

# 4. Demography and Vital Statistics


4.1 Census Data/Evaluation/Survey Reports (State of Juvenile Justice /Dropout Rates/ Safety Audit/Working Women/ Kidnaping/Malnourished Kids/Slums Report/SICHREM Study/Child Sex Ratio Survey/Violation of RTE/CAG Report/Juvenile Crimes/Rapes/Suicide Cases/Gender Gap etc.)

## RTE fails to shine schools

### Dropout Rates, Poor Facilities Remain Problems: Survey

Maria Aloram | TNN

**RIGHT OR RUSE?**  
A survey conducted by NGO JOSH on the implementation of the Right to Education Act has thrown up some startling finds



Survey covered 1,429 households and 29 schools in six districts

**11%** parents said they're still being charged admission fees

**78%** parents received variable amounts as scholarships for their children. Many were made to sign receipts beforehand, but no money was given

**34%** children were asked to get money from home for ID cards, PTA funds, exam fees etc

**46%** children had faced corporal punishment and many dropped out because of this

**55%** parents were never called for any parents-teacher meeting

**25%** schools have no functional toilets in

**99%** of MCD schools have no school management committees

**70%** parents said there is no grievance redressal mechanism

**23%** children said they have differently-abled schoolmates

**80%** schools don't have teachers for children with special needs

Teachers said **non-teaching work take up most of their time**

Most parents still spend **Rs 300-400 on private tuition**

**Horror Tales**

- Neha, a student of Nagar Nigam Prathamik Vidyalaya, was beaten up by her teacher over a trivial matter. She was hospitalized for two months, her mother, a resident of Moti Lal Nehru Camp, Munirka, said.
- Babita Khatun, studies in Nagar Nigam Sector-5, Rithala. This 11-year-old girl often cleans toilets in her school, her mother Bulchera Bibi says.
- Sumit of Begampur, Malviya Nagar, dropped out from Class II because of constant bullying. He works at a barber shop now. He says his teachers didn't help when he complained

major impediment.

"Access to free and compulsory education is limited. Especially in terms of denial of admissions based on documents, admission, and other fees being charged, denial of admission to children with special needs and lack of provisions to retain them meaningfully in schools," she said.

She added that school dropouts remained the biggest problem. No functional toilets and corporal punishment have emerged as key reasons for students dropping out. In 25% of schools, there are no functional toilets. Parents stop sending their daughters to them as a result and 30% of schools do not provide clean drinking water.

In 99% of the schools, management committees haven't been formed, barring the MCD schools of Trilokpuri. These committees are supposed to be similar to parent-teacher associations. Apparently, a delay in the notification of Delhi State rules held up their formation. But more than a year after these rules were notified, no official order on formation of such panels has reached schools. More than 70% of students say they don't complain, if they have problems with a teacher. A lack of awareness among children and parents about the RTE Act remains a

Times of India, March 15, 2013, P.2 (Survey-Schools)

# Insecure in an enlightened milieu

## 76% Of Women In North Campus Feel Unsafe According To Safety Audit

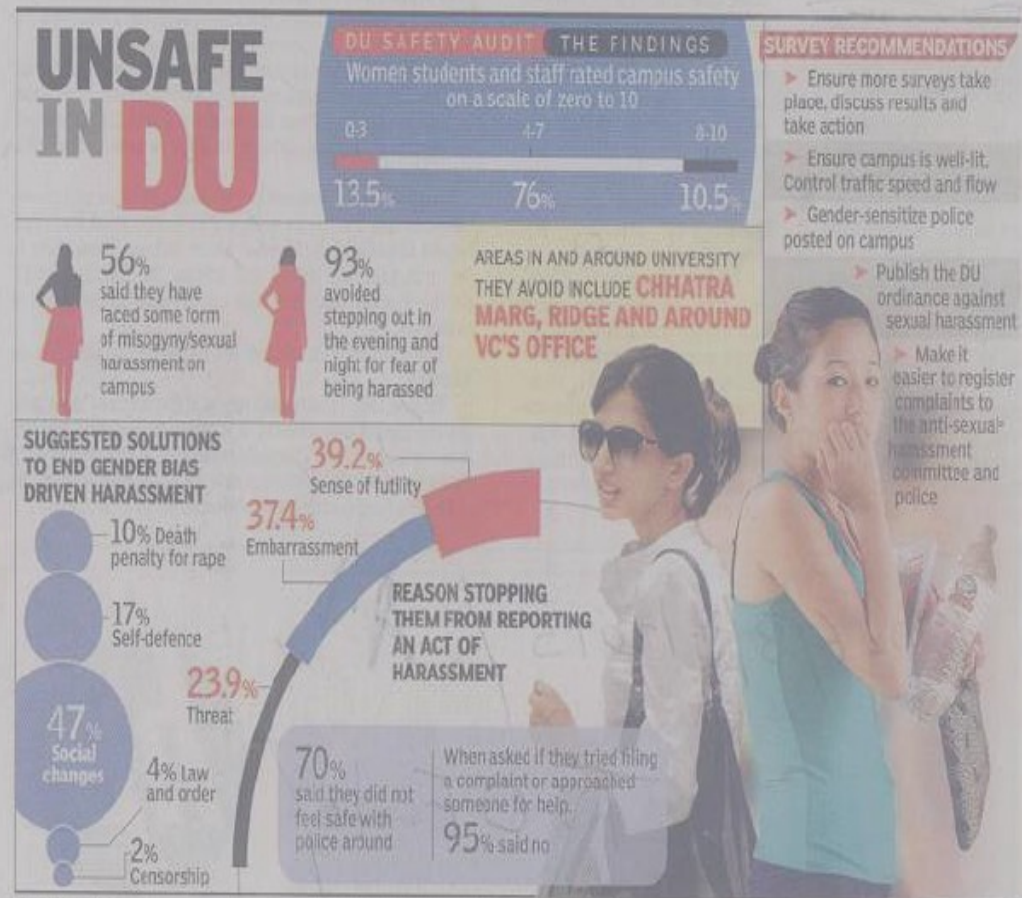
Manash Pratim Gohain | TNN

New Delhi: Given the academic atmosphere and a large community of students and teachers, one won't expect the university campus to be an unsafe place. But a staggering 76% of women in Delhi University's North Campus feel unsafe while 56% have faced some sort of harassment, according to a safety audit carried out by a group of Kirori Mal College teachers and students. It was under the aegis of the gender forum of the college, Parivartan.

### DELHI FOR WOMEN [t01.in/dehi4women](http://t01.in/dehi4women)

The audit also revealed that 93% of women students avoid the campus in the evening and, interestingly, 70% don't feel safe even with the police around. And more than 70% don't feel safe even on the lifeline of the campus - Chhatra Marg - and areas around the vice-chancellor's office.

The study was conducted after the Nirbhaya incident. A teacher at the college, Shahana Bhattacharya, who was part of the project, said: "There is an urgent need for a comprehensive safety audit of the area. The last comprehensive study was done



in 1995 and the concerns reflected in that study are still to be addressed even after 18 years."

Lack of streetlights, rash driving and misbehaviour by bikers and car owners are major concerns for women, particularly those who stay

on campus. While over 56% of the women surveyed said they faced some sort of harassment very often, "respondents emphasized that comments and staring are so common that they have lost count how many times they faced this," said Bhatta-

charya. Police presence didn't help in boosting confidence and the women said how they had at times tried calling various helpline numbers and realized that none works. The report cited an incident of a girl going to file

a complaint and the police officers requesting her not to do so because the man who had harassed her was a cop. A large section (46.6%) felt that unless society change as a whole, stricter laws better implementation would not help.

Times of India, March 8, 2013, P.6

(Audit-Women Safety)



# Students do menial tasks at govt schools

## No takers for group 'D' posts with paltry salary of Rs 1,500, says study

**BANGALORE:** Children studying in government schools in Bangalore perform menial tasks on a regular basis according to a study conducted by a city-based human rights organisation.

South India Cell for Human Rights Education and Monitoring (Sichrem), which conducted a study for the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights, found that most schools ask their students to clean toilets, wash vessels and sweep floors.

### Forced to do

The study covered as many as 47 schools in five wards of Shivajinagar, Pulikeshinagar, KR Puram, Chamarajpet and Vasanthnagar.

The objective of the study was to know about the compliance of schools with the provisions of Right to Education Act.

Sichrem found that in almost all the government schools students were forced



The study conducted by the Sichrem covered 47 government schools in five wards of Bangalore.

to perform usually done by Group 'D' employees (ayah). "The State government has

issued a circular in 2011 to appoint a Group 'D' employee to do all these jobs and had even

released the money. But no appointment is made so far," said N Gangadhar Reddy, the

programme co-ordinator.

According to him almost all the schools make the students unload the Akshaya Patra (mid-day meals) vessels from the vehicles and the heavy vessels are carried to the schools, served, cleaned and sent back by the students.

### Job of an attender

"It is the job of an attender to do this. The International Society for Krishna Consciousness (Iskcon), which supplies food to the schools makes it mandatory to send back the vessels at least after one wash," he said.

According to one more member, who worked on this project, at least 20 schools of the 47 treat the children badly by making them do almost all kinds of menial jobs.

"At a school in KR Puram and another in Anandapuram and some schools in Pulikeshinagar, we found that children were cleaning toilets and other areas which were very clean. We have adequate proof for it," said Reddy.

The poor payment of Rs 1,500 per month fixed by school authorities for a temporary group 'D' employee is another reason for the mess as there are few takers for the job (minimum wage for a worker under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme is Rs 176 per day) in many government schools.

Inactive School Development Monitoring Committees (SDMC) further worsen the situation, the report says.

"The members of SDMC (most of them are parents of the students of the respective schools) are all daily wage labourers who do not attend meetings called by schools as they tend to lose a day's wages. They do not complain or protest against anything fearing that their wards studying in the schools might be affected," said Reddy.

Commissioner, Department of Public Instruction S R Umashankar was not available for comment.

DH News Service

Deccan Herald, March 30, 2013, P.2 (Study-SICHREM)

# TOI Campaigns To Make Delhi Better Place For Women

## 96% women feel unsafe after sunset in city: Survey

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Nine out of 10 women in the national capital feel that Delhi is unsafe or very unsafe for them. Two-thirds have experienced misbehaviour on the city's streets. Two-thirds work in offices where there is no mechanism to deal with sexual harassment. Close to half feel they were discriminated against during the division of parental property.

**DELHI FOR WOMEN**  
[toi.in/delhi4women](http://toi.in/delhi4women)

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These are some of the findings of a survey commissioned by TOI on the public and private lives of Delhi's women. The survey clearly shows that while some things may be changing at home and at the workplace, the city still poses significant challenges

### LIVING ON THE EDGE



94% women find Delhi unsafe or very unsafe	96% don't feel safe after sunset
67% say the metro is best way to travel	
63% say their office has no set-up to fight sexual harassment	48% were discriminated against in family property division
70% do most of the housework	

es to a woman. The survey interviewed women across age groups and included both the main city and its satellites.

With this survey, TOI is also kicking off a campaign, 'Delhi For Women', which will look into different aspects of a woman's

life and engagement with the city. While safety, in the shadow of the death of Nirbhaya and continuing instances of sexual assault, remains a major consideration, this campaign will not stop there. It will identify various problems that the women of Delhi

face - whether during the commute, at work, home or leisure. We hope this will act as a first step towards finding solutions to these problems. Eventually, we hope Delhi will rid itself of the image of being the most unsafe city for women in India.

There is suddenly, energy around changing the status quo. The energy was most evident in the protests that followed Nirbhaya's gangrape, but the impact thankfully lingers.

The capital may have the reputation of being India's most unsafe city for women, but the protests against sexual assault that have rocked the country and forced the government to enact new legislation were also led by Delhi's women. In their fight to demand what is rightfully theirs and to reclaim a city that is equally theirs, The Times of India joins hands with Delhi's women.



## Delhi Survey reveals fall in sex ratio, rise in GSDP

Staff Reporter

**NEW DELHI:** The sex ratio in the Capital has declined from a high of 1,004 in 2008 to 893 in 2011, reveals the Economic Survey of Delhi 2012-13 which was presented by Chief Minister Sheila Dikshit in the State Assembly on Tuesday. The survey has also reported that the Delhi's Gross State Domestic Product during 2012-13 recorded at Rs.365,726 crore has gone up by 17.7% in comparison to the previous year's GSDP growth of 18.84%.

Ms. Dikshit said the Delhi Government had ensured 24-hour power supply to its citizens. "Delhi is the lowest in power deficiency. It is just 0.1% in respect of Delhi whereas it is 16.7% for U.P., 21% for Bihar, 18.4% for Tamil Nadu and 14.9% for Karnataka." The survey has also revealed that among the North Indian States the maximum amount of money is spent on a Delhiite. While a majority of people continue to live in unplanned housing structures, the per capita plan outlay on a Delhi resident is Rs.8,476 as against only Rs.4,158 for a resident of Punjab or Rs.4,812 for a resident of Himachal Pradesh.

North-West Delhi remained the most densely populated district at 37,346 persons per square kilometre while South-West slipped from being the least populated, yielding the

spot to New Delhi that has 5,445 persons per sq km. Delhi has also started receiving fewer migrants. Delhi has been demanding an increased share in Central Taxes, which has remained at Rs.325 crore for the last decade. However, total grants in aid from the Centre had increased from 1,312.89 crore in 2007-08 to Rs.1,927.88 crore. In 2010-11, on account of the Commonwealth Games, the figure had shot up to Rs.4,357.40 crore.

Rapid rise in pollution has led to environmental degradation with an increase in the levels of sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide and carbon monoxide from 5 to 15 mg per unit, 46 to 66 mg per unit and 1,937 to 2,020 mg per unit in 2010 and 2011 respectively. This has been attributed to increase in the number of vehicles registered in Delhi which went up from 31.64 lakh in 1999-2000 to 74.53 lakh in 2011-12. The survey also states that the 48-km stretch of the Yamuna in Delhi is highly polluted due to the discharge of untreated sewage and industrial effluents into the river.

And when it comes to per sq km Plan outlay, Delhi gets a whopping Rs.9.58 crore as against Rs.4.61 crore for Haryana, and only Rs.23 lakh for Punjab, Rs.15 lakh for Uttarakhand, Rs.6 lakh for Himachal Pradesh and Rs.3 lakh for Jammu and Kashmir.

Hindu, March 20, 2013, P.4 (Survey-Sex Ratio)

# नाबालिगों के अपहरण में टॉप पर राजधानी दिल्ली

**नई दिल्ली | हिन्दुस्तान टीव**

दिल्ली-एनसीआर में बच्चे सुरक्षित नहीं हैं। खेलते-कूदते मासूम कब गायब हो जाएं, इसका कोई भरोसा नहीं। सबसे बुरा हाल राजधानी दिल्ली का है। नेशनल क्राइम रिकॉर्ड ब्यूरो (एनसीआरबी) की रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक 15 वर्ष तक के लड़के-लड़कियों के अपहरण में दिल्ली सबसे ऊपर है।

सभी राज्यों और केंद्र शासित प्रदेशों का क्राइम रिकॉर्ड देखें तो दिल्ली में पिछले तीन वर्ष के दौरान अपहरण के मामले तेजी से बढ़े हैं। दिल्ली से सटे गुड़गांव, फरीदाबाद, नोएडा और गाजियाबाद में भी हानात अच्छे नहीं हैं। बता दें कि अन्य राज्यों और केंद्रशासित प्रदेशों की तुलना में बच्चों के साथ होने अपराध रोकने के लिए राष्ट्रीय राजधानी में पुलिस द्वारा खासी चौकसी बरतने का दावा किया जाता है। लोकल पुलिस के अलावा क्राइम ब्रांच भी बच्चों के अपहरण जैसी वारदातों को रोकने में मदद करती है, लेकिन इसके बावजूद दिल्ली में नाबालिगों के अपहरण की घटनाएं लगातार बढ़ रही हैं। दिल्ली में बच्चों के लिए काम करने वाले एनजीओ कई बार यह बात कह चुके हैं कि बच्चों के अपहरण के पीछे किसी गिरोह का हाथ है। मानव तस्करी के बड़े मामले सामने आने के बावजूद पुलिस यह मानने को तैयार नहीं है कि अपहरण की वारदातों के पीछे किसी गिरोह का हाथ है। वहीं, राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग की प्रतिवर्ष जारी होने वाली 'एक्शन रिसर्च ऑन ट्राफिकिंग एन वुमैन एंड चिल्ड्रन' रिपोर्ट में कहा गया है कि देश में लापता होने वाले बच्चे असल में लापता नहीं होते, बल्कि उनका अवैध ख्यापार भी किया जाता है। इनमें से बड़ी संख्या को यौन कार्यों में लगा दिया जाता है। अध्ययन के अनुसार बाल तस्करी का धंधा तीन बिंदुओं पर टिका होता है।

**तीन वर्षों के आंकड़े**

2011	2242
2010	2014
2009	1447

(स्रोत - नेशनल क्राइम रिकॉर्ड ब्यूरो)

**0-15 वर्ष तक के बच्चों का अपहरण**

प्रदेश	कुल मामलों	लड़कियां
दिल्ली	2242	934
उत्तर प्रदेश	782	653
महाराष्ट्र	281	194
आंध्रप्रदेश	236	204
पश्चिम बंगाल	229	155
राजस्थान	226	198
मध्यप्रदेश	213	191
बिहार	184	139

**गाजियाबाद: बढ़ रहे मामले**

दिल्ली से सटे यूपी के इस जिले में भी बच्चे लगातार गायब हो रहे हैं। इसकी तस्दीक पुलिस के आंकड़े करते हैं। वर्ष 2009 में जहां 118 बच्चे गायब हुए थे, वहीं 2010 में यह आंकड़ा 144 तक पहुंच गया। 2011 में 203 बच्चों की गुमशुदगी की रिपोर्ट दर्ज की गई। 2012 में यह आंकड़ा बढ़कर 299 तक पहुंच गया।

**नोएडा: नितारी से लिया सबक**

यहां वर्ष 2011 में 94 नाबालिग लापता हुए थे। इनमें से 63 को बरामद कर लिया गया। वर्ष 2012 में 89 बच्चे गुम हुए, जिनमें से 65 को बरामद कर लिया गया। नोएडा के नितारी कांड के बाद सुप्रीम कोर्ट की पहल पर लापता बच्चों की तलाश के लिए केंद्र, प्रत्येक राज्य और जिला स्तर पर सेल का गठन किया गया है।

**गुड़गांव: जारी है तलाश**

वर्ष 2010 में यहां से 96 बच्चे लापता हुए थे। 2011 में यह आंकड़ा 71 था। 2012 में 67 बच्चे गुम हुए थे। इस वर्ष अब तक पांच मामलों सामने आ चुके हैं। तीन दर्जन गुमशुदा बच्चों की अभी है तलाश बच्चों को तलाश के लिए पुलिस ने अलग से एक सेल बनाया हुआ है। इसमें एक इंस्पेक्टर समेत कुल पांच लोग शामिल हैं।

**फरीदाबाद: 35 बच्चे नहीं मिले**

पुलिस रिकॉर्ड के मुताबिक प्रत्येक वर्ष बच्चों के गायब होने की घटनाएं बढ़ रही हैं। वर्ष 2010 में 24 बच्चे गायब हुए थे। वर्ष 2011 में 27 और 2012 में यह संख्या बढ़कर 35 तक पहुंच गई। इनमें से 53 बच्चे वापस आ गए, जबकि एक की मौत हो गई। पिछले तीन वर्षों में 35 बच्चों का अब तक कोई पता नहीं चल सका है।

**08** वैं मिस्ट में भारत में एक बच्चा लापता होता है

**10** हजार युवतियां प्रतिवर्ष नेपाल से यौन शोषण के लिए भारत लई जाती हैं

**44** हजार से ज्यादा बच्चे प्रतिवर्ष भारत से होते हैं लापता, यूपन के मुताबिक

Hindustan (H), March 3, 2013, P.4 (NCRB Statistics)



# Audit Finds Over 40% Malnourished Kids In 10 States

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A decade after a CAG audit revealed how a scheme to help infants and young children was failing, a fresh report tabled in Parliament on Tuesday says the number of malnourished children exceeds the 40% mark in 10 states as on March, 2011.

The audit of the flagship Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) says 49% children in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar (82%), Haryana (43%), Jharkhand (40%), Odisha (50%), Rajasthan (43%), UP (41%) and Delhi (50%) are moderately to severely malnourished.

The number of severely malnourished children exceeded 1% of total weighed children in eight states, including Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttarakhand and West Bengal. The figure was a high 3% and 4% in Maharashtra and West Bengal, respectively.

The audit, covering 2006-07 to 2010-11, says 52% of anganwadis surveyed lack toilets, 32% don't have drinking water and reveals 33%-45% gap between eligible beneficiaries and actual



NOT GETTING THEIR DUE

recipients of supplementary nutrition. Funds allocated for ICDS components are being diverted for paying salaries as against a release of Rs 1,753 crore to 13 states in 2008-09 and 15 states in 2009-11, the actual expenditure was Rs 2,853 crore. Another Rs 57 crore was diverted to activities not permitted under ICDS in five states and Rs 70 crore was parked in deposits blocking funds.

Worryingly, while there was no data in six states on beneficiaries of pre-school kits who joined main-

stream education, in five states the shortfall in the number of children who took up formal education ranged between 7% and 30%.

Ten years after reporting ICDS goals were not being met as health status of beneficiaries was not improving. CAG found functional weighing machines for babies and adults were not available in 25%-58% — depending on the years surveyed — in test-checked anganwadis. Around 61% anganwadis did not have their own buildings and 25% were functioning from semi-pucca or open or partially covered spaces. Medicine kits are not available in 33%-49% of anganwadis that formed the sample.

The shortfall under various categories of training ranged from 19% to 58% of targets and the supplementary nutrition was under-funded by 15%-36% between 2006 and 2011.

Some 33%-47% children were not weighed for monitoring their growth from 2006-07 to 2010-11. Under the wheat-based nutrition programme, the Centre could allocate 78% of the food grain demanded by states. The actual off-take by states was only 68% of the total demanded by them.

Times of India, Marc 6, 2013, P.14 (Audit-Malnourished Kids)

# Regus survey: Women resuming work post maternity leave can improve productivity

New Delhi

Women employees, joining back after maternity leave, can help in improving overall productivity as the company can save training and recruitment costs on such people, says a survey business services firm Regus.

According to the survey conducted among 550 employers, 65 per cent of respondent think that hiring returning mothers can improve productivity because



they offer skills and experience which are difficult to find in the current market. Moreover, the survey said that 72 per cent of respondent believe that companies that ignore part-time re-

turning mothers are missing out on a significant and valuable part of the employment pool.

The survey suggested that employees can encourage women in returning to work after a maternity leave, by introducing greater flexibility, near-site creche facilities, increased use of video-conferencing technology, more vacation and job sharing among others.

Meanwhile, in another survey conducted by profession-

al networking site LinkedIn, 94% of Indian women feel they have led a successful career, and define their professional success as the right balance between work and personal life. In contrast, "A majority of women (63%) worldwide define professional success as having the right balance between work and personal life and nearly three quarters of women (74%) believe they can have it all," the study titled 'What Women Want @ Work' said.

Free Press Journal, March 5, 2013, P.13 (Regus Survey)



# 68m Indians without basic facilities

Visakhapatnam, Jabalpur top list with maximum slums

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

Nearly 68 million Indians continue to live in unhygienic conditions without basic facilities in 17.35 million slum dwellings across the country. Interestingly, though, over 70 per cent own their houses, has mobile phones and televisions even as around 5 per cent boasts of four-wheelers.

And Visakhapatnam and Jabalpur top the list of cities with the maximum slums, even more than Greater Mumbai and Delhi, as per the 2011 Census.

However, the actual number might be on the higher side as

## HIGHLIGHTS

- 58.4% residential Census houses in good condition, 37.5% liveable and rests 4.0% in dilapidated condition
- 70.2% slum households are owned while rest is rented
- 74% households use tap as the main source of drinking water
- 55.7% have drinking water facilities within the premises in slums; 11.4% have to travel more than 100 m away to fetch drinking water
- Over 90% use electricity for lighting, 8.2% kerosene and 0.7% have other source of lighting; 0.5% has no lighting in the slum areas
- 68% have latrine facility within the premises, 18.9% dedicate it open, 15.1% use public latrine

the Census of India in its latest report has considered the old definition of slum as a settlement of at least 60 households of poorly built congested tenements in unhygienic environment usually with inadequate infrastructure and lacking in drinking water and sanitation facilities.

As per new definition by the Planning Commission

committee on slums headed by Pronob Sen, a settlement of at least 20 households in such conditions is defined as a slum. "Analysis on the basis of the new definition may increase the number of slum households," said Dr C Chandramouli, Registrar General and Census Commissioner.

He was speaking on the

sidelines of a function where report on 'Housing Stock, Amenities and Assets in Slums based on House listing and Housing Census 2011, was released by Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation Minister Ajay Maken and Minister of State for Home RPN Singh.

The first-ever survey of slum households in close to 4,000 statutory towns (having municipalities) across the country says that slum households comprise 17.4 per cent of the 78.8 million households in the country with Visakhapatnam topping the list with 44 per cent of slum households followed by Jabalpur (43 per cent), Greater Mumbai (41 per cent), Meerut (40 per cent) and Raipur with 39 per cent.

Among States, Andhra Pradesh has the largest number of such households at 35 per

cent, followed by Chhattisgarh (31 per cent), Madhya Pradesh (28.3 per cent), Maharashtra (22.7 per cent), West Bengal (21 per cent) and Jammu and Kashmir reporting 18.8 per cent. Delhi reported 11.8 per cent slum households while Haryana has 18 per cent slum households.

To ensure better facilities to the slum-dwellers, Maken said. "We have decided to frame a Slum Upgradation Index for every city and state now. We are going to set up a committee which will give us a report in three months suggesting us way to prepare the index."

He also said that his Ministry will not discriminate between any slums while providing financial aid to the states under the Rajiv Awas Yojana (RAY) Scheme.

Pioneer, March 22, 2013, P.5 (Census Data/Slums Report)

## Mizoram witnesses alarming increase in child abuse

**STAFF REPORTER**

**GUWAHATI, March 28** – The Asian Centre for Human Rights (ACHR), while releasing its report 'State of Juvenile Justice in Mizoram' has stated that there was an alarming increase in child abuse as well as juvenile delinquency in Mizoram.

But the State Government was not sincere in the implementation of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act of 2000, the report alleged. Although the Act has been enacted more than a decade ago, the statutory support services, namely the Juvenile Justice Boards and the Child Welfare Committees have been set up in all the eight districts only during 2010-11.

"Sexual abuse of children remains high. A study commissioned by the Social Wel-

fare department released in October 2012 recorded 630 cases of child sexual abuse during the period of 2003 to 2009. It is clear that children are not safe in the State, as most cases of abuse were committed by relatives, friends and teachers of the victims," it said.

Juvenile delinquency, too, remains equally high. During the last decade from 2002 to 2011, the National Crime Records Bureau under the Ministry of Home Affairs recorded a total of 1,699 cases of 'juvenile delinquency' in Mizoram.

"Mizoram has failed miserably in providing institutional care. The lack of separate Special Home and the poor facilities in the existing Observation Home-cum-Special Homes at Aizawl and Lunglei, overcrowding, lack of segregation of the juveniles on the basis of the nature of their crimes se-

verely undermine the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act", Suhas Chakma, director of ACHR said.

Ironically, the report added, the Mizoram Government has failed to utilize the grants under Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) provided by the Ministry of Women and Child Development. On July 6, 2012, Mizoram informed the Project Approval Board under ICPS that Rs 75.25 lakh was lying unspent from the grants of 2011-12.

There are 28 recognized Children Homes in Mizoram and almost all of them are either privately owned or run by faith based organizations. As a majority of the Children Homes is run through charity and children are admitted without the consent of the Child Welfare Committees, the lack of supervision by the

State Government is responsible for poor conditions of the Children Homes.

"Children are subjected to abuse and torture in many of the Homes. On July 13, 2009, a 13-year-old child was beaten to death by the officials at the Herald for Christ's Children Home at Lungleng, about 15 km north of Aizawl.

"The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has awarded compensation of Rs 3,00,000 to the mother of the child based on the complaint filed by ACHR, it said.

The ACHR recommended to the Mizoram Government to establish the new Special and Observation Homes sanctioned by the Ministry of Women and Child Development in the districts not having such homes; to separate the Observation Homes and Special Homes at Aizawl, etc.

**Assam Tribune, March 29, 2013, P.7  
(ACHR/Juvenile Justice in Mizoram)**



# Growth story draws a new Lakshman Rekha

*Indian women are largely excluded from the few sectors that are growing, shows an ILO study*

Rukmini Shrinivasan | 716

The number of women in India's workforce has fallen so sharply that it has skewed the global numbers, prompting an International Labour Organization investigation. The study has found that while higher educational enrolment and problems with data explain some of this decline, exclusion of women from fast-growing sectors of India's economy is a very real problem.

Labour force participation rate (LFPR) refers to the proportion of the working-age population that is either employed or seeking work. Female LFPR generally tends to be lower than male. Overall, female LFPR in India declined by 10% between 2005 and 2010. Out of 131 countries globally, the 2010 numbers place India 11th from the bottom.

"Globally, female labour force participation stands at 51.1%, going up to 66.4% in East Asia but falling to 31.8% in South Asia," says Sher Verick, senior employment specialist at the ILO, New Delhi. "Only Pakistan is worse off than India in South Asia," adds Verick.

Economists Steven Kapsos and Andrea Silberman of the ILO's Employment Trends Unit began their investigation after India's 2010 numbers for women in the labour force fell so sharply that global LFPR for both men and women diverged from ILO predictions. As reported earlier by TOI, female LFPR declined from an already low 33.3% for rural women in 2004-05 to 26.5% in 2009-10, and from 17.8% to 14.6% for urban women over the same period.

