

**“HEALTH PROBLEMS OF VILLAGE WOMEN’S:  
A CONFLICT ISSUES UNDER THE INDIAN LAWS”**

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**Abstract:** The right to health is a fundamental and essential right of every human being. The overall development of human being is depending on good health. Healthy life of individual makes nation healthy and worthy. The concept of a right to health has been included in constitution of India as well in international agreements which include the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The United Nations further defined the right to health<sup>1</sup> and guarantees "right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health", and calls for the "provision for the reductions of . . . infant mortality and for the healthy development of the child; the improvement of all aspects of environmental and industrial hygiene; the prevention, treatment and control of epidemic, endemic, occupational, and other diseases; and the creation of conditions which could assure to all medical service and medical attention in the event of sickness."

**Introduction:** The right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health was firstly expressed in 1946 Constitution of the World Health Organization, whose preamble defines health as "a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity". The preamble further states that "the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is one of the fundamental rights of every human being without distinction of race, religion, political belief, economic or social condition."

Right to health is not included directly in part III<sup>2</sup> of constitution but same is guaranteed by various judicial pronouncements by Hon'ble Supreme court. The Constitution maker imposed certain duties on states under Part IV<sup>3</sup> of Indian constitution. Some provisions are directly or indirectly related with public as well as individual's health. Right to health is not confine with the facilities provided by the Govt. It is absolute right which everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services<sup>4</sup>.

Article 38 of Constitution of India, impose liability on State that states will secure a social order for the promotion of welfare of the people but without public health we cannot achieve it. It means without public health welfare of people is impossible. Article 39(e) related with workers to protect their health. Article 41 imposed duty on State to public assistance basically for those who are sick and disable. Article 42 makes provision to protect the health of infant and mother by maternity benefit. Supreme Court has brought the right to health under the preview of Article 21. The state has an obligation under Article 21 to safeguard the right to life of every person, preservation of human life being of paramount importance. The right to health and medical care is a fundamental rights of every individual irrespective of any kind of discrimination and state is bound provide the same. Mere medical assistance is not expected under Art. 21 of constitution of India, but it is more related with making the life meaningful and

purposeful with dignity of person. The right to life does not merely animal existence it has a much wider meaning which includes right to livelihood, better standard of life, hygienic conditions in workplace and leisure<sup>5</sup>.

**Causes of Health Problem of women's:** The situation and problem of health of adolescent and old women's in rural area is very complex. It needs immediate and proper attention regarding the improvement of health. The rural background women's are deeply rooted in their old and outdated traditions and that is why they are not aware about their wellbeing and good health though it needs more attention. Normally they are depending and develop their own orthodox method of health and treatment. Sometime it is very difficult to make adolescent girls to realize their rights in many parts of the world especially in education and health. India is growing dynamically in every field. Although the boom in economy, innovative technologies, etc. has become nation's pride yet the country is witnessing a bias against the girl's and women's. India still follows a culture where people idealize sons and mourn daughters. Female feticide and infanticide are not the only issues in India. At every stage of life she is neglected and discriminated for basic nutrition, formal / informal education and living standards<sup>6</sup>.

There are abundant health issues which is face by women's in rural areas like facts about first menstruation, acne, menstrual cramps and premenstrual syndrome, unwanted pregnancy by sexual abuse and other health issues.

In India every women irrespective of age face so many problems relating to good health. The health of Indian women is intrinsically linked to their status in society. Research on women's status has found that the contributions Indian women make to families often are overlooked, and instead they are viewed as economic burdens<sup>7</sup>.

While women particularly in rural India face many serious health anxiety, including lack of awareness about right of reproductive health, violence against women, nutritional status, unequal treatment of girls

and boys, and HIV/AIDS. Which cause more and everlasting effect on the psychological imbalance on the women's. Due to the poverty and lack of awareness about the rights the women's are facing so many problems relating to health. It is need to give some health education. For improving the health of Women it is necessary to encouraged and engages the women in community activities through the social development programme and legal literacy relating to right to health. This exposes them to information, promotes social activity and encourages them to be independent relating to improving their health issues.

Some common health problems among rural girls like skin diseases, Vitamin deficiency etc. most of the these health problems of rural women's brought out by lack of basic information about the causes or causal agents of diseases, transmission of diseases, preventive and control measures, sanitation and hygiene from society at large and from their family members. Some of the common causes which cause health problems are as follows.

**Poverty:** due to poverty, women's health is not protected by the family members. Indian tendency much emphasis on male dominating society and women's have less status and priority in availing medical facility in the family and that is why, the male are not ready to expend the money on women's health. Another factor of poverty is more than 75% people from village are depend on traditional income source like as farming business and like and for the reason they are not ready to pay for health issues. Some diseases are cured by using traditional and herbs medicine which is commonly prepared in house without any hygienic preparation.

**Lack of education:** women's education in India has been one of the major issues of concern of the Government of India as well as the society at large. Nevertheless eradication of female illiteracy is considered as a major concern today. The education among women's in India is on alarming stage. Due to the family influence and religious ritual the girls are not permit to take education and due to that they are not understand and aware about their right to health which is recognised by the statute. At the same time, due to lack of education the women's are not understand the importance of health for good and healthy life.

**Social influence:** due to social backwardness, family custom, tradition, blind faith on supernatural elements women's are far away from their basic rights. The inferior position of women compare to men in society causes her backwardness in every field, specially the village women's are the major victims. Due to social backwardness the women's health is neglected.

**Family influence:** due to the male dominating society the women's are not permitted to avail their rights. Instead of enjoying their rights they are dominating like puppet in the hand of male dominating society. Due to discrimination between genders the women's are not permitted for availing the basic rights though they are

confirmed and guaranteed by the statute.

**Nutrition:** due to lack of economical resources, social backwardness, education poverty, etc. the women's are not facilitate by good and healthy food compare to male. In fact women's work hard than male but her health is not protected by providing health and nutrition food.

**Biological factors:** the women's especially from the rural area are more negligent about their health and related matter. They are not more a tentative about their health issues. The social background, surroundings, biological development, and impact of externals influences they are not conscious about their health. The women's biologically very tender and mushy and for the reason they need more attention relating to their health. But in fact women's are not aware and conscious about their health.

**Right to Health:** We frequently associate the right to health with access to health care and the building of hospitals. This is correct, but the right to health extends further. It includes a wide range of factors that can help us lead a healthy life. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the body responsible for monitoring the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights<sup>8</sup>.

As human beings, we are more concern about health which is a matter of daily concern. Regardless of our age, gender, economical condition we consider our health to be our most basic and essential asset. The right to health is a fundamental part of our human rights as well as constitutional right. The right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health and well-being are deeply personal matters of every individual.

The laws and Policies which confirm what level of health care provision is guaranteed, what kinds of service will be offered, how priorities are established between competing claims, where resources are determined, and what alternatives are available all become far more immediate when they affect us or our loved ones.

In short we can conclude that, right to health is fundamental right and same is protected by our constitution and various Govt. Policies. The Govt. is more conscious about protecting the health of individual specially women's and for that purpose introduced various scheme and facilities through various health care providers.

Bare Acts.

1. Constitution of India. 1950.

2. Human Right Act. 1993  
Convention.

1. Declaration on the Right of Child

2. Universal Declaration on Human Rights

3. International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

4. Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

5. World Conference on Education for All, Sponsored by UNESCO, UNICEF.

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