
CRITICAL APPRAISAL OF STATE SCHEMES AND PROGRAMMES FOR ADOLESCENT GIRLS IN HARYANA

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Abstract

The first part of this paper deals with the backdrop of adolescence, i.e. how the concept of adolescence as a distinct phase came up. Before understanding the concept it is pertinent to know the meaning of adolescence. It is also important to know how adolescence is conceptualized at global level and in Indian context. The second part of the paper describes how adolescent girls are the most ignored section of Indian society especially in the state of Haryana which is supported by statistical data. The third part of the paper elaborates various policies and programmes designed and implemented for the benefit of adolescent girls. The last part of the paper comprises of an attempt to critically evaluate the schemes and programmes targeting adolescent girls, along with suggestions for the policy makers of the State.

Introduction

Adolescent phase was unrecognized by the people from all the fields i.e. psychologists, Physicians and Educational reformers (Heneman, 2001). Scientific investigation of adolescence began with the work of Hall (1921). Adolescence is the period of maximum physical, psychological & social growth. It is a time of rapid physical development and deep emotional changes. These changes influence the personality of the adolescent and leave a great impact in his/her adult life. So the study of an adolescent is important in order to understand human development. Adolescence both as a process and a period has been defined in several ways.

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Hall (1921) in his pioneer work “Adolescence” argued that a new birth occurs in the personality of an individual while he/she is passing through adolescence. Etymologically speaking, the term “‘adolescence’ originated from Latin word ‘adolescere’ which means ‘maturing’. The growth could be physiological, psychological and social).

An Overview of Policies

National Population Policy 2000

Adolescents are identified as vulnerable group with has special reproductive health needs. The main aim of the policy is to provide information and counseling to adolescents. The main aim of this policy is to assure that contraceptives; food supplements and nutrition services are accessible. The Population Policy also emphasized that reproductive health services should be accessible to rural areas, where adolescent marriages and pregnancy are most prevalent. The Policy also emphasized the need for programs that encourage late marriage and childbearing. Another landmark policy initiative was earlier identified in the National Education Policy, 1974, which recognized the right to education for all segments of the population. It made elementary education for all children compulsory, including adolescent boys and girls.

The National Youth Policy, 1986 (renewed as National Youth Policy, 2000) gave importance to adolescent health. Youth empowerment and gender justice were recognized as the major thrust areas of the Policy. The Policy recognized adequate nutrition for the full physical and mental development of adolescents. It also leads emphasis on the creation of an environment which promotes good health. The Policy recognizes gender bias as a main factor responsible for the poor health status of women in our society.

Schemes for Adolescent Girls

Many development programmes and schemes have been implemented across the country to benefit adolescent girls. Brief descriptions of some of these are given below.

Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for Empowerment of Adolescent Girls (SABLA) 2010

This Scheme was implemented through Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) and Anganwadi Centers in 200 selected districts across the country for empowering adolescent girls in the age group of 11 to 18. Under the Scheme, adolescent girls are provided ‘Take Home Ration’. Around 92 lakh to 1.15 crore adolescent girls of 11 to 18 years per annum were expected to be covered under the Scheme during the Eleventh Plan. 50:50 per cent sharing between the Centre and the States of nutrition provision (600 calories and 18 to 29 gram of protein) at the rate of Rs.5 per beneficiary, for 300 days, per year for 11 to 14 year old school girls and all girls in the age of 15 to 18 years, was planned.

Scheme for low-cost sanitary napkins to rural girls

On 15 June 2010, The Union Health and Family Welfare Ministry approved a scheme to promote menstrual hygiene to adolescent girls. The Government decided to provide highly subsidized sanitary napkins to adolescent girls in the rural areas. As per the scheme adolescent girls belonging to BPL (Below poverty line) sections are supplied a pack of six sanitary napkins at the nominal cost of rupees 1 per pack. Aim of this scheme is to increase awareness among adolescent girls on menstrual hygiene and use of quality sanitary napkins (The Hindu, 2010).

