



## WOMAN: HER DIGNITY AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT

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The following topic has been in discussion for years now, now and then one hears the debates on women's dignity and certain cases on sexual harassment on women; this is the topic which is needed to be discussed because it holds one of the crucial elements on the Earth which is women, so this topic can't easily be ignored.

### What was the dignity of women and how sexual harassment against women was treated in the past

Talking about the dignity of women, the position or dignity of women has drastically changed from rig Vedic period to the later Vedic period to the present society. How?

#### Rig Vedic period

##### Dignity of women

To understand the dignity of woman in the Rig Vedic period, here is a Shlok from Manusmriti by Manu which says, "*Women give birth to the next generation. They enlighten the home. They bring fortune and bliss. Hence women are synonymous with Prosperity.*"<sup>1</sup> Through this sentence one can comprehend that the presence of women was considered as bliss, people at that period used to equate the female gender with the term "prosperity", not only this but also in the Vedic period, women were allowed to study

and take part in religious ceremonies, they also participated in public sacrifices alongside men; this shows that how women were treated equally with men, they were given the right to education.

However, despite all these records, the fact remains that only 1% of the Rig Veda was written by women. There does exist contradictory evidence within Vedas, suggesting egalitarianism and degradation simultaneously for women. The Rig Veda also states how in ancient times women would participate in communal sacrifices and communal festivals.<sup>2</sup> This shows that since the beginning there lies a contradiction regarding the actual status regarding women, but it was not that worse in Rig Vedic if one compares it to the later Vedic period.

#### Sexual harassment

In the Rig Vedic period, a crime against a woman was considered as a crime against her body.

#### Rape

In Vedic society, great value was attached to the chastity of women. Therefore, any attempt to rob her off of chastity was considered as sin; the Vedic society was much more supportive of survivors of rape unlike what happens in modern India. Even in one of the hymns of the Vedas, the rapist is punished; an arrow is shot at him.<sup>3</sup>

In the Rig Vedic period female infanticide was to be meant as a sin because that Vedic society was primarily based on the concept of

<sup>1</sup> Dr., J.P.Arya, "protection of women's rights and dignity: A social responsibility", 2(2019)

<sup>2</sup> <https://thelawbrigade.com/criminal-law/protection-of-womens-rights-and-dignity-a-social-responsibility/>, 29 Sep 2020

<sup>3</sup> Tanya Sree, "Crimes against women and the Vedic society", Feb 11, 2020



Dharma, therefore it was opposed to any kind of violence against women, and women were treated with respect and dignity, and even prostitution was not regarded as an offense in the Vedic period, especially in Kautilya's Arthashastra, there were details rules laid down as to payment of women, etc.

Hence, one can notice that how the position of women and the view of people regarding sexual harassment against women were so different as compared to modern India, but it was drastically changed in the later Vedic period. Let's take a look at how!

### **Later Vedic period**

#### **Dignity**

During the Vedic era, the male child was given preference over a female child because people had a notion that sons would contribute more to the family. Sons were preferred because of their physical strength, their ability to fight, and because they remained with the family even after they are married. This preference for boys is reflected in sacred literature, including the *Atharva-Veda*, which contains rituals to guarantee the birth of a son.<sup>4</sup>

During this period one can notice how society drastically changed from an egalitarian society to a patriarchal society, during this period the male gender was dominant. No doubt that in Rig Vedic period Women enjoyed high status in society and their condition was far better than the women of modern India, even women were provided the opportunity to attain high intellectual and spiritual teachings, there was no Sati system or early marriage. But this status of women started changing and the change can be the

change in the later Vedic period, women started being discriminated against since the later Vedic period.

The status of women gradually declined during the post-Vedic period. Most probably, the woman's status deteriorated due to the introduction of a non-Aryan wife. The non-Aryan wives did not have any knowledge of Vedic rituals. They could not associate themselves with their Aryan husbands in various religious performances. At a later stage, the Aryan wives, too, lost many privileges that they enjoyed in the earlier period.

In course of time, the girls were denied formal education. The marriageable age of girls came down to 8 or 10 years. Thus the incidence of pre-puberty marriages increased and child-wives without education became the order of the day.<sup>5</sup>

During this period "Sati" system came into practice, polygamy was practiced. Hence, the status of women drastically changed from the Vedic period to the post-Vedic period.

