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‘Inspire Inclusion’: Relevance of recent times

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Abstract

‘Inspire Inclusion’ was the campaign theme of International Women’s Day 2024 by UN. It is known to all inclusion of women is urgent need of any society across the world. Without women’s progress a nation cannot be accelerated. In other words women’s status is the crucial indicator of country’s development. Inspire denotes understand and value women’s inclusion, forging better world. When women themselves are inspired to be included, there’s a sense of belonging, relevance and empowerment. At this outset, this paper tries to explore how inclusions accelerate democratic system making a crucial space in patriarchal socio-political, order.

Keywords: Inclusion, women, empowerment, democracy, patriarchy.

‘Inspire Inclusion’ was the campaign theme of International Women’s Day 2024 ¹by UN. It is known to all inclusion of women is urgent need of any society across the world. Without women’s progress a nation cannot be accelerated. In other words women’s status is the crucial indicator of country’s development. Inspire denotes understand and value women’s inclusion, forging better world. When women themselves are inspired to be included, there’s a sense of belonging, relevance and empowerment. Collectively, let’s forge a more inclusive world for women. Inspire inclusion a move towards discriminatory practices against women or a call of action towards women’s equality. Inspire inclusion refers to women’s solidarity, sisterhood etc world over. History is the testimony to the fact that first International Women’s Day was held in March 1911. International Women’s Day is not country, group or organizations specific. It is a day of collective global activism and celebration that belongs to all those committed to forging women’s equality². It is to be said women’s are excluded in various aspects of life and continued to be faced various discriminations in day to day life. Inclusionary arrangements can help them to access their rights in any democracies. Marriage is that institution where women are faced many types of violence in their life.

Education is the only schema to empower them in their life. At this outset, this paper tries to explore various perspectives where women are excluded and their shift towards single womanhood.³

In this present section we want to discuss how inspire inclusion is accelerated in various groups and organizations for ensuring their women's needs, interests and aspirations.

Inspire inclusion through action in areas such as:

- a) Forging women's economic empowerment.
- b) Recruiting, retaining and developing diverse talent.
- c) Designing and building infrastructure meeting the needs of women and girls.
- d) Helping women and girls make informed decisions about their health.
- e) Involving women and girls in sustainable agriculture and food security.
- f) Providing women and girls's participation and achievement in sport.
- g) Promoting creative and artistic talent of women's and girls.
- h) Addressing further areas supporting the advancement of women and girls.

This International Women's Day, let's unite to transform challenges into opportunities and shape a better future for all. The following key areas are:

Investing in Women a human rights: Gender equality is the need of the hour.

Ending poverty: Due to the Covid pandemic and conflicts, 75 million more people have fallen into severe poverty since 2020. Immediate action is achieved to prevent over 342 million women and gains living in poverty by 2030.

Implementation gender: responsive financing. Conflicts and rising prices may lead 75% of combines to cut public standing by 2025, negatively impacting women and their essential server. Shifting to a green economy and care society. The current economic system inappropriately affects women. Advocates raises voice green economy and care society. As the world grapples with the complex crisis of climate change, it has become increasingly evident that robust solution demands an inclusive approach. International Women's Day under the theme 'Invest in Women : Accelerate Progress', we highlight the crucial role of women's economic empowerment in promoting equality.

It is noteworthy that the imperative for women's inclusion in climate change decision making thus gives beyond equity, it is a pragmatic necessity women's voices, empowerment and expectations are indesperable assets in navigating the complexities of climate change and steering us towards a sustainable future.

The campaign theme inspire inclusion emphasizes the importance of diversity and empowerment in all aspects of society. This year's campaign theme underscores the crucial; role of inclusion in achieving gender equality. It calls for action go to break down barriers , challenges stereotypes, and create environments where all women are valued and respected. Inspire inclusion ushers everyone to recognize the unique perspectives and contributions of women from all walks of life, including those from marginalized communities.

One of the key pillars of inspire inclusion is the promotion of diversity in leadership and decision-making positions. Women who are belonging to underrepresented groups, continue to face barriers when seeking leadership roles.