Schemes in Haryana

The Haryana Government has launched Sabla scheme for adolescent girls aimed at making them self reliant and upgrading their vocational skills. The Scheme is launched in Ambala, Hisar, Rewari, Rohtak, Yamunanagar and Kaithal districts. The Scheme named after former Prime Minister, late Rajiv Gandhi had been implemented to enable adolescent girls for self development and empowerment. This scheme also aims to as provide awareness regarding health, hygiene and nutrition among adolescent girls. Under the scheme, nutrition would be provided to 11-18 year adolescent school going and out of school girls for 300 days in a year. Cooked meal would be given to the out of school girls through Anganwadi centers and to school going girls, it would be provided by the Education department on the pattern of mid day meal during the school days. Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls (NPAG) is being implemented in Ambala & Yamunanagar districts, under which low weight adolescent girls of 11-19 years are provided 6 Kgs wheat, free of cost through PDS shops for a period of 3 consecutive months. A sum of Rs 50 lakh has been provided in the budget for the year 2010-**LADLI: (A new Scheme for the girl child)**

The objective of the Scheme is to heave the status of the girl child in the family and society and to change the mindset of the people for proper rearing of the girl children. The sex ratio of females in the State has declined considerably, which is 861 females per 1000 males as per 2001 census. In order to fight with the menace of female foeticide and to improve the declining sex ratio of females, a new Scheme Ladli was launched in 2005. Under the scheme all parents' who are resident of Haryana or having Haryana domicile will be provided a financial incentive @ Rs. 5000/- per annum for up to five years whose second girl child is born on or after 20th August, 2005 irrespective of their caste, creed, religion, income or number of sons. This money is invested in Kisan Vikas Patras in the joint name of 2nd girl child and the mother. The accumulated amount will be released after the 2nd girl child attains the age of 18 years.

Review of literature

A review of evaluative studies on the Government programmes shows that the policies and programmes carried out for adolescents are not accessible to all sections and existing policies and programmes need to be more easily available to the adolescents facing various problems and requiring redressal.

The study undertaken by Sen (2007) on “The Kishori Shakti Yojna” revealed the short-coming of this Scheme and gave some recommendations for the proper working of this programme. He recommended that more creche services need to be offered to increase enrolment of girls by relieving them temporarily of sibling care responsibilities. It was also recommended in this study that Anganwadi workers need to be paid a higher honorarium. The MWCD should not release the grants for the next year to the State without sufficient evidence of training programmes to Anganwadi workers and helpers through NGOs dealing with health and pre-school education. The MWCD should not release grants to the State Government without sufficient evidence of an Anganwadi Centre in every settlement. The State Governments should provide reports of the number of settlements and on whether each has an ICDS centre. NGOs and social workers should file applications under the Right to Information to ensure that this has been done for the education for Women’s Empowerment, as the funds released by Ministry of Women and Child Development is being mis-used by state Govt.

Malhotra and Passi (2007) conducted a study in order to assess the effectiveness of Adolescent Girl scheme, 209 girls (aged 11-21 years) from six rural blocks - Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh were selected. Weight and height of adolescent girls were measured and dietary intake data were also gathered. Incidence of thinness (‘BMI for age’ <5th percentile) and stunting (‘height for age’ <3rd percentile) was 30.6% and 29.7%. Adolescent girls followed a two meal pattern and their diets were monotonous and cereal-based. 49.3% of them were found to have energy intake less than 75% of RDA while a substantial proportion of them had inadequate nutrient intake (NAR <0.66) with respect to most of the micronutrients especially iron (84.7%), folic acid (79.4%) and vitamin A (73.2%). The mean daily intake of milk and milk products, pulses, green leafy vegetables, other vegetables and fruits was grossly, inadequate meeting only 47%, 36%, 26%, 34% and 3% of the suggested allowances. The study reveals not only a high incidence of under-nutrition but also an inadequate energy/micronutrient intake among the beneficiaries of Adolescent Girl scheme. Therefore, sustained efforts are needed to strengthen the Scheme for improving its field-level implementation.

Another study was conducted by Dar (2007) in village of Garhi Chhaju in Panipat. Participatory methods of data collection were used in the Jorasi Government Girls Middle School with all 22 girls from Garhi Chhaju, their families, the Garhi Chhaju Panchayat and non-school going girls. The study was conducted to assess the effectiveness of Kishori Shakti Yojna and cycle Scheme. The gap in the implementation of this scheme is striking in Garhi Chhaju, due to its non-existence in the district of Panipat. This scheme focused on school dropout girls of the age group 11-18 years. This schemes aims to meet the needs of self-development, nutrition, health, education, literacy, recreation and skill formation of adolescent girls. This scheme has attempted to mobilize and enhance the potential of adolescent girls.