#### **How women are treated in modern India**

The treatment of women in modern India is no different women in the present scenario are sexually harassed in workplaces, and even in their homes. Not only this but also women are still inferior to men, they are discriminated against in terms of wages, gender, etc.

#### **Women at workplaces**

Women are discriminated against and even sexually harassed at the workplaces, equality in this present scenario has become a distant

<sup>4</sup> Anjali Chauhan, "evolution of women rights in India", June 16, 2020

<sup>5</sup> Nitisha, "status of women during the post-Vedic period"



dream for women, with a World Economic Forum (WEF) report saying that the gap will be closed only by 2276, a good two centuries from now. While demands for equality at the workplace have become more vocal, the gap is growing despite women doing well in politics, health, and education.<sup>6</sup> Women's participation in the workforce is just 28% in India. According to a McKinsey Global Institute study, had there been gender equality, India would have added \$700 billion to the GDP.

Sexual harassment is one of the most venomous problems in this patriarchal society, the Indian judiciary stated that the first sexual harassment case that came into the lights was *Vishakha v. State of Rajasthan*<sup>7</sup>, the case dealt with the brutal gang rape of Bhanwari Devi who was a social worker who was working to spread awareness to end child marriage. The following case was reported in the year 1997, and it's been 23 years but the condition of women is still worse, or in other words, the condition of women is the worst in the entire world, to look into this let's discuss some cases which happened in these few years, and how the government reacted to it.

### Hathras case

The following case revolves around the 19-year-old Dalit girl who was brutally gang-raped by the men of the upper caste men in the Hathras of U.P. These Dalit women, who comprise about 16% of India's female population, face a "triple burden" of gender

bias, caste discrimination, and economic deprivation. "The Dalit female belongs to the most oppressed group in the world," says Dr. Suraj Yengde, author of *Caste Matters*. "She is a victim of the cultures, structures, and institutions of oppression, both externally and internally. This manifests in perpetual violence against Dalit women."<sup>8</sup> After this rape in Hathras, the police were slow to register a complaint, the case was a social issue, but people (police, and other upper caste people) linked it to caste, if this is not pathetic, I don't know what is. After this case, the police dares to cremate the body of the victim without the permission of her parents and her family. The victim's father said the family members were not allowed to see the face of the girl one last time.

"When we reached the village [from Delhi], we found the village was turned into a police fortress. Police personnel stopped family members, including women, to come out of their houses, and manhandled them. All they [the family members] wanted was to wait till 8 a.m.," he said. He said he did not know what material was used for his daughter's funeral.<sup>9</sup>

In a 2006 study of 500 Dalit women in four states across India on the forms of violence they had faced, 54% had been physically assaulted; 46% had been sexually harassed; 43% had faced domestic violence; 23% had

<sup>6</sup> Editorial, "structural discrimination has held women back. India must address it", *Hindustan times*, dec22 2019

<sup>7</sup> Gibran Naushad and Susanah Naushad, "the sexual harassment of women at workplace: an unmanned territory", (6 -10-20, 19:36 ), <https://www.indialawjournal.org/archives/volume8/issue-1/article9.html>

<sup>8</sup> Soutik Biswas, "Hathras case: Dalit women are among the most oppressed in the world", ( 6-10-20, 19:48), <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-india-54418513>

<sup>9</sup> Anuj Kumar, "Hathras gang rape|victim cremated without consent, says the family", *The Hindu*, Sep 30, 2020



been raped, and 62% had been verbally abused.<sup>10</sup>

We are living in a society where patriarchy prevails and is divided into castes and religion, the nation is so much involved in castes and religion that it ignores the basic social issue, which is regarding the dignity of a woman and sexual harassment against her. According to the latest data released by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), India recorded 88 rape cases every day in 2019. Out of the total 32,033 reported rape cases in the year, 11 percent were from the Dalit community, as per NCRB's annual report titled "**Crimes in India -2019**".<sup>11</sup>

### **Provisions made by the government for women**

The government of India came with various provisions and laws made solely for women, to ensure justice and equality. Let's see what are those provisions?

