



Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Scheme

Why in News

A **parliamentary committee on empowerment of women** has flagged under-utilisation of central funds for schemes related to programmes targeted at the girl child - particularly the flagship [Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao scheme](#) from 2014 to 2019.

Key Points

▪ Findings of the Committee:

◦ Poor Utilization of Funds:

- **Since the inception of BBBP in 2014-15** till 2019-20, the total Budgetary allocation under **the scheme was Rs. 848 crore**, excluding the Covid-stricken financial year of 2020-21.
- During this period, **an amount of Rs. 622.48 crore was released** to the States but **only 25.13% of the funds** has been spent by the States and Union Territories.

◦ Improper Spending of Funds:

- A whopping **80% of funds** under the flagship BBBP scheme **was spent on media campaigns**.
- The massive spend on advertisements was **despite the clearly laid down formula for utilisation of funds** - Rs. 50 lakh per year is earmarked for a district for utilisation under six different components.
 - Of the Rs 50 lakh, 16% of funds are for inter-sectoral consultation or capacity building, 50% for innovation or awareness generation activities, 6% for monitoring and evaluation, 10% for sectoral interventions in health, 10% for sectoral interventions in education and 8% as flexi funds.

◦ Recommendation:

- The government should **reconsider spending on advertisements** under the BBBP scheme and should **focus on planned expenditure allocation** for sectoral interventions in education and health.

▪ BBBP Scheme:

◦ About:

- It was **launched in January 2015** with the aim to address **sex selective abortion and the declining child sex ratio** which was at 918 girls for every 1,000 boys in 2011.
- This is a **joint initiative** of the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Ministry of Human Resource Development.
- The programme is being **implemented across 405 districts in the country**.

◦ Main Objectives:

- Prevention of gender-biased sex-selective elimination.
- Ensuring survival & protection of the girl child.
- Ensuring education and participation of the girl child.
- Protecting rights of Girl children.
- **Performance Analysis:**
 - **Sex Ratio at Birth:**
 - **Sex Ratio at Birth (SRB)** has improved by **16 points from 918 (2014-15) to 934 (2019-20)**, as per the **Health Management Information System (HMIS)** data.
 - **Notable Examples (Districts):**
 - Mau (Uttar Pradesh) from 694 (2014-15) to 951 (2019-20),
 - Karnal (Haryana) from 758 (2014-15) to 898 (2019-20),
 - Mahendergarh (Haryana) from 791 (2014-15) to 919 (2019-20), etc.
 - **Health:**
 - **ANC Registration:** Percentage of 1st Trimester ANC (AnteNatal Care) Registration has shown an improving trend from 61% in 2014-15 to 71% in 2019-20.
 - **Institutional Deliveries:** Percentage of Institutional Deliveries has shown an improving trend from 87% in 2014-15 to 94% in 2019-20.
 - **Education :**
 - **Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER):** GER of girls in the schools at secondary level has **improved from 77.45 (2014-15) to 81.32 (2018-19)** as per Unified District Information System for Education (UDISE) provisional data.
 - **Toilet for girls:** Percentage of schools with functional separate toilets for girls has shown improvement from 92.1% in 2014-15 to 95.1% in 2018-19.
 - **Attitudinal Change:**
 - The BBBP scheme has been **able to bring the focus on important issue** of female infanticide, lack of education amongst girls and deprivation of their rights on a life cycle continuum.
 - Betijanmotsav is one of the key programmes celebrated in each district.

Other Initiatives for Girl Children

- **UJJAWALA:** To tackle the problem of trafficking, it is a Comprehensive Scheme for Prevention of Trafficking and Rescue, Rehabilitation and Re-Integration of Victims of Trafficking for Commercial Sexual Exploitation.
- **Kishore Health Card:** To record the information about the weight, height, Body Mass Index (BMI) of Adolescent Girls (AGs). These health cards for AGs are maintained at the AnganWadi centres (AWCs).
- **Scheme for Adolescent Girls (SAG).**
- **Sukanya Samridhi Yojana,** etc.

Source: TH

