Society & Social Justice · GS - II

Examine how restrictions on women's education and employment undermine inclusive development and the fulfilment of international human rights obligations.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 24/11/2026	GS - II	Society & Social Justice

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
15	~250 words

Answer Hint

Gender equality, human capital, CEDAW, SDG 5, SDG 4, labour-force participation, economic empowerment, social exclusion

Model Answer

Introduction

Women's access to education and employment is central to human dignity, economic participation and inclusive development. Restrictions on these rights weaken individual autonomy and obstruct the achievement of sustainable development goals.

Implications of Restricting Women's Rights

1. **Human capital loss:** Excluding women from education reduces the skilled workforce and limits innovation and productivity.
2. **Economic consequences:** Restrictions on employment lower household incomes, reduce labour-force participation and constrain national economic growth.
3. **Intergenerational inequality:** Educated and economically empowered women contribute to improved health, nutrition and educational outcomes for future generations.

4. **Social exclusion:** Denial of public participation reinforces gender stereotypes and institutionalises unequal power relations.
5. **Poverty and dependency:** Economic exclusion increases financial dependence and reduces women's ability to make independent life choices.

International Legal Framework

1. **CEDAW:** Requires States parties to eliminate discrimination against women in education, employment and public life.
2. **ICESCR:** Recognises the rights to work and education without discrimination.
3. **Sustainable Development Goals:** SDG 4 promotes inclusive quality education, while SDG 5 seeks gender equality and women's empowerment.

Way Forward

1. Ensure equal access to education and vocational training.
2. Promote safe workplaces and non-discriminatory employment opportunities.
3. Strengthen international monitoring and accountability mechanisms.
4. Support women's participation in political, economic and social decision-making.

Conclusion

Women's rights are not merely a matter of social policy but a foundation of sustainable development. Protecting education, employment and equal participation is essential for building inclusive and resilient societies.

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