

## **Ministry of Women & Child Development - Year End Review, 2017 - Part II**

### **Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP)**

\n\n

\n

- **Objective** - Beti Bachao Beti Padhao is one of the flagship programmes of the Government of India.

\n

\n\n

\n

- It was launched to address the declining Child Sex Ratio (CSR) (0-6 years) and address other related issues of disempowerment of women.

\n

\n\n

\n

- It is a tri-ministerial, convergent effort of

\n

\n\n

\n

1. Ministry of Women and Child Development

\n

2. Ministry of Health & Family Welfare

\n

3. Ministry of Human Resource Development

\n

\n\n

\n

- The programme focusses on

\n

\n\n

\n

1. awareness and advocacy campaign

\n

2. multi-sectoral action in selected 161 districts (low on Child Sex Ratio)

- \n
3. effective enforcement of Pre-Conception and Pre Natal Diagnostic Techniques (PC&PNDT) Act
  - \n
  4. enabling girls' education
  - \n

\n\n

- \n
- **Outcome** - Nearing completion of 3 years, the programme has been successful in establishing improvement in CSR as a National Agenda.
  - \n
  - Positive outcomes in the selected 161 BBBP districts are evident from -
  - \n

\n\n

- \n
1. improving trend in Sex Ratio at Birth (SRB)
  - \n
  2. progress in first trimester registration as against the reported Anti Natal Care registrations
  - \n
  3. improvement in institutional deliveries
  - \n
  4. increase in girl's enrolment in secondary education
  - \n
  5. construction of girl's toilets in every school in selected districts
  - \n

\n\n

- \n
- **Expansion** - The Cabinet has recently approved the Pan-India expansion of BBBP Scheme, from 2017-18 to 2019-20, to be funded 100% by the Central Government.
  - \n
  - It would now include multi-sectoral intervention in 244 districts in addition to the existing 161 districts.
  - \n
  - The physical implementation of the scheme will happen under the leadership of Collector.
  - \n
  - Another 235 districts are to be covered through Alert District Media, Advocacy and Outreach.
  - \n
  - BBBP would thus cover all the 640 districts (as per census 2011) of the

Country, to have a deeper positive impact on Child Sex Ratio.

\n

\n\n

### **Cradle Baby Reception Center**

\n\n

\n

- The Ministry has stressed upon the need to place cradles at important locations such as hospitals, Primary Health Centres, etc.

\n

- This is aimed at saving the lives of uncared new born babies.

\n

- And placing them in the adoption net managed by CARA (Central Adoption Resource Authority), to rehabilitate them in the familial care.

\n

\n\n

### **Integrated Child Development Scheme**

\n\n

\n

- **Supplementary Nutrition** (under Integrated Child Development Services Scheme) Rules, 2017 has been notified.

\n

- This is to regulate the entitlement specified under provisions of the National Food Security Act (NFSA), 2013.

\n

- This would be applicable for every pregnant woman and lactating mother till 6 months after child birth.

\n

- And every child in the age group of 6 months to 6 years (including those suffering from malnutrition) for 300 days in a year.

\n

- The Government has also revised the cost norms for supplementary nutrition with annual indexation under the Anganwadi Services.

\n

- **Direct Benefit Transfer** - Transfer of benefits/services under ICDS using Aadhaar as the primary identifier has been planned.

\n

- Accordingly, two components of ICDS Scheme have been identified:

\n

\n\n

- \n
1. payment of honorarium to Anganwadi Worker and Anganwadi Helpers
  2. providing supplementary nutrition to pregnant women & lactating mothers and children in the age group of six months to six years
- \n

\n\n

- \n
- **Anganwadi Centre** - Construction of Anganwadi Centre (AWC) buildings would be taken up under the MGNREGS in convergence with Anganwadi Services under the Umbrella ICDS Scheme.
  - Besides, cleanliness drive and toilet constructions were taken up in AWCs as part of the Swachh Bharat Mission initiatives.
- \n

\n\n

### **Integrated Child Protection Scheme**

\n\n

- \n
- The Ministry is executing an Integrated Child Protection Scheme for ensuring implementation of the Juvenile Justice Act.
  - The scheme has recently been brought under the Umbrella Integrated Child Development Scheme as its sub-scheme.
- \n

\n\n

### **Universal Scheme for Adolescent Girls**

\n\n

- \n
- This is aimed at providing nutrition support and vocational /skill training for out of school girls in the age group of 11-14 years.
  - The scheme has been extended to around 300 districts in addition to the existing nearly 200 districts across the country.
  - The fund released so far has benefitted around 80 lakh out-of-school adolescent girls.
- \n

\n\n

## Child Marriage

\n\n

- \n
- An amendment has been proposed by the Ministry to the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006.
- \n
- The changes aim at making child marriages henceforth invalid in law so as to deter the still prevalent practice.
- \n
- The Ministry also took up the issue for dichotomy between IPC Section 375 (rape) and the Protection of Children against Sexual Offences Act (POCSO), 2012.
- \n
- Accordingly, the Supreme Court has recently criminalized sex between a man and his underage wife (below 18 years).
- \n
- The Ministry is also working to prosecute Panchayat members for promoting or permitting solemnization of child marriages at village level.
- \n

\n\n

## Trafficking

\n\n

- \n
- The Ministry has conceptualized a comprehensive **Bill on Trafficking**, which is under consideration.
- \n
- It clearly outlines and differentiates between Regulatory and Rehabilitation aspects.
- \n
- **Railway CHILDLINE** is an initiative currently operating at 33 identified railway stations that serve as 'source' and 'destination' centres for child trafficking.
- \n
- Rescue services have been started in these stations by the WCD ministry, in collaboration with Ministry of Railways.
- \n
- Proposal for extending the service in 55 more new railway stations have been approved by the Ministry.
- \n

\n\n

## Online content

\n\n

\n

- An Inter-Ministerial Committee was constituted by Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, with membership of MWCD.

\n

- It has issued an advisory to all Internet Service Providers within the country.

\n

- This is to prevent the distribution and transmission of child sexual abuse material/imagery.

\n

- Fast track mechanisms are planned to complain and enable swift and speedy removal/blockage of online content offensive to women and children.

\n

- A Public Grievance Cell is also active in the Ministry, which gives women and children a way to send their grievances directly to the government.

\n

\n\n

## Hausala 2017

\n\n

\n

- Hausla 2017 is the child rights week celebrated by the WCD Ministry, by hosting an inter-Child Care Institution festival.

\n

- Children from child care institutions across the country participated in various events and competitions.

\n

\n\n

## Missing Children

\n\n

\n

- Khoya-Paya Portal is a citizen friendly web portal for Khoya Paya (Lost and Found).

\n

- The portal was launched in 2015 for reporting and searching missing children.

\n

\n\n

\n\n

**Source: PIB**

\n

