

Name: SANA AHMED

Topic: Good Governance & Women Empowerment in West Asia: A Case Study of Turkey

Supervisor: Prof. Anisur Rahman

Co-Supervisor: Dr. Niharika Tiwari

Deptt/Centre: Centre for West Asian Studies

Notification Date: 14/06/2024

Notification no.: COE/Ph.D./(Notification)/560/2024

Key Words: Women Empowerment, Turkey, Good Governance, West Asia, AKP

**FINDINGS:** The study examines governance in historical and contemporary West Asian countries, particularly Turkey. It explore the impact of government's policies on empowering women, analyzing governance structure, gender policies, women's political participation, societal awareness and the influence of government initiatives on national development through empowerment efforts. Despite government's continuous efforts, discrimination still persists, limiting women's full participation in Turkey's social, cultural, economic and political development. Below are some conclusions about the initiatives of government that hindered women to achieve equality.

- 1. GENDER SPECIFIC ROLES IN SOCIETAL STRUCTURE:** In spite of being highly educated and employed, women in Turkey still have to perform socially or culturally customized roles. Numerous cultural factors can affect women entrepreneurs emotionally since family does not provide social support and in outside world peer group also does not consider business as good professions for women.
- 2. CONSERVATIVES IDEAS OF GOVERNMENT TOWARDS WOMEN:** Although constitution of Turkey grant women equal rights in terms of education, marriage, employment, health benefits, divorce but government strongly promote the conservative role for women as a good mother or wife should be confined within the domestic household and men should deal with the affairs of the outside world activities such as business and politics.
- 3. UNDER-REPRESENTATION IN POLITICS:** In Turkey good governance initiatives for women empowerment are adopted successfully with positive result in educational, health and economic sector but not in the political sector. Women are underrepresented in politics because of lack of awareness and without money and strong social connection it becomes difficult for them to hold higher position in politics.