

## EMPOWERING WOMEN THROUGH SKILL DEVELOPMENT

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### ABSTRACT

Women form a significant proportion of this work force in India. The key strategy for women's empowerment and gender equality is to combine policy and institutions at the local level. The aim of skill development, particularly in case of women, is not merely to prepare them for jobs, but also to improve the performance of women workers by enhancing the quality of work in which they are engaged. There are few major challenges, which need to be addressed for building a conducive ecosystem, of skill development for the women workforce. It is argued that the empowerment practice has to go beyond its focus on women to gender. Women are seriously underrepresented in many occupations, thus, policies are needed to fight exclusions in the labour market by reducing the incidence of discriminatory practices. With this background, it is important to ensure women empowerment through skill development in the development programmes and thereby strive to have a conducive atmosphere for their effective participation.

**KEYWORDS:** Skill, Women, Empowerment, Challenges