Bharat Nirman Scheme, in Marathwada region 43.3% of the total respondent response is positive, 18.3% are negative and 36.7% said 'in some proportion'.

Conclusions:

Efforts are decreased to bring water for daily use of rural women due to the BNS. Safe drinking water supplies in many villages empowered the health of women and decrease the epidemics. Confidence among the women's is increasing because of IAY under BNS house benefited on their name. While implementing the schemes of rural development the reservation principle for women should be obeyed. Because after a survey it is found that because of having a house on women's name, the member of the family and other people do respects to that women.

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