Kapsos and Silberman looked at four major reasons that economists have put forward over the last few years to explain India's falling female LFPR and calculated how much of the decline each of these factors accounted for. The first was increased female enrolment in education, an explanation that the Planning Commission subscribes to. Kapsos and Silberman found that this explained 1% of the 10% decline. The second, increased household incomes, explained another 1%.

The third explanation is one that former chief statistician Pronab Sen has frequently written about: problems with labour data measurement in the 2009-10 round of the National Sample Survey, which he says understated female LFPR. Kapsos and Silberman found problems not just with the 2009-10 NSS round, but also with the 2004-05 round which they say mistakenly overstated female LFPR.

"Taken together, these measurement errors explain around 5% of the 10% decline between 2005 and 2010," Kapsos explained.

Kapsos and Silberman say that the remaining nearly 3% of the 10% decline is because of women simply not being able to find the right employment opportunities. Moreover, when the data is seen over a 10 or 15-year period, measurement errors contribute far less, and the absence of economic opportunities is the major factor, Kapsos said.

While job opportunities are shrinking for both men and women because of changes in the Indian economy, women are hit far worse because they tend to be concentrated in sectors of the economy that are simply not grow-



ing points out Kapsos. "So in India's 10 fastest growing occupations between 1994 and 2010, women accounted for less than 40% of the employment growth in nine out of 10 occupations (the exception being teaching associate professionals, where they had a 43.8% share of the employment growth). They accounted for less than 30% of the employment growth in eight out of the 10 occupations," Kapsos explains. Mining, construction, manufacturing and transport are the fastest-growing sectors, followed by agriculture and fisheries.

"The big question going forward for India — as the Economic Survey identifies as well — is where will the jobs come from? Added to this is the question: where are the jobs for women going to come from?" says Verick.

Times of India, March 8, 2013, P.14

(ILO Study)

# पौने तीन करोड़ घरों की बागडोर महिलाओं के हाथ

रेखा सिनहा/एसएनबी



■ 2011 की जनगणना में पहली बार महिला मुखिया वाले घरों के आंकड़ों का किया गया था अध्ययन

लखनऊ। देश के दो करोड़ सत्र लाख घरों की मुखिया महिलाएँ हैं। ये महिलाएँ अपने परिवार की प्रमुख जिम्मेदारियाँ उठाने के साथ ही घर के महत्वपूर्ण निर्णय भी लेती हैं। प्रतिशत की दृष्टि से ये देश के कुल घरों का मात्र 10.9 फीसद है, जो सुनने में कम जबर लगता है लेकिन उम्मीद की रोशनी जगाता है। शहरी क्षेत्र में लगभग 12 फीसद घरों की पूरी कमान महिला के हाथ में है। उत्तर प्रदेश में महिला मुखिया वाले घरों का प्रतिशत 8.3 है। जनगणना-2011 के अंतर्गत देश के इतिहास में पहली बार इस तरह के आंकड़ों सरकारी स्तर पर जारी किये गये हैं। इन आंकड़ों से महिलाओं द्वारा चलाये जा रहे परिवारों के हालात समझने में काफी हद तक मदद मिलेगी। देश में 49 लाख महिलाएँ अकेली रहती हैं और उनके परिवार में कोई नहीं है। इनमें से 75 फीसद गाँवों में रहती हैं।

यू तो कहा जाता है कि महिलाएँ ही घर की मुखिया होती हैं लेकिन जनगणना के आंकड़ों में उन घरों पर अलग अध्ययन किया गया जहाँ सर्वेसर्वा (आर्थिक व्यवस्था से लेकर घर की मरम्मत व एसेट्स तक की व्यवस्था करने वाली) महिला सदस्य हैं। महिला सशक्तिकरण के इस दौर में परिवारों में महिलाओं की स्थिति कैसी है, इस पर अनेक अध्ययन और शोध होते रहे हैं लेकिन जनगणना के आंकड़ों का विश्लेषण कर पहली बार यह जानने की कोशिश की गयी कि बिन परिवारों की कमान महिलाओं के हाथ में है, उनके घरों व उपलब्ध सुविधाओं का क्या हाल है। इन परिवारों के मूल्य स्वरूप या तो लम्बे

समय से बाहर रह रहे हैं या उनकी नीकरी खली गयी और वे बेरोजगार हैं। महिला परिवार की कमान सदस्य है। पति की मृत्यु, अलगाव व तलाक के बाद अकेले रहने वाली

महिलाओं के घर भी इस गिनती में शामिल हैं। महिला मुखिया वाले घरों की सूची में लक्षद्वीप नम्बर वन है। यहाँ 43.7 फीसद घरों की सारी जिम्मेदारी महिलाएँ उठाती हैं। इसके बाद केरल है, जहाँ 23 प्रतिशत घरों की कमान महिलाओं के हाथ में है। छत्तीसगढ़, मध्यप्रदेश, तमिलनाडु, आंध्र प्रदेश, महाराष्ट्र, ओडिशा और गुजरात में 20 से 29 फीसद घरों में महिलाएँ सारी जिम्मेदारियाँ उठा रही हैं। आंकड़े बताते हैं कि महिला मुखिया वाले घर आकार में छोटे होते हैं। 39.3 फीसद घरों में मात्र एक कमरा और 29.6 फीसद घरों में दो कमरे हैं। छह कमरे और इससे बड़े घर केवल 2.6 फीसद के पास हैं। यह चिन्तनीय है कि इनमें से लगभग 51 फीसद घरों के परिसर के अन्दर शौचालय नहीं हैं और लगभग 41 फीसद घरों में नहाने की सुविधा नहीं है। यही नहीं मात्र 45 फीसद घरों के परिसर के अन्दर पेयजल पहुँच रहा है। बाकी को पानी के लिए दूर जाना पड़ता है। कुल का साठ फीसद घर पक्के बने हैं। पिछली जनगणना के आंकड़ों का भी इस दृष्टि से अध्ययन किया गया, जिससे ये परिणाम सामने आया कि एक दशक में शहरी इलाकों में फीमेल हेड वाले घरों की संख्या में एक फीसद की वृद्धि हुई है यानी बिना पुरुष को छत्रछाया में रहने वाली महिलाओं की संख्या बढ़ी है।

घाहनों के इस्तेमाल के मामले में महिला मुखिया वाले घर काफी पीछे हैं। लगभग तीन फीसद घरों में कार, 13 फीसद घरों में दोपहिया और 29 फीसद घरों में साइकिल है जबकि पुरुष मुखिया वाले 22 फीसद घरों में दोपहिया, 46 फीसद में साइकिल और 4.8 में कार है। मोबाइल फोन के इस्तेमाल में भी महिलाएँ पीछे हैं। टेलीविजन की उपलब्धता में महिला मुखिया वाले घर बस दो फीसद पीछे हैं।

Rashtriya Sahara (H), March 8 , 2013, P.8  
(Census 2011-Women Heads)



# Only 8% of Delhi's women work

Most Employed In Areas With Least Growth; Drop Out Of Job Market In Their 30s & 40s For Childcare

Rohini Srinivasan | 10

**W**hat do Delhi's working women do? While the image of a working Delhi woman that comes to mind for many is usually that of a BPO or IT worker, the real employment growth story for Delhi's women could be a far less glamorous one — paid domestic work.

For one, not a lot of Delhi's women do any paid work, at least of the sort that current surveys capture. According to data from the 2009-10 National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO), just 8% of women above the age of 15 in urban Delhi are in the work force, compared to the national average of almost 20%.

Only 11% are in the work force for urban women. The corresponding numbers for men are close to 5% both in Delhi and nationally. Moreover, this number has been steadily declining for women. In 2004-5, it was 14% for Delhi's urban women.

International Labour Organization (ILO) economists Steven Kapur and Andrea Silberman have identified four major reasons for the decline in female participation in the labour force: growing female enrolment in education, households withdrawing women from the workforce when the family's income level rises, problems with childcare and the concentration of women in areas of the economy where there is little job growth.

"Looking at the data over a longer period of time, we find that this last factor explains more than half of the fall in female participation in the labour force between 1994 and 2004," Kapur said.

What of the women in Delhi who do work? Researchers Neelha Nand Lalram Meenakshi of the Delhi-based Centre for Women's Development Studies estimate that in 2009, Delhi has just 4.3 lakh women workers. While the proportion of women working in manufacturing in Delhi fell sharply between 1999-2000 and 2004-5 — from 18.9% to 8.9% — the proportion of men working in the same field grew slightly in the same period, they found.

The biggest growth in employment for Delhi's women during that period was in "private household employment", which includes maids, cooks, housekeepers and nannies — from 5.3% to 8.6%.

The latest 2009-10 round of the NSSO shows that manufacturing remains the largest employer of Delhi's urban women, employing 17.1% of Delhi's work-

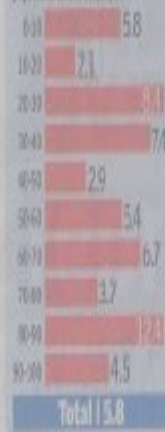
## How many Delhi women work?

Labour Force Participation Rates  
Percentage of women aged 15+ in the workforce

Region	Male	Female	Total
Delhi (urban)	74	5.0	46
India (urban)	76	9	49

## How many Delhi women work at different points of income distribution?

Income decile is a measure of population that is employed



Source: NSSO 2009-10



Just 8% of women above the age of 15 in urban Delhi are in the workforce, compared to the national average of almost 20% for urban women.

## Manufacturing employs 17.1% of Delhi's working women

WOMEN, education comes next at almost 18% followed by public administration and defence. Domestic work comes a close fourth. Financial intermediation employs less than 1% of Delhi's working women.

## The average daily wage for regular wage/salaried women in urban Delhi is ₹350

lower than that of urban Maharashtra, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh and Chandigarh.

## At what age do Delhi women work?

Region	LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATES BY AGE									
	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64
Delhi (F)	6.5	10.3	10.1	8	6.7	9.3	13	4.5		
Delhi (M)	18	59.4	84.6	95.8	99.2	98.7	97.3	95.3		
India (F)	7.6	16	19.6	23.1	27.3	25.3	22.9	22.7		
India (M)	23.1	62.7	90.6	97.3	98.4	98.4	97.7	94.6		

ing women. Education comes next, employing almost 18% of working women, followed by public administration and defence. Domestic work comes a close fourth. Financial intermediation employs less than 1% of Delhi's working women.

Delhi's women workers are clustered at the 20-30 and 40-49 age groups, possibly indicating that childcare largely takes over

women's lives in their thirties and early forties. Graduate and postgraduate women are more likely to work at one end of the spectrum, and illiterate or primary school-educated women at

the other end. Women with just a secondary or higher secondary education seem to find securing employment a greater challenge.

The average daily wage for women in urban Delhi is ₹350, lower than that of men, but higher than the Indian average. The urban parts of Maharashtra, Uttarakhnad, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh and Chandigarh, all have higher average daily wages for female regular employees.

"Perhaps the most substantial increase in regular work for women in Delhi in the first decade of the 21st century has been in the sphere of domestic work. But it is the fall in the share of manufacturing that distinguishes the changes in distribution of women workers by industry in Delhi from the aggregate picture of all million plus cities," Neelha and Meenakshi say.

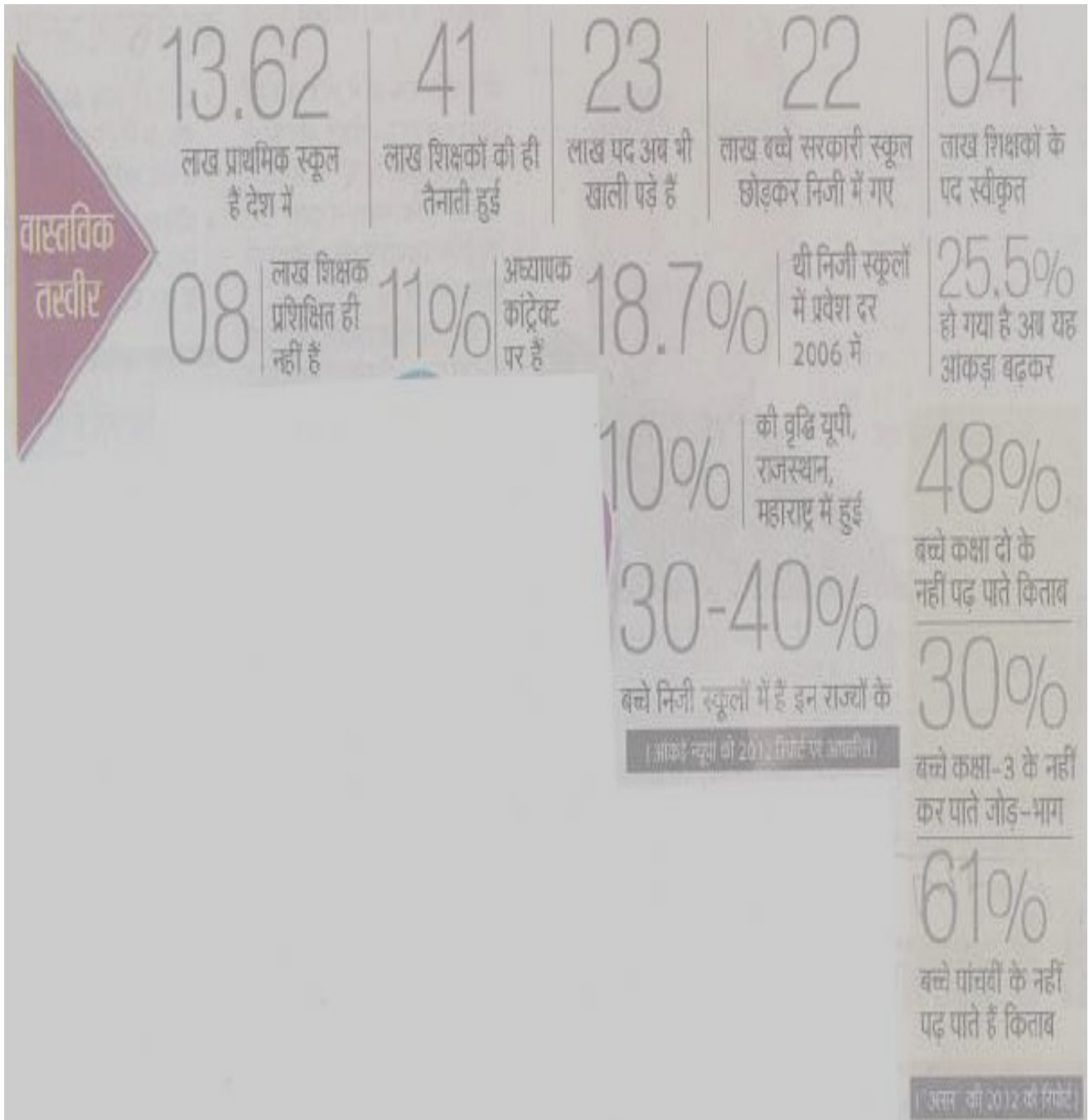
But it would be a mistake to see this rise, and the growing demand for domestic workers, as a "leeway" to raise the female work participation rates in any significant or meaningful manner, because it has not been able to offset declines in other sectors of employment, they warn.

"Automation of paid and even unpaid work for women are shrinking, and the strain in the economy is leading to a severe contraction of employment opportunities for women," says Jyoti Agrawal, CWDS director and one of Delhi's leading feminist historians.

Times of India, March 16, 2013, P.6 (Working Women-Delhi)







Hindustan (H), March 31, 2013, P.8 (RTE)

# Most women feel unsafe on DU North Campus, reveals survey

Harassment most feared at colleges, Chhatra Marg during evenings

Vijetha S.N

**NEW DELHI:** Around 70 per cent of the women between the ages of 19 and 25 admitted to feeling unsafe even with heavy police presence in Delhi University's North Campus, while an overwhelming 93 per cent said they avoid hanging around the campus during evenings for fear of being harassed.

In a survey conducted by Parivartan, the gender forum of Kirori Mal College, around 95 per cent women admitted to doing nothing or not complaining when they had been harassed and 73 per cent said they had a bad experience when they approached any of the authorities, be it college or the police. Only 16.50 per cent bothered calling a helpline when in trouble and only 22.70 per cent admitted to helping somebody who was being harassed. A majority of 39.20 per cent said they felt it was futile reporting harassment while another 37.40 per cent said they were embarrassed to do so.

When asked how often they have found themselves stared at, or being at the receiving end of lewd comments or subjected to any other form of harassment, 56 per cent said "very often" while 31 per cent said "often".

Individual colleges and Chhatra Marg were the places where the most harassment

was feared during the evenings, followed by the areas around the Vice-Royal Lodge, the Ridge and the Metro station. As many as 62 per cent said they had curfews and 64 per cent said that curfews did

not change anything.

On a scale of one to 10, around 76 per cent of the respondents rated the safety of the campus from "0 to 3".

For the survey, around 163 people from 18 to 27 age group were approached. A questionnaire containing 13 queries related to various aspects of campus safety was prepared. "Five of these questions were multiple-choice questions and the rest were open-ended. The area was divided into specific zones, each of which was designated to a team of two or three student members. The respondents in each zone were encouraged to take their time and come up with whatever additional insights they wanted to share," said Gaurav Kumar, a member.

"If there is anxiety about personal safety when pursuing a university education, then it is something to be worried about. The survey also has some recommendations which might help partially reduce sexual harassment and also give a sense of security to the women on campus," said Shahana Bhattacharya, staff adviser to Parivartan.

Hindu, March 11, 2013, P.4 (Survey-Women Safety)



रिपोर्ट

राजस्थान 26वें स्थान पर, गुजरात, पूर्वोत्तर राज्य महिलाओं के लिए सुरक्षित

# महिला सुरक्षा में प्रदेश शर्मिदा

राज्य स्टेजिक मैनेजमेंट ग्रुप का सर्वे

गुजरात

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महिलाओं को सुरक्षा देने के मामले में राजस्थान फिनडूडी साबित हुआ है। एक रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक प्रदेश के पूर्वी और उत्तरी जिलों में स्थिति ज्यादा खराब है। राज स्टेजिक मैनेजमेंट ग्रुप की तरफ से देशभर के 588 जिलों में किए गए विस्तृत अध्ययन में यह सामने आया है। महिलाओं की स्थिति का आकलन करने के लिए 0-6 वर्ष आयु वर्ग में लिंगानुपात, दुष्कर्म और दहेज हत्या के मामलों को ध्यान में रखा गया। विभिन्न सरकारों सूत्रों और सर्वेक्षणों के विश्लेषण के आधार पर बुधवार

## इन जिलों में स्थिति खराब

रिपोर्ट में महिलाओं की स्थिति के मामले में राजस्थान को 26वें पायदान पर रखा गया है। रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक, उत्तरी और पूर्वी राजस्थान के जिलों में महिलाओं की स्थिति बहुत खराब पाई गई। दहेज हत्या के मामले में धौलपुर जिले की स्थिति ऊपर भारत में सबसे ऊपर

बताई गई है। यहां वर्ष 2009 और वर्ष 2010 के दौरान प्रति एक लाख महिलाओं पर 5 महिलाओं की दहेज के लिए हत्या कर दी गई। जिले : धौलपुर, कटौली, भरतपुर, दौसा, अजमेर, झुंझुन, घूम, हनुमानगढ़, श्रीगंगानगर, अजमेर, बूंदी, बारां।

## खुशहाली में 18वां

खुशहाली सूचकांक में राजस्थान को 30 राज्य और केन्द्र शासित प्रदेशों में 18वें पायदान पर रखा गया है। राजस्थान का कोई भी जिला पहले 20 में नहीं आया। हिमाचल, हरियाणा, पंजाब, दिल्ली, केरल, तमिलनाडु व आंध्र खुशहाली सूचकांक में शीर्ष पर रहे जबकि छत्तीसगढ़, झारखंड, अरुण और बिहार सबसे नीचे रहे।

को जारी महिला सुरक्षा सूचकांक (एफएसआई) में दक्षिणी राज्य, गुजरात और अधिकतर पूर्वोत्तर राज्य महिलाओं के लिए सबसे सुरक्षित माने गए हैं, जबकि हरियाणा, मध्य

प्रदेश, पंजाब, दिल्ली और राजस्थान इस सूचकांक में सबसे नीचे रहे। खुशहाली सूचकांक में पंजाब, दिल्ली, हिमाचल और हरियाणा सबसे ऊपर हैं। दक्षिणी भारत के

राज्य खुशहाली और महिला सुरक्षा सूचकांक दोनों में आगे रहे जबकि दिल्ली, पंजाब और हरियाणा जैसे आर्थिक रूप से खुशहाल राज्य महिला सुरक्षा में सबसे पीछे हैं।

Rajasthan Patrika, March 7, 2013, P.1 (Survey-Women Safety)

# CAG audit reveals lapses in ICDS implementation

Staff Reporter

**NEW DELHI:** India has registered higher infant and child mortality rates than Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. Further the country's position on the measure of the percentage of underweight and severely underweight children during the period 2006-10 was more than twice than that in the Sub-Saharan African region.

This was revealed in the Comptroller and Auditor General of India's performance audit of the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme - Union Ministry of Women and Child Development's flagship programme - that was tabled in Parliament on Tuesday. The report contains results of performance audit conducted between 2006-07 and 2010-11.

On diversion of money meant for ICDS, the audit report notes that Rs. 57.82 crore was diverted to activities not permitted under the scheme in five of the test-checked States and Rs. 70.11 crore was parked in

civil deposits and personal ledger accounts/bank accounts/treasury, resulting in the blocking of funds.

Pointing out the shortage of staff and key functionaries at all levels, the audit notes that 61 per cent of the test-checked anganwadis functioning under the ICDS scheme did not have their own building and 25 per cent were functioning in semi-pucca/kachcha buildings, or open/partially covered space. Worse, poor hygiene and sanitation was noticed due to the absence of toilets in 52 per cent of the anganwadis.

Further, medicine kits were not available in 33 to 49 per cent of the anganwadis due to failure of the State governments in spending funds released to them by the Centre. Also functional weighing machines for babies and adults were not available in 26 per cent and 58 per cent of the centres respectively. The essential utensils required for providing supplementary nutrition to the beneficiaries were also not available in many places.

Hindu, March 6, 2013, P.20 (CAG Audit- ICDS)



## 'Dwindling sex ratio not confined to a particular region'

NEW DELHI: Expressing concern over the declining child sex ratio, Union Women & Child Development Minister Krishna Tirath on Thursday said the problem is not confined to a specific region but has spread across the country.

"The child sex ratio has come down from 927 girls per 1,000 boys in 2001 to 914:1000 in 2011...It is a cause of concern as the problem is no longer confined to a specific geographic area but is

increasingly being reported from all parts of the country, including the southern states," she said here.

Ms. Tirath was speaking at the first Consultative Meeting of the High Level Committee on Status of Women.

The Minister also expressed concern over the entrenched patriarchal and societal constructs, which she stated places a women's status several notches below that of men. - PTI

Hindu, March 22 , 2013, P.3(Survey-Child Sex Ratio )

# Violations of RTE in Delhi schools reveals survey

'Need for effective time-bound grievance redressal mechanism to deal with violations that are happening on the ground'

Gaurav Vivek Bhatnagar

**NEW DELHI:** A study on implementation of the Right to Education Act in Delhi in three years of its existence has revealed "overwhelming violations" of the norms on the ground.

The study by NGO Josh, with support of VSO India, has noted that while "73 per cent of the schools had contract teachers", in 99 per cent of schools, the School Management Committees (SMC) have still not been formed.

It has also expressed concern at the treatment meted out to students in many schools. It said "46 per cent of children reported corporal punishment; and 55 per cent of parents reported that they have never been called for any parents meeting in the school."

students in Delhi schools. "Only 23 per cent of children reported that they have differently-abled children in their schools; main reason being denial of admission, 'pushed out' due to lack of care and adequate infrastruc-

ture facilities."

Further, it said, 80 per cent of the schools did not have provision made for special teachers or special training for present teachers.

Even in the case of scholarship, the survey said "several case studies recorded that parents were made to sign on receipts and later no money was given". Only 78 per cent parents reported receiving scholarship meant for their children.

The study was conducted in seven areas of six districts with the help of student volunteers drawn from premier colleges like Lady Shri Ram College (LSR), St. Stephens' College, Hindu College, Ramjas College, Ram Lal Anand College, IIT Delhi, Delhi College of Engineering, Teri University and Delhi School of Economics.

Still, 71 per cent of parents responded that they don't complain even if they have any grievance. The reason cited by them being that either there was no grievance redressal mechanism or they had been insulted and humiliated by school authorities in the past.

The survey also revealed that "teachers are engaged in non teaching duties such as election, polio campaign, census as well as clerical work within the school" and for the parents the quality of learning remained a huge concern across all areas. This despite their spending Rs.300 to Rs. 400 on private tuition.

In Delhi schools, the provision of basic infrastructure facilities was "still a challenge".

The survey has also noted with concern the approach towards the differently-abled

children. The survey also noted with concern the approach towards the differently-abled

A total of 1,425 households and 29 schools were covered by the volunteers in Daryaganj, Timarpur, Iithala, Munirka, Malviya Nagar, Nizamudding and Trilokpuri areas of Delhi and the students then wrote separate papers describing the status of the implementation of the fundamental right to education in the areas visited by them.

In its report, NGO Josh said: "The findings of the students clearly show the status of the RTE Act in the National Capital. The point that emerges very strongly from this study is the need for effective time bound grievance redressal mechanism to deal with the overwhelming violations that are happening on the ground."

Elaborating on the issue, it said: "The RTE Act makes

education a fundamental right, therefore, while efforts are made to improve provisioning, there needs to be a mechanisms which will provide children, parents and community a space to raise their concerns when violations happen. At present, no such mechanism is there and children and parents are completely clueless where to go when they are denied access to quality education."

The report was released on Thursday in the presence of Chairperson of National Commission for Protection of Child Rights Shantha Sinha, Professor Anita Rampal of Delhi University, Nalini Juneja of NUEPA, Dr. Reetika Khara of IIT Delhi, Ratna Viswanathan of VSO, Malini Ghosh of Nirantar and Ambarish Rai of RTE Forum among others.

Hindu, March 15, 2013, P.4 (RTE Survey)



# बाल विकास के लिए जारी फंड में भी घपला

जागरण ब्यूरो, नई दिल्ली : बच्चों के सर्वांगीण विकास से संबंधित केंद्र सरकार की समन्वित बाल विकास योजना (आइसीडीएस) में भारी गड़बड़ियों का पता चला है। केंद्र सरकार की तरफ से राज्यों को इस फंड के तहत जो राशि दी जाती है उसका अन्य मदों में इस्तेमाल किया जाता है। इन गड़बड़ियों के लिए केंद्र भी कम ज़िम्मेदार नहीं है क्योंकि उसके स्तर पर फंड के इस्तेमाल की निगरानी की कोई व्यवस्था नहीं है। इस गड़बड़झाले का खुलासा नियंत्रक एन महालेखा परीक्षक (कैग) ने आइसीडीएस पर अपनी रिपोर्ट में किया है। यह रिपोर्ट मंगलवार को सदन में पेश की गई।

रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक ज्यादातर राज्य इस फंड का सही तरीके से इस्तेमाल नहीं कर पा रहे। इस योजना के तहत प्राप्त कुल 57.82 करोड़ रुपये की राशि का इस्तेमाल उन कार्यक्रमों में कर दिया गया जहां इसकी अनुमति नहीं थी। मसलन, हरियाणा सरकार ने 38.6 करोड़ रुपये की राशि आंगनवाड़ी कार्यक्रम के तहत मेज-कुर्सियां खरीदने में खर्च कर दी। उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने आइसीडीएस के तहत प्राप्त राशि का इस्तेमाल अन्य कार्यक्रमों के विज्ञापन में कर लिया। ओडिशा, कर्नाटक, राजस्थान में भी इस योजना के तहत प्राप्त राशि का उपयोग अन्य जगहों पर किया गया है। कैग की रिपोर्ट इस योजना को लागू करने में राज्यों

- कैग का खुलासा, योजना की निगरानी में केंद्र सरकार नाकाम
- हरियाणा सरकार ने मेज-कुर्सियां खरीदने में खर्च कर दिए 38.6 करोड़

की उदासीनता को सामने लाती है। कैग का कहना है कि योजना को लागू करने में अहम भूमिका निभाने वाले आंगनवाड़ी केंद्रों की स्थिति काफी खराब है। ऐसे 61 फीसद केंद्रों के पास कोई भवन नहीं है। 52 आंगनवाड़ी केंद्रों के पास साफ-सफाई का अभाव है। 33 से 49 फीसद के पास किसी तरह की मेडिकल किट नहीं थी। यह सब बताता है कि राज्य फंड जारी करने और उसके उपयोग की निगरानी में पूरी तरह असफल रहे हैं।

कैग के मुताबिक इस योजना के बजट के आकलन को लेकर भी कोई तारतम्य नहीं है। मसलन, वित्तीय वर्ष 2008-09 से लेकर 2009-10 के बीच आवंटित किए गए 1753 करोड़ रुपये, जबकि खर्च किए गए 2853 करोड़ रुपये। इससे स्पष्ट है कि सरकार योजना को लेकर पूरी तरह अंधेरे में है। योजना का फायदा बच्चों को मिल रहा है या नहीं, इसका आकलन भी नहीं किया जा रहा।

Dainik Jagran (H), March 6, 2013, P.13 (CAG Report/ ICDS)



Asian Age, March 30, 2013, P.3



Asian Age, March 22, 2013, P.3(Slums Report)



Pioneer, March 14, 2013, P.5 (Rapes Cases)

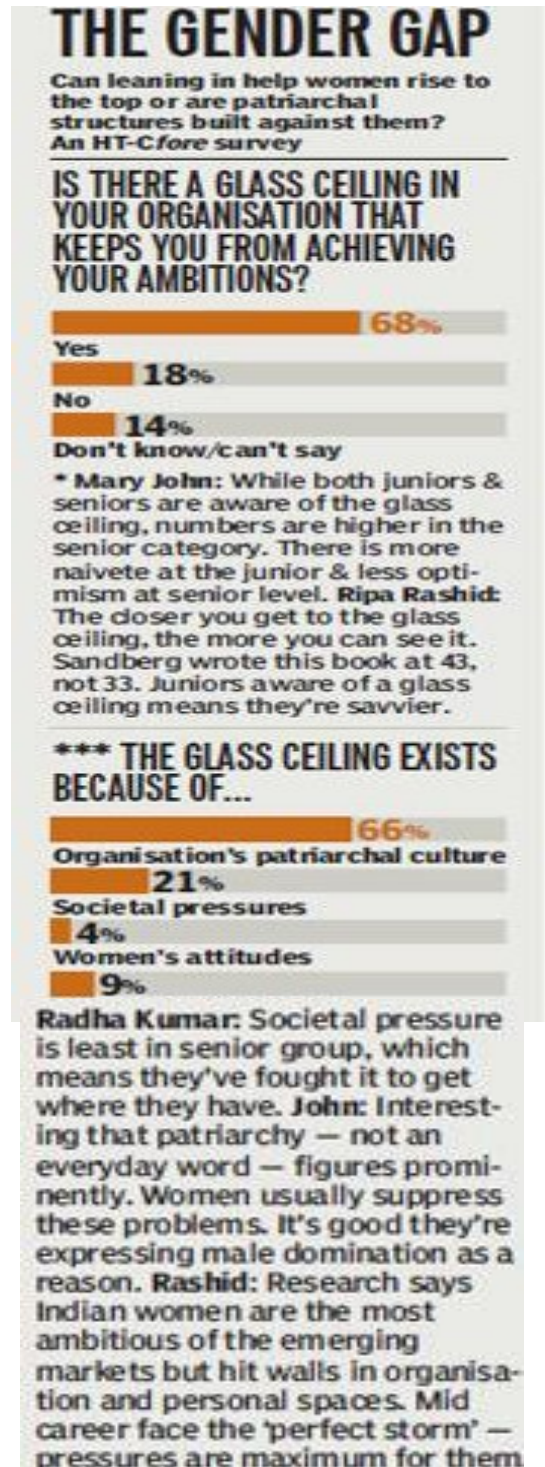


Assam Tribune, March 21, 2013, P.5 (Juvenile Crimes)





Assam Tribune, March 30, 2013, P.1  
(Suicide Trends-Guwahati)



Hindustan Times,  
March 24, 2013, P.12  
(Gender Gap)

# 'Eating vit A pills, deworming doesn't cut child mortality'

Study Says A Trial On Vitamin Supplementation Among Preschoolers Did Not Substantiate Earlier Claim Of 30% Reduction

**Ramesh Nagarpal**  
TIMES HEALTH GROUP

**T**wo so-called magic bullets of the international health community's strategy — pre-school vitamin A supplementation, assumed to reduce child mortality by a quarter and intestinal deworming, assumed to improve child nutrition, growth, and cognitive development — have been shown to have no significant effect on child mortality. This was revealed in one of the largest trials ever.

