

# **WOMEN IN HIGHER EDUCATION, NEED, CRISIS, SOCIAL CONTEXT AND LIFE SPACE OF WOMEN**

## **Summary of the Work Done on the Long-Term Research Project**

**SUBMITTED TO**



## **HIGHER EDUCATION COUNCIL KERALA STATE**

**SUBMITTED BY**

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***”Women in Higher Education, Need, Crisis, Social- Context and Life Space of Women”***

Higher Education plays a significant role in the socio –economic and cultural development of a country. It is associated with the personal, social, economic and cultural aspects of being human, and underpins the goal of a sustainable society. It helps in the understanding of societal norms that gives individual self-reliance and discourages discrimination based on gender, beliefs, religion and class.

Education among women is the most powerful tool of attaining power in the society. It helps in reducing inequalities and functions as a means for improving their status within the family. As we all know that education is must for everyone but unfortunately in this male dominating society, the education of women has been neglected for a long time. Education is milestone of women empowerment because it enables them to respond to the challenges, to confront their traditional role and change their life.

Women constitute almost half of the population of the world. Education for women is the best way to improve the health, nutrition and economic status of household that constitute a micro unit of a nation economy. In this context, it can be argued that lack of women education can be an impediment to the country’s economic development. In India women achieve far less education that of men. By analyzing the census report, there has been a sincere effort to improve the education attainment of women by both government and voluntary organizations. The changes in the policies and in structural support on primary, secondary and higher education reflect the initiatives of the government of India towards women education.

It must be admitted that women are in no way lesser than men. They have all the power and capacity as that of men. But they fail to manifest themselves for different reasons. In a male dominated society, they get rare chance to express their voice. Women are less in decision making and managerial positions. In order to wipe out the atrocities against women there should be more women in decision making and managerial positions. We should have to change our thinking, our attitude towards women. We should have to think that women are not just reproduction; they have feeling, thinking and all these as the men have. They have all the capacities are that of men, so their power and capacities must be recognized. It is only then women participation in higher education will be enhanced. The present study explores the role of education in women empowerment, need, crisis, social context and life space of women.