### **Constitutional provisions**

1. Equality before law for women<sup>12</sup>
2. The state not to discriminate against any citizen on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth, or any of them<sup>13</sup>
3. The state to make any special provision in favor of women and children<sup>14</sup>
4. Equality of opportunity for all citizens in matters relating to employment or appointment to any office under the state<sup>15</sup>

5. The state to direct its policy towards securing men and women equally the right to an adequate means of livelihood<sup>16</sup> and equal pay for equal work for both men and women<sup>17</sup>

6. To promote justice, on a basis of equal opportunity and to provide free legal aid by suitable legislation or scheme or in any other way to ensure that opportunities for securing justice are not denied to any citizen because of economic or other disabilities<sup>18</sup>

7. The State to make provision for securing just and humane conditions of work and for maternity relief<sup>19</sup>

8. The State to promote with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people and to protect them from social injustice and all forms of exploitation<sup>20</sup>

9. The State to raise the level of nutrition and the standard of living of its people<sup>21</sup>

10. To promote harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood amongst all the people of India and to renounce practices derogatory to the dignity of women<sup>22</sup>

11. Not less than one-third (including the number of seats reserved for women belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes) of the total number of seats to be filled by direct election in every Panchayat to be reserved for women and such seats to be allotted by rotation to different constituencies in a Panchayat<sup>23</sup>

<sup>10</sup> Soutik Biswas, "Hathras case: Dalit women are among the most oppressed in the world", (6-10-20, 19:48), <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-india-54418513>

<sup>11</sup> Dipu Rai, "no country for women: India reported 88 rape cases every day in 2019", India today, Sep30, 2020

<sup>12</sup> The Constitution Of India, 1950, Art.14

<sup>13</sup> The Constitution Of India, 1950, Art.15(i)

<sup>14</sup> The Constitution Of India, 1950, Art.15(3)

<sup>15</sup> The Constitution Of India, 1950, Art.16

<sup>16</sup> The constitution of India, 1950, Art.39(a)

<sup>17</sup> The constitution of India, 1950, Art.39(d)

<sup>18</sup> The constitution of India, 1950, Art. 39 A

<sup>19</sup> The constitution of India, 1950, Art.42

<sup>20</sup> The constitution of India, 1950, Art.46

<sup>21</sup> The constitution of India, 1950, Art.47

<sup>22</sup> The constitution of India, 1950, Art.51(A)(e)

<sup>23</sup> The constitution of India, 1950, Art.243 D(3)



12. Not less than one- third of the total number of offices of Chairpersons in the Panchayats at each level to be reserved for women <sup>24</sup>
13. Not less than one-third (including the number of seats reserved for women belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes) of the total number of seats to be filled by direct election in every Municipality to be reserved for women and such seats to be allotted by rotation to different constituencies in a Municipality <sup>25</sup>
14. Reservation of offices of Chairpersons in Municipalities for the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and women in such manner as the legislature of a State may by law provide. <sup>26</sup>

#### Legal provisions

1. The crimes identified under the Indian Penal code (IPC)

- i. Rape <sup>27</sup>
- ii. Kidnapping and abduction for different purposes <sup>28</sup>
- iii. Homicide for dowry, dowry deaths, or their attempts <sup>29,30</sup>
- iv. Torture, both mental and physical <sup>31</sup>
- v. Molestation <sup>32</sup>
- vi. Sexual harassment <sup>33</sup>
- vii. Importation of girls( up to 21 years of age)

2. The crimes identified under the Special Laws(SLL)

- i. The Employees State Insurance Act, 1948
- ii. The Plantation Labour Act, 1951
- iii. The Family Courts Act, 1954
- iv. The Special Marriage Act, 1954
- v. The Hindu Marriage Act, 1955

- vi. The Hindu Succession Act, 1956 with an amendment in 2005
- vii. Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956
- viii. The Maternity Benefit Act, 1961 (Amended in 1995)
- ix. Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961
- x. The Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, 1971
- xi. The Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1976
- xii. The Equal Remuneration Act, 1976
- xiii. The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006
- xiv. The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 1983
- xv. The Factories (Amendment) Act, 1986
- xvi. Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986
- xvii. Commission of Sati (Prevention) Act, 1987
- xviii. The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005

#### Special Initiatives for Women

(i) **National Commission for Women:** In January 1992, the Government set-up this statutory body with a specific mandate to study and monitor all matters relating to the constitutional and legal safeguards provided for women, review the existing legislation to suggest amendments wherever necessary, etc.