A five-year trial of Deworming and Enhanced Vitamin A supplementation (DEWTA) in one billion preschool children in Uttar Pradesh, a trial larger than all other vitamin A trials combined.

The primary aim was to assess how effective these interventions would be on mortality among children aged one to six years. The paper from the trial was published on Monday in the *Lancet*, more than six years after the study was completed. It was conducted by King George's Medical University in Lucknow along with the University of Oxford.

"The Vitamin A trial does not substantiate the earlier claim of 30% reduction in mortality. Even with deworming, the mortality reduction was between 5 and 11%,"

the mortality reduction is so small, it casts into question the cost-effectiveness of such interventions," explained Dr Shalya Awasthi from the pediatrics department of the university. She is the lead author of the study.

"Before the DEWTA trial, evidence based on 17 trials in almost 280,000 children had shown that vitamin A reduced mortality by a quarter. However, DEWTA, with ten times the number of children, estimates mortality reduction at about 4%," stated a commentary on the study by Paul Garner of the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, David Taylor-Robinson of the



**WORTH BUSTED**

department of public health and policy, University of Liverpool and Dr HPS Sachdev of the Shree Swasth Institute of Science and Research in Delhi. The authors of the commentary stated the finding

was unexpected as the study site clearly had vitamin deficiency. They wondered if previous preventive and curative health care interventions had improved even in areas with low access to health care, leading to substantial reduction in mortality due to malaria and measles. They raised the question whether this might have been the reason for the mortality benefit in earlier trials.

"Earlier trials have shown that deworming leads to an improvement in weight, school attendance, cognitive development and in hemoglobin level. In a setting of high child mortality, it was assumed that such improvements would make the child

less susceptible to die. And hence, it was decided to test if deworming had an effect on mortality in such areas. But the trial shows that it has no significant effect," explained Dr Sachdev.

The commentary pointed out there was no effect on the weight of children in areas with low worm infestation. It added that the first one trial in Lucknow in 1994 had shown big effects from deworming on weight, and other earlier trials in Kenya had shown the same, recent trials have shown little effect except in communities where worm loads were high.

Dr Abhinav Banerjee, the Ford Foundation International Professor of Economics at MIT who has written on the success of deworming as an intervention when conducted properly is standard practice for low-income countries, said in an article. And in high-wormload areas it is a very effective intervention, added Dr Banerjee. "It is not a question of how effective giving a deworming tablet or Vitamin A is to an individual patient. The problem is with projecting these interventions at a population level to use it as a public health measure for all children. A more

targeted intervention after ascertaining the need might make more sense," explained Dr Sachdev.

Dr Sachdev and his co-authors questioned such extended delay in publishing the results of the study pointing out that it opened the authors were under a lot of pressure as the findings contradicted the widely held belief of huge benefits from the interventions. According to Dr Sachdev, the trial has huge implications for public health policy in India. "In a developing country like India resources are short and so it is particularly important that we should inform policy," he added.

Times of India, March 20, 2013, P.23  
(Survey- Vitamin A Supplementation)



**A TOI-IMRB SURVEY ON THE QUALITY OF LIFE WOMEN FEEL THEY HAVE IN DELHI**

## TOI checked with Delhi's women to see how well the city delivers on their aspirations. Despite the long list of platitudes & measures dished out in their name, women face daily challenges of security & discrimination on the streets, at work and at home

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**A**n overwhelming majority of the women surveyed in Delhi (96%) said they did not feel safe on the streets of Delhi or in metro stations after it got dark. But on the issue of overall safety, those within the main city (57%) rated the city as "very unsafe", while over half the women from the National Capital Region (NCR), 55%, thought it was unsafe but not "very unsafe".

This was revealed in a survey conducted by Times-TNN among women aged 18-60. Working women constituted over 40% and about 30% each were housewives and students. Over 60% of those surveyed were 18-35 years and the rest were 36-50 years old.

**PUBLIC SPACES**

Among women who felt unsafe after dark, almost half felt so after as early as 8 pm. A quarter feel unsafe after 10 pm. Hardly 1% talked about staying out after midnight. The insecurity seemed to be higher in the main city rather than in the NCR region including Gurgaon, Noida, Ghaziabad and Faridabad. About 90% of the city's women don't even feel safe going for a morning or evening walk in their own locality while 70% say the same in the NCR region. On the question of misbehaviour on the streets, 70% in the main city said they faced it, only half the women said the same in the NCR. While only 8% of the main city's women reported the incident to the cops, a quarter of the

women from NCR did the same. Almost 90% never ever called the women's helpline number. Interestingly, among those who did, almost one third stated they were "very satisfied" with the response, while 44% said they were "somewhat satisfied". Only about a fifth expressed complete lack of satisfaction.

Among the satellite cities, women seem to consider Gurgaon the least safe. NCR's women rate Ghaziabad the least safe followed by Gurgaon, while the main city's women rate Noida as the least safe. Almost half the women felt Mumbai is safer than Delhi. However, when compared to other cities like Chennai, Kolkata or Pune, only about 30% believe they were safer than Delhi. A good number believed it was the same situation in the other cities too. Within Delhi, while women from NCR thought East Delhi

**An overwhelming three-fourths said they were discriminated against vis-à-vis their brothers in freedom of movement, to go where they wished**

was the least safe, women from the main city rated West Delhi as the least safe. All concurred that Connaught Place/Central Delhi and Dwarka were the safest.

**COMMUTING WOES**

Delhi Metro and local trains come out tops as the safest modes of transport with a decisive 67% voting in their favour. Over a quarter favour their own vehicles as the safest means of commuting. Local buses got the lowest rating, just 2%. Over 70% of the surveyed complained about autos or taxis overcharging and refusing to go (80%) because of their gender. Asked what could be done to make DTC buses safe, random checks in buses, followed by women police in plainclothes in DTC buses after 8 pm found the greatest favour as effective measures. Over 70%

wanted provision for seats for women to be enforced and demanded helplines to report cases of misbehaviour. Only half the women wanted male passengers in the metro to get involved in ensuring safer commuting for women. In the NCR region, only 40% women wanted this.

**WORKPLACE**

The workplace seems to offer Delhi's women some degree of opportunity but most offices do not implement basic labour laws for women.

Almost half the women surveyed are in the workforce. Of this half, 25% work in an office, 11% part-time, 5% are self-employed and 3% work from home. More than half the women working in offices say the prime motivation to work is money. Another quarter do it for self-esteem and 16% say they work for financial independence and freedom.

While women may be working in larger numbers, the workplace is fraught with challenges. Over two-thirds say they work in offices that don't have any mechanism to deal with sexual harassment complaints. This, despite the fact that 13% of working women say they experienced sexual harassment at the workplace. Unsurprisingly then, not a single woman who was harassed at the workplace says that she filed a complaint.

As some women MPs pointed out during Parliament discussions on the Sexual Harassment at the Workplace Bill, at times harassment takes the form of discriminating against a woman who resists a male colleague's or boss' advances. Over a quarter of women say that they've been discriminated against at the workplace on account of being women.

Apart from this, working women face serious challenges when they have children. Over half the respondents who worked in offices said their employer did not implement the government's regulations on maternity benefits. Yet close to 70% of women said they had not taken extra maternity leave and just 3% quit their jobs after becoming mothers, pointing to the difficult juggling act that

young working mothers have to play. Further, over 80% of offices did not provide crèche facilities for the respondents.

**HOME**

Educated and often earning well, Delhi's women seem to have experienced a fair amount of discrimination growing up, but may be able to negotiate some equality in their marital homes.

While over two-thirds believe that property should be equally divided between brother and sisters (another quarter felt that it should be up to the parents), close to half felt that they had been discriminated against by their parents during the division of family property. Over a third felt their brothers had been given better education; close to half felt their brothers had the freedom to marry who they wished, while they hadn't been given equal freedom in the matter. Almost 10% said they felt discriminated against within the family in the matter of healthcare expenses. Where an overwhelming three-fourths were sure they were discriminated against vis-à-vis their brothers, was in the freedom of movement, to go where they wished.

Of the married, over half said that decisions on major financial matters were taken jointly with their husbands, but a third said the decision was taken by their husband alone. Decisions on savings too were taken on the whole jointly by the couple. Joint accounts, though, are a rarity — over 80% said that they didn't have one. The decision on when to have kids is on the whole is taken jointly by the couple and in most cases.

Times of India, March 8, 2013, P.2  
(Survey-Women Safety)

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**COMMUTING HAZARDS**

- > Delhi women complain of being groped on buses and the metro every day
- > Only 2% of women surveyed by TOI favour local buses in Delhi for commuting

**FAMILY LIFE**

- > 7 out of 10 women in the TOI survey did most of the housework on their own
- > Over half of women in the TOI survey say they didn't have the freedom to marry of their own choice
- > 17 per cent of married women had never used any form of contraception

**WORKPLACE WOES**

- > Female labour force participation rate in India is the 11th lowest of 131 countries
- > MNCs in India have 24% women employees as compared to China's 49% or Malaysia's 47% says Gender Diversity Benchmark for India 2011
- > 15 years since Vishakha judgement ordered office sexual harassment cells, implementation remains poor

**NOT IN PINK OF HEALTH**

- > Delhi's sex ratio in 2011 was 865 females per 1,000 males, well below the national sex ratio of 940 females per 1,000 males
- > Anaemia prevalence among pregnant women in Delhi slums was 79%
- > Heart disease in Delhi women is six times more common than breast cancer

**DANGEROUS STREETS**

- > Four women raped everyday in Delhi this year
- > A recent survey revealed that two of every three women in Delhi faced some form of sexual harassment
- > Delhi women want more security guards in public places than drinking water, public toilets or parking facilities
- > 82% women in TOI survey say they are uncomfortable in open spaces after sunset

**LEARNING CURVE**

- > School enrolment in 2010-11 was 17.6 lakh for girls and 20.2 lakh for boys
- > Drop-out ratio in primary school for girls was 17 per cent
- > Girls have consistently had a higher pass percentage in the CBSE exams as compared to boys
- > Literacy rate is 91 per cent for men and 81 per cent for women

**TOI Interactive**

TOI's survey shows 62% of women have faced misbehaviour on streets, but only 13% of them approached the police. Meanwhile, 14% bemoaned the lack of security guards

**Today's debate: Q1. What can be done so that women's faith in the police force increases?**  
**Q2. Should the city make public spaces more women-friendly by increasing security guards?**

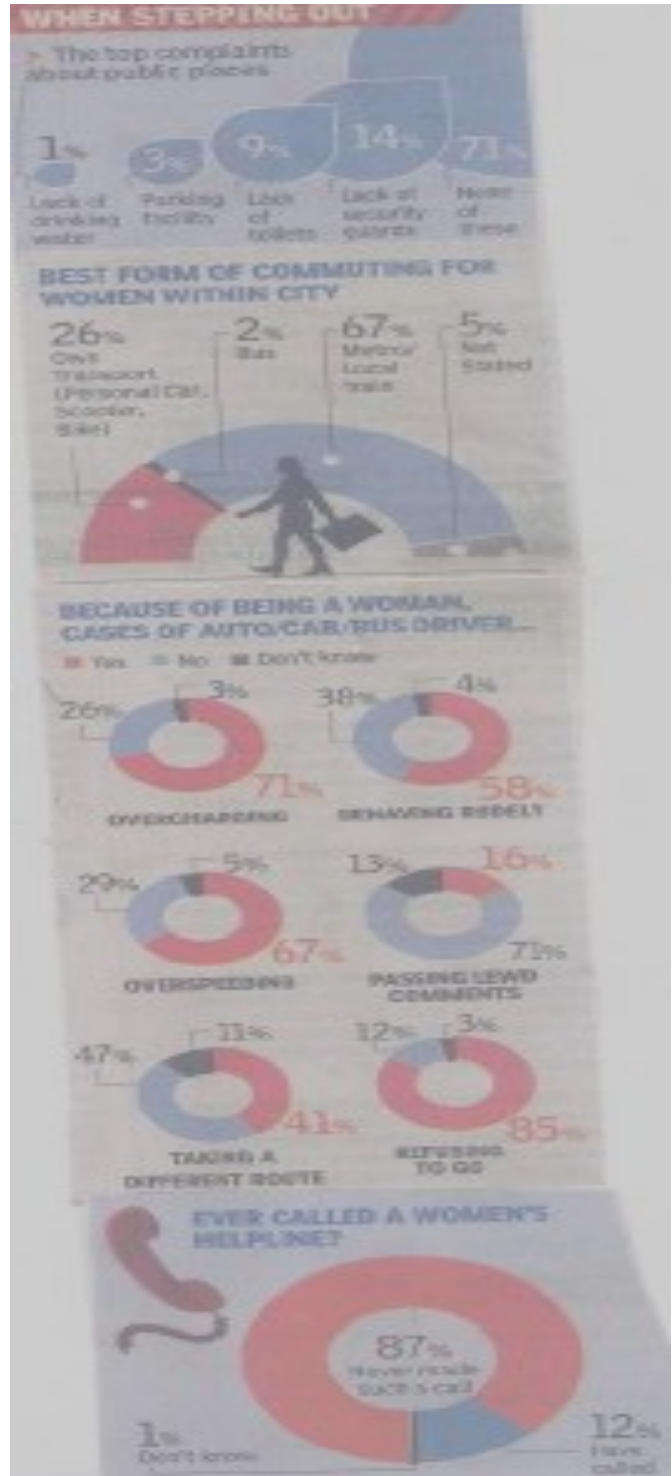
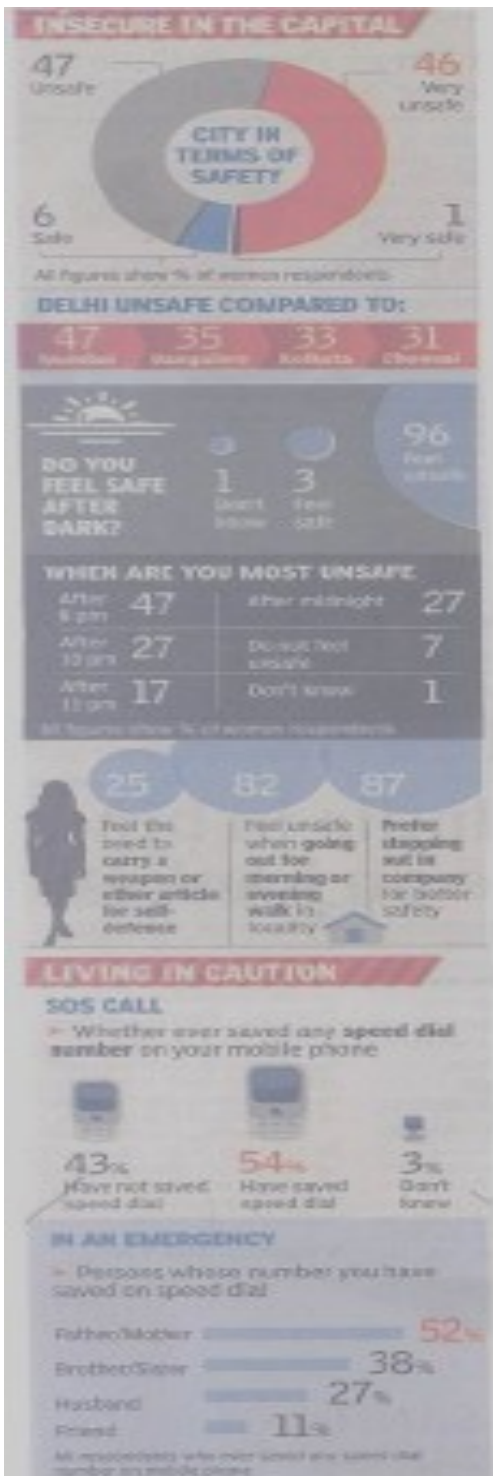
**EMAIL** [speakout@timesgroup.com](mailto:speakout@timesgroup.com) with 'Q1Safety' or 'Q2Loos' in the subject line

**SMS** Type **SO** <space> **Q1SAFETY** or **Q2LOOS** <space> your views and name. SMS to **58888**

• You can also share your views on [toi.in/delhi4women](http://toi.in/delhi4women) • Tweet with #delhi4women • Log on to 'The Times Of India' page on Facebook to join the discussion

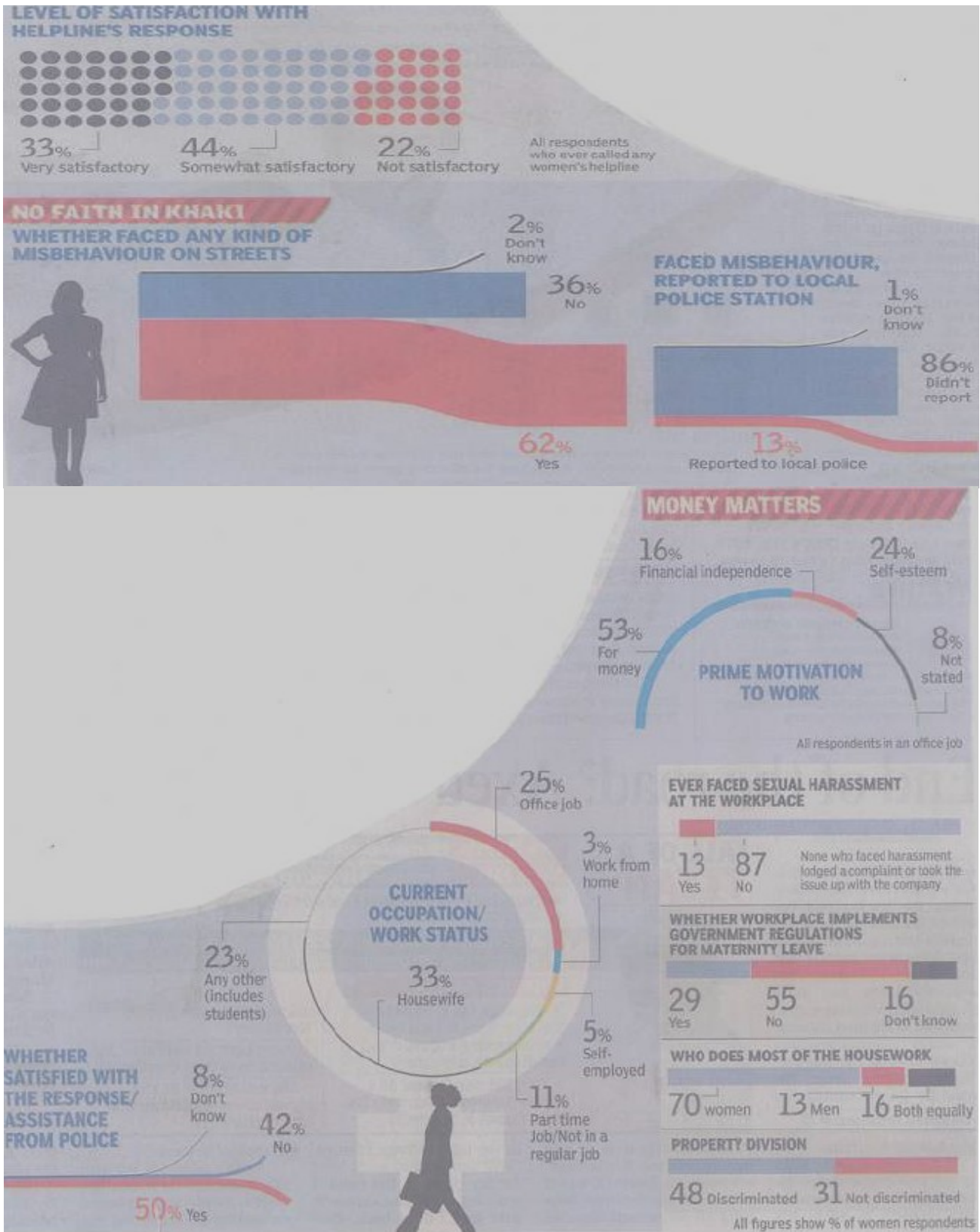
Times of India, March 8, 2013, P.2  
(Survey-Women Safety)

Contd..



Times of India, March 8, 2013, P.2  
(Survey-Women Safety)

Contd..



Times of India, March 8, 2013, P.2  
(Survey-Women Safety)



### 4.3 Other relevant statistics

अंतरराष्ट्रीय महिला दिवस पर विशेष : महिलाओं के हालात बताते हैं कि बेमानी हैं उनके विकास के सारे दावे

# आधी आबादी को अब भी जरूरत है एक और 'आजादी' की

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**वृजेश सिंह**

नई दिल्ली। अब आधी आबादी का अपना दिन है। लेकिन महिलाओं के विकास और समतापूर्णता का हर साल गवाह बनते रहे अंतरराष्ट्रीय महिला दिवस पर यह हम देश में महिलाओं के हालात का जायजा लेते हैं तो सारे दावे बेमानी नजर आते हैं। महिलाओं को सिर्फ हिंसा और जुल्मों का सामना ही नहीं करना पड़ता, बल्कि इस पुरुष प्रधान समाज में आज भी उनको स्थित बेकार नहीं है।

देश में महिलाओं को कुल संख्या आबादी के आधे से थोड़ा ही कम है लेकिन भागीदारी के मामले में वे बहुत पीछे हैं। अज्ञ सांख्यिक क्षेत्र में 19 फीसदी तथा सामाजिक क्षेत्र में 17 फीसदी महिलाएं काम करती हैं। देश को चलाने तथा फैसले लेने के लिहाज से इनकी भागीदारी और भी कम है। आईएस सर्वे में आइएएस में लगभग 12% तथा आईपीएस में 5% ही महिलाएं संसद के दोनों सदनों में सिर्फ 10 फीसदी महिला सदस्य

**आस-पड़ोस में और भी खतरा है हालात**

- पाक में प्रति वर्ष 450 से ज्यादा महिलाएं और किलिंग की शिकार
- नेपाल : 77% महिलाओं से घरेलू हिंसा
- बांग्लादेश में हर हाफ्त 10 महिलाएं तेजाब हमले की शिकार
- श्रीलंका में टोन उन्नीइन के 78 फीसदी मामलों में पीड़ित 16 वर्ष से कम उम्र की लड़कियां

19 फीसदी तथा सामाजिक क्षेत्र में लगभग 12 फीसदी तथा आईपीएस में पांच फीसदी ही महिलाएं हैं। राजनीति के क्षेत्र में जहां महिलाओं के कल्याण का लेकर भारी भरकम दावे किए जाते हैं वहां भी स्थिति अच्छी नहीं है। संसद के दोनों सदनों में केवल 10 फीसदी महिला सदस्य हैं। जबकि राज्यों की विधानसभाओं में यह आंकड़ा ऊह फीसदी से भी कम है। पंचायती राज व्यवस्था में आरक्षण के चलते 33 फीसदी महिलाओं की भागीदारी होने लगी है। लेकिन अस भी वगण महिलाओं के पति व पिता उन्हें मोहरा बनाकर फंसले लेने के अधिकार अपने पास ही रखे हुए हैं यह तस्वीर जल्द बदलेगी फिलहाल ऐसी कोई उम्मीद भी नहीं दिखती।

शेष पृष्ठ 18 पर विशेष तामची पृष्ठ 7 पर

**यहां महिला होना फटा की बात है**

**बेहतर देश - जर्मनी**  
जर्मनी में पति, स्वस्थ और राजस्वी ने महिलाओं की शक्ति और भागीदारी बढ़ते चलते

**यहां भी बमना बेहतर**  
नहीं में गुरु मृत्यु दर 7600 में से एक है

**अधिकतर बुढ़ने के सिद्धांत से सबसे बेहतर खीड़न**  
पंचरर बढ़ने और गणोपत जैसे मामलों पर महिलाएं सशक्त निर्णय लेती हैं। (ए प्रोफेक्टर-2012 का सर्वे)

**देश को दो दिना**  
पोलिस में वीर 28 कर्मी-8 कला पर शक्ति है महिलाएं

**अधिक आसम अद्य**  
जायम की महत्वपूर्ण प्रोमोस जेडन काल 87 वर्ष है।

**महिलाओं के लिए असुरक्षित है दिल्ली**

दिल्ली में महिलाओं पर जुल्म तेजी से बढ़े हैं। देश की राजधानी में इस साल 1 जनवरी से लेकर 15 फरवरी तक दुर्घटनों के 181 मामले सामने आए हैं। इस तरह वहां रोजाना औसतन चार महिलाएं दुर्घटनों की शिकार हो रही हैं। जबकि 2012 में दिल्ली में यह औसत दो पर था। 2012 में पूरे साल में दुर्घटनों के कुल 706 मामले दर्ज हुए थे। जबकि 2011 में 572 मामले सामने आए थे। हालांकि दिल्ली पुलिस का दावा है कि दुर्घटनों के बढ़ते मामलों से राजधानी में कानून-व्यवस्था की स्थिति का कोई संबंध नहीं है, क्योंकि दुर्घटनों के 97 फीसदी से ज्यादा आरोपी पीड़ित महिलाओं के जानते जाते हैं।

Amar Ujala, March 8, 2013, P.3





**संपादकीय**  
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**महिलाओं के खिलाफ उत्पीड़न की बढ़ती घटनाएं बताती हैं कि पुरुष वर्चस्ववादी समाज महिलाओं की बढ़ती हैसियत को कुबूल नहीं कर पा रहा।**

