# National Girl Child Day (NGCD)

## Why in News?

**National Girl Child Day (NGCD) is observed on 24<sup>th</sup> January every year** to shed light on the challenges faced by girls in Indian society.

- The **day focuses on creating awareness about the inequalities girls encounter** and advocates for equal opportunities in education, healthcare, and nutrition.

## Key Points

- NGCD was **established by the Ministry of Women and Child Development in 2008**.
    - The initiative acknowledges the unique challenges faced by girls, **including** child marriage**, and** gender-based violence.
- NGCD **commemorates the inaugural anniversary of Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao Scheme** (Save the Girl Child, Educate the Girl Child) **launched on January 22, 2015.**

## Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao Scheme

- **About:**
    - The Scheme was **launched to addresses the declining** Child Sex Ratio **(CSR)** and related issues of women's empowerment over a life-cycle continuum.
    - It is a **Tri-ministerial effort** of the Ministries of Women and Child Development (MW&CD), Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MH&FW), and Ministry of Education.
- **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.
- **Innovative Interventions under BBBP:** Innovations that have created a positive ecosystem/ enabling environment for girls include:
    - **Guddi-Gudda Boards:** (Display of Birth Statistics (number of Girls born vis-à-vis number of Boys) in public).
        - **Example:** Jalgaon district, Maharashtra has installed digital Guddi-Gudda Display Boards.
    - **Breaking Gender Stereotypes & Challenging Son-centric Rituals**: Celebration of birth of the girl child, dedicating special day on value of girl child, plantation drives symbolizing nurturing and care for girl child.
        - Example: Cuddalore (Tamil Nadu), Selfie with Daughters (Jind district, Haryana).