(ii) **Reservation for Women in Local Self - Government:** The 73rd Constitutional Amendment Acts passed in 1992 by Parliament ensure one-third of the total seats

<sup>24</sup> The constitution of India, 1950, Art.243 D (4)

<sup>25</sup> The constitution of India, 1950, Art.243 T (3)

<sup>26</sup> The constitution of India, 1950, Art.243 T(4)

<sup>27</sup> S.376, The Indian Penal Code, 1960

<sup>28</sup> S.363, The Indian Penal Code, 1960

<sup>29</sup> S.302, The Indian Penal Code, 1960

<sup>30</sup> S. 304-B, The Indian Penal Code, 1960

<sup>31</sup> S. 498-A, The Indian Penal Code, 1960

<sup>32</sup> S.354, The Indian Penal Code, 1960

<sup>33</sup> S.509, The Indian Penal Code, 1960



for women in all elected offices in local bodies whether in rural areas or urban areas.

(iii) **The National Plan of Action for the Girl Child (1991-2000):** Action plans to ensure survival, protection, and development of the girl child with the ultimate objective of building up a better future for the girl child.

(iv) **National Policy for the Empowerment of Women, 2001:** The Department of Women & Child Development in the Ministry of Human Resource Development has prepared a "National Policy for the Empowerment of Women" in the year 2001. The goal of this policy is to bring about the advancement, development, and empowerment of women.<sup>34</sup>

#### Schemes implemented by the government in the past few years

The Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing various schemes/programs for the welfare of women and children across the country. The schemes are:

1. **Beti Bachao Beti Padhao-** due to the declining rate of Child sex ration and other related issues of women empowerment, the prime minister of India launched Beti Bachao Beti Padhao on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2015, on this occasion prime minister addressed the citizens "Let us celebrate the birth of the girl child. We should be equally proud of our daughters. I urge you to sow five plants when

your daughter is born to celebrate the occasion."<sup>35</sup> it is a campaign that spread awareness on the importance of females in this country.

2. **Integrated Child Development Services Scheme-** Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) scheme is the world's largest community-based program. The scheme is targeted at children up to the age of 6 years, pregnant and lactating mothers, and women 16–44 years of age. The scheme is aimed to improve the health, nutrition, and education (KAP) of the target community. Launched on 2 October 1975, the scheme has completed 25 years of its operational age.<sup>36</sup>

3. **Scheme for Adolescent Girls (SAG)-** Realizing the multi-dimensional needs of out of school pre-adolescent girls (11-14 years) and to motivate these girls to join the school system, the Government approved the implementation of a restructured Scheme for Adolescent Girls (SAG) to focus on out of school adolescent girls in the age group of 11-14 years.<sup>37</sup>

4. **Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY)-** Provides partial compensation for the wage loss in terms of cash incentives so that the woman can take adequate rest before and after delivery of the first living child. The cash incentive provided would lead to improved health-seeking behavior

<sup>34</sup> Important constitutional and legal provisions for women in India, [http://mospi.nic.in/sites/default/files/reports\\_and\\_publication/cso\\_social\\_statices\\_division/Constitutional&Legal\\_Rights.pdf](http://mospi.nic.in/sites/default/files/reports_and_publication/cso_social_statices_division/Constitutional&Legal_Rights.pdf)

<sup>35</sup> Beti Bachao Beti Padhao: Caring for the girl child, [https://www.pmindia.gov.in/en/government\\_tr\\_rec/beti-bachao-beti-padhao-caring-for-the-girl-child/](https://www.pmindia.gov.in/en/government_tr_rec/beti-bachao-beti-padhao-caring-for-the-girl-child/)

<sup>36</sup> Y Sachdev and J Dasgupta, "Integrated child development services (ICDS) scheme, <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4925>

843/#:~:text=Integrated%20Child%20Development%20Services%20(ICDS)%20scheme%20is%20world's%20largest%20community,16%E2%80%9344%20years%20of%20age.&text=Launched%20on%202%20October%201975,years%20of%20its%20operational%20age.