## आधी नहीं पूरी दुनिया

**म**हिलाओं के उत्पीड़न को रोकने से संबंधित कानून केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल में सहमति नहीं बनने की वजह से लगता नहीं कि जल्द अस्तित्व में आ सकेगा। विधि मंत्रालय को यौन उत्पीड़न की जगह बलात्कार शब्द पर आपत्ति है, तो संसदीय समिति को यौन उत्पीड़न की परिभाषा पर। पिछले वर्ष 16 दिसंबर को राजधानी में पैरामेट्रिकल छात्रा के साथ हुई बलात्कार की घबराहट के बाद महिला उत्पीड़न, खास तौर से बलात्कार के खिलाफ एक सख्त कानून को न केवल जरूरत मानसूस की गई है, बल्कि इसे लेकर देश भर में बहस भी तेज है। यह अलग बात है कि जमीनी स्तर पर कोई बदलाव नजर नहीं आया है। बीते तीन दिनों के दौरान राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र में ही बलात्कार की कई घटनाएं दर्ज की गई हैं। ये घटनाएं बताती हैं कि देश भर से उठी आवाजों के बावजूद महिलाओं के खिलाफ होने वाले अपराध कम नहीं हुए हैं। महिला उत्पीड़न को रोकने के लिए चाकई एक सख्त कानून की जरूरत है, अगर वही पर्याप्त नहीं। एसोचैम की एक रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक, देश की 88 फीसदी महिलाओं को यौन उत्पीड़न, प्रताड़ना और बलात्कार से संबंधित कानूनों की ठीक से जानकारी ही नहीं है, तो राष्ट्रीय अपराध रिकॉर्ड ब्यूरो का आंकड़ा है कि थानों में दर्ज होने वाले बलात्कार के सिर्फ 26 फीसदी मामलों में ही दोषियों को सजा मिल पाती है। सच्चाई यह है कि आर्थिक आत्मनिर्भरता उत्पीड़न या बलात्कार से बचने की गारंटी नहीं है और न ही महिला बैंक जैसे प्रतीकात्मक कदम उठाने से स्थिति बदलने वाली है। महिलाओं के उत्पीड़न पर बात करते हुए समाज में उनकी बदलती हैसियत पर भी गौर करना होगा। ऐसा लगता है कि पुरुष वर्चस्व उनकी इस पहलकदमी को कुबूल नहीं कर पा रहा है! जरूरत इस सोच को भी बदलने की है। यह क्यों नहीं मानना चाहिए कि जान-बूझकर ही लोकसभा और विधानसभाओं में महिलाओं के लिए 33 फीसदी आरक्षण का मसला संसद में लटकाए रखा गया है? और क्या संसद में एक-तिहाई महिला सांसद होतीं, तो उनके उत्पीड़न से संबंधित एक मजबूत कानून को पारित करना इतना मुश्किल होता? आज अंतरराष्ट्रीय महिला दिवस पर क्या इन प्रश्नों पर विचार नहीं करना चाहिए, जिसकी इस वर्ष की थीम ही महिला उत्पीड़न रखी गई है।

Amar Ujala, March 8 , 2013, P.12 (Statistics-Women Harassment)

## ट्रेनों में बढ़ी महिलाओं के खिलाफ अपराध की घटनाएं

नई दिल्ली, 17 मार्च (भाषा)। रेलों में सुरक्षाकर्मियों की तैनाती किए जाने के बावजूद महिलाओं के खिलाफ अपराध लगातार बढ़ रहे हैं। पिछले साल ही बलात्कार, छेड़खानी और दुर्व्यवहार सहित दो सौ से अधिक ऐसे मामले दर्ज किए गए। रेल मंत्रालय के आंकड़ों के मुताबिक, साल 2010 में जहां महिलाओं के खिलाफ हुए अपराध के 85 मामले दर्ज किए गए थे। साल 2011 में इन मामलों की संख्या बढ़कर 127 हो गई, वहीं साल 2012 में इन मामलों में इजाफा ही देखा गया और ऐसे कुल 210 मामले दर्ज किए गए।

ट्रेनों में छेड़खानी के मामले भी 2010 के 52 से बढ़कर 2011 में 72 हो गए और 2012 में इसने 119 के आंकड़े को छू लिया। 2011 में जहां बलात्कार के तीन मामले दर्ज किए गए थे, वहीं साल 2012 में यह बढ़कर सात हो गए। ट्रेनों में महिलाओं के साथ दुर्व्यवहार के मामले भी सामने आते रहे हैं। महिलाओं से दुर्व्यवहार के मामले 2010 के 33 से बढ़कर 2011 में 52 हो गए। वहीं 2012 में ऐसे 84 मामले देखे गए। 2012 में महिलाओं से छेड़खानी के सबसे ज्यादा (45) मामले दक्षिणी रेलवे में सामने आए और इसके बाद 19 मामलों के साथ पश्चिमी मध्य रेलवे दूसरे स्थान पर रहा।

दुर्व्यवहार के मामलों में भी दक्षिणी रेलवे बाकी मंडलों से आगे रहा। 2012 में यहाँ दुर्व्यवहार के कुल मामलों 33 मामले दर्ज किए गए, जिसके बाद 18 मामलों के साथ दक्षिणी मध्य रेलवे दूसरे स्थान पर रहा। रेल मंत्रालय के आंकड़ों के मुताबिक, 2010 में महिलाओं के खिलाफ हुए अपराध के मामलों के तहत 120 लोग गिरफ्तार किए गए थे, साल 2011 में इन मामलों के तहत गिरफ्तार हुए लोगों की संख्या बढ़कर 146 और साल 2012 में 170 हो गई।

मंत्रालय के वरिष्ठ अधिकारी ने कहा कि रेलवे ने महिला यात्रियों की सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करने के लिए कई कदम उठाए हैं। वर्तमान में रोजाना चल रही औसतन 1,275 ट्रेनों की सुरक्षा का जिम्मा रेलवे सुरक्षा बल (आरपीएफ) के जवानों के हाथ में है, वहीं गवर्नमेंट रेलवे पुलिस (जीआरपी) के जवान ट्रेनों की सुरक्षा में तैनात हैं।

उपनगरीय इलाके में चल रही महिला विशेष ट्रेनों में उपलब्धता के मुताबिक महिला सुरक्षाकर्मियों को तैनात किया गया है। अधिकारी ने बताया कि किसी अप्रिय घटना की सूचना के लिए रेलवे के सभी मंडलों में सुरक्षा हेल्पलाइन की व्यवस्था की गई है। इन सुरक्षा हेल्पलाइनों के नंबर रेलवे स्टेशनों और कोचों में जगह-जगह लिखे गए हैं।

Jansatta (H), March 18 , 2013, P.5 (Women Crimes)



## 5. Schemes/ Programmes relating to Women and Children

5.1 Schemes/Programmes (Annsree Yojana/Mid Day Meal/ICDS/Health/Nutrition Supplements/ Rural Livelihood Mission/ Programmes-DWCD/Women Empowerment/MGNREGA/Stree Shakti etc.)

# तीन राज्य बांट रहे आंगनबाड़ी में घटिया खाना

नई दिल्ली | एजेसिया

## अर्थशास्त्री ट्रेज बोले, मनरेगा दयनीय हालत में

नई दिल्ली। वृषीण सरकार की महत्वाकांक्षी योजना मनरेगा को खत्म करने की भांग के बीच मशहूर अर्थशास्त्री ज्या ट्रेज ने कहा कि दयनीय हालत में पहुंच चुके इस कार्यक्रम के लिए जवाबदेही तब की जाए। कांग्रेस अध्यक्ष सोनिया गांधी की अगुवाई वाली राष्ट्रीय सलाहकार परिषद 8 सदस्य रह चुके ट्रेज इस योजना का खाका तैयार करने वालों में शामिल रहे हैं। उन्होंने आगाह किया कि अगर सरकार ने तत्काल कदम नहीं उठाया तो यह आम और कठिन जाएगा। मनरेगा, खाद्य सुरक्षा, स्वास्थ्य एवं शिक्षा पर सांपूर्णता में गौर करने की जरूरत है।

केंद्र सरकार की महत्वपूर्ण आहंसी डीएस योजना के तहत पूरक पोषाहार कार्यक्रम में जांच एवं संतुलन की कमी का उल्लेख करते हुए कैंग ने कहा है कि कम से कम तीन राज्यों में आंगनबाड़ी केंद्रों की ओर से घटिया भोजन बांटा जा रहा है।

संसद में पिछले दिनों कैंग की 2012-13 की 22वीं रिपोर्ट पेश की गई। इसमें कैंग ने कहा है कि आंगनबाड़ी केंद्रों की ओर से आंध्र प्रदेश, गुजरात और हरियाणा में घटिया भोजन बांटा जा रहा है। ऑडिट में कहा गया है, काउंसिल फॉर सोशल डेवलपमेंट द्वारा आंध्र प्रदेश के अनंतपुर जिले के 154 आंगनबाड़ी केंद्रों का सामाजिक ऑडिट किया गया। कैंग रिपोर्ट के अनुसार गुजरात में एक्वायरी डेट के पूरा होने के बाद ओटे की आपूर्ति की गई। ऑडिट में सितंबर-नवंबर 2008 के दौरान पाया गया कि बांटा गया भोजन

पुरी तरह स्वादहीन था। ऑडिट में दावा किया गया है कि मौके पर जाकर की गई जांच में पाया गया कि कुछ पकवान कच्चे थे, जिन्हें महज कुछ मिनटों में ही तैयार कर दिया गया था।

रिपोर्ट में कहा गया है, जांच के चरणों में लिए गए 18 आंगनबाड़ी केंद्रों के बारे में पता चला कि यहां खाना खाने के बाद बच्चों को भार पड़ गया। दो बार की जांच में लाभार्थियों द्वारा भोजन को नापसंद किए जाने के बावजूद नवंबर, 2011 तक एमएस एपी फूड्स की ओर से इस परियोजना के लिए खाद्य वस्तुओं की आपूर्ति जारी रही।

हरियाणा के बारे में अडिटर ने कहा कि अप्रैल, 2006 में 2.69 करोड़ रुपये के दो आर्डर दिए गए, लेकिन 19 परियोजनाओं में से दो ने इससे जुड़ी खाद्य वस्तुओं को लेने से मना कर दिया क्योंकि उनके मुताबिक ये तय मापदंडों के मुताबिक नहीं थीं।

Hindustan (H), March 11, 2013, P.7 (Anganwadi)

# 5 महीने से नहीं हो रही मिड डे मिल की जांच

प्रमुख संवाददाता ॥ सिविक सेंटर

नॉर्थ एमसीडी के स्कूलों में पढ़ने वाले करीब 4 लाख बच्चों के मिड डे मिल की गुणवत्ता की जांच पिछले 5 महीने से नहीं की जा रही है। कहना गलत न होगा कि एमसीडी किसी हादसे के इंतजार में है। जैसे भी मिड डे मिल की क्वालिटी को लेकर सवाल उठने ही रहे हैं और बच्चे बीमार भी होते हैं। इसके बावजूद अक्टूबर के बाद से स्कूलों में जो खाना सप्लाई किया जा रहा है, उसकी जांच नहीं हो रही।

स्टैंडिंग कमिटी की मीटिंग में विपक्ष के नेता मुकेश गोषल ने यह मुद्दा उठाया और कहा कि जब कोई हादसा हो जाता है तो एमसीडी को नीड टूटती है, लेकिन हादसे को रोकने के लिए कोई ठोस कदम नहीं उठाए जा रहे हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि मिड डे मिल मामले में बड़ा घोटाला नजर आ रहा है और इसकी जांच होनी चाहिए।

अधिकारियों को कहना है कि मिड डे मिल की जांच एक इंस्टिट्यूट द्वारा की जाती है, लेकिन पांच महीने पहले उस इंस्टिट्यूट के साथ कॉन्ट्रैक्ट खत्म हो गया था। स्टैंडिंग कमिटी के अध्यक्ष योगेंद्र चंदोलिया भी मानते हैं कि इस मामले में लापरवाही बरती गई है। वह कहते हैं कि अधिकारियों को हिदायत दी गई है कि आगे से इस तरह की शिकायत नहीं आनी चाहिए। राहत की बात यह है कि पिछले 5 महीने में मिड डे मिल की क्वालिटी को लेकर कोई शिकायत नहीं आई है।

एमसीडी शिक्षा समिति की अध्यक्ष



नॉर्थ एमसीडी के स्कूलों में पढ़ते हैं 4 लाख बच्चे, इन्हें दिए जाने वाले मिड डे मिल की गुणवत्ता की जांच नहीं

रेखा गुप्ता का कहना है कि 5 महीने से बिना जांच के मिड डे मिल बच्चों को दिया गया और इस मामले में अधिकारियों की लापरवाही साफ नजर आती है। उन्होंने मांग की है कि लापरवाही बरतने वाले अधिकारियों पर कार्रवाई की जाए।

स्टैंडिंग कमिटी की मीटिंग में यह तय हुआ है कि मिड डे मिल सैप्लिंग के लिए दिल्ली सरकार से मान्यता प्राप्त लैबोरेटरी का पैनल बनाया जाए और खाने की गुणवत्ता की जांच कराने की व्यवस्था की जाए।

Nav Bharat Times (H) , March 7,2013, P.4 (Mid Day Meal)



## CAG: Sub-standard food part of Anganwadi centres' menu

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Stale, sub-standard and insect-infested food is being provided to children by some Anganwadi centres as part of the supplementary nutrition programme under the Integrated Child Development Scheme while micronutrient fortification was found lacking at many places, a CAG report highlighted.

In Andhra Pradesh a social audit of 154 AWCs revealed that ready-to-cook mixture being provided by them to children were unpalatable. As being a sticky mixture they become inedible within minutes of preparation. In 18 test-checked AWCs children were reported to have fallen ill after consuming it. The supplier M/s AP Foods continued to supply these mixes till November 2011, despite reports about the beneficiaries disliking the food in two test-checked Projects. CAG pointed out.

Audit also revealed that there was no mechanism to record the expiry date of food items being distributed to children. In Gujarat, when expired flour was returned to the supplier, he just reprocessed it and changed gunny bags and returned the same food item which on testing was found to



**Audit also revealed that there was no mechanism to record the expiry date of food items being distributed**

be insect infested. At some AWCs 15 gm of insect was found in 100 gm of flour which resulted in the disruption of the Supplementary Nutrition programme for some time.

In Haryana, two supply orders for Rs 2.89 crore was placed for ready-to-eat energy rich multi-cereal food items which were to be tested twice. Two of 19 projects refused to accept these food items on the ground that they were not conforming to the norms prescribed in the supply order. This was brought to the notice of ICDS Directorate, but it failed to take any cognizance and no testing of the food was

done for the remaining 17 projects which received them putting a question mark on their quality.

These cases of supply of substandard food items for supplementary nutrition has revealed that there is no proper checks and balances in place under ICDS, CAG lamented. It recommended that Women and Child Development Ministry should constitute a State level Food and Nutrition Board to ensure quality of food served to beneficiaries.

Most of the States except Bihar, Chhatisgarh and Haryana were found to be lacking to some extent in fortification of energy rich food with micro-nutrients and vitamins rich items like green leafy vegetables, egg, milk etc, it pointed out. It asked the Ministry to universalise mandatory micronutrient fortification of ready-to-eat food to fight the menace of malnutrition.

Pioneer, March 11, 2013, P.5 (Anganwadi)

## No mid-day meal quality check by NMC for five months

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Another glaring example of negligence towards students' health in its schools has put the North Delhi Municipal Corporation in dock. The quality of the mid-day meal being served to students has not been checked for the last five months putting at risk the health of its students. Testing of food was not done from October last year to February this year.

However, the guidelines make it mandatory for the health department to test the quality of food being given to students twice or thrice every month. The matter came to light on Wednesday during the meeting of the Standing Committee. According to officials, the contract with the panel of laboratories that do the testing had



expired and for the last five months the empanelment had not been done. Standing Committee Chairman Yogendra Singh Chandolia has ordered a probe into the incident.

However, the education department officials blame it on the delay in re-empanelment and even argued that the schools remained mostly closed during this period. "The orders for re-empanelment were passed this week and testing has started again. Even in the last five months, schools were shut for winter holidays in

December and January," said an official of the education department. This agitated the Opposition leaders who accused the ruling BJP of taking the matter lightly and sought strict action against the errant officials.

According to officials, 45 samples of mid-day meal from all three corporations are tested for quality, twice or thrice every month. This includes three samples from each of the 12 zones and one sample from each of the ten kitchens that prepare the food. The cost of the operation is paid by the NGOs who have been given the tender for arranging and distributing the food amongst children. There are 790 schools under the jurisdiction of North Delhi Municipal Corporation in which 4.25 lakh students are enrolled.

Pioneer, March 7, 2013, P.3 (Mid Day Meal)



# हर गर्भवती महिला को मिलेंगे छह हजार

नई दिल्ली | विशेष संवाददाता

लोकसभा चुनाव 2014 पर नजर टिकाते हुए सरकार ने महिलाओं को रिझाने के लिए खाद्य सुरक्षा विधेयक-2013 में उनके लिए कई खासा प्रावधान किए हैं।

खाद्य सुरक्षा विधेयक लागू होने पर हर गर्भवती महिला को गर्भावस्था के दौरान तथा प्रसव के छह महीने बाद तक मुफ्त भोजन मिलेगा। साथ ही छह हजार रुपये भी मिलेंगे। इसके अलावा

रेशन कार्ड भी परिवार में सबसे बड़ी उम्र की महिला के नाम ही बनेगा। खाद्य सुरक्षा विधेयक पर शुक्रवार को संसद में चर्चा होनी थी लेकिन बजट सत्र के पहले चरण के आखिरी दिन तमिलों के मुद्दे पर मदन की कार्यवाही न चल पाने के कारण इस पर चर्चा नहीं हो सकी।

विधेयक में बच्चों के लिए भी कई प्रावधान किए गए हैं। छह महीने से छह साल तक की उम्र के बच्चों को आंगनबाड़ी से मुफ्त खाना मिलेगा

## खाद्य सुरक्षा विधेयक 2013

- आंगनबाड़ी, मिड डे मील जैसी योजनाएं आंगनी विधेयक में
- खाद्य सुरक्षा विधेयक पर चर्चा पर नहीं हो सकी संसद में चर्चा

जबकि छह से 14 साल के बच्चों को मिड डे मील से खाना मिलेगा। आंगनबाड़ी और मिड डे मील जैसे कार्यक्रम अब इसी के दायरे में आएंगे। मिड-डे-मील को सरकारी सहायता

प्राप्त स्कूलों में भी लागू किया जाएगा। पेयजल, स्वच्छता, वरिष्ठ नागरिकों के लिए पेंशन जैसे कार्यक्रम भी आगे इसके दायरे में आएंगे। सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली में व्याप्त प्रष्टाचार को दूर करने के लिए विधेयक में लाभार्थियों की पहचान के लिए आधार नंबर का इस्तेमाल करने का प्रावधान भी किया गया है। खाद्य सुरक्षा के तहत गरीबों को 3 रुपये किलो चावल, दो रुपये किलो गेहूं और एक रुपये किलो ज्वार मुहैया कराने का प्रावधान है।

Hindustan (H), March 23, 2013, P.9 (Food Security Scheme)

## 83 फीसद नमूने फेल, जिम्मेदार संस्थाएं फिर भी कर रही आपूर्ति स्कूलों में बंट रहा घटिया मिड-डे मील

- आरटीआइ से मिली जानकारी, दिल्ली सरकार के स्कूलों के सिर्फ 17 फीसद नमूने मानक पर खरे

जागरण संवाददाता नई दिल्ली : दिल्ली सरकार के स्कूलों में डेढ़ लाख से अधिक बच्चों को बांटा जाने वाला मिड-डे मील (मध्याह्न का भोजन) भी गुणवत्ता जांच में कर्बौटी पर खरा नहीं उतरा है। श्रीराम इंडस्ट्रियल लैब में भेजे गए दिल्ली सरकार के प्राथमिक और उच्च प्राथमिक स्कूलों के छात्रों के लिए बांटे जाने वाले मध्याह्न भोजन के 83 फीसद सैंपल (नमूने) फेल पाए गए हैं। सुचना का अधिकार कानून के तहत मांगी गई जानकारी में इसका खुलासा हुआ।

भोजन की गुणवत्ता जांच के संबंध में 26 दिसंबर, 2012 को आरटीआइ के रहत मांगी गई जानकारी में 4 मर्च, 2013 को दिल्ली सरकार के शिक्षा विभाग ने जवाब दिया कि जुलाई 2012 से लेकर अक्टूबर 2012 तक 288 नमूनों में से मात्र 50 ही पास हुए। ये नमूने 198 स्कूलों व 90 किचन से उठाए गए थे। स्कूलों के 38 और किचन के मात्र 12 नमूने ही पास हुए। ये अंकड़े निराशाजनक हैं। हैरानी इस बात की भी है कि लगातार शिकायतों के बाद भी दिल्ली सरकार भोजन की गुणवत्ता बेहतर रखने के लिए इस ओर कदम नहीं बढ़ा सकी है। बता दें कि नमूने फेल होने की रिपोर्ट 2010 से ही मिल रही है।

2010 में भेजे गए नमूने की रिपोर्ट : वर्ष 2010 में भोजन के कुल 466 नमूने जांच के लिए भेजे गए थे। इसमें स्कूलों

से 322 तथा किचन से 144 थे। इनमें से मात्र पांच नमूने पास हुए, जिसमें चार स्कूलों के और एक किचन का था। 2011 में भेजे गए नमूने की रिपोर्ट : वर्ष 2011 में 541 नमूने जांच के लिए प्रयोगशाला भेजे गए। इसमें से केवल 27 ही पास हुए। भेजे गए नमूने में से 367 स्कूलों से तथा 174 किचन से उठाए गए थे। इसमें स्कूलों के सिर्फ 17 और किचन के 10 सैंपल पास हुए। बड़ा सवाल यह है कि इतने सैंपल फेल होने के बाद इन संस्थाओं से काम क्यों लिया गया, जो घटिया गुणवत्ता वाला भोजन परोस रहे हैं।

क्या है नियम : नियम के अनुसार प्राथमिक बच्चों को मिलने वाले मिड-डे मील में 12 ग्राम प्रोटीन व 450 कैलोरी होनी चाहिए। उच्च कक्षा के बच्चों को मिलने वाले मिड-डे मील में 20 ग्राम प्रोटीन व 700 कैलोरी होनी चाहिए। दिल्ली सरकार के तहत चल रहे स्कूलों में डेढ़ लाख से अधिक बच्चों को मिड-डे मील बांटा जा रहा है। इसमें भी दो श्रेणी हैं। पहली श्रेणी में नर्सरी से लेकर पांचवी तक के बच्चे तथा दूसरी श्रेणी में छह से लेकर आठवी तक के बच्चे शामिल हैं। निगरानी के लिए दिल्ली सरकार के शिक्षा सचिव को

बनाया नोडल अधिकारी : इन बच्चों को भोजन वितरण करने के लिए 13 गैर सरकारी संगठनों को जिम्मेदारी सौंपी गई है। जबकि दिल्ली भर में मिड-डे मील बांट रही सभी सरकारी एजेंसियों पर निगरानी रखने के लिए भारत सरकार की ओर से दिल्ली सरकार के शिक्षा सचिव को नोडल अधिकारी बनाया गया है।

Dainik Jagran (H), March 16, 2013, P.4 (Mid Day Meal)

## SDMC asks Delhi Govt to add soya bean in mid-day meal

SHASHI BHUSHAN ■  
NEW DELHI

With samples of mid-day meal in municipal schools clearing the nutrition levels' test, the South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC) has written to the Delhi Government — nodal agency for the mid-day meal scheme in national Capital — to introduce soya bean in the menu to increase nutrients in the food. Around 90 per cent of the samples of food being served in schools of three municipal corporations failed the nutritional test last year.

The demand to include the soya bean comes in wake of food samples lifted from the municipal schools failed in nutrition test — both on count of protein and calorific value — over the last few years. Leader of House in South Corporation, Subhash Arya, has written to Delhi Chief Minister Sheila Dikshit to add nutrients in the mid-day meal in order to meet the revised parameters of nutrition on Friday.

In his letter, Arya said earlier, each student was

### 'Inspect at least five schools every month'

To ensure better and effective monitoring of mid-day meal served in its school, the East Delhi Municipal Corporation has directed the Deputy Commissioner (headquarters) and the education director to inspect at least five schools every month.

A senior official said, "Each school inspector shall visit 20 per cent of the schools allotted to him fortnightly and inspect mid-day meal served to the students.

Apart from that, the schools inspector shall pick-up samples wherever required and send it for testing from the authorised institute for content analysis."

Similarly, the sanitary inspector shall visit the kitchen of service provider every fortnightly and shall submit a report to the health officer. "All the officials have been directed to submit their report from March 25," an official added.

served 100 grams of rice or wheat. Then the 8-12 gram of protein and 350 gram of calorie fixed in the meal served to the children. "However, while the limit of quantity of grains being served has remained same, the protein and calorific level have been increased. Presently, each meal must contain minimum of 12 gram protein and 450 gram calorie," he said.

The Leader of House in South Corporation has asked the Chief Minister to either add Soya bean in the meal, or else reduce the nutritional parameters to the previous levels.

"If the new parameters of protein have to be met, 50 gram soyabean must be added to each meal being served in the schools. Otherwise, the new parameters need to be revoked," Arya added.

Pioneer, March 25, 2013, P.4 (Mid Day Meal)



# Only 7 of 80 samples clear quality test

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

MID-DAY MEAL IN NORTH DELHI SCHOOLS

Mid-day meal being served to children in North Delhi Municipal Corporation's schools has failed to meet required parameters of nutritional value. Only seven samples out of 80 picked for testing during the period of April 23, 2012 to October 31, 2012 cleared the test.

According to a senior official of the corporation, over 90 per cent of the samples lifted for testing from the kitchens of the NGOs serving food in the primary schools have failed to meet the minimum value of protein and overall calorie content.

The issue was discussed during a special meeting on Monday. The ruling BJP took note of the deficiency. Putting blame on executive wing, it said the action will be taken after further scrutiny of the matter. Leader of the House in the corporation Mahender Nagpal said, "Only seven out of the 80 samples taken for test cleared the required parameters. However, no action was taken by the concerned authorities." As per the required norms, the food being served to the students need to have a minimum of 12 gram of protein and minimum calorie content of 450 gm. However, most of the samples lifted for test failed to meet the required parameters. The test report observed, "The sample does not meet the requirements laid for mid-day meal with respect to protein and calorific value."

However, corporation officials after the revelation tried to down play the report




stating that 'none of the test results showed that the food served to the children was adulterated'. Municipal Commissioner PK Gupta told the house of the corporation, "The food being served has been found to be on the lower side of the required protein content and calorie. However, none of the samples were found to be adulterated. As far as the nutritional value of the meal is concerned, that is an issue which is found all the across the country. We are working towards addressing the issue on that front".

Leader of the Opposition Mukesh Goel said the report reflects the malfunctioning of the civic body. "You don't need a report to certify the kind of food that is served in schools. Just by looking at the food, one can assess its quality. The education committee had decided to black list NGO serving bad food, but nothing has been done to date. While most of the samples failed the test, for around four months starting October, foods were not tested at all as the contract with the institute came to an end," said Mukesh Goel.

Pioneer, March 19, 2013, P.2  
(Mid Day Meal-Quality Test)



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*International Women's Day Greetings*

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Government of India  
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Telofax : 022-26719455 Website : [www.kvic.org.in](http://www.kvic.org.in)

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**WE SPIN EMPLOYMENT AND WEAVE PROSPERITY IN INDIA**

Hindustan Times, March 9, 2013, P.16(PMEGP Scheme)

# When schemes turn anaemic

Despite government programmes, nutrition supplements for women and children are not to be found in Jharkhand's villages



**THE ANGANWADI:** Only few turn up for lunch. PHOTO: MANOJ CHOWDHURY.

More than two years after she gave birth to her youngest daughter, Shanti Oraon, an adivasi farmer in Bhandara village, Khunti district has been unable to resume working in the fields. "She has breathing trouble, and could not start walking even after she turned two and a half years old. I must stay at home with her all the time," she says of her infant daughter lying wrapped in a bedsheet on the floor. Across the road from Shanti's house, Pooja Devi watches her one-year-old play with a plastic bangle in her mouth. "She weighed less than three kgs when she was born. She falls ill often even now," she says.

Bhandara, a little over 30 kms from State capital Ranchi, is on the outskirts of Khunti's district center and market. Despite good road

connectivity and easy accessibility, Bhandara and the adjoining villages of Belshatu and Chikor have not received supplies of Iron Folic Acid (IFA) tablets since three years. These tablets are essential for reducing anaemia and birth defects which affect 69.5 per cent women and girls between 15 and 49 and over 70 per cent of all children below five in Jharkhand - the highest levels of anaemia according to National Family Health Survey 2 and 3 done in 1999 and 2006. Over six lakhs, or nearly 12 per cent of children below six years of age in Jharkhand suffer from severe malnutrition. Children born underweight due to anaemia among women is a significant factor.

Under a Central scheme, 100 IFA tablets are to be given to all pregnant women and weekly IFA supplements are

to be provided to all adolescent girls between 16 and 19 years of age. Recently, adolescent boys have also been included in the scheme.

Shanti Oraon recounts that during her four pregnancies she received IFA tablets, each costs less than 20 paise, only

before the birth of her second child more than four years ago but none before the birth of three of her children. "There are eight pregnant women and several adolescent girls in the village but we do not have any stocks of tablets," says Rukmini Devi, the *anganwadi sevika* in Bhandara as she prepares a meal of rice and soyabean nuggets for the seven children below six years of age who turned up for lunch that afternoon from among the 89 enrolled as per the *anganwadi* charts. "Earlier the ANM *didi* (Auxiliary

Hindu, March 15, 2013, P.

(Govt. Programmes- Nutrition Supplements)

Contd..

Nurse Midwife) brought the tablets but now since over a year she says there is no supply," says Shobha Devi, anganwadi worker in Belahatu. In Chikor, between 11am to noon when food preparation is supposed to be on, the *anganwadi* had still not opened.

In Khunti, the civil surgeon Dr V N Khanna says his department is holding a stock of 18 lakh IFA tablets since more than two weeks. "Social Welfare officials did not come forward to take the tablets. Neither they nor the Education Officers who distribute

the tablets in schools submitted the requirements and other details." There are over one lakh adolescents in Khunti.

"We recently met health officials and asked them for IFA tablets and middle-upper-arm circumference bands to measure malnutrition among children. They provided neither," says PK Paul the District Social Welfare Officer who supervises the 840 *anganwadis* in Khunti.

Since the last three years, this has been the story in most districts in Jharkhand after the Central government discontinued supplying medical kits containing IFA, vitamin A, zinc tablets and Oral Rehydration Solution packets under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) to States. "In 2010, state governments were asked to do this. Here, district civil surgeons were asked to procure this but some bought expensive non-generic IFA tablets and exhausted funds. A month back the tender process was completed and now these will soon be supplied to all districts," said Dr Praveen Chandra, Director NRHM in Ranchi. In 2011, former health minister Bhanu Pratap Shahi, former health secretary Pradeep Kumar and other department officers were named as accused in a Rs 130-crore NRHM scam related to purchase of medicines. The CBI is now investigating the case.