Misuse of bicycles provided under SSA was found. Under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Programme (SSA), all girls were going to school. The girls who used to go 2 kms or more kilometres away are eligible to receive cycles in standard VI for commuting to school. It was found that this provision does not reach to many girls in Garhi Chhaju. Even if they receive their cycles, they were often being used by their family members. The school sports teacher said 'ladkia cycle pe nahi aate hai, kyunki inke bhai aur baap le jate hai.' (These girls do not come to school on cycles because their brothers or fathers take them for personal use. Therefore, this provision has failed to ensure that all girls living in Garhi Chhaju reach school safely.

Objectives of Present study

After reviewing the literature one can observe that there is a dearth of sociological research on the state welfare schemes introduced by state. Therefore there is a need to conduct systematic studies to see the effectiveness of the welfare schemes introduced by state. Objectives of the present study are listed below.

An effort was be made to

1. Delineate the socio-economic profile of the adolescent girls;
2. Assess the impact of welfare schemes introduced by the State
3. To suggest measures to enhance the effectiveness of schemes introduced by the State.

Research Methodology

The design of study is descriptive in nature as it combines both quantitative and qualitative research techniques.

Selection of Field Area

The selection of area of study has been made on the following criterion. Various schemes have been launched in District Yamunanagar, Haryana, for the empowerment of

Adolescent Girls including Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for the Empowerment of Adolescent Girls (SABLA) and Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls (NPAG) and Gender Sensitization Programme. Two Schemes targeting adolescent girls i.e. Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for the Empowerment of Adolescent Girls (SABLA) and Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls (NPAG) have been implemented in five Districts of Haryana. However, there are only two Districts in Haryana where both the Schemes have together been introduced i.e. Yamunanagar & Ambala. For this reason, District Yamunanagar was selected for the proposed study purposively. The study was conducted on two villages in District Yamunanagar, i.e. Kharwana and Khizrabad.

Sampling

A list of unmarried girls in the age group of 12-18 years was prepared in the two sample villages separately a) for those enrolled in school and b) those out of school. Out of this sampling frame, a sample of 200 girls, 100 from each village (50 school going and 50 out of school girls) were selected by using the method of stratified random sampling. The other respondents like Aaganwadi workers, were approached depending upon their availability. However mothers of the adolescent girls were interviewed as per the availability. Apart from primary data, a detailed analysis of various Schemes implemented by Central and State Governments for the welfare of adolescent girls was made after reviewing the details and critical commentaries on these Schemes. Both quantitative and qualitative data was collected from both the villages. Data was collected from adolescent girls and their mothers by using interview schedules. While personal interviews were conducted with the respondents, separate qualitative techniques like group discussions were also employed in the study.

Table No 1: Distribution of Respondents According to Age

Age(in years)	Number of Girls	Percent
12-15	27	13.5
15-17	90	45.0
17 +	83	41.5
Total	200	100.0

Age is an important variable, which influences the composition and structure of population. Age influences other factors like education, awareness level and certain other social and cultural activities of adolescent girls. Adolescent girls taken for present study were not of same age. Therefore, it is necessary to know the age group of respondents. According to their age group, their awareness level could be different. Table 1 gives age-wise distribution of respondents. For the purpose of analysis, the age of the respondents

was divided into three categories. Therefore, three categories, i.e. 12-15 years, 15-17 years and 17 + years were made. Data indicate that all in all, around 13.5% of respondents were from the age group 12-14 years, 45% of them were from age group 15-17 and 41% from 17 + age group. Table reveals that majority of respondents, i.e. 45% were from the age group 15-17 years of age followed by 17 and above age group, i.e. 41.5%.

After the description of the age structure of adolescent girls, it is important to analyse the other variable such as, religion and caste.

Table- 2: Distribution of Respondents According to Religion

Religion	No. of Girls	Percent
Hindu	112	56.0
Muslim	73	36.5
Sikh	13	7
Christian	2	1
Total	200	100.0

Religion is an important variable, influencing an individual's life. Religion has a great influence on an individual's beliefs, faith, and actions. Moreover, the status of women in a society is an outcome of the interpretation of religious texts and of the cultural and institutional set-up of religious communities (Klingorova & Havlicek, 2015)*. From this point of view, it was important to evaluate the religious composition of the respondents to know the inter-religion differences in the problems and perception faced by adolescent girls. Table 2 presents that respondents belonging to Hindu religion were 56%, followed by Muslims, i.e. 36%, Sikh (7%) and Christians (1%). Religious composition of the respondents indicates that Hindus were in majority in the study area.