<sup>37</sup> Scheme for adolescent girls administrative guidelines 2018, [http://wcdodisha.gov.in/Application/uploadDocuments/plugin/doc20180412\\_174306.pdf](http://wcdodisha.gov.in/Application/uploadDocuments/plugin/doc20180412_174306.pdf)



amongst Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers (PW&LM).<sup>38</sup>

5. Working Women Hostels (WWH)- The objective of the scheme is to promote the availability of safe and conveniently located accommodation for working women, with daycare facility for their children, wherever possible, in urban, semi-urban, or even rural areas where employment opportunity for women exist.<sup>39</sup>
6. Ujjawala- Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) is the Scheme for providing LPG connections to the women belonging to the Below Poverty Line (BPL) families. The scheme has been implemented by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.<sup>40</sup>
7. Gender Budgeting- it helps the government to promote equality through the budget process, planning the budget with the promotion of gender equality in mind.
8. Child Protection Scheme (CPS)- it is a centrally sponsored scheme that aims at building a protective environment for children in difficult circumstances.
9. Swadhar Greh- under this scheme government targets the women victims who require institutional support so that they can live their life with dignity.
10. National Creche Scheme (NCS)- the scheme is to provide daycare facilities to the children (age group of 6 months to 6 years) of the working mothers.
11. Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK)- this scheme is to provide loan products to

NGOs/IMO/VO which on-lend to women groups like SHG, JLG, etc.

12. One-Stop Centre – is a scheme for addressing the problem of violence against women.
13. Women Helpline.- in case of emergency for women, be it sexual violence, etc. the government has provided a helpline number solely for women in every state of the nation.

### **Steps were taken by women against discrimination and harassment**

During these past few years, the people got to witness some major steps that were taken solely women against sexual discrimination and harassment, let's take a glance what were those:

### **Me too movement**

"Me Too" movement saw the rise in India in 2018, was a movement that started on Twitter with the "#Metoo", this movement was inspired by a global campaign against sexual harassment and assault, women around the globe opened up about their sexual assault experiences. In India, it all began in October with actress Tanushree Dutta accusing actor Nana Patekar of sexual harassment while shooting for the film 'Horn ok please'.<sup>41</sup> After this tweet, the whole of Twitter was flooded by the various posts posted by women where women shared their experiences with the world. From actors, film directors to

<sup>38</sup> Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojna(PMMVY) scheme implementation guidelines, [https://wcd.nic.in/sites/default/files/PMMVY%20Scheme%20Implementation%20Guidelines%20\\_0.pdf](https://wcd.nic.in/sites/default/files/PMMVY%20Scheme%20Implementation%20Guidelines%20_0.pdf)

<sup>39</sup> Scheme for working women hostel, [https://wcd.nic.in/sites/default/files/Working%20Women%20Hostel\\_about\\_revised\\_about.pdf](https://wcd.nic.in/sites/default/files/Working%20Women%20Hostel_about_revised_about.pdf)

<sup>40</sup> Shikha goyal, pradhan mantri ujjawal yojna: all you need to know, mar 27,2020,

[https://www.jagranjosh.com/general-knowledge/pradhan-mantri-ujjawala-yojana-pmuy-1585310218-](https://www.jagranjosh.com/general-knowledge/pradhan-mantri-ujjawala-yojana-pmuy-1585310218-1#:~:text=Pradhan%20Mantri%20Ujjwala%20Yojana%20(PMUY)%20is%20the%20Scheme%20for%20providing,of%20Petroleum%20and%20Natural%20Gas.)

[1#:~:text=Pradhan%20Mantri%20Ujjwala%20Yojana%20\(PMUY\)%20is%20the%20Scheme%20for%20providing,of%20Petroleum%20and%20Natural%20Gas.](https://www.jagranjosh.com/general-knowledge/pradhan-mantri-ujjawala-yojana-pmuy-1585310218-1#:~:text=Pradhan%20Mantri%20Ujjwala%20Yojana%20(PMUY)%20is%20the%20Scheme%20for%20providing,of%20Petroleum%20and%20Natural%20Gas.)

<sup>41</sup> Abhery Roy, "2018: the year when #metoo shook India", the economic times, 1 June 2019



advertising top guns, artists and writers and politicians, women professionals called out obnoxious behavior at the workplace.