Hindu, March 15, 2013, P.8



## National Rural Livelihoods Mission

Government of Assam has set up the Assam State Rural Livelihoods Mission Society to implement National Rural Livelihoods Mission in the state with an objective to reduce rural poverty by enabling poor households to access gainful self employment and skilled wage employment opportunities.

### Key features.

- a. Organising poor women from rural households who have remained excluded so far into SHGs to address issues relating to their livelihoods and other dimensions of poverty.
- b. Formation of federations of SHGs to enhance empowerment process of rural women.
- c. Promotion of livelihood activities through SHGs, federations, livelihoods collectives, producers cooperatives by providing access to credit, raw materials, marketing, skill development, transfer of technology etc.
- d. Provide opportunities to the rural youth for enhancing and expanding livelihood options, building skills for the job market outside and nurturing self employment.
- e. Promoting financial literacy among the rural poor and help them to meet their credit needs by providing support like revolving fund, capital subsidy and interest subsidy.
- f. Promoting sustainable agriculture for poor women through Mahila Kishan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana (MKSP).
- g. Development teams of Community Resource Persons (CRP) to help rural poor women to build institutions for their socio economic empowerment.

For more details, please contact your District Mission Management Unit (DMMU) or Block Mission Management Unit (BMMU). In addition, you can also contact your District Rural Development Agency (DRDA) or Block Development Office (BDO).

Registered office : National Rural Livelihoods Mission, Assam State Rural Livelihoods Mission Society, Baghorbari, Panjabari, Guwahati - 781037.

Website: [www.asrlms.in](http://www.asrlms.in)

Assam Tribune, March 3, 2013, P.16  
(National Rural Livelihood Mission)

**Stree Shakti**

*Celebrating*

# International Women's Day

8<sup>th</sup> March, 2013

**Empowering Women is Empowering Nation**

- Support to Training and Employment for Women (STEP)- A scheme for marginalized women
- National Credit Fund for Women- Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK) for providing micro-financing for the socio economic upliftment of the poor & asset less women in the informal sector.
- National Mission for Empowerment of Women (NMEW)
- 33% reservation for women in Gram Panchayats and Municipal Bodies.
- Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) - Ensuring 100 days of employment
- Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan- Universal education for all.

**Celebrating Motherhood & Ensuring A Better Tomorrow**

- Janani Suraksha Yojana - Safe Motherhood intervention.
- National Rural Health Mission (NRHM)- Access to quality health care to all.
- Indira Gandhi Matritva Sahyog Yojana (IGMSY)- A conditional maternity benefit scheme for Pregnant and Lactating Women.

- Restructured Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)- for pregnant and lactating mothers
- Counselling, Referral and Rehabilitation Services from Family Counselling Centres
- Women Health Volunteers Accredited Social Health Activist(ASHA)-to create awareness among the community for health & hygiene issues.

**Schematic Interventions for Safety and Protective Environment for Women**

- UJJAWALA - Prevention, rescue, rehabilitation, reintegration and repatriation of trafficked victims.
- Swadhar Greh Scheme – Institutional Support for rehabilitation for Women in Difficult Circumstances.
- Working Women's Hostel (WWH)-Safe & affordable hostel for working woman & women being trained for employment.

Times of India, March 8, 2013, P. 21  
(Stree Shakti)

Contd..

## Investing in The Future of Our Nation

- Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for Empowerment of Adolescent Girls (RGSEAG)-SABLA.
- Rajiv Gandhi National Creche Scheme for children of working mothers for providing Day care facilities.
- Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) for Early Childhood Development of children in age group 0-6 years.
- Dhanalakshmi Conditional Cash Transfer

## Different Laws Pertaining to Women

- Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961- Prohibiting Dowry.
- The Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986- Protecting the dignity of women.
- Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005- Protecting women from domestic violence.
- Pre- Conception and Pre- Natal Diagnostic Techniques Act, 1994 (PCPNDT)- Upholding Girl Child's Right to be born.
- Maternity benefit Act, 1961- Securing Right to motherhood & employment.
- Right to Education Act, 2009- Guranteeing access to education for women.
- Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 - Prohibiting early marriage of Girl Child
- Immoral Traffic Prevention Act, 1956 - Safeguarding women.
- Sexual harassment of women at Work Place (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Bill, 2013.
- Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 - Equal Pay for Equal Work.

Issued in public interest by  
**Ministry of Women & Child Development**  
Government of India



Times of India, March 8, 2013, P. 21



# 83% mid-day meal samples fail lab tests

MID-DAY MEAL REPORT CARD



YEAR	SAMPLE	SCHOOL	KITCHEN	SAMPLES PASSED FROM SCHOOL	SAMPLES PASSED FROM KITCHEN	TOTAL SAMPLES PASSED
2010-11	466	322	144	4	1	5
2010-12	541	367	174	17	10	27
2010-13	288	198	90	38	12	50

Gaurav Vivek Bhatnagar

**NEW DELHI:** The food being served to Delhi's children under the mid-day meal scheme is far from being healthy with 83 per cent of the samples lifted for testing failing in the current fiscal.

In a response to Right to Information applications filed for ascertaining the results on the quality of food being served to Delhi students it has been revealed by the Deputy Director Education (Mid-Day Meal) that in the year 2012-13, only 50 of the 288 samples lifted from schools had passed. This meant that 83 per cent of the samples had failed to meet the protein and calorific values prescribed by the Union Ministry of Human Resource

- RTI appeal reveals facts; food samples checked for both microbiological and chemical parameters
- Mid-day meal provided to Delhi students by NGOs and other service providers

Development.

The samples were tested in the laboratories on microbiological parameters as also chemical parameters. The microbiological parameters took into account the presence of E.coli and Salmonella. The chemical parameters check the food on parameters of moisture, fat, protein, carbohydrate and calorific value.

The official said that as per nutritional values, the food is supplied to students by various non-government organi-

sations and service providers of mid-day meals. The quantity per day of protein required for a student was 12 grams in the case of primary students and 20 grams in the case of upper primary students. Similarly, while the calorific value required for primary students was 450 calories, for the upper primary students it was 700 calories.

To monitor the quality of meals being served to students, two samples are collected from school and two from

the kitchen of the NGO or service provider, the official added.

In 2010-11, the reply said, a total of 466 samples were gathered, of which 322 were taken from the schools and 144 from the kitchens. Out of these only five – amounting to just one per cent – had passed.


Similarly in 2011-12 only 5 per cent of the samples had passed. Out of the 541 samples, of which 367 were lifted from schools and 174 from kitchens, only 27 had met the specifications.

In 2012-13, there was a marginal improvement. Of the 288 samples, only 50 passed. Of the 198 school samples, as many as 160 failed while of the 90 kitchen samples as many as 78 failed in the laboratory tests.


Hindu, March 22, 2013, P.2 (Mid Day Meal)



Rashtriya Sahara (H), March 11, 2013, P.1+2  
(Mid Day Meal)



Central TB Division, (Dte.GHS)  
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare  
Government of India



NATIONAL RURAL HEALTH MISSION  
सही सल्लो सल्लो मिशन

## BUILDING A TB-FREE INDIA

### LET'S ALL WORK TOWARDS IT

#### Save your child from TB

- Any child below 14 years with persistent fever and/or cough for more than two weeks and/or loss of weight or no weight gain and/or history of contact with infectious TB case could be a TB suspect. He/she must be tested for TB.


#### Points to remember

- Any type of cough for more than two week can be TB.
- Sputum examination is the most reliable test for diagnosing TB.
- Notification of the diagnosed TB patients to the health system is mandatory.
- Serological Blood Test for the diagnosis of TB is now banned by the Government of India as it provides inconsistent, imprecise and inaccurate results.

#### To stop TB, let's join hands together

- TB can affect anyone. If you have cough for more than 2 weeks, get your sputum examination done at the nearest Designated Microscopy Centre (DMC).
- Stay away from TB, not TB patients. They need your love, affection and care to fight TB.
- TB is a curable disease. The DOTS treatment provides SURE CURE for TB patients and is freely available.
- Irregular TB treatment may lead to Multi-drug Resistant TB (MDR - TB).
- People living with HIV (PLHIV) have more chances of developing TB. They should be screened at DMC regularly.
- Always cover your mouth with a handkerchief while coughing and maintain cough hygiene.

**24<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2013**  
**WORLD TB DAY**  
**STOP TB**  
**IN MY LIFETIME**



Statesman, March 24, 2013, P.11 (DOTS Programme)



## मिड-डे मील पर रिपोर्ट तलब

नई दिल्ली, (भाषा): राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग (एनएचआरसी) ने स्कूली बच्चों को दोपहर भोजन कार्यक्रम के तहत कथित तौर पर दोयम दर्जे का भोजन परोसे जाने के सिलसिले में आज दिल्ली सरकार और शहर के तीन नगर निगमों से रिपोर्ट मांगी।

एनएचआरसी ने दिल्ली सरकार के मुख्य सचिव और दक्षिण, पूर्व एवं उत्तर दिल्ली नगर निगमों के आयुक्तों को नोटिस जारी किया है। एनएचआरसी के एक बयान में कहा गया है कि मीडिया में आई खबरों के मुताबिक इन नगर निगमों द्वारा संचालित स्कूलों में परोसे गए भोजन के 162 नमूनों में सिर्फ आठ ही न्यूनतम जरूरतों (मानदंड) पर खरे उतर पाए। एनएचआरसी ने संबद्ध अधिकारियों को चार हफ्ते के अंदर रिपोर्ट सौंपने को कहा है।

संबद्ध अधिकारियों को मिड-डे मील की गुणवत्ता में सुधार के लिए उठाये गए कदमों और इसको आपूर्ति करने वाले गैर सरकारी संगठनों के कामकाज के बारे में भी आयोग को जानकारी देने को कहा गया है।

आयोग ने अपनी नोटिस में कहा है कि यदि मीडिया में आई खबरों में कहीं गई बातें सच हैं तो यह बच्चों के स्वास्थ्य से गंभीर खिलवाड़ होगा।

Punjab Kesari, March 29, 2013, P.6  
(Mid Day Meal)

## गर्भवती महिलाओं को मिलेगी आर्थिक मदद

चंडीगढ़, 14 मार्च (हप्र)। इंदिरा गांधी मातृत्व सहयोग योजना के तहत हरियाणा में गर्भवती और नवजात बच्चों को दूध पिलाने वाली महिलाओं के बेहतर स्वास्थ्य और पोषण को बढ़ावा देने के लिए आर्थिक सहायता दी जाएगी। महिला और बाल विकास विभाग की महानिदेशक सुमिता मिश्रा ने बताया कि केंद्र स्तर पर द्वारा संचालित इस योजना को प्रारम्भिक तौर पर प्रदेश के पंचकूला जिला में पायलट प्रोजेक्ट के तौर पर शुरू किया जाएगा। योजना के तहत गर्भवती और दूध पिलाने वाली महिलाओं को आर्थिक सहायता के तौर पर तीन किस्तों में 4 हजार रुपये की राशि दी जाएगी। इसमें 1500 रुपये पहली किस्त 6 माह की गर्भवती महिला को दी जाएगी, जबकि दूसरी किस्त महिला के प्रसव के 3 माह बाद 1500 रुपये दिए जाएंगे तथा महिला को 1000 रुपये की तीसरी किस्त नवजात बच्चे को आठ 6 माह होने पर दी जाएगी।

Tribune (H), March 15, 2013, P.7  
(IGMYS)



Assam Tribune, March 8, 2013, P.4  
(Anganwadi Centres-Guwahati)



Pioneer, March 21, 2013, P.3 (Women Oriented Scheme)

# More for Mid-Day Meal to reduce LPG cap threat

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI

The crisis looming large over the Mid-Day Meal Scheme (MDMS) in the wake of Centre's ceiling on subsidised LPG gas cylinders got addressed to an extent with the HRD Ministry receiving an allocation of ₹13,215 crore for the MDMS for 2013-14, which is an increase of ₹1278 crore from the last fiscal allocation.

But as HRD Minister MM Pallam Raju pointed out, the present allocation will suffice only to feed the number of chil-

## FUELLING UP

2012-13	₹11,937 crore
2013-14	₹13,215 crore
Mid day meal feeds 12 crore children	

dren enrolled currently. In the event of more enrolment in the coming academic session, the funds have to be increased so that the nutritional value could be maintained and the primary aim to bring children to school continues, he maintained.

For the year 2012-13, the total allocation for the programme was ₹11,937 crore. In

view of the cap on cylinders, the HRD Ministry had demanded an additional over ₹1,100 crore to ensure the MDMS could be sustained through purchase of post-cap LPG cylinders at market rates.

The ceiling on subsidized cylinders was affecting about 12 crore children availing MDMS and the HRD Ministry said it struggling to maintain the quality, quantity and nutritional value. The Finance and Petroleum Ministry had rejected its request for provision of either extra funds or removal of the cylinder cap for MDMS.

Pioneer, March 1, 2013, P.6 (Mid Day Meal)



# बजट में 'बिटिया'

दिल्ली गैंगरेप पीड़िता के नाम पर बनाई गई निधि

महिलाओं की सुरक्षा को निर्भया फंड का प्रस्ताव

## महिलाओं के लिए पहला सरकारी बैंक स्थापित करने की घोषणा

**अनुर उजाला ब्यूरो**

नई दिल्ली। दिल्ली गैंगरेप पीड़िता निर्भया के बलिदान ने देश की महिलाओं के लिए आर्थिक सशक्तिकरण की राह खोल दी है। 2013-14 के आम बजट में सरकार ने महिला कल्याण पर जोर दिया है और उन्हें सशक्त बनाने के लिए 1000 करोड़ के अंशदान से निर्भया निधि बनाने का प्रस्ताव किया है। साथ ही देश में पहली बार महिलाओं के लिए बैंक स्थापित करने का प्रस्ताव किया गया है।

केंद्र सरकार ने गैंगरेप के बाद महिलाओं की गरिमा और सुरक्षा को लेकर उठी आव्हानों के मद्देनजर पीड़िताओं को तत्काल मदद देने के लिए फंड बनाने का प्रस्ताव किया है। साथ ही महिलाओं को निरोध तौर पर सेवा प्रदान करने वाले सार्वजनिक बैंक की स्थापना का बीड़ा उठाया है। लोकसभा में 2013-14 का आम बजट पेश करते हुए वित्तमंत्री पी. चिदंबरम ने साफ किया कि महिलाओं की गरिमा और सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करना हमारी सामूहिक जिम्मेदारी है। सरकार लड़कियों और महिलाओं को सशक्त और सुरक्षित बनाने के लिए हरसंभव कार्य कर रही है। इसके लिए 1000 करोड़ रुपये के सरकारी अंशदान से निर्भया निधि बनाए जाने का प्रस्ताव है।

चिदंबरम ने कहा कि हम लड़कियों और महिलाओं के साथ दृढ़ता से खड़े हैं। इस निधि की संरचना, कार्य क्षेत्र और प्रयोग का खाका महिला एवं बाल विकास

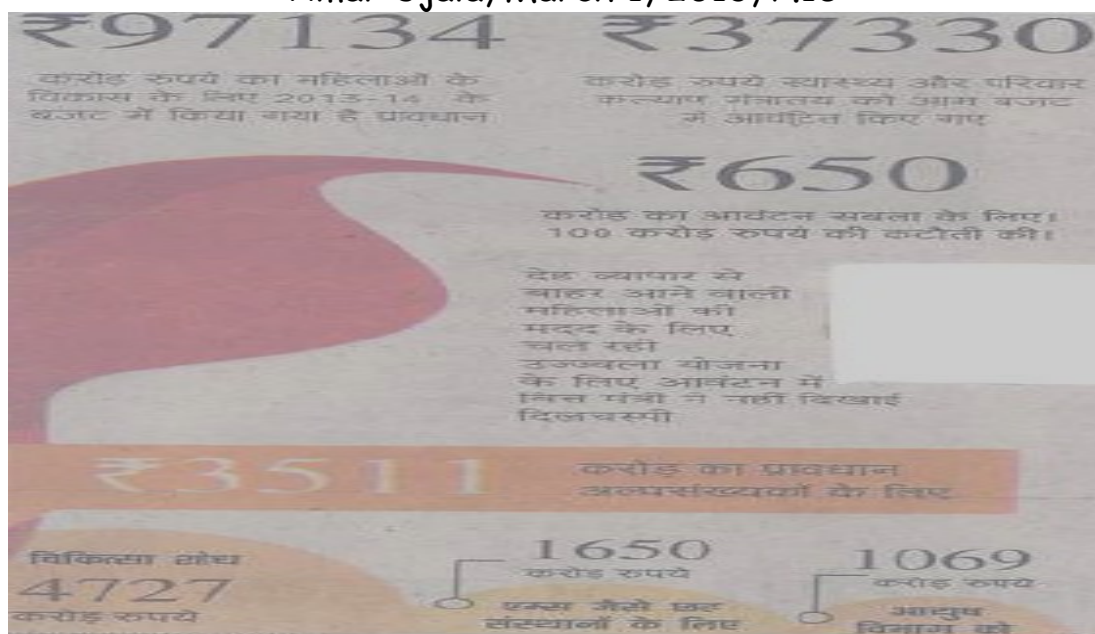
मंत्रालय समेत अन्य संबंधित मंत्रालय तैयार करेंगे। साथ ही सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के बैंक के रूप में प्रथम महिला बैंक स्थापित किया जाएगा। यह बैंक महिलाओं के स्व-सहायता समूहों और महिलाओं की आजीविका हेतु सहायता प्रदान करेगा, जो सशक्तिकरण और वित्तीय समावेशन के लिए संबंधी पहलुओं को देखे रखे भी करेगा। इसके लिए आरंभिक पूंजी एक हजार करोड़ रुपये मुहैया कराई जाएगी।

## आपका डाकघर बन जाएगा बैंक

नई दिल्ली (ब्यूरो)। वित्तमंत्री पी चिदंबरम ने आम बजट में देश के डाकघरों द्वारा बैंकिंग सुविधा मुहैया कराने की दिशा में कदम बढ़ाने का ऐलान किया। इसके लिए वित्त मंत्री ने 532 करोड़ रुपये का आवंटन किया है। डाकघर अब रिपल टाइम बैंकिंग सेवाएं देंगे। चिदंबरम ने कहा कि अब डाकघर आपके पड़ोस के बैंक में बदल जाएंगे। इससे सबसे ज्यादा फायदा ग्रामीणों को होगा, क्योंकि गांवों में डाकघरों का नेटवर्क काफी बड़ा है। भारतीय डाक लंबे समय से बैंकिंग गतिविधियां शुरू करने की योजना बना रहा है।

भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक की ओर से जारी दिशा निर्देश के मुताबिक विश्वसनीय छवि और पृष्ठभूमि वाली कोई भी संस्था बैंकिंग लाइसेंस लेने के लिए योग्य है। यही नहीं डाक विभाग ने इस काम को आगे बढ़ाने के लिए अर्नेस्ट एंड यंग'को सलाहकार के तौर पर भी नियुक्त किया है। देशभर में लगभग एक लाख 55 हजार डाकघर हैं। गांवों में सबसे ज्यादा डाकघर हैं। जबकि देशभर में बैंकों को सिर्फ 90 हजार शाखाएं हैं। भारतीय डाक विभाग पहले से ही कई वित्तीय सेवाएं दे रहा है।

Amar Ujala, March 1, 2013, P.15



Amar Ujala, March 1, 2013, P.5

# Genuine example of CSR

The LIC Golden Jubilee Foundation (GJF) has been involved actively in many socially relevant schemes aimed at uplifting the lives of the economically backward sections of society

*If they [companies] believe they are in business to serve people, to help solve problems, to use and employ the ingenuity of their workers to improve the lives of people around them by learning from the nature that gives us life, we have a chance.*

Paul Hawken

## A Correspondent

An important development in the role of corporate houses has been the increasing focus on their corporate social responsibility. Corporate Social Responsibility is the continuing commitment by businesses to behave ethically and contribute to economic development while improving the quality of the workforce as well as of the local community and society at large.

LIC as a responsible corporate citizen has been fulfilling its social responsibilities from time to time. LIC Golden Jubilee Foundation was established on October 20, 2006 as a part of LIC's Corporate Social Responsibility. The Foundation has been registered with the Charity Commissioner Mumbai and is also exempt under Section 80G of Income Tax.

The objectives of the LIC Golden Jubilee Foundation are to promote education, health, relief of poverty or distress and advancement of other objects of general public utility. It can provide a great avenue of fulfilling our social responsibility at the corporate level and our philanthropic needs at the individual level.

The Foundation has supported projects ranging from construction of hospitals, school buildings and classrooms, libraries, computer centres, old age homes, and hostel buildings for children in tribal areas. Vocational training centres for differently-abled persons to provide infrastructural facilities to needy persons in different pockets of the country. It has also provided funds for purchase of school buses for transportation of differently-abled children and ambulances for transportation of patients to hospitals. The Foundation has supported cochlear implant programme for children from economically weaker sections of the society spread across the country through KEM Hospital, Pune.

The Foundation has reached out in areas where natural calamities have devastated human life and provided infrastructural support to orphan children through NGOs. The



list of projects supported by us is available under the Activities and project details link.

There are many instances where LIC GJF has reached out to support the underprivileged sections of the society in the interior areas of the country through charitable organizations like the one mentioned in the box given below (see *Triumph of Human Will*)

In Madhya Pradesh, LIC GJF has supported construction of a vocational centre for differently-abled people of the tribal belt at Katol under Sidhauri district near Shahdol. It has also funded a Day Care Centre for mentally challenged children and an operation theatre at Barwani in Madhya Pradesh which has a predominantly tribal population. Likewise, physically challenged and leprosy-affected people have been



supported in many other parts of the country.

Bhairumbe village in Sirsi taluka of Karnataka has a school where small hamlets are situated in distant places amidst forests, hills and valleys and the children have to

## TRIUMPH OF HUMAN WILL

While assessing the projects, many stories of triumph of human will over adversities come up and inspire LIC GJF to do more. One such story is of Subhasini Mistry, a resident of Hanspukur, 24 Parganas (South), West Bengal who lost her husband due to medical negligence in 1971. She toiled as a housemaid, a manual labourer and a vegetable seller for 20 years and managed to save ₹ 20,000. She was able to educate her son, Ajoy as a doctor with the help of community workers and neighbours. She bought a plot of land at Hansapukur in the interiors of Thakurpukur. Her dreams became a reality when what started as a small hut is now a three-storeyed hospital spread over five bighas of land having 5,000 sq ft in each floor. The hospital runs purely on charitable basis and from the general donations received from the public and different organisations/trusts. It has no other source of income other than the donations received. At present, the hospital has OPD unit for children, dental, eye, general medicine, gynaecology, general surgery, orthopaedic, skin, urology, a small pathology unit, ECG, CTG, X-ray, three operation theatres including labour OT and a 35-bed ward complex. LIC GJF has supported the construction of second floor of the hospital with an amount of ₹ 25 lakh.

Times of India, March 25, 2013, P.13

walk nearly 4-5 km to reach school. LIC GJF has extended its support in the expansion of the school building.

LIC GJF has also reached out to the children residing in Port Blair by providing school bus for their transportation. It has reached out to the underprivileged sections of the north eastern states by providing support through construction of hospitals, nursing schools, mobile medical vans and school buses.

These are only a few examples. LIC GJF has supported many such projects in remote and inaccessible parts of the country. Around 248 projects involving a total amount of approximately ₹ 36 crores have been financed by it.

LIC Golden Jubilee Scholarship Scheme is an excellent example of Corporate Social Responsibility wherein scholarships of ₹ 10,000 each per annum are awarded to meritorious students across the

country belonging to economically weaker sections of society so as to provide them better opportunities for higher education in the field of engineering, medicine, degree and diploma courses in any field and any vocational course which leads to immediate employment.

Details of projects and scholarship beneficiaries which are supported by the Foundation as on date are given below:

#### **GJF PROJECTS SANCTIONED**

No. of projects	248
Amount sanctioned (₹ in crore)	35.96

#### **GOLDEN JUBILEE SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME**

No. of beneficiaries	6,755
Amount disbursed (₹ in crore)	9.55

#### **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AND APPLICATION PROCEDURE**

The organisation to be funded should be a reputed non-governmental organisation engaged in charitable activities and registered for at least three years. It should have a PAN card and should have obtained exemption under Section 80G (5) of the IT Act 1961 and should be registered under Section 12A of IT Act 1961.

Applications should be submitted in the prescribed format to the nearest division of LIC where the project is proposed to be located along with enclosures mentioned therein. The application format may be obtained from the nearest divisional office.

Times of India, March 25, 2013, P.13



# सावधान! मिड डे मील की नहीं हो रही गुणवत्ता जांच

- चार महीने से हो रहा साढ़े ग्याह लाख बच्चों के स्वास्थ्य से खिलवाड़
- आला-अधिकारियों तक वो इसकी जानकारी नहीं

वी.के.शुक्ला, नई दिल्ली

सरकारी स्कूलों में बच्चों को बांटे जा रहे मिड-डे-मील के मामले में एक बड़ा खुलासा सामने आया है कि स्कूलों में बांटे जा रहे मिड डे मील की गुणवत्ता की जांच पिछले चार महीनों से नहीं की जा रही है। यानी नगर निगम और दिल्ली सरकार के साढ़े ग्याह लाख बच्चों के स्वास्थ्य से खिलवाड़ हो रहा है।

हैरानी की बात तो यह है कि बिन जिम्मेदार लोगों को मिड डे मील व्यवस्था का मुखिया बनाया गया है, उन्हें इसकी जानकारी तक नहीं है। भारत सरकार की ओर से मिड डे मील योजना के दिल्ली संयोजक व दिल्ली सरकार के शिक्षा सचिव दीवान चंद कहते हैं कि उन्हें इस मामले की जानकारी नहीं है। उन्होंने कहा कि वह सोमवार को इस मामले को देखवाएंगे। वहीं नगर निगम दक्षिणी के आयुक्त मनीष गुप्ता ने भी यही

कहा कि पता करेंगे कि भोजन के नमूनों की जांच क्यों नहीं हो रही है। हालांकि उत्तरी दिल्ली नगर निगम के निगम आयुक्त पी के गुप्ता ने ज़रूर माना कि भोजन के नमूनों की जांच नहीं हो रही है। उन्होंने कहा कि एजेंसी को लेकर कुछ समस्या थी जिसे निपटा लिया गया है। सोमवार को इस बारे में आदेश जारी करेंगे।

ज्ञात हो कि तीनों नगर निगम को मिला ले तो करीब 1700 नगर निगम स्कूलों में इस समय 10 लाख विद्यार्थी पढ़ रहे हैं। जबकि डेढ़ लाख के करीब बच्चे दिल्ली सरकार के प्राथमिक स्तर के करीब हैं। इन स्कूलों में बांटे जा रहे भोजन की गुणवत्ता की जांच के लिए

भोजन के नमूने दिल्ली की प्रतिष्ठित लैब श्रीराम इंस्टीट्यूट फॉर इंस्ट्रियल रिसर्च में भेजे जाते थे। चार महीने पहले 31 अक्टूबर को लैब के साथ दिल्ली सरकार और नगर निगम दोनों का कॉन्ट्रैक्ट निरस्त हो गया था। इसका नवनीकरण नहीं हुआ है। जिसके चलते लैब ने सैपल लेना बंद कर दिया।

आपको बता दें कि केंद्र सरकार ने मिड डे मील की गुणवत्ता को लेकर भोजन के नमूनों की जांच की व्यवस्था अनिवार्य की है। ताकि बच्चों के स्वास्थ्य खिलवाड़ नहीं हो सके। दिल्ली सरकार के स्कूलों की बात करें तो यहाँ 13 एनजीओ भोजन बांट रहे हैं। एक एनजीओ को भोजन के चार सैपल यानी नमूने प्रति माह

जांच के लिए भेजे जाने की व्यवस्था है। यानी पहले कुल मिलाकर 52 सैपल प्रति माह लैब को भेजे जा रहे थे। इसी प्रकार नगर निगम में 8 एनजीओ भोजन का वितरण कर रहे थे। इनसे कुल मिलाकर 40 सैपल प्रति माह भेजे जा रहे थे। लेकिन नवंबर से गुणवत्ता जांच टप है। इस बारे में नगर निगम के उत्तरी दिल्ली और पूर्वी दिल्ली के प्रवक्ता व जनसंपर्क निदेशक योगेंद्र सिंह मान ने माना कि पिछले साल 31 अक्टूबर को नगर निगम के श्रीराम लैब से जांच कराने से संबंधित कॉन्ट्रैक्ट निरस्त हो चुके हैं। इस बारे में कार्रवाई चल रही है।

आपको बता दें कि दिल्ली में 2006 से निगम स्कूलों के बच्चों को व्यवस्थित कर मिड डे मील दिया जा रहा है। मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय भारत सरकार के अनुसार प्रति बच्चे को 450 कैलोरी तथा 12 ग्राम प्रोटीन की गुणवत्ता वाला पका हुआ भोजन दिया जाना निर्धारित है।

Dainik Jagran (H), March 4, 2013, P.5  
(Mid Day Meal-Quality Test)

Contd..