Hence, Hindus and Muslims were in majority so it would be interesting to understand problems of adolescent girls in relation to religious affiliation which has been discussed in next part of this paper.

Table- 3: Distribution of Respondents According to Caste

Caste category	No of girls	Percent (%)
General	46	23
S.C	65	32
S.T	39	20
O.B.C	50	25
Total	200	100

*Klingorova, K, & Havlicek, T, (2015). 'Religion and gender inequality: The status of women in the societies of world religion', Moravian Geographical Reports, 23: 2-11

Table 3 presents caste affiliations of the respondents. In the present analysis, castes were broadly classified under four categories, i.e. General Castes, Scheduled Castes, Other Backward Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Adolescent girls from General Castes constituted 23% of the total studied subjects who belonged to Khatri, Rajput and Brahmin Castes. However 32% of the adolescent girls were from Scheduled Castes and were Balmiki and Harijans. 20% of the respondents consisting of Scheduled Tribes population belonged to Banjara Caste. However 25% were from Other Backward Castes were from Kumhar, Jhivar and Gujjar castes.

There was a caste wise distribution of our respondents within the Scheduled Castes contributing a substantial proportion followed by the Other Backward Castes and General Castes. As discussed earlier, caste plays an important role in determining individual position in India. As Charkravarti (2003) had also discussed that low in caste hierarchy made the position of women more vulnerable. Data in following parts would indicate whether this argument can be further sustained or not.

Table 4: Distribution of Respondents According to Awareness about State Schemes

Awareness about Schemes among Respondents			
Schooling	Awareness about Schemes running in their village	No Awareness about Schemes running in their village	Total
School going	5	95	100
Non-school going	1	99	100
Total	6	194	200

Table 4 indicates that out of 200 girls, merely 6 were aware of the schemes running in their respective village such as Ladli, KSY and Sabla. Out of 100 school going respondents, only 5 were aware of these schemes. Among them, only 4 of the respondents were aware about Sabla Scheme, while one of the respondents was aware about Ladli Scheme, and one knew about KSY Scheme. It was interesting to note that girls who were aware about Schemes had no knowledge regarding details of these Schemes. A handful of respondents wanted to know about schemes, but due to negative attitudes of their family members they had no access to such information.

One of the girl particularly mentioned that Anganwadi worker had approached her mother but she denied availing any benefits. Her mother turned her by saying that girls should confine her to household works rather than roaming here and there for availing benefits of

such Schemes. Interestingly, the girls who were aware about these Schemes were somehow related to the people working in Anganwadi centres. However two of the respondents came to know about these schemes from their schools. None of the respondents was able to explain the purpose of these Schemes. They were merely aware about the names of Schemes. They did not know how these Schemes were concerned with them and how they could get benefit out of these Schemes.

Qualitative data revealed various reasons cited by girls for not having information regarding schemes. One of the respondents who had never heard about the Schemes said “Ghar se tou nikalne nahi dete humko schemes ke bare me kaise pata hoga.” (We are not allowed to step outside the premises of our houses, how shall we come to know about such schemes) (17 years old girl from Khizrabad). She further said that she wanted to know about these schemes, but the members of her family considered it as a waste of time and they did not allow. She said, “When I asked about these Schemes my mother said that instead of vocational training in Anganwadi centre, I should learn household chores, which shall be appreciated in the years to come”.

One of the respondents from Kharvan said, “Hame jananaa hai in Schemes ke bare mein, par koi batane wala hi nahi hota. Mera baap anpad hai, bhai to bahar jane se mana karta hai kahta hai zamana kharab hai”. (We want to know about these schemes, but my parents are illiterate and my brother doesn’t allow me to go outside home).

(16 years, Hindu girl, Kharwan).