An analysis of the BSE 100 companies by consultancy ComplyKaro Services reveals that there has been a 14% increase in the number of complaints in 2018-19, compared with the previous year. "Because of the #MeToo movement, organizations are doing more, fearing reputational risk. People now know that if women don't have a choice, they might speak out on social media or go to the police. And because companies are doing more, women are more confident in approaching the ICC," says Vishal Kedia, director of ComplyKaro. The year also saw the biggest rise in complaints with the National Commission for women- from 570 in 2017 to 965 in 2018.<sup>42</sup>

### **Feminism**

The word "feminism" became popular in these past few years, and these years, and also in the present time, almost everyone witnesses a girl talking about feminism be it a 52-year-old lady or a 12-year-old kid, but what is feminism?

**Feminism**, the belief in social, economic, and political equality of the sexes. Although largely originating in the West, feminism is manifested worldwide and is represented by various institutions committed to activity on behalf of women's rights and interests.<sup>43</sup> how did feminism start in India, the study of feminism in India can be learned in three phases:

The first phase (1850-1915)- in the pre-Independence era, the women's movement

began as a social reform movement in this time, it was influenced by the popular western ideas that were prevailing at that period, which were the ideas of liberty, equality, and fraternity.

The second phase (1915-1947)- during this phase, people witnessed the birth of major organizations: Women's India Association(WIA), National Council of Women in India (NCWI), and All India Women's Conference (AIWC)<sup>44</sup>

The third phase (1947- present) – this phase witnessed women's involvement in the freedom struggle and due to their efforts, they got their voting rights and complete equality in the constitution of India. In the present one can witness that how much active women have got in these years, now and then, women are getting to their rights, and even fighting for them, every day on one's social media feed, one notice at least one post regarding feminism, but why this so?, because of awareness, the various schemes lead down by the government and the influence of western media either from social media or from TV. Every person be it an adult, or a child knows what feminism is.

### **What should be done?**

After learning, how women's condition was in the past, and what is now, what the government is doing, what women are doing. We will now see what should be done to improve the condition of women in our nation.

### **Education**

<sup>42</sup> Indulekha Aravind, "a year #metoo: what has been done is #toolittle, the economic times, Oct 10, 2019

<sup>43</sup> Elinor Burkett, "feminism", (9-10-20, 8:53 am), <https://www.britannica.com/topic/feminism>

<sup>44</sup> 26, Rekha Pande, the history of feminism and doing gender in India(Florianopolis 2018, Nov 14, 2018)



Education is one of the most crucial steps that have to be taken by every individual, by giving them knowledge not only to their female child but also to male kids, because education creates the sense of what is right and what is wrong, in that way women and men can be able to know what is right in the society that has to be there in the society, and what is wrong in the society, that has to be eroded. Even though the government has lead down provision regarding the right to education (article 21-A), then to people is not letting it down in their everyday lives, there are still some regions in the country, where females are not allowed to have the basic education, as per NSO India's average literacy rate is 77.7%, this problem can only be solved through advertising either through TV or by providing ads on social media.

### **Campaigns**

Certain campaigns have to be conducted regarding women's rights, their dignity, and awareness against sexual harassment/assault/violence in almost every region of our country by acts, skits, speeches, etc.

### **Strict laws**

The laws in our country should be made more strict so that it creates deterrence in the minds of the people and to set an example in the minds of the people. Certain schemes should be implemented and certain laws should be amended which makes it compulsory for all people to provide basic rights to the female population.

### **Proper and transparent administration**

Taking into account what happened in Hathras, where the 19-year-old girl's body was forcefully cremated by none other than the police that to without the permission of

her parents, this shows that how the administration is treating the major social problem of our country, the police who is responsible for protecting its citizens, the police is now the one who are destroying the morals, laws of this country. There is the need of an hour for the government to renew its administration, and provide an administration that is fair, honest, and transparent in every aspect, we need an administration that genuinely protects every citizen regardless of sex, caste, etc.

### **Conclusion**

To conclude this research report, I just want to say that one can notice that how women are treated in the present era; they are treated as the "property" of someone but not as living beings who help in producing the future generations, since the later Vedic period one can notice that how women were treated, they were alienated from right to education and various other basic rights, and were treated as the property of the husband or the society, to change this mentality the government has to take some necessary steps to eradicate crime against women in our nation.

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