Education and awareness play pivotal roles in fostering inclusion and empowering women. Though initiatives such as mentorship programs, educational workshops and advocacy campaigns, individual and organizations can create opportunities.

By providing support and reasons, women can be empowered to overcome obstacles and achieve their full potential.

The entertainment industry, particularly film, has a significant influence on shaping societal perspectives and attitudes. In line with the Inspire Inclusion theme, filmmakers have a unique opportunity to promote diversity and representation on screen. By telling diverse stories and showcasing the experiences of women from diverse backgrounds, filmmakers can inspire audiences and challenge existing stereotypes.

In recent years, there has been a growing movement within the film industry to prioritize inclusion and representation. However, there is still much work to be done to ensure that women from all backgrounds have equal opportunities to participate and succeed in the industry.

As we celebrate International Women's Day 2024 and reflect on the theme of Inspire Inclusion, let us reaffirm our commitment to creating a world where all women are empowered, valued and included. By working together to break down barriers and foster diversity, women can build an inclusive society in the near future.

However, we aspire for a world where women can access every opportunity and find a seat at any table, inclusion presents itself not as a final destination, but as an ongoing effort that requires each of us to step up.

The right to freedom

At its most fundamental, inclusion begins in classrooms. In reality, we have seen, a girl child must take basic education. However, a higher female enrollment is only half the story as they can take any challenge in their life. Inclusiveness is an exercise in encouraging women, especially, first-generation learners, to feel bigger than what they think they are capable of. When everyone else around them is busy telling them.⁴

Changing the world of work: Be it caregiving duties, motherhood, health issues, or learning breaks---bottlenecks great working women at diverse career stages. It is noteworthy that in any institution there must have a supportive ecosystem for her female colleagues, empowering them to be fearless and vulnerable. Apart from that regularly acknowledge and discuss women's issues to promote a culture of sisterhood. Secondly, mentoring and guiding young women by providing support and counsel will foster a safe space for them to collaborate and grow. As women traverse the leadership path, we also pool learnings to forge growth by networking, community building and celebrating reciprocal success. However, it is believed that women are not good in finance and technology⁵

On the political front, we have seen that women's political participation in the Indian freedom struggle was one of the foremost instances of their political inclusion. Political

upliftment of women reflects how leadership training programmes can help women exercise power. With knowledge that includes narrative setting, handling media associating with local views, implementing and showcasing change etc., women can learn how to succeed in politics channel their influences.

With the changing time, women's health related awareness especially physical and mental health has become concern of subject of women's programmes. It connects health literacy activity wherein string puppets were modelled after prominent personalities. This sparked a moment of reflection and underscored the need to include the health and well being of trans women, who are marginalized in mainstream discourse. By fostering an intersectional approach, we can create a larger inclusive society where every woman is valued. Championing each other is paramount for our collective empowerment.

Viewing celebrate success stories of women empowerment around the world has reflected that women are less fortunate in various aspects of their lives. The International Labour Organization estimates that over 21 million women, children, and men are trafficked globally for sexually exploitation, in voluntary labour, removal of organs and for other exploitative purposes, with profits exceeding 150 billion. Over 75 % of all trafficking victims detected globally are women and girls (UNODC, 2012).

Trafficking women has become menace of any societies across the world. It presents a framework to better understand stories that facilitate re-integration of trafficking survivors into society. The framework identifies several ways trafficking agencies can create supportive community environment to offer services to trafficking survivors and to cultivate and nurture their coping skills towards reintegration into society.

Anti-trafficking agencies staffs play important role to social negotiation and community interaction among survivors of recent trafficking events.

Empowering women survivors of post trafficking events will help trafficked persons, majority of them being women, break out of their vicious cycle of trafficking and anti-trafficking.

The most important role that anti-trafficking agencies can play in post-trafficking stages is to understand the importance for creating a supportive community environment, where the trafficking survivors and agency service providers can come together to nurture coping skills. A post trafficking situation encompasses many different dimensions of integration into society, besides various aspects of physical health, emotional trauma, security and immediate financial support for food and accommodation, it also reflects the question of human rights, and changes in social and political relationships. Livelihoods need to be revived and community ties need to be re-established for trafficking survivors to heal successfully and reintegrate society.