Moreover, adolescent girls were restricted by their family members from unnecessarily taking interest in these, since they were supposed to remain within home only. In rural setting mothers of adolescent girls play an active role in taking decision regarding her life. Hence researcher approached the mothers of concerned girls to know about their level of awareness. Only, mothers of three respondents responded enthusiastically regarding about the status of government schemes running in their respective villages. Majority of them were unhappy with these and regarded these as formalities on paper. Researcher provided a little information about SABLA Scheme to the mothers, after which they complained against that no information about these schemes had ever been given by Anganwadi workers. After her response a flood of arguments followed and majority they added “Hamne to Anganwadi madam se nam bhi na sune aj apne hi bataya, roz bethi hai hamrae sath bataya kuch na” (We have not even heard the names of the schemes you have told us only told us. Daily she sits with us but has never given any information).

Another mother who was aware about these schemes said,

“Madam kab se form bhara hai aj tak kuchh nahi mila” (We filled the forms long back but nothing happened till date)

(42 years, Hindu woman, Khizrabad).

Another woman added that “Ab chhori ka bea karna hai agar ab hi paise nahi mile tou is scheme ka kya faida hoga” (We want to marry our daughter off and we need money for the same, but if we do not get the money even now, then what use the schemes would be to us).

(35 years, Muslim woman, Khizrabad)

Out of 6 respondents only 5 had got information about these schemes from their family members while one respondent came to know from Anganwadi workers. Data reflect that village-wise more girls from Kharvan were aware of the schemes than those in Khizrabad. It could be due to close proximity of village to the city and effectiveness of Anganwadi workers in village Kharwan. The researcher visited the Anganwadi Centre and also approached mothers to know the ground reality. The Anganwadi workers revealed that Sabla, KSY and Ladli schemes were operational in Kharwan. As discussed earlier under the Sabla scheme, ration and vocational training has been given to girls in the age group of 14-18 years. It was observed that 8 non-school going girls were sitting idle in the Anganwadi Centre, though the purpose of schemes was to make adolescent girls self reliant by imparting vocational training, but due to lack of knowledge and ineffectiveness of Angawadi workers, no such benefit was accruing to them.

Anganwadi Centre at Khizrabad was also visited by the researcher to assess the effectiveness of Schemes. Anganwadi worker revealed that Sabla, KSY and Ladli Schemes were operational in Khizrabad and the sanitary napkin scheme had also been implemented but it didn't work because pads provided by Government were not used by adolescent girls. They said that Government had provided samples of the Kit consisting of pads, hand wash etc. to them. She also disclosed that although they had worked hard for the success of this scheme, by visiting the adolescent girls and holding regular meetings with mothers on Saturdays to encourage them, yet they had failed to convince them. Government had finally stopped sending kits to the Anganwadi Centre. It was also revealed that villagers were well aware about the Schemes. They were taking advantage of monetary Schemes like Sabla and Ladli but they did not send their daughters to the Centre for vocational training, as a result of which only three girls were found to be sitting at Anganwadi Centre at the time of visit by the researcher.

An effort was also made to verify the information provided by Anganwadi workers by interacting with the villagers. However they presented an altogether different opinion. According to the villagers, the real benefits of the Schemes were taken by Anganwadi and other workers engaged in the schemes. They also criticized the working of Anganwadi worker and said that she hardly visited homes to make people aware about these schemes. One of the respondent mothers said,

“Anganwadi behan jee aati hai kabhi kabhi or puri Scheme ke bare mein nahi batati hai. Puchhne par bhi wo bas aadhi jankari deti hai.”

(Anganwadi Ma'am visits us only sometimes and gives partial information to us).

(46, Hindu woman, Khizrabad)

Table 5: Distribution of Respondents Benefitting from Schemes

Place	Benefit taken by respondents			Total
	Did not Benefit	Benefitted	No Awareness about any Schemes	
Khizrabad	1	1	95	100
Kharvan	3	1	99	100
Total	4	2	194	200

As reflected in Table 5, out of 200 only six girls knew about the Schemes. 4 girls who were aware had not taken any benefit of these Schemes. However, one of the girls from each village said they had benefitted from Schemes though their responses were not satisfactory. The mothers of the respondents provided a different picture and revealed that they were taking benefit of these Schemes. They were receiving money via Ladli Scheme and had also benefitted KSY scheme. Hence, it was the parents, who were enjoying the money received in the name of girls, while girls were completely unaware.

One of the mothers said, “Ye tou bachi hai paise ke bare mein isko kya batana. (She is a kid we don't confide financial matters with her).