**नगर निगम में भोजन वितरित करने वाली संस्थाओं के नाम**



नाम	उत्तरी	दक्षिणी	पूर्वी
स्त्री शक्ति	180500	00	95000
एकता शक्ति	00	132000	00
सूर्या चैरिटेबल	146100	00	00
मैत्री रिसर्व	85000	00	00
इस्कोन	00	159000	00
जयजी	00	60000	00
दलित मानव	00	70000	00
भारतीय मानव	00	78000	00
कुल		1005600	विद्यार्थी

Dainik Jagran (H), March 4, 2013, P.5

## MLAs to get key roles for Annshree Yojana

Ambika Pandit | TNN

**New Delhi:** With the assembly elections due this year, the Delhi government is thinking of giving MLAs a key role in identifying "vulnerable families" to expand the scope of the Cash for Food programme — Annshree Yojana. Under the scheme, launched in August last year, Rs 600 is transferred directly to the bank account of the most senior female member of the beneficiary household.

However, in a cabinet meeting chaired by chief minister Sheila Dikshit on Monday, it was felt that the scheme requires more work. The government plans to come up with a uniform criteria for recommendation by MLAs, which will be verified by NGO-run Gender Resource Centres under Mission Convergence. So far, a little over 25,000 households have benefited from the scheme, far below the target of 2 lakh beneficiaries, even as the deadline — March 31 — is nearing. Dikshit on Monday expressed concern over the slow pace of registration and asked the departments concerned to speed up the process.

It is no secret that ever since the scheme took off, MLAs have been eager to secure their vote banks in slums and resettlement

ments by means of Annshree Yojana. They have been bombarding the 140 Gender Resource Centres, responsible for enrolment of the beneficiaries, with recommendations for vulnerable households.

As of now, there is a cap of 2 lakh on the total number of beneficiaries. These beneficiaries have to be selected after sifting through data of about 5.75 lakh households, which fall under the vulnerable and most vulnerable category, according to a state survey done in phases between 2008 to 2011. Only households that are not receiving subsidized ration under the Public Distribution System are eligible for Annshree.

It now appears that those eligible for the scheme may not exceed 1.2 lakh. Hence, the decision to explore the option of giving MLAs a role in identifying suitable families. There is a consensus among departments over the need for evolving a procedure for verifying the eligible households. A cap has also been suggested on the total number of recommendations lest the limit of two lakh beneficiaries in the first phase be crossed.

At present, the MLAs are authorized to testify for the beneficiaries identified under the survey if do not have proof of address for opening a bank account.

Times of India, March 6, 2013, P.7 (Annshree Yojana)



## Mid-day meals of North Corp schools fail nutrition test



- Mid-day meals being served at municipal schools. ARIJIT SEN/HT

HT Correspondent

#reporters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** More than four lakh children studying in North Delhi Municipal Corporation schools are being served substandard mid-day meals, leader of the House Mahender Nagpal said on Monday.

According to details received from the corporation, over 90 per cent of the samples lifted for testing from the kitchens of NGOs serving food in primary schools have failed to meet the minimum standards of protein and overall calorific value.

"Of the 80 samples taken for testing, only seven have met the required standards. However, no action was taken by the authorities," said Nagpal, who raised the issue in the House meeting. The samples were taken from April 23, 2012 to October 31,

2012. The samples were tested by the Shriram Institute for Industrial Research – a government-approved institute.

As per required norms, the food served to the students needs to have a minimum of 12 grams of protein and minimum calorific value of 450 gms. However, most of the samples taken for testing failed to meet the required parameters. In most of the cases, the test report observed: "The sample does not meet the requirements laid down for mid-day meals with respect to protein and calorific value."

Corporation officials played down the report, stating that 'none of the test results showed that the food was adulterated'. "We are working towards addressing the issue," said North Corporation Commissioner, PK Gupta.

## "Women & Child Dept. not paying minimum wages"

Bindu Shajan Perappadan

**NEW DELHI:** The Delhi Labour Department has asked the State Women & Child Development Department why it was violating labour laws by not paying minimum wages to employees under its Integrated Child Protection Scheme Project. "According to records of the WCD Department, payment made by it directly or through the department's authorised non-government organisation are less than the government notified minimum wages," noted the letter by the Labour Department.

Listing the posts where there was violation of the minimum wages, the Labour Department has noted: "All the posts of accountant, programme assistant, assistant-cum-data, counsellor, social worker, data analyst, nurse, house mother/father, educator (voluntary/part-time), MBBS doctor (part-time), cook and even house keeper are being paid below the minimum wages."

Speaking about the 'human rights violation', a senior official at the Labour Department said: "As per Section 12 of the

Minimum Wages Act, 1948, all the employers have to ensure that minimum wages are paid to the employees engaged by them."

He added that the letter issued also explained: "In respect of any scheduled employment a notification under Section 5 is in force – the employer shall pay every employee engaged in a scheduled employment under him wages at a rate not less than the minimum rate of wages fixed by such notification for that class of employees in that employment without any deduction except as may be authorised within such time and subject to such conditions as may be prescribed."

Meanwhile, the WCD Department has now been asked by the Labour Department to increase the salaries/wages as per notified rates of the Delhi Government and to also submit a compliance report. The report is due by this weekend.

Stating that the matter will be looked into immediately, Women & Child Development Minister Kiran Walia said: "In case there is any discrepancy the problem will be sorted out at the earliest."

Hindustan Times, March 19, 2013, P.7  
( Mid Day Meal-Nutrition Test)

Hindu, March 22, 2013, P.2  
( ICPS)



# महिलाओं के लिए निर्भया कोष

नई दिल्ली (एसएनबी)। महिलाओं के लिए वित्तमंत्री चिदम्बरम ने अपने पिछरे में से कई नई योजनाओं की घोषणा की है। लोकसभा में 2013-14 का आम बजट पेश करते हुए चिदम्बरम ने कहा, महिलाओं की गरिमा और सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करना हमारी सामूहिक जिम्मेदारी है। हम लड़कियों और महिलाओं को सशक्त और सुरक्षित बनाने के लिए हरसंभव कार्य कर रहे हैं। इसके लिए 1000 करोड़ रुपये के सरकारी अंशदान से 'निर्भया कोष' बनाए जाने का प्रस्ताव है। उन्होंने कहा, हाल में हुई घटनाओं ने हमारे उदार और प्रतिश्रील विश्वासों पर एक अमिट काली छाया छोड़ी है। जैसे ही अधिक महिलाएं शिक्षा या कार्य अथवा फुर्सत के लिए सार्वजनिक स्थलों पर जाती हैं, उनके खिलाफ हिंसा की अधिक रिपोर्ट मिलती है।



(शेष पेज 2)

## महिलाओं के लिए ...

उन्होंने कहा, हम महिलाओं को सशक्त बनाने और उन्हें सुरक्षित रखने के लिए हरसंभव कदम उठाने के लिए बचनबद्ध हैं।

सभी ने स्वागत किया : वित्तमंत्री द्वारा बालिकाओं के उत्थान के लिए 'निर्भया कोष' की स्थापना की घोषणा का यूपीए अध्यक्ष सोनिया गांधी तथा विगध की नेता सुपमा स्वराज समेत लगभग सभी दलों के सदस्यों ने मेजे शपथपा का स्वागत किया। इसी प्रकार देश का पहला और महिला केंद्रित बैंक स्थापित किए जाने की घोषणा का भी सदस्यों ने विशेषकर महिला सदस्यों ने जोर-शोर से स्वागत किया।

चिदम्बरम ने सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के बैंक के रूप में भारत के पहले महिला बैंक की स्थापना का प्रस्ताव किया। उन्होंने कहा, प्रारंभिक पूंजी के रूप में इस बैंक के लिए 1000 करोड़ रुपये का अंशदान किया जाएगा। वित्तमंत्री ने महिलाओं से संबंधित कार्यक्रमों के लिए बजट में 97,134 करोड़ रुपये रखे हैं। उनके बजट में अकेली महिलाओं या विधवाओं सहित कमजोर वर्गों की महिलाओं पर भी विशेष ध्यान दिया गया है ताकि वह सम्मान के साथ अपना गुजर बसर कर सकें।

उन्होंने कहा, इसके लिए शुरू में महिला एवं बाल विकास मंत्रालय की 200 करोड़ रुपये की अतिरिक्त राशि देने का प्रस्ताव है। तेजी से बढ़ते सोने के दाम के मद्देनजर वित्तमंत्री ने बजट में विदेश से सोने के आभूषण लाने के मामले में राहत का प्रस्ताव किया है। चिदम्बरम ने कहा, पुरुष यात्री विदेश से बिना किसी आयात शुल्क के 50,000 रुपये मूल्य तक के आभूषण देश में ला सकेंगे। वहीं महिला यात्री एक लाख रुपये तक के आभूषण देश में बगैर शुल्क चुगतान के ला सकेंगी।

Rashtriya Sahara (H), March 1, 2013, P.1+2  
(Nirbhaya Kosh)

## New schemes for women soon: CM

### STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, March 8 – The State government will undertake many more new schemes for empowerment of women and ensure equal rights to them. On the occasion of the International Women's Day, Chief Minister Tarun Gogoi assured that the government will work towards making women economically independent as well as improving the health status of mothers and the girl child.

The day was observed by the Social Welfare department at the auditorium of Vivek-ananda Kendra here. Social Welfare Minister Akan Bora addressing the meeting said that the department in association with the non government organisations is implementing various welfare schemes for women and many have benefited from them.

The Assam State Commission for Women has decided to give impetus to its awareness drive on protection of rights of women including prevention of child marriage in the rural areas where knowledge on the legal front is lacking.

The conference held by the Commission in collaboration with the National Commission for Women was attended by government officials and representatives of organizations working for the welfare of the girl child.

On the other hand, child protection officer of UNICEF Ved Prakash Gautam called for retaining girls in the education system and radical overhauling of the social system to prevent child marriage.

In the backdrop of rising anger against atrocities on women, World Vision India – Guwahati Urban Area Development Programme celebrated International Women's Day at the Community Hall – Christ Church Compound with the participation of over 100 underprivileged women.

The staff of Guwahati Urban Area Development Programme shared with the women about the responsibility the mother has at home and it is the mother who can provide a healthy future for her children.

Social activist Preeti Basumatary from Guwahati shared motivational stories with the women to fight for their rights.

A motivational film produced by Synod-CNI on HIV AIDS was also showed to protect the children from HIV and AIDS, especially the adolescent girls at home. The occasion was observed by different organisations in the capital city including Asom Establishment and Domestic Workers Union and NEN. Nemcare Hospital celebrated International Women's Day in collaboration with 93.5 Red FM at its premises with a free health check up including BP, Hb%, RBS check up for women.

Assam Tribune, March 9, 2013, P.5  
(New Schemes for Women-Guwahati)



**Department of Women and Child Development**  
**Gender Agenda: Gaining Momentum**  
**International Women's Day Celebration-2013**  
**Kittur Rani Chennamma Award Presentation Function**

**Department of Women and Child Development - Programmes**

- ◆ **Streeshakthi** : 1.40 lakh Streeshakthi groups are formed in which approximately 21 lakh Women members are organised, total savings Rs.1197.17 crores, 175 Taluk federations and 10884 clusters are formed. For marketing the products produced by self help groups and for training the members Streeshakthi Bhavans are being constructed in 28 Districts, 175 taluks and in 4 Revenue Divisions. To bring the products produced by Streeshakthi groups to the doorstep of the customer, Mobile Marketing Van Service Scheme is introduced.
- ◆ **Santhwana** : 172 counselling centres provide counselling, legal help, temporary shelter, financial assistance to women who have undergone various types of harassment. During the year 17685 women have made use of this facility. Free Women's Helpline Number : 1091
- ◆ **Girls Hostel** : To help girls from rural areas to continue their education, financial assistance is being given to Non-Government organisations to provide hostel facilities for 2875 girls at 44 girls hostels.
- ◆ **Protection of Women from Domestic Violence** : For the implementation of the Act 215 Protection Officers, 116 service providers and 154 shelter homes are notified. Under this Act women victims of domestic violence can avail protection order, residence order, maintenance, custody of children and monetary relief through court.
- ◆ **Karnataka Mahila Abhivrudhi Yojane** : The Department is monitoring the reservation of 1/3 of the budget for women in beneficiary and labour oriented programmes under 230 schemes of 25 departments. The total financial allocation of Rs.10221.21 crores, Rs.3789.98 crores has been reserved for women.
- ◆ **Working Womens Hostel** : For the construction/expansion of hostels 66 Non-Government organisations have been assisted financially from Central and State Governments. 4883 women are provided hostel facilities.
- ◆ **Integrated Child Development Scheme** : 61187 Anganwadi centres and 3331 mini Anganwadi centres have been functioning and till now Rs.55.07 lakh beneficiaries have availed the facilities. For Suggestions-Free helpline number : 1800 42525250.
- ◆ **Pension and death relief for Anganwadi workers** : A new pension scheme has been implemented for Anganwadi workers/helpers. During 2012-13, Rs.22.40 lakhs has been given as death relief to the heirs of 68 Anganwadi workers and 88 Anganwadi helpers.
- ◆ **Sabala Scheme** : Being implemented on an experimental basis in 9 Districts. 4.48 lakh adolescent girls are receiving supplementary nutrition.

- ◆ **Indira Gandhi Mathrutva Sahayoga Yojane** : Being implemented in Kolar and Dharwad Districts, 63839 beneficiaries are availing the facilities of this scheme.
- ◆ **Bhagyalakshmi Scheme for Protection of Girl Children** : Bond distributed to 16.50 lakh girl children.
- ◆ **Integrated Child Protection Scheme (I.C.P.S.)** : A Centrally sponsored scheme with the primary aim of establishing safety net for children who are in need of care and protection and in conflict with law. As per Juvenile Justice Act it is being implemented since 2010-11. 73 Government institutions, 11 Non-Government organisations 24 open shelters, 32 special adoption agencies and child helpline - 1098 are established.

**Karnataka State Women's Development Corporation - Programmes**

- ◆ **Udyogini** : Financial assistance of Rs.527.91 lakhs is provided to 7078 women beneficiaries for self employment and income generating activities.
- ◆ **Skill Training for Women** : Vocational and skill training is being given to 6080 beneficiaries for which Rs.300 lakhs is allocated.
- ◆ **Rehabilitation of Devadasis** : Financial assistance to Devadasis to take up income generating activities. For former Devadasis monthly pension of Rs.400/- and through Rajiv Gandhi Housing Corporation, Rs. 40,000/- grant for construction of houses is being provided.
- ◆ **Micro Finance Scheme** : Loan facility of Rs.93.00 lakhs is provided to 1658 members of self help groups for income generating activities and economic development of women.

**Karnataka State Women's Commission - Programmes**

- ◆ **Suraksha Yojane** : Rs.20,000/- to Rs.2 lakh monetary relief is provided for treatment and rehabilitation of women acid attack victims.
- ◆ **Women's Help Desks at Family Courts** : It is being implemented in 7 Districts.
- ◆ **Pariwarak Mahila Adalat** for speedy settlement of family dispute cases.
- ◆ **Statewide awareness camps** are being conducted for creating awareness of existing laws for women.

Deccan Herald, March 22, 2013, P.8 ( Programmes-DWCD)



# A scheme for the poor, not a poor scheme

Evidence suggests that MGNREGA is reaching the most vulnerable sections of rural India

OF LATE, there has been much public debate around the effectiveness of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), particularly on its targeting of the poor and the socioeconomic profile of its beneficiaries (most notably in this newspaper). It is important to look at these claims closely, not as much to counter them but as to present the real picture that has been undermined by often-unsubstantiated criticism.

To begin with, it is important to keep in mind that the fundamental design of MGNREGA is based on universalisation, that is, any rural household, irrespective of caste, economic status etc, whose adult members are willing to do unskilled manual work, is eligible for work under the programme for up to 100 days a year. The thinking is that this built-in "self-targeting" mechanism makes the programme relatively more attractive to the most poor and marginalised.

In this article, we analyse whether this targeting is being achieved. Overall, available credible evidence, including from the NSSO, UNDP and many other independent studies, suggests that MGNREGA does a fairly successful job of targeting the poorest and the most vulnerable.

As per the 2009-10 National Sample Survey Office report on employment, it is the poor who are benefiting more from MGNREGA. Dutta et al (2012), while analysing the NSSO data, note that the participation rate — that is, the share of households working on MGNREGA — is much higher among the poor; 34 per cent of people in the poorest quintile (bottom 20 per cent households) benefited from MGNREGA, versus 14 per cent in the richest quintile (top 20 per cent). In fact, nearly three-quarters of workers are from the poorest 60 per cent of households. Field studies at the micro level find the same trend — a study conducted in Uttar Pradesh by IIM-Lucknow found that around 85 per cent of the scheme's beneficiaries were from below poverty line (BPL) families.

The NSSO data does note that some households with higher Monthly Per Capita Expenditure (MPCE) participate in the scheme, as mentioned above.

However, these are far fewer and could possibly reflect households who have been affected by recent economic shocks. It is also useful to note what "well off" means in the rural Indian context — a person on the 60th percentile in rural India has a MPCE of Rs 1,001, as per NSSO's 66th round in 2009-10, very far from any notion of "well off" that we may have.

In terms of MGNREGA reaching the marginalised and most vulnerable groups, the evidence is again encouraging. For example, according to the MGNREGA MIS, the participation rate of SCs and STs in MGNREGA is consistently over 40 per cent and far exceeds their share in the population. A panel survey on MGNREGA conducted by NSSO between 2009-11 in the three states of Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan finds that more

than 90 per cent of the beneficiaries of MGNREGA belonged to SC, ST and OBC households. Dutta et al corroborate this finding. They find that the average participation rate of SCs, STs and OBCs exceeds the participation rate of "others" by 12.4 per cent, though there are inter-state variations. The evidence on inclusion goes beyond this as well. A survey led by Reetika Khara and Jean Dreze, conducted in six states, found that 81 per cent of MGNREGA workers lived in kachcha houses and 72 per cent had no electricity at home. The CAG report on MGNREGA, which is going to be tabled in Parliament shortly, may well provide further evidence that MGNREGA is effectively reaching the most marginalised sections of rural India.

The evidence on the participation of women, another key marginalised group, is possibly even more conclusive. The participation rate of women in

MGNREGA has consistently been around 50 per cent. In fact, the participation rate of women in MGNREGA in 2009-10 (48 per cent) was more than double their participation in the casual labour market (23 per cent), based on NSSO data. Clearly, MGNREGA is providing employment to women who would otherwise not have participated in the labour market.

This is not to say that inclusion and provision of employment under MGNREGA cannot be improved. There is evidence of "rationing" in MGNREGA, that is, unmet demand and denial of employment, especially in the poorer states, which limits the benefits of the scheme. This is a complex issue that arises due to low awareness among beneficiaries, lower state capacity and weaker local government institutions in these states, and must be addressed. The MGNREGA 2.0 agenda attempts to address some of these concerns by, for example, better and more timely "labour budgeting" to estimate the quantum and timing of works, availability of professional human resources (for example, dedicated cluster facilitation teams), and building capacity of panchayati raj institutions.

So while a lot more needs to be done, there is enough evidence to suggest that contrary to perception in certain quarters, MGNREGA has been fairly successful in reaching the poor and the most marginalised in rural India.

*The writers are with the Union ministry of rural development*

A PANEL survey on MGNREGA conducted by NSSO between 2009-11 in the three states of Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan finds that more than 90 per cent of the beneficiaries of MGNREGA belonged to SC, ST and OBC households. Dutta et al corroborate this finding. They find that the average participation rate of SCs, STs and OBCs exceeds the participation rate of "others" by 12.4 per cent.

Indian Express, March 27, 2013, P.11 (MGNREGA)

**The Best Society is the one where Women are Empowered...**

**SAMAJIK SUVIDHA SANGAM**  
MISSION CONVERGENCE

**Samajik Suvidha Sangam (Mission Convergence), launched in Delhi** by the Chief Minister, Smt. Sheila Dikshit aims at improving the quality of life of the urban poor through its various programmes. The programme is conducted in order to make the state's women healthy and economically self sufficient. They are given proper guidance regarding health issues and education. Every year the schemes bring about changes in the society and make it a better place to live, survive and excel.

*We make a difference to your lives...*

**The Skill Training & Employment Programme (STEP - UP), a significant component** of the scheme SJSRY has an objective to facilitate talented youth with funds and promote them to earn a respectable livelihood based on their skills and entrepreneurship. The programme gets the youth of the vulnerable sections of society, well placed in desired positions. It does not only lend training but also aims at the employment of the people.



*Polishing & Employing the young potential!*

**Self Help Groups** represents a unique approach to financial intermediation. These groups emphasize on self reliance, self production and self employment by mobilizing internal resources of the person and the community. The approach combines access to low cost financial services and wider development programmes, offering both economic and social benefits. Some SHGs involve income generation activities where they make products for sale. SSS Convergence takes up stalls at BapuDham and Dilli Haat, fairs held at Talkatora Stadium and Trade Fairs, thus giving a confidence boost to the beneficiaries.

**SSS-SEWA Project** aims to extend access of poor women of Delhi, to a range of microfinance services like credit and saving facilities. Samajik Suvidha Sangam (SSS) has sponsored an innovative project of Sewa Delhi Trust to facilitate access of urban poor women to microfinance services through a cooperative, Mahila SEWA Urban Cooperative Thrift & Credit Society Limited. A range of saving and credit services is provided at a lower rate of interest, 1.5 % per month.



*An economic and social boost!*

Hindustan Times, March 21, 2013, P.17  
(Programmes-Women Empowerment)

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## Delhi Annshree Yojana is one of the first direct cash transfer schemes for food security,

which is fully integrated with UID-Aadhaar system (unique identity). The scheme transfers cash benefits straight to the bank accounts of the beneficiary using an Aadhaar enabled payment gateway. It covers those vulnerable households living in the



Ensuring Social entitlements with dignity

slum area, resettlement colonies and JJ clusters of Delhi, which are not covered under the current PDS system.

Through this scheme the beneficiary household gets a monthly subsidy of Rs. 600 as cash transfer to the bank account of the senior most female member of the household. A total of 2 lakh households are currently targeted to benefit from this. The primary stakeholders are the people in the communities, Samajik Suvidha Sangam, Department of Food and Supplies, Unique Identity Authority of India, Banks and NGO partners.

## Awaaz Uthao Campaign, an urge to the society to make it a better place for women.

The Hon'ble Minister of Social Welfare and Women & Child Development **Prof. Kiran Walia** initiated the "Awaaz Uthao" campaign on 8th December 2011. Implementing the programme, Samajik Suvidha Sangam had piloted the project through 15 GRCs which has now spread out to 25 GRCs and is supporting women in distress including victims of eve teasing, sexual harassment/ assault, rape etc. This is a purely community led initiative and the collectives focus on attitudinal and behavioral changes so as to make the community responsive. The collectives form a stake holders committee which has representatives from police, MCD, Local Schools, Anganwadi centres, lawyers, PWD etc.



Making society safer for women...



Education is a tool...

## Mission Convergence has been contributing towards achievement of the Delhi Development Goal of

Universalization of Elementary Education (UEE) through education component of its 105 General Resource Centre (GRCs) and 25 extension centres located in different parts of Delhi. Over 2000 out-of-school children have been mainstreamed into formal schools during the academic year 2012-13. Among the enrolled children, over 65 percent were girls.

Learning level of the learner can be broadly classified into **Basic NFE Classes, Remedial Classes and Adult Education.**

## Mission Convergence is committed to improve health status of women and children

living in urban slums through the **Gender Resource Centre (GRCs)**

The Primary health care needs of the community members are addressed through regular health camps and health/OPD clinics.

**Strengthening of Nutrition Component:** This addresses the issue of malnutrition in the community. Mission Convergence conducts structured and targeted Nutrition Camps every month. Focusing on malnutrition, infant feeding and complementary feeding, malnutrition and micro-nutrients and common ailments and hygiene practices are the main objectives of the programme.

**Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY):** Beneficiaries under RSBY are entitled to hospitalization coverage upto RS.30,000 for most of the diseases that require hospitalization. The beneficiary pays only Rs.30/- towards registration while the central and state government pays the premium to the insurer selected by the state government on the basis of a competitive bid.



Ensuring health...ensuring prosperity

Hindustan Times, March 21, 2013, P.17

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## Reaching out through Gender Resource Centres

Women empowerment is one of the central ideas of Mission Convergence as the women form the nucleus of the family, community, society and nation. The woman empowerment component of Mission Convergence is implemented through the Gender Resource Centres (GRCs), which serve as the first point of contact as well. Starting from just 4, a quantum leap has been made in the last 4 years to have 105 such centres and 25 extension centres all over Delhi. Besides assisting in availing entitlements, these centres work towards Social, Economic and Legal empowerment of women by interventions in the area of Legal Rights, Economic initiatives skill building, microenterprises and entrepreneurship development and health. These centres have been set up in Delhi at the areas having high concentration of vulnerable families. Apart from emphasizing on women related issues, GRC-SK works for holistic development of the society.

### Statistics at a Glance:

- There are 105 Gender Resource Centres (GRCs) and 25 extension centres located in different parts of Delhi, set up in partnership with over 130 NGOs.
- 3952 adult learners from the GRCs appeared for the NLMA-NIOS "Saakshar Bharat" examination which will give them the certificate of literacy on successfully clearing the exam.
- 2292 health camps and OPD clinics were held between April 2012 and Dec 2012 reach out to 229008 beneficiaries.
- Over 2000 out-of-school children have been mainstreamed into formal schools during the academic year 2012-13.
- 26176 young girls and women through 858 Nutrition Camps were encouraged towards better nutritional practices.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

District Resource Centre (New Delhi)  
Office of Deputy Commissioner  
Jam Nagar House, New Delhi-01  
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District Resource Centre (East & Shahdara),  
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District Resource Centre (Central)  
Office of Deputy Commissioner  
Old Employment Exchange Bldg., Darya Ganj, New Delhi-02  
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District Resource Centre (North-East)  
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Weavers Complex, Nand Nagri, Delhi  
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District Resource Centre (South West) Office of Deputy Commissioner  
Kapashera Boarder, New Delhi Ph. 25065997 Mob. 9999608199

District Resource Centre (North),  
Office of Deputy Commissioner  
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District Resource Centre (North-West)  
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## MISSION CONVERGENCE

GOVERNMENT OF NCT OF DELHI

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[www.missionconvergence.org](http://www.missionconvergence.org)

Hindustan Times, March 21, 2013, P.17

अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय महिला दिवस की शुभकामनाएँ

8 मार्च 2013

**सशक्त महिला - सशक्त हरियाणा - सशक्त भारत**

हरियाणा सरकार द्वारा महिलाओं के संरक्षण, सशक्तिकरण तथा कल्याण के लिए उठाए गए कदम

- महिलाओं के सामाजिक, आर्थिक एवं शैक्षणिक सशक्तिकरण के लिए महिलाओं से सम्बन्धित विभिन्न कानूनों को प्रभावी रूप से लागू करने के लिए स्टेट गिशन अथॉरिटी का गठन।
- राज्य में महिलाओं के संवैधानिक एवं कानूनी अधिकारों की रक्षा हेतु राज्य महिला आयोग कार्यरत। जिनसे वैधानिक दर्जा प्रदान कर सुदृढ़ किया गया तथा आयोग को सिविल कोर्ट के अधिकार दिए गए।
- बाल विवाह की रोकथाम व महिलाओं को घरेलू हिंसा से बचाने के लिए सभी जिलों में संरक्षण-कम-बाल विवाह विभेद अधिकारी नियुक्त।
- किशोरी बालिकाओं के विकास व सशक्तिकरण, जीवन निपुणता को बढ़ाने, स्वास्थ्य, स्वच्छता, पोषण तथा बाल देख-रेख के प्रति जानकारी में सहाय करने हेतु अम्बाला, हिंदार, सेनाडी, रोहताक, यमुनानगर तथा कैथल में सबला योजना लागू।
- शिक्षा ऋण योजना के अन्तर्गत बालिकाओं को देश/विदेश में व्यवसायिक एवं उच्च शिक्षा प्राप्त करने हेतु ब्याज में 5 प्रतिशत सब्सिडी दी जाती है।
- कमजोर वर्ग की महिलाओं की सामाजिक-आर्थिक स्थिति में सुधार लाने, व्यवसायिक प्रशिक्षण व स्वयं रोजगार स्थापित करने हेतु व्यक्तिगत ऋण योजना लागू। जिसके अन्तर्गत ऋण पर 10 प्रतिशत सब्सिडी प्रदान की जाती है।
- बालिकाओं को शिक्षा के प्रति प्रोत्साहित करने के लिए बजट स्तर पर हरियाणा शिक्षा बोर्ड की दसवीं कक्षा में प्रथम, द्वितीय व तृतीय स्थान प्राप्त करने वाली बालिकाओं को क्रमशः 2000/-, 1500/- व 1000/- रु० तथा बारहवीं कक्षा की बालिकाओं को क्रमशः 3000/-, 2500/- व 2000/- रु० प्रोत्साहन पुरस्कार स्वरूप दिए जाते हैं।
- विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में उत्कृष्ट कार्य करने वाली महिलाओं को 1,00,000/- रु० की राशि का इंदिरा गांधी महिला शक्ति अवार्ड तथा 51,000/- 51,000/- रु० की राशि का कल्याण चाबला शौर्य अवार्ड व महिला जन्मो देती पंचायती राज अवार्ड देने की योजना
- राज्य सरकार द्वारा महिलाओं की महायता/परामर्श हेतु महिला हेल्प लाईन 1091 की शुरुआत।

अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय महिला दिवस के शुभ अवसर पर इन सब एजेंडों को लेकर महिला सशक्तिकरण को साकार करें।



**महिला एवं बाल विकास विभाग, हरियाणा**

बंगला हाउस, 15-20, लॉकर-4, धर्मपुरा (WOS)। [www.wos.haryana.gov.in](http://www.wos.haryana.gov.in)

डी. राजेंद्र सिंह, सचिव, महिला एवं बाल विकास विभाग, हरियाणा

Amar Ujala, March 8, 2013, P.8

(Programmes-Women Empowerment)



## 5.3 Legislation/Bills/ Court orders (Anti-Rape Bill/ Anti-Rape Law/ Surrogacy/Food Security Bill/Special Court Nongstio/All-Women Court/Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill/POCSO Act/ Women's Act/ Juvenile Law's/PNDT Act)



Indian Express, March 6, 2013, P.3  
(Criminal Law)

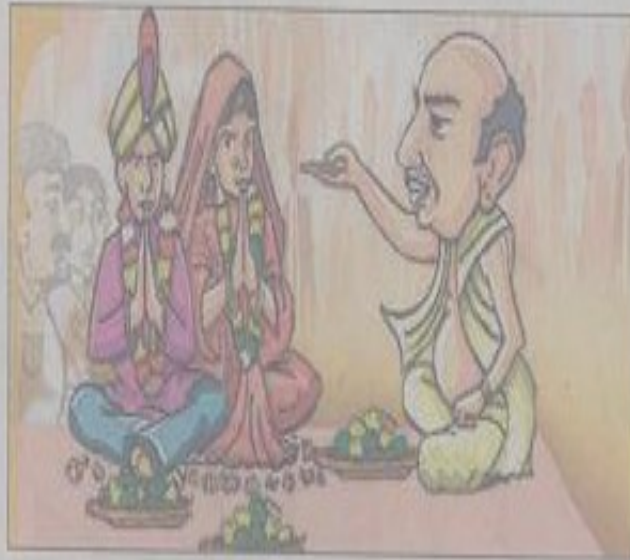


# Save institution of marriage: SC

**NEW DELHI:** The Supreme Court has stressed on the need for saving the institution of marriage by settling disputes between fighting couple amicably, saying that matrimonial alliance plays an important role in the life of individuals.