It is worth mentioning that internalized sexism and treatment towards other women like domestic workers. Challenging prejudice in our families can be the hardest, but there's benefit in initiating an honest exchange of ideas and views.

Keeping the view of films, mistreatment of women in mainstream films because even today audience are geared toward chauvinism. As complex women's stories are capturing space., it's imperative to highlight nuanced narratives that forgo binary stereotypes about the female experience, especially related to romance and sexuality.

Shift towards singlehood: In reel life we have seen, characters played by leading actresses portraying women who defy social norms, challenging the notion that a woman's happiness must be tethered to marriage. Their onscreen personas echo the real life choices of many Indian women who are opting to prioritize their careers, passions and personal growth over the confines of marriage. Celebrated author Sreemoyee Piu Kundu shares, "Several films and OTT shares are finally representing, and at times, even celebrating a woman's singlehood. Economic independence and educational opportunities have empowered women to pursue their aspirations, with many now opting to focus on professional success rather than just marriage. Small town girls are no longer apprehensive about moving to a big city or even foreign lands to chase their dreams, this change in opportunity and thought process has played pivotal role in reshaping societal norms around marriage and singlehood".⁶

This paradigm shift towards singlehood is a profound journey singlehood marked by resilience, courage and empowerment. It is seen that decision to embrace singlehood arises from navigating through heartbreaks, shattered engagements, failed marriage or simply recognizing their own-self-worth and working on themselves. Sometimes, women have witnessed domestic violence and abuse around them, and they just want to stay distance from it and protect themselves.

'Going solo' has become catch word for singlehood. At a time when 'solo dates', 'solo travelling', and self-discovery are becoming popular words in recent times. , it's pertinent that singlehood becomes were accepted in everyday life as well. Unfortunately, the popular media only favours and promotes the idea of couples, and this becomes particularly glaring during festivals and wedding seasons. For a change, it would be representing to see an advertisement with a woman dressing up for herself or eating candy by herself as opposed to with a male partner. It would be exhibited in the films and television shows that don't resolve around love between partners but trace the emotional journey and challenges of single people.

It must be understood that women aren't putting up an act or trying out to be rebellious when voicing their desires to remain single. It is time the static , media and society at large started viewing singlehood as something amiable. Believe , it or not, it is in fact possible to be blissfully and whole heartedly single.

It is believed that getting married and having children makes women 'complex' is a myth perpetuated by societal norms. More working women are choosing to be single because they find it difficult to find a partner who matches their intellectual wave length.⁷

Challenges and barriers of single woman: Indian society, deeply rooted in tradition continues to grapple with the evolving roles and aspirations of women. Financial pressures, societal expectations and cultural norms often act as formidable barriers.⁸

Paradoxical situations are also seen where female boss used to hire unmarried women due to not grant their female employee's maternity leave.

In a society where women have historically been economically dependent on their spouse or family, financial independence represents a crucial step towards this decision.⁹ Laws for single women in India has gained importance in recent times. Just a few decades ago, adopting a child as a single mother would have been an uphill task. But, the legal framework in India, has undergone significant reforms to safeguard the rights of single woman.¹⁰

Conclusion: To conclude we can say that inspire inclusion is distant dream not only country like India but also advanced countries across the world. Exclusion and discriminations are persistent problem for women's discourse.

Exclusion often translates to limited access to education, healthcare, economic opportunities, and political participation.

For instance, gender pay gaps and discriminatory hiring practices are direct consequences of exclusion, hindering women's economic independence and career advancement. Women continue to be faced discrimination and prejudice based on their gender, it creates a hostile environment that can negatively impact their mental and physical well-being.

This can lead to feelings of isolation, low self-esteem, and decreased participation in public life, further perpetuating the cycle of exclusion.

When women's voices are not heard, valuable insights and solutions are often overlooked.

All in all, we can say political will, civil society, sisterhood among the women, solidarity may overcome the exclusions and move towards inclusive society in near future.

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