(48 years, Hindu woman, Kharvan)

“Wo jo rashan aata hai KSY mein wo ghar mein lag jata hai” (Provisions that we get from KSY are consumed at home).

(42 years, Hindu woman, Khizrabad)

An effort was also made to know the opinions of girls who were deriving benefit of these schemes. Two of the respondents said when they receive money; they would prefer to spend it on their marriage. The reason for spending on marriage was cultural importance of marriage in rural setup. In India marriage is given utmost importance in girls' life. Hence, it would not be strange if girls prioritized to spend money on their marriage. Moreover poverty was another for spending money on girl's marriage mentioned by parents. Parents belonging to low socio economic background would definitely need assistance at the time of their girls' marriage. Hence cultural setup and poverty emerged as major reasons which obstruct the proper implementation of these schemes. The huge challenge was that the girls did not have the power to make decisions for them. Moreover they were dependent on their parents for the beneficial resources obtained from such schemes. Therefore cultural and patriarchal structure did not only widen gender discrimination but it also affected the proper implementation of various programmes and schemes made for the upliftment of girls.

When Policies and Schemes are implemented, it is essential to know whether the procedure is easy or complex for the beneficiaries to avail themselves of the benefits of schemes. Mothers revealed that in Sabla Scheme, procedures were easier whereas KSY and Ladli procedures were very complex and cumbersome. One of the mothers said "Ye jo form bharwate hai unko samjna hamare bas ki baat nahi. Anganwadi wali madam g ke pas jao bharwane tou wo theek se samjhati nahi kuch". (We cannot understand the language written in forms. When we go to Anganwadi Madam for any kind of help she does not explain properly). Mother of an adolescent girl said that she had to go again and again to the Government offices to enquire about the action taken on their application. She further added "Main 3-4 baar daftar ja kar aayi ki fayda lag jaye magar koi sunwai nahi hau mere application ki waha" (I had been to office thrice but no one has paid any heed to my application).

Mother of one respondent from Khizarabd said "Madam jee ye scheme ka Sara fayda Angawadi wali Behan jee le jati hai hame koi rashan nahi milta" (We do not get any ration from Anganwadi centre and whole benefit is taken by Anganwadi workers).

However, Anganwadi workers were of view that due to excessive paper work, they did not get time to promote these schemes at household level. Registers were shown by Anganwadi helpers which confirmed that paper work was so cumbersome that Anganwadi workers spent most of their time in maintaining records and registers. "Madam jee

registers work itna hai ki Sara waqt isi mein nikal jata hai” (Madam, we have too much burden of maintaining registers and because of that we don’t get time for other things).

(Anganwadi worker, Khizrabad)

Recommendations

It is recommended that the language used in notifications should be made simpler and before making any amendment prior information should be released in local newspapers. The process of publicity should be changed (i.e. Anganwadi workers hang posters in their centre, which was not noticed by anyone). Instead of hanging posters in their room, they should distribute pamphlets in villages or should hang posters where local members of the village can see and get aware about these schemes. As well as schemes should be made simpler and sustained efforts are needed to strengthen the schemes for improving its field-level implementation. Multiple conditions and corresponding documentation hamper the smooth implementation of the scheme. It is needed that grass root level functionaries should be empathizing with people. Awareness programmes should be designed separately for adolescent girls. Anganwadi Workers should organize a meeting every week where they should motivate adolescent girls to take part in vocational training and other activities. Anganwadi Workers should make few groups and as per the activeness of girls Anganwadi worker should make girls in charge of these groups. Two, three girls should be given the charge to motivate other girls who do not take part in these kinds of vocational training. Asha's workers should make few girls health educators who can tell the other girls about hygiene required at the time of menses. Awareness programmes should focus on the importance of discrimination against the girl child. Such a brutal mentality needs to be changed. While designing any programme for adolescent girls, it is advocated that such programmes should also include awareness programmes. Economic incentives would not be going to change the community behavior.

Therefore, schemes/programmes like gender sensitization, awareness camps should be included as a major part of the schemes, so that the major problem which is community behavior should be changed. Girls during their adolescence should be given vocational trainings, considering the fact that their parents don't send them for schooling.

Thus a vocational training or skill building activity would not just prove lucrative to them, but even the parent won't mind sending their daughter to such income generating activities.

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