A three-judge bench presided over by Justice P Sathasivam also said that the courts should be more than willing to quash the criminal complaint or FIR if both parties showed readiness to bury their hatchet.

"There has been an outburst of matrimonial disputes in recent times. The institution of marriage occupies an important place and it has an important role to play in society. Therefore, every effort should be made in the interest of the individuals in order to enable them to settle down in life and live peacefully."



"If parties ponder over their defaults and terminate their disputes amicably by mutual agreement instead of fighting it out in a court of law, in order to do complete justice in the matrimonial matters, the courts should be less hesitant in exercising its extraordinary jurisdiction," the bench added.

The apex court set aside an order passed by the Madhya Pradesh High Court (HC) in July disallowing a plea made by a harried husband for qua-

shing an FIR registered against him for dowry harassment and criminal breach of trust, despite his wife's willingness to withdraw the complaint.

## Duty of Court

The HC had rejected their application stating that the court has no power to quash criminal proceedings in respect of offences under Sections 498A (cruelty) and 406 (criminal breach of trust) of the Indian Penal Code since both are non-compoundable.

The apex court bench, also comprising Justices JS Khehar and Kurian Joseph, ruled that the view taken by the HC was wrong, saying that application filed by the couple was not for compounding of non-compoundable offences but for quashing of the criminal proceedings.

"The inherent powers of the High Court under Section 482 (quashing) of the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC) are wide and unfettered," the court said.

However, this power had to be exercised in appropriate cases, it added.

"It is the duty of the courts to encourage genuine settlements of matrimonial disputes, and Section 482 of the CrPC enables the High Court and Article 142 of the Constitution enables this court to pass such orders," the bench said.

**DH News Service**

Deccan Herald, March 29, 2013, P.1

# RTE in mind, Raju not happy with 17% raise

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■  
NEW DELHI

An increase of about 17 per cent in fund allocation to the education sector has failed to impress HRD Minister MM Pallam Raju, worried among others over the impending deadline for implementation of Right to Education (RTE).

Expressing his complete dissatisfaction over the 2013-14 allocation, Raju said this is a meagre increase and his Ministry will demand for more allocation. Raju said that with the RTE deadline coming to an end on March 31, States would be demanding more of Central share for fulfilling all the provisions made for implementation of RTE.

The Sarva Siksha Abhiyan (SSA) and the RTE got an allocation of ₹27,258 crore for 2013-14 as compared to last fiscal's ₹21,328 crore revised estimate. The plan expenditure for School Education for coming academ-

## MINISTER TO ASK FOR MORE SOON?

	School Education	Higher Education	Total allocation
2012-13	42,729	13,479	56,208
2013-14	49,659	16,198	65,857

(figures in ₹ crore)

ic session has been pegged at ₹49,659 crore while the plan expenditure for Higher Education has been put at ₹16,198 crore. The Rashtriya Madhyamik Siksha Abhiyan programme, which aims at universalisation of secondary education, has got ₹3,983 crore for 2013-14, an increase of ₹25.6 per cent over the revised estimate.

"I think there has been little bit of increase. But the important factor is that the deadline for implementing the RTE, which is my primary concern, is coming up and subsequent to that there will be a lot of demand from the States for Central share of money and I think that is what we should be prepared for,"

Raju said. HRD Ministry sources said that most of the States are yet to fulfil the RTE provisions and they will require massive funds. Schools face the prospects of being derecognised in the event of not meeting the norms.

Noting that capacity-building in secondary education and higher secondary education is also imperative, Raju said his Ministry will seek additional funds for it.

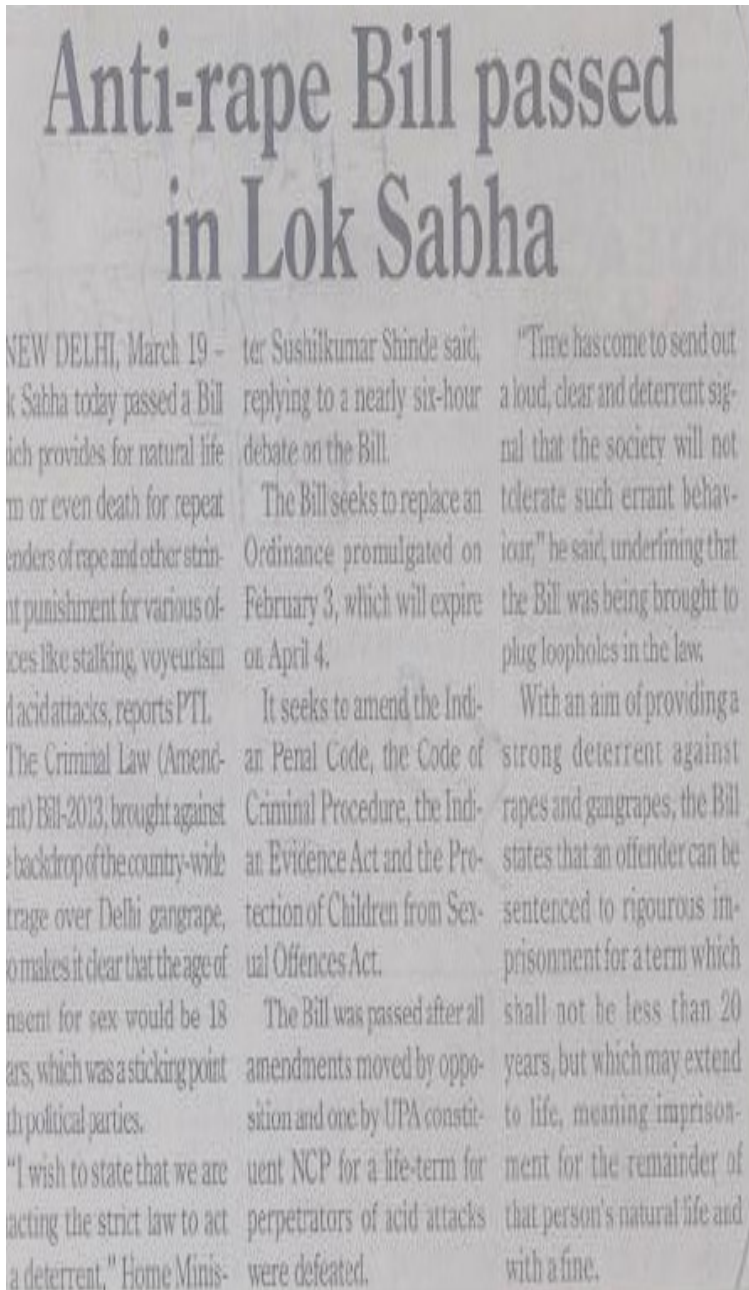
HRD Ministry's separate demand for funds towards quality teacher's training has also not been addressed. Fund allocated to higher education is too less when compared to large-scale revamp of higher and technical education across the country.



Children eat a free Mid-Day Meal at a Government school in Hyderabad on Thursday

Pioneer, March 1, 2013, P.6 (RTE)





Assam Tribune, March 20, 2013, P.1  
(Anti-Rape Bill)



Indian Express, March 6, 2013, P.7  
(Maternity Leave-Surrogacy)



# एंटी रेप बिल लोकसभा से पास

दिल्ली गैंग रेप मामले के बाद तीन फरवरी को लाए गए अध्यादेश की जगह लेगा यह बिल

विशेष संवाददाता || नई दिल्ली

महिलाओं के खिलाफ होने वाले अत्याचार से जुड़ा एंटी रेप बिल मंगलवार को लोकसभा से पास हो गया। गृह मंत्री सुशील कुमार शिंदे ने क्रिमिनल लॉ अमेंडमेंट बिल 2013 को पेश किया था। वह बिल दिल्ली गैंग रेप को लेकर हुए प्रदर्शन के बाद 3 फरवरी को लाए गए अध्यादेश की जगह लेगा। बिल में सिर्फ क्रिमिनल लॉ में बदलाव का प्रस्ताव नहीं, कई अन्य कानूनों में बदलाव का भी प्रस्ताव है।

● बिल में रेप की परिभाषा व्यापक करने की बात है।  
● सलाह से संवत्स की उम्र 18 होगी।  
● पीछा करने (स्टॉकिंग) और बॉयरीज के मामले में पहली कोशिश को जमानती अपराध की कैटेगरी में रखा है। लेकिन बार-बार अपराध करने पर जानत खारिज कर दी जाएगी। मामले में अधिकतम 5 साल की जेल हो सकती है।  
● सगे अस्वालों को एसिड हमले या दुष्कर्म पीड़ितों को तुरंत फर्स्ट एड या फ्री इलाज की सुविधा देनी होगी। ऐसा नहीं करने पर सजा दी जाएगी।

**प्रावधानों पर नजर :**

● बिल में एसिड हमले को अपराध की श्रेणी में रखा गया है और पीड़िता को अपने बचाव का मौका प्रदान करने की बात है। साथ ही इसमें आरोपी को कम से कम 10 साल की सजा का प्रावधान है।  
● रेप और गैंग रेप के मामले में कड़ी सजा की बात कही गई है। इन मामलों में अपराधी को 20 साल तक की सजा की बात कही गई है। अपराध की गंभीरता को देखते हुए सजा को उम्रकैद में बदला जा सकता है।  
● रेप पीड़िता के पूरी तरह लाचार होने या मौत होने की स्थिति में मौत की सजा का प्रावधान है।

**बिल के लिए नहीं राहुल के पास तब**

बिल || नई दिल्ली : एंटी रेप बिल पर जहां सोनिया गांधी ने दिनचर्या दिखाई, वहीं राहुल गांधी इस मामले में पिछड़ते दिखाई दिए। जिस समय इस बिल पर लोकसभा में चर्चा बकोटिंग हुई राहुल कांग्रेस की मजबूती के लिए राहुल के अधिकारियों से बात कर रहे थे।

Nav Bharat Times (H) , March 20,2013, P.13 (Anti-Rape Bill)

# सख्त एंटी रेप बिल पर लोकसभा की मुहर

बलात्कार के लिए अब फांसी तक की सजा, आज राज्यसभा में पेश करने की तैयारी

● अमर उजाला ब्यूरो

नई दिल्ली। चलती बस में गैंगरेप को लेकर भड़के जनक्रोध के बाद सख्त कानून के लिए शुरू हुई मुहिम आखिरकार मंगलवार को रेप लाई। गरमा गरम बहस, संशोधन प्रस्तावों के बाद महिलाओं के खिलाफ यौन हिंसा रोकने के लिए बेहद कठोर प्रावधानों वाले अपराध कानून संशोधन विधेयक 2013 को लोकसभा ने मंजूरी दे दी।

इस बिल में न केवल साधारण यौन अपराधों की सजा बढ़ाई गई है, बल्कि बलात्कार मामले में न्यूनतम 20 वर्ष और अधिकतम मौत की सजा का प्रावधान है। इसके अलावा महिला के संवेदनशील अंगों से छेड़छाड़ तक को बलात्कार की श्रेणी में रखा गया है। तेजाब हमलों पर भी कड़ी सजा का प्रावधान किया गया है। हालांकि मत विभाजन के बाद इस मामले में उम्रकैद की सजा का प्रावधान को हटा लिया गया है। विपक्ष के साथ-साथ सहयोगी दलों के विरोध के बाद ताकझांक करना, पीछा करना और घुसना अब जमानती अपराध की श्रेणी में रखे गए हैं। अब बिल को बुधवार को राज्यसभा में पेश किए जाने की उम्मीद है।

**तेजाब से हमला करने वालों को उम्रकैद की सजा का प्रावधान गिरा**

**क्या है बिल के प्रावधान**

- बलात्कार मामले में न्यूनतम 20 वर्ष और अधिकतम मौत की सजा
- महिला के संवेदनशील अंगों से छेड़छाड़ भी माना जाएगा बलात्कार, इसमें कम से कम 20 साल और अधिकतम ताकझांक कैद
- तेजाब हमला करने वालों को मिलेगी 10 साल की सजा
- ताकझांक करने, पीछा करने के मामले में दूसरी बार नहीं मिलेगी जमानत, बार-बार पीछा करने पर अधिकतम पांच साल सजा
- सहमति से सेक्स की उम्र 18 साल रहेगी
- सजा के अतिरिक्त दुष्कर्म पीड़ित के इलाज के लिए अभियुक्त पर भारी जुर्माने का भी प्रावधान महिला के कपड़े फाड़ने पर भी सजा का प्रावधान

Amar Ujala, March 20, 2013, P.1 (Anti-Rape Bill)

# Parliament passes anti-rape law

REUTERS

feedback@livemint.com

NEW DELHI

India approved on Thursday a tougher new law to punish sex crimes, including death for repeat rape offenders, after the gang-rape of a student in December sparked unprecedented protests over the treatment of women in the country.

The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act 2013 or "anti-rape law" puts in place a slew of new provisions and tougher punishments, which include criminalizing voyeurism and stalking and making acid attacks and human trafficking specific offences.

The legislation is seen as a crucial step towards curbing rising cases of violence against women in the country, but activists said it was weak and warned that much would depend on enforcement.

"Such legislation has come to India for the first time and Parliament has given its approval. It will create a revolution in the country," home minister Sushil Kumar Shinde said shortly after lawmakers approved it.

Rape is just one of many violations women suffer in India, ranging from female foeticide and dowry murders to acid attacks, trafficking and so-called honour killings.



PRINYA PAKSHAI/MINT

**Tougher punishment:** The new law includes provisions of death for repeat rape offenders.

But the savagery of the 16 December assault, in which a 23-year-old student was gang-raped for an hour and tortured with an iron rod damaging her internal organs, shook the conscience of many Indians and stirred national debate about gender abuses.

Thousands took to the streets across India for days, forcing Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's government to constitute a panel to recommend ways to strengthen laws to protect women. The new law incorporates some of the panel's suggestions.

The law maintains life imprisonment for rape as the maximum sentence, yet sets down the death penalty for repeat

offenders and those whose victims are left in a "vegetative state".

It also expands the meaning of rape to include penetration of the mouth, anus, urethra or vagina with the penis or any other object without consent.

Gang-rape has been recognised as an offence, while sexual harassment has been redefined to include unwelcome advances with sexual overtures and showing pornography without consent.

The law also punishes police and hospital authorities with imprisonment of up to two years if they fail to register a complaint or treat a victim.

Women's groups expressed satisfaction that their fight had brought change, but said the law should have been stronger.

Marital rape, for instance, remains legitimate, and the age of consent has been set at 18 years instead of 16, and politicians charged with rape can still run in elections—despite the government panel recommending otherwise.

The law's proper enforcement remains key, activists said.

"I am not expecting wonderful progress in implementation. That is our next struggle," said Kavita Krishnan, secretary of the All India Progressive Women's Association.

"So this new law is not the end, but a step in a very long battle for gender equality in this country."

Mint, March 20, 2013, P.13

(Anti-Rape Law/Anti-Rape Bill)



# किराए की कोख से जुड़े मामलों पर विधेयक लाने की तैयारी

नई दिल्ली, 19 मार्च (भाषा)। सरकार किराए की कोख मामलों के नियमन के लिए विधेयक तैयार कर रही है। यह जानकारी मंगलवार को स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री गुलाम नबी आजाद ने राज्यसभा में दी।

आजाद ने इरना दास वैद्य के सवाल के जवाब में बताया कि सहायता प्राप्त प्रजनन प्रौद्योगिकी (एआरटी) प्रौद्योगिकी के कामकाज पर नजर रखने और देश में किराए की कोख मामलों के नियमन के लिए भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान अनुसंधान परिषद ने राष्ट्रीय दिशानिर्देश तैयार किए हैं। उन्होंने बताया कि सहायता प्राप्त प्रजनन प्रौद्योगिकी (नियमन) विधेयक का एक प्रारूप तैयार कर उसे कानून मंत्रालय के पास भेजा गया है। इस विधेयक में रोगियों, दाताओं, किराए की कोख वाली माताओं और बच्चों के अधिकारों और कर्तव्यों को निर्धारित करने का प्रस्ताव रखा गया है।

टोएम सेल्वागणपति के सवाल के जवाब में आजाद ने बताया कि विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन के मुताबिक वर्ष 2005 में भारत को हृदय रोग, मस्तिष्क आपात और मधुमेह जैसी बीमारियों से करीब नौ अरब डॉलर का नुकसान हुआ। उन्होंने बताया कि विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन की इस रिपोर्ट में 'चुनिदा देशों में चिरकालिक गैर संघारी रोगों के अधिक प्रभाव का मूल्यांकन' है। अध्ययन पत्र के मुताबिक वर्ष 2005 के कुल मूल्य के आधार पर भारत को दस साल में इन बीमारियों की वजह से 236.6 अरब डॉलर का नुकसान होगा।

पंकज भोरा के सवाल के जवाब में आजाद ने बताया कि देश के शीर्ष चिकित्सा संस्थान अखिल भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान (एम्स) के निजीकरण का कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है। उनसे पूछा गया था कि क्या सरकार वलियायन समिति को सिफारिशों के आधार पर नई दिल्ली स्थित अखिल भारतीय

आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान का निजीकरण करने के बारे में विचार कर रही है।

आजाद ने सादीलाल चन्दा के सवाल के जवाब में बताया कि राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र (एनसीआर) में केंद्र सरकार स्वास्थ्य योजना (सीजीएचएस) के तहत और स्वास्थ्य अस्पताल खोलने का प्रस्ताव है। गुडगांव, फरीदाबाद, नोएडा और गाजियाबाद में पहले से ही सीजीएचएस केंद्र काम कर रहे हैं। सरकार ने गुडगांव और ग्रेटर नोएडा में सीजीएचएस लाभार्थियों की बढ़ती संख्या के मुद्देनजर पिछले साल दिसंबर में एनसीआर में इन दोनों क्षेत्रों में दो और सीजीएचएस औषधालय खोले हैं। उन्होंने बताया कि गाजियाबाद के इंदिरापुरम और नोएडा में दो और सीजीएचएस केंद्र खोलने के लिए कार्यवाही की जा रही है। इसके अलावा साहिबजाद में सीजीएचएस केंद्र खोलने का भी काम शुरू हो चुका है।

Jansatta (H), March 20, 2013, P.7 (Surrogacy)

# Finally, an SC committee to hear women lawyers

## Panel To Deal With Harassment Within Court Premises

Dhananjay Mahapatra | TNN

New Delhi: Women lawyers had been arguing on behalf of litigants in courts for years, but on Thursday they got justice they have been seeking for themselves from the Supreme Court: a women-dominated committee to deal with their complaints of sexual harassment by male advocates.

In the 1997 Vishaka judgment, the SC had taken serious note of rampant sexual harassment of women employees at workplace and made it mandatory for every government and private organization to set up women-dominated panels to deal with sexual harassment complaints.

However, women lawyers could not avail of the judgment because of a technicality. Though the court was their workplace, they were not employees of the court, a distinction which put them outside the purview of the anti-sexual harassment panels set up for the court employees. For the past one year, they — goaded by harassment at the hands of a set of lawyers — had been pushing for a Vishaka judgment-directed panel in SC, both on judicial and administrative fronts.

The recent incident of voyeurism in the Delhi high court ladies toilet tipped the scales of their patience and the two lawyers — Binu Tamta and Vibha Datta Makhija — filed a writ petition seeking immediate measures to address sexual harass-



Women lawyers demanded that the panel must consist more than 50% women.

ment complaints and ensure safety of women within court premises.

On Thursday, before a bench of Chief Justice of India Altamas Kabir and Justices AR Dave and Ranjana P Desai, they were present in great numbers flanked by seniors — additional solicitor general Indira Jaising, senior advocate Indu Malhotra, Kamini Jaiswal, Meenakshi Arora, V Mohna and Asha Gopalan Nair — to drive home their point home.

They demanded that the committee must consist of more than 50% women to ensure that the “big boys club” did not succeed in brushing under the carpet complaints and women themselves were empowered to deal with their grievances.

As the question — why is the SC shying from implementing Vishaka judgment in its own backyard and in other courts to protect women lawyers from sexual harassment — became loud and shrill during the day-

long arguments, the bench wanted to deal with the issue head on.

“One thing should be made clear that this is not an adversarial litigation, but an application made to address some of the genuine apprehensions that women practitioners and employees of this court and other courts have with regard to the invasion of their privacy,” the bench said.

Asking National Legal Aid Services Authority (NALSA) to collect data about anti-sexual harassment committees in courts across the country, the bench as an interim measure broad-based the apex court’s committee where the women lawyers could file their complaints.

The committee, headed by additional registrar Promila Sharma, would consist of senior advocates Indu Malhotra and Anand Grover, expert outside member S Nair, additional registrar Deepak Jain, advocate Savitri Pandey, deputy registrar Suraj Prakash and assistant registrar Meera Hamant.

After the court passed the order, Makhija said, “This is a great step forward since this is the first time that the Complaints Committee has been constituted in the SC to address the complaints of all persons in SC premises who face harassment and as such hostile working environment. All this has been possible only due to great solidarity and contribution of all women lawyers in the SC.”

Times of India, March 24, 2013, P.11



# Section on stalking to be diluted

AGE CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 18

## ANTI-RAPE BILL

Sources have revealed that the government had decided to dilute the sections dealing with voyeurism and stalking to "reduce gross abuse" in the anti-rape bill. They said, "Now, both the offences will be bailable for first time offenders. However, repeat offenders would be denied bail and punishment would extend to a maximum of five years in jail."

As Samajwadi party, the key outside supporter to the ruling UPA, raised

alarm over possibility of misuse of the provisions in the proposed law, the term stalking has been defined in a way where it would be deemed as an offence only when a person indulged into it persistently.

The new bill also makes disrobing a woman using force, even at a private place including a house, a punishable offence attracting a jail term upto seven years.

Earlier, disrobing a woman at a public place was a punishable offence

but government was of the view that the mention of public place was prone to misuse by offenders.

Earlier in the day at the all-party meeting, a majority view was that the clauses about stalking and voyeurism be tweaked further to prevent misuse. There should be sufficient safeguards against filing of false cases by political opponents and those wanting to settle scores, sources said. The Criminal Law (Amendment) Ordinance, which made anti-rape laws more stringent, was promulgated by the President on February 3 in

the wake of public outrage over the December 16 Delhi gangrape. The ordinance lapses on April 4 and the government and most parties are of the view that the bill should be passed with suitable changes before the Budget Session goes into recess on March 23. The bill retains key provisions of the ordinance, which defines acid attack as a separate IPC offence and provides for punishment ranging from a minimum of 20 years to a convict's "natural life" in jail or even death in case the rape victim dies or is left in a vegetative state.

Asian Age, March 19, 2013, P.2 (Anti-Rape Bill)

# यौन अपराध विरोधी विधेयक मंजूर

## अब महिलाओं का पीछा करना होगा अपराध

नयी दिल्ली, 21 मार्च (भाषा)। संसद ने आज महिलाओं के खिलाफ अपराध के मामलों में कड़ी सजा के प्रावधान वाले विधेयक को मंजूरी दे दी जिसमें महिलाओं के खिलाफ तेजाब के हमले और उनका पीछा करने जैसे क्रूरों के लिए भी कड़े प्रावधान किए गए हैं। विधेयक में बलात्कार या सामूहिक दुष्कर्म के लिए अधिकतम आजीवन कारावास को सजा का प्रावधान है और दोबारा ऐसा अपराध करने वाले को अधिकतम सजा के रूप में मृत्युदंड का प्रावधान किया गया है। उच्च सदन ने दंड विधि (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2013 को चर्चा के बाद ध्वनिमत से पारित कर दिया। लोकसभा इसे पहले ही पारित कर चुकी है।

विधेयक पर हुई चर्चा का जवाब देते हुए गृह मंत्री सुशील कुमार शिंदे ने कहा कि इस विधेयक में पुलिस अधिकारियों को भी जवाबदेह बनाया गया है और प्राथमिकी दर्ज नहीं करने पर छह महीने से दो साल तक की सजा का प्रावधान किया गया है।

### पुलिस अधिकारियों की जवाबदेही

\* प्राथमिकी दर्ज नहीं करने पर छह महीने से दो साल तक की सजा का प्रावधान किया गया है।

\* महिलाओं को निर्वस्त्र कर घुमाये जाने के मामलों में प्राथमिकी दर्ज करवाना पुलिस की जिम्मेदारी होगी

### 'पुरुष विरोधी' नहीं है विधेयक

गृह मंत्री सुशील कुमार शिंदे ने सदस्यों को भरोसा दिलाया कि यह विधेयक पुरुष विरोधी नहीं है। शिंदे ने कहा कि यह कड़क कानून है और शाब्दिक तर्कों में ऐसा कानून नहीं आया होगा।

प्रावधान किया गया है।

उन्होंने कहा कि निजी और सरकारी दोनों अस्पतालों के लिए यह अनिवार्य किया गया है कि वे बलात्कार पीड़िता को तत्काल चिकित्सा उपलब्ध कराएं। ऐसा नहीं करने पर एक साल तक की सजा का प्रावधान किया गया है।

सहमति से यौन संबंध स्थापित करने की उम्र से जुड़े विवाद का जिक्र करते हुए शिंदे ने कहा कि 1860 में बने भारतीय दंड संहिता (आईपीसी) में ही यह उम्र 16 को गई है। लेकिन इस विधेयक पर चर्चा के दौरान उम्र सीमा को बढ़ाकर 18 साल किए जाने की राय होने लगी है। उन्होंने कहा कि कानून में सुधार संभव है और सरकार

इसके लिए खुले मन से तैयार है।

चर्चा में विभिन्न सदस्यों द्वारा कई नेताओं और अन्य प्रभावशाली लोगों के खिलाफ ऐसे आरोप होने पर अपेक्षित कार्रवाई नहीं होने पर चिंता बताए जाने पर शिंदे ने कहा कि ऐसे लोगों को भी नए कानून के दायरे में लाया गया है।

इसके बाद उच्च सदन ने दंड विधि (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2013 को ध्वनिमत से पारित कर दिया और भाकपा की सीएन सीमा और भाकपा के डी राजा द्वारा पेश संशोधनों को ध्वनिमत से अस्वीकार कर दिया।

इससे पूर्व शिंदे ने कहा कि पहली बार तेजाब हमले जैसे अपराधों के लिए भी कानून बनाए गए हैं और ऐसे मामलों में 10 साल से आजीवन कैद तक की सजा का प्रावधान किया गया है। देहान्त में महिलाओं को निर्वस्त्र कर घुमाए जाने की घटनाओं

का भिक करते हुए गृह मंत्री ने कहा कि सरकार ने इसे गंभीरता से लिया है और ऐसे मामलों में प्राथमिकी दर्ज करने के लिए पुलिस को जिम्मेदार बनाया गया है।

मानव तस्करी खामकर नाबालिग लड़कियों के मामले में विधेयक में सख्त प्रावधान किए जाने का जिक्र करते हुए गृह मंत्री ने कहा कि ऐसे अपराधों के लिए सजा बढ़ाई गई है। उन्होंने कहा कि पहले अपराध में जहां सात से आठ साल तक की सजा का प्रावधान किया गया है, वहीं अपराध

को पुनर्गठित होने पर दस साल से आजीवन कारावास तक की सजा का प्रावधान किया गया है।

बलात्कार और सामूहिक बलात्कार के मामलों में कठोर सजा के उद्देश्य वाले इस विधेयक में कहा गया है कि ऐसे मामलों में अपराधी को कठोर कारावास की सजा दी

जा सकती है जिसकी अवधि 20 साल से कम नहीं होगी और इसे पूरी उम्र के लिए आजीवन कारावास तक बढ़ाया जा सकता है। इस तरह के अपराधों को एक से अधिक बार अंजाम देने वाले अपराधियों को मौत की सजा का भी प्रावधान है।

### अस्पतालों के लिए अनिवार्यता

\* बलात्कार पीड़िता को तत्काल चिकित्सा उपलब्ध कराएं।

Tribune (H), March 22, 2013, P.9



Hindustan Times, March 22, 2013, P.15 (Anti Rape Bill)



# Victims of Road Accident or Crime

may be taken to the nearest Hospital /Nursing Home for stabilizing his/her emergency medical condition

Any victim of crimes and trauma in dire need of immediate medical treatment, including victims of rape and road accidents, brought to the private hospitals /nursing homes either by the Police or the public or on their own, shall not be refused immediate medical treatment that may be required to stabilize the emergency medical condition of the victim.

Order dated 31.01.2013 of the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi in WP (C) No. 7927/2012 in the matter of Court on its own motion Vs. U.O.I. & Anr.

Order dated 21/02/2013 wherein directions on the subject were issued and can be seen on Govt. website [www.health.delhigovt.nic.in](http://www.health.delhigovt.nic.in)

**DIRECTORATE OF HEALTH SERVICES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE**  
Government of NCT of Delhi  
F-17, Karkardooma, Delhi - 110032

Pioneer, March 13, 2013, P.3 (Court Orders)

# हासिल होगा भोजन का अधिकार!

हमारे देश में कुपोषण का दावश जितना व्यापक है, उतना शायद ही दुनिया में कहीं और हो। लंबे अरसे से देश जिन गंभीर चुनौतियों या समस्याओं से जुड़ा रहा है, उनमें कुपोषण और भुखमरी की समस्या अत्यंत नंबर पर है। वलत यह है कि देश में तर्कान्वित 47 फीसदी बच्चे कुपोषण के शिकार हैं। हर साल हजारों बच्चों की मौत कुपोषण और भुखमरी की वजह से हो जाती है। ऐसा नहीं है कि हमारी सरकार इस समस्या से अंजान थी, या उसे इस बात का जरा सा भी अहसास नहीं था। समस्या से पार पाने के लिए सरकार कोशिशें तो कर रही थी, लेकिन कामयाबी नहीं मिल पा रही थी। काफी अटूटानहद के बाद अब जाकर उसे यह कानयाबी मिली है। वैदीय मंत्रिमंडल ने कुछ बदलावों के साथ हाल ही में खाद्य सुरक्षा विधेयक को अपनी मंजूरी दे दी। इस विधेयक के अमल में आने के बाद देश की 63.5 फीसदी आबादी को कानूनी तौर पर तय सरकारी दर से अनाज का एक हासिल हो जाएगा। यानी इस कानून के बनने के बाद हर भारतीय को भोजन का अधिकार प्राप्त हो जाएगा। भोजन ना मिलने की वजह से देश में अब कोई भूखा नहीं मरेगा।

संसद की स्थायी समिति के सुझावों के आधार पर विधेयक में 55-56 संशोधन किए गए हैं। समिति ने इस साल जनवरी में अपनी रिपोर्ट पेश की थी। नई व्यवस्था के तहत अब हितग्राहियों का प्राथमिकता वाले और सामान्य परिवारों में बंटवारा नहीं होगा। प्रति व्यक्ति एक समान पांच किलोग्राम खाद्यान्न उपलब्ध करवा जाएगा। जबकि अंत्योदय अन्न योजना के दायरे में आने वाले 2.43 करोड़ अति-गरीब परिवारों को 35 किलो अनाज की कानूनी पात्रता दी गई है। जबकि दिसंबर 2011 में लोकसभा में पेश किए गए मूल विधेयक में साधारणियों को प्राथमिकता और सामान्य परिवार की श्रेणी में बांटा गया था। प्राथमिक श्रेणी के परिवार को सात किलो चावल, गेहूं और मोटा अनाज क्रमशः तीन, दो और एक रु. प्रति किलो प्रति व्यक्ति प्रतिमाह के हिसाब से देने का प्रस्ताव था। सामान्य परिवार को तीन किलो अनाज 50 फीसदी रियायती कीमत पर देने का प्रस्ताव था। अब सभी को एक समान पांच किलो अनाज देने का प्रावधान रखा गया है। उन्हें भी चावल तीन रुपए, गेहूं दो रुपए और मोटा अनाज एक रुपया प्रति किलो की दर से मिलेगा। फिलहाल रियायती कीमत शुरू के तीन साल के लिए तय की गई है। इसके बाद सरकार कीमत की समीक्षा करेगी।

मौजूद व्यवस्था पर यदि तौर करें तो अभी गरीबी रेखा से नीचे रहने वाले एवं अति-गरीब परिवारों को सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के तहत हर महीने 35 किलो अनाज दिया जाता है। जबकि गरीबी रेखा से ऊपर वाली को 15 से 35 किलो के बीच में राशन दिया जाता है। और दोनों के लिए क्रम में अलग-अलग हैं। मौजूदा समय में चमल को आपूर्ति एएवई परिवारों को तीन रुपए प्रति कि.ग्रा. की दर से, बीपीएल परिवारों को 5.65 रुपए प्रति कि.ग्रा. की दर से तथा एपीएल परिवारों को 8.30 रुपए प्रति कि.ग्रा. की दर से की जाती है। गेहूं की विक्री एएवई परिवारों को दो रुपए प्रति कि.ग्रा. की दर से, बीपीएल परिवारों को 4.15 रुपए प्रति कि.ग्रा. की दर से तथा एपीएल परिवारों को 6.10 रुपए प्रति कि.ग्रा. की दर से की जाती है।

कानून में संशोधन का फायदा गर्भवती महिलाओं और

स्तनपान कराने वाली माताओं को भी मिला है। उन्हें पारण सुरक्षा देने के लिए अब 6 महीने तक कम से कम छह हजार रुपए प्रति माह की दर से मातृत्व लाभ दिया जाएगा। जबकि इससे पहले यह छह महीने में प्रति माह सिर्फ 1,000 रुपए के हिसाब से देय था। विधेयक में बेसहारा और बेघर लोगों, भुखमरी और आपदा प्रभावित व्यक्तियों जैसे विशेष समूह के लोगों के लिए भी भोजन उपलब्ध कराने का प्रवधान है। साथ ही कानून में आठवीं कक्षा तक के बच्चों को भी भोजन सुलभ करने का प्रावधान किया गया है। सरकार ने मनरेगा को तरह खाद्य सुरक्षा कानून बनाने पर भी खूब फसला की है। अपनी ओर से उसने पूरी कोशिश की है कि इस कानून में कोई कमी न रह जाए। लिहाजा, मनरेगा के कई अलेखनीय पहलु खाद्य सुरक्षा कानून में भी शामिल हैं। मसलन-हर राज्य को उसके हक के मुताबिक सस्ता अनाज मुहैया न होने की शकल में सुबवाई सरकार को उसे खाद्य सुरक्षा भत्ता देना होगा। यानी, वंचित लाभार्थी सरकार से खाद्य भत्ता पाने के हकदार होंगे। शिक्षावर्तों के निवारण के लिए जिला शिक्षावर्त निवारण अधिकारी, राज्य खाद्य आयुक्त और राष्ट्रीय खाद्य आयुक्त के कार्यालय बनाए जाएंगे। शिक्षावर्त निवारण अधिकारी की सिफारिश का पालन नहीं करने वाले अफसर या कर्मचारी को 5 हजार रुपए तक का जुर्माना भरना पड़ सकता है।

कानून का फायदा किसको मिले और किसको नहीं, इस पर केन्द्र व राज्य सरकारों के बीच मतभेद था। लिहाजा अब केन्द्र सरकार ने कानून में एक महत्वपूर्ण संशोधन यह किया है कि लाभ प्राप्तकर्ताओं को फैसला राज्य सरकार द्वारा किया जाएगा। जबकि आबादी के 33 फीसदी लोगों को अलग करने का आधार योजना आवेग द्वारा प्रदान किया जाएगा। एक अनुमान के मुताबिक खाद्य सुरक्षा कानून लागू होने के बाद सरकार का खाद्य खर्च पर खर्च वर्ष 2013-14 को लागत के हिसाब से 1,24,747 करोड़ रुपए होने का अनुमान है, जो मौजूदा खर्च से 23,800 करोड़ रुपए अधिक है। वहीं अनाज की जखत मौजूदा स्तर 5.5 करोड़ टन से बढ़कर 6.12 करोड़ टन पर पहुंच जाएगा। इस कार्यक्रम से जहां तक सरकार पर पड़ने वाले वित्तीय बोझ का सवाल है, तो वह कोई 3.5 लाख करोड़ रुपए होगा। यही वजह है कि कुछ आर्थिक विशेषज्ञों की राय थी कि मौजूदा स्वरूप में विधेयक को पारित कर देने से राजकोषीय समस्या पैदा हो सकती है और देश की अर्थव्यवस्था के लड़खड़ाने का भी खतरा है। लेकिन इन सब आशंकाओं और चेतावनियों के बाद भी यूपीए सरकार अपने फैसले पर अडिग रही और आखिरकार उसने इस विधेयक पर अपनी आखिरी मुहर लगा दी।

खाद्य सुरक्षा कानून की इन सब अच्छाइयों के बावजूद कुछ आशंकाएँ हैं, खासकर इसके क्रियान्वयन को लेकर। देश में मनरेगा और सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली की जो दशा है, वह किसी से छिपी नहीं। खाद्य सुरक्षा योजना का पूरा दायरेदार सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली पर टिका हुआ है। पीडीएस के जरिए ही योजना लोगों तक पहुंचेगी। जाहिर है, सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली को सुधारा बिना इस योजना की सफलता संदिग्ध है। दूसरी अहम बात, योजना का मकसद पूरा करने के लिए जिस पैमाने पर सरकारी खरीद और भंडारण की जरूरत होगी, वह सरकार कैसे करेगी? क्योंकि हर साल सही

Tribune (H), March 21, 2013, P.8 (Food Security Bill)



भंडारण न हो पाने की वजह से हजारों-लाखों टन अनाज सड़ जाता है। जाहिर है, भंडारण की व्यवस्था दुरुस्त किए बिना, योजना को कामयाबी किस तरह से मिल पाएगी, यह भी सवाल के घेरे में है? एक आशंका खाद्यान्न उत्पादन को लेकर भी है। कृषि विशेषज्ञों का कहना है कि जब सभी को सस्ता अनाज उपलब्ध होगा तो कोई अनाज क्यों पैदा करेगा ? कुल मिलाकर खाद्य सुरक्षा कानून का भविष्य सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली, खाद्यान्न के अच्छे उत्पादन और अनाज के सही भंडारण पर निर्भर है।

Tribune (H), March 21, 2013, P.8

## Meghalaya adopting measures to tackle crimes against women

**RAJU DAS**

**SHILLONG, March 14** – Increase in rape cases has been underlined as a "serious concern" by Meghalaya Governor Ranjit Shekhar Mooshahary, stating the Government is adopting new strategies to tackle the issue.

In his address on the first day of the Budget session of the Assembly, Mooshahary said, though the overall crime rate in Meghalaya is "under control" and the State police have performed considerably in counter-insurgency operations, crime against women and especially rape is a matter of serious concern.

"Incidences of crime against women, especially rape, have been showing an upward trend and this is a matter of serious concern. To deal with the situation new strategies and intervention are being devised," he told the House.

One of the steps taken recently is swifter administration of justice to rape victims. Special Courts have been set up in Nongstoin, West Khasi Hills district to handle rape cases. "The Special Court at Nongstoin has yielded results and six persons have been convicted and the six cases disposed off," Mooshahary said.

He further informed the House that all rape cases from East, West, South, North and South-West Garo Hills districts, including the Williamnagar gang rape case have been transferred to the fast track court at Tura.

"The Government is contemplating entrusting rape cases to the fast track courts at Shillong and Jowai to achieve effective delivery of justice," the Governor stated.

The Governor said initiatives such as setting up the Crime and Criminal Tracking Network System (CCTNS) project would help control crime by tracking the activities and movements of criminals.

The other grey area concerning the Government, Mooshahary said, is the increased illegal activity of the banned Garo National Liberation Army (GNLA). "The Government stands resolutely to take all necessary steps to counter anti-national and criminal activities effectively," he said.

The Governor further informed that State police have arrested during the 12 months ending October 2012, a total of 106 militants. "Besides, nine militants have surrendered and large quantities of arms and ammunition seized," Mooshahary said.

Assam Tribune, March 15, 2013, P.7  
(Special Court Nongstoin/CCTNS)

# For women, by women

The first all-women court has been set up in the Mumbai Sessions court for victims of sexual assault

Alok Deshpande

Acknowledging that the cases of sexual assault against women are required to be dealt with greater sensitivity, the first all-women court was set up in Mumbai's Sessions court on International Women's Day.

In a circular issued on March 7, the Bombay High Court directed "to assign cases involving sexual assault against women exclusively to the courts presided over by women judicial officers in districts/establishment".

Taking a swift note of the circular, the first all-women court was set up on the next day on March 8 in Mumbai's Sessions court. "In these cases, women are victims of crime and for the purpose of enabling victims to give their evidence in a stress-free atmosphere and without any fear of embarrassment, it is desirable that all staff mem-

bers, i.e. bench clerks, stenographer, interpreter, typist-cum-clerk, havildar/peon are all women," said the circular.

"We have done this so that the victims can feel easy and tension free while deposing in front of the court. It's an effort from our side to deliver justice to the victims," Mohit Shah, Chief Justice of

Bombay High Court, had said on March 8 at the special gathering of women organised by the Mumbai Police at Gateway of India.

Activists and lawyers have also welcomed the decision calling it a step towards 'sensitising' the judicial system over the issues of sexual assaults against women.

Advocate Manisha Tulpule, who has been handling cases of sexual violence against women, termed the step as today's 'necessity.' "What we have been observing over the years is the lack of victim friendly environment in the courts. Sensitisation of court is an extremely important aspect while delivering justice in these cases," she said. Ms. Tulpule added

that all women courts across all districts in Maharashtra will make victims confident while narrating their ordeal and even while answering questions.

Eminent social activist Pushpa Bhawe said that though such initiatives not the ultimate solution, but surely a positive step. "There is a need to take such efforts in today's world. The victim herself gets framed as guilty for her ordeals in our courts. Lack of sensitivity of male lawyers and presence of other male members worsens

her condition. Hence we need to implement such decisions swiftly."

"The exclusive court for such cases will surely speed up the judicial process in terms of pending cases. The delay in delivering justice has become the main concern over the years and the special court could be the remedy of it," said Kiran Moghe, president, Maharashtra unit of All India Democratic Women's Association (AIDWA). She termed it as a positive step from the judiciary but added that whether justice is delivered depend on the strength of the law and also on the gender perspective of judicial officers.

Hindu, March 19, 2013, P.6 ( First All Women Court)



# Govt ties itself up in knots over age of consent for sex

**Nagendar Sharma**  
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**NEW DELHI:** The UPA government once again finds itself on the back foot over the proposed anti-rape law. With a series of flip-flops owing to pressure from opposition and allies it has now reverted to fixing 18 years as the age of consent for sex.

With Lok Sabha set to take up the criminal laws (amendment) bill on Tuesday the new provisions are likely to get the Parliament's nod by the end of the week.

New changes will put in place a revised definition of rape and will fix the age of consent for sex to 18 years, nearly three decades after it was set at 16 years by the Parliament.

Following the December 16 gang rape in the capital, the Justice JS Verma panel was appointed by the government. In its recommendations, it proposed retaining the gender specific offence of rape in IPC and the age of consent for sex at 16 years.

In the ordinance issued on February 3, however, the government replaced the term rape with sexual assault and fixed the age of consensual sex at 18 years to bring uniformity in all laws dealing with sexual offences, since the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act passed by Parliament last year had put this age at 18 years.

Following protests by women's groups, in its bill to replace the ordinance, the government earlier this month decided to retain rape and keep the age at 16 years. But divisions within the cabinet and pressure from opposition forced the government to increase the age of consent to 18 years.

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

The Criminal Laws Ordinance, which made anti-rape laws more stringent, was promulgated by the President on February 3 in the wake of the public outrage over the December 16 Delhi gang rape. The Ordinance lapses on April 4.

Following strong objections by women groups, the government had made key changes in its anti-rape ordinance by restoring the term rape in place of sexual assault and had made it gender-specific crime. It had also brushed aside strong objec-

tions from the women and child development ministry to reduce the age of consent for sex to 16 years in the proposed bill.

At the all-party meeting on Monday, Trinamool Congress leader Sudip Bandyopadhyay argued that state governments should have been consulted before amending the law. SP leader Ramgopal Yadav warned that an aggressive law may become a deterrent to women's employment opportunities and people will be scared even to employ them as domestic helps.

Hindustan Times, March 19, 2013, P.13+6

{Criminal Laws (Amendment) Bill}

# New rape laws arrive with some teeth missing

HT Correspondent  
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**NEW DELHI:** Three months and three days after the horrific Delhi gang rape sent shock waves and triggered angry protests across the country, the Lok Sabha on Tuesday passed the anti-rape bill which provides for death penalty for repeat offenders and stringent punishment for peeping Toms and stalkers.

Shrugging off fears of possible misuse, the government got the House's approval for the bill, which among other things keeps the age of consent for sex — a much debated provision — at 18 and life in jail for rapists in uniform.

The government had to water down some provisions such as age of consent and punishment for stalking to accommodate the viewpoints of opposition parties as well as alliance partners.

The government had promised a more stringent law in the aftermath of the December 16 case. The new provisions, however, will not be applicable to the case as criminal laws can't be applied retrospectively.

Passed after around five hours of debate, the bill now moves to the Rajya Sabha, which is expected to give its nod during the week itself. With this, the government will get the key legislation cleared before its anti-rape ordinance lapses on April 4.

When the Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 2013 was passed in the evening, only 200 of the 545-member Lok Sabha were present, raising questions about the seriousness of lawmakers in deciding an issue with far-reaching consequences. Decks were cleared for the passage of the bill in the two meetings between the government

and leaders of main opposition parties on Monday.

Members appeared to be divided along gender lines, with many male MPs expressing fear of misuse of the new provisions. Women members, cutting across party lines, urged their male colleagues to shed the inhibitions and think about the problems faced by half of the country's population.

## WHAT DOES THE BILL SAY

• Age of consent for sex is now **18 years**

• **Only men** can be booked for committing rape

• Those guilty of causing death or leaving a rape victim in a permanent **vegetative state** can get death penalty

• **Gang rape** will be punished with rigorous imprisonment for a minimum of 20 years extendable to life term

• **Rapists in uniform** will spend rest of their lives in jail. The sentence cannot be commuted under any circumstances

• Following a woman, attempting to contact her, sending unwanted SMSes, making unwarranted telephone calls will constitute **stalking**, which

has been clearly defined in IPC for the first time

• Any man watching or capturing image of a woman engaging in a private act will be charged with **voyeurism**, which, too, has been included in IPC for the first time

• First-time offenders will be allowed bail for stalking and voyeurism

• No **hospital** — govt or private — can turn away victims of sexual violence and acid attacks. Those on duty, management/owners can be jailed for a year

Once passed by Rajya Sabha, the bill will replace anti-rape ordinance promulgated on Feb 3. The legislation had to be passed before April 4, when the ordinance would have lapsed

Hindustan Times, March 20, 2013, P.6  
 {Criminal Laws (Amendment) Bill}



# Conflict of ages in laws that define a child

16 proposed cutoff in laws for rape and child protection, yet anyone under 18 will be tried as juvenile

ABANTIKA GHOSH  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 14

IN SEEKING to amend not just the criminal law pertaining to rape but also the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012, and bring the latter at par with the former's cutoff of 16 as the age of consent, the government has paved the way for reopening in Parliament a debate sparked by the Delhi gangrape — whether the definition of a child should be altered in the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) Act, 2000, too.

On Wednesday, the cabinet passed the rape bill with the age-of-consent clause and also passed an amendment to POCSO saying that a child would be anybody aged below 16. Over the last year and a half, two departmental standing committees, those for HRD and home, have unequivocally favoured a uniform definition of a child — as one aged below 18 — over an age-of-consent clause, so the revisions may come under very close scrutiny once they are tabled in Parliament.

The HRD standing committee in its report on POCSO had asked for the age-of-consent clause to be deleted on the ground that such a provision would “completely negate our legal commitments under UNCRC (United Nations Child Rights Convention) 1989/1992 and JJ Act 2000/2006” besides leading to a “revictimisation of the victim” in the court proceedings to prove consent. The standing committee for home had earlier this month said that 18 being the cutoff age for marriage, voting and adulthood, there was no reason to encourage consensual sex before marriage.

Moreover, the move to amend section 2 of POCSO to replace the words “eighteen years” as “sixteen years” would bring it in

## UP FOR DEBATE

### 18

The age of majority as per the United Nations Child Rights Convention, Indian Majority Act, 1875, the Indian Contract Act and the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000, Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006, says a female who is not 18 is a child. How do the proposed CrPC and POCSO amendments stack up?

conflict with the JJ Act. In simple terms, the question that may eventually need to be answered is that if a 16-year-old girl can be said to have been mature enough to give consent, then why a 17½-year-old boy (as was the case in the Delhi gangrape) cannot be charged with rape. In the wake of the Delhi gangrape

protests, the government had firmly stood its ground about the irrevocability of the definition of child — a defence that may now need a re-explanation.

“It is not just about the UNCRC, because even that is subject to change depending on country-specific sensibilities, but having put up such a staunch defence of the 18-year bar for the JJ Act, it may now be difficult to answer questions about why it was not touched when POCSO is being changed within six months of its notification,” said a senior official of the WCD ministry.

Another sticking point would be that with the rape law gender-specific and POCSO dealing only with people aged under 16, what law would come to the rescue of boys aged between 16 and 18 who are subjected to sexual assault.

BJP MP Venkaiah Naidu, who heads the standing committee on home affairs, is upset that the clear recommendation of his committee on 18 years was overruled in the government's “hurry”. “The criminal law amendment bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha in December last year, and on December 28 it was referred to the standing committee. Subsequently the Justice Verma Committee was formed and its recommendations sent to us, but without waiting for the report of the committee, the ordinance was brought out,” Naidu said.

“We had clearly said that 18 years being the age of marriage, voting and adulthood that should also be the age of consent. The standing committee is a mini-parliament, yet that recommendation was not heeded,” Naidu said.

### 16

If a girl that age has the right to give consent for sex, why then can a 17-year-old boy not be charged with rape? If POCSO is changed, will JJ Act be amended too?

### 16-18

If a boy that age is subjected to sexual assault, which law will be applicable?

Indian Express, March 15, 2013, P.9 (POCSO Act)

# BILL VS ACT: Confusion over sex crime laws

Manoj Mitta | TNM

**P**ersisting differences within the Cabinet on the rape Bill will not just make it harder to replace the ordinance on rape laws before it lapses in less than a month (April 4)—the government may also have to amend the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (PCSO) which was passed by Parliament just 10 months ago. This is because the differences over the rape Bill, however they are resolved within the Cabinet and in the two Houses, are unlikely to remove all the anomalies thrown up by the hurriedly drafted ordinance promulgated last month following the outrage over the Nirbhaya gang rape.

The inconsistencies between the sexual offences pertaining to adults and children underscore the failure of policymakers to think through the provisions. Consider the extent of the legislative mess that remains to be cleared on so crucial an issue as gender crimes.

**AGE OF CONSENT** | This is one of the sticking points because PCSO had, in a controversial move, raised the permissible age for consensual sex from 16 to 18 years. Then, in a bid to make the statute book consistent, the government introduced a legislative proposal on December 4, increasing the age of consent to 18 even in the general law, the IPC. But the J S Verma Committee, set up in the wake of the Nirbhaya incident, applied a corrective by recommending that the age of consent remain 16 as it has been for over seven decades. The government, however, disregarded this advice. While the parliamentary standing committee endorsed the government's stand, feminist groups demanded that consensual sex among teens should not be criminalised unless the age gap was more than four years. The upshot is that if the government decides to retain the age of consent in IPC at 16,

it will have to amend PCSO to bring it in alignment with the new policy.

**GENDER-NEUTRALITY** | The government is also under pressure to depart from the radical approach adopted in the ordinance where the term "rape" was replaced with the broader, gender-neutral offence of "sexual assault".

The ordinance is contrary to the Verma report as well as the demands made by feminist groups. The argument in favor of retaining the term "rape" as a crime committed by men is that the gender-neutral provision will make women, "the real victims", even more vulnerable to sexual crimes. The possibility of counter-complaints against women would have a chilling effect on their ability to seek legal remedy after being subjected to sexual offences. If it does not abandon its gender-neutrality proposal, the government runs the risk of enacting a law that is opposed by the very section it is meant to protect.

**MARITAL RAPE** | PCSO and the ordinance are at odds on this issue. PCSO, which applies to all children below 18, makes no exception for the rape of a girl by her husband. But marital rape is penalized by the ordinance only when the wife is below 16. The wives above 16 are statutorily barred from accusing their husbands of non-consensual sex. This one-sided restriction means that a husband can accuse wife of rape while the wife can make such an allegation only if she is below 16.

**LESSER PUNISHMENT FOR CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN** | This is a reversal of the global pattern of prescribing greater punishment for crimes against children. Consider some of the anomalies that need to be fixed. While the minimum punishment in PCSO for a non-contact sexual assault is seven years, the minimum in the ordinance for the same offence is 10 years. If the offender touches the private parts of a girl under 18 the punishment under PCSO ranges from three to five years. But if the victim is a woman over 18 then the punishment under the ordinance ranges from 10 years to life imprisonment.



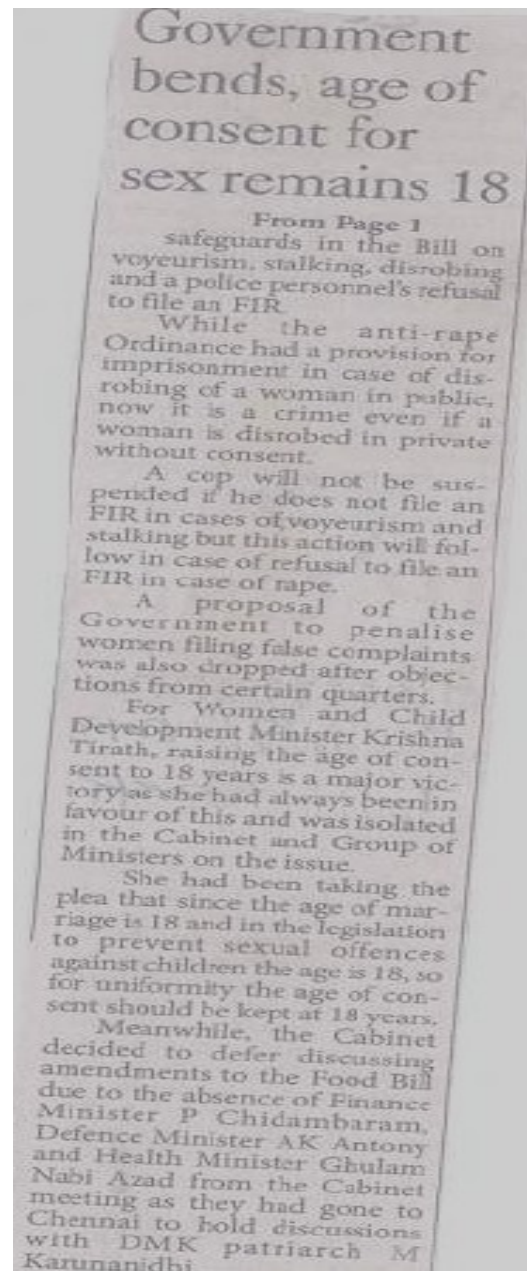
MUDDLE GROUND

Times of India, March 14, 2013, P.8 (POCSO Act)





Hindustan Times, March 6, 2013, P.1  
(RTE)



Pioneer, March 19, 2013, P.4

# ₹10Kcr set aside for food bill

AGE CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI, FEB. 28

The government has firmly indicated that the National Food Security Bill will soon become a reality as finance minister P. Chidambaram in the Budget on Thursday set aside ₹10,000 crores over and above the food subsidy for the legal entitlement of the foodgrains.

"I hope that the both the Houses of the Parliament will soon pass the National Food Security Bill to give effect to right to food. Therefore, I am keeping aside ₹10,000 crores in addition to the current commitment to the food subsidy for the implementation of the food bill," said Mr Chidambaram in his Budget speech.

The Union Cabinet will soon consider an amended version of the food bill, which has been prepared following the report of the parliamentary standing committee. The government now seeks to cover 67 per cent of the population under the ambit of the bill, with each person getting five kg of foodgrains a month.

Further, Mr Chidambaram, in a bid to give boost to the farm

sector, proposed a huge ₹1.25 lakh crores increase in agri-credit target for next financial year at ₹7 lakh crores and raised allocation to the ministry by a handsome 22 per cent. The minister allocated ₹27,049 crores for ministry of agriculture for 2013-14. He also announced three new schemes with an outlay of over ₹1,000 crores for crop diversification in states covered under green revolution, promotion of nutritious crops and giving thrust to livestock sector.

Also the minister stated in his speech that the interest-subvention for short-term crop loan would continue and farmers who repay loan on time will be able to get credit at four per cent interest per annum. Further, Mr Chidambaram, while noting stagnant crop yields in states like Punjab and Haryana, proposed ₹500 crores to encourage farmers to switch to alternative crops from traditional rice and wheat.

In an effort to deal with malnutrition, the minister allocated ₹200 crores for a pilot programme to promote cultivation of micro-nutrient rich crops.

Asian Age, March 1, 2013, P.5 ( Food Security Bill)



# Anti-rape Bill diluted; Union Cabinet approves new version

## NEW & MILD

-  Age of consent increased to 18 - it was 16 in the earlier version of the bill.
-  Earlier, stalking was non-bailable offence, now first offence bailable
-  Earlier, disrobing in public punishable, now also in private
-  Voyeurism definition diluted in current version

Hindu, March 19, 2013, P.10 (Anti-Rape Bill)

# HIGH COURT ORDERS Don't wait for Centre, ban junk food in schools now, Delhi govt told

**NEW DELHI:** The Delhi High Court on Wednesday asked the state government to take steps to ban the sale of junk food and carbonated drinks in schools canteens in the Capital.

A Bench headed by chief justice D Murugesan and justice VK Jain said the government did not have to wait for the union health ministry to bring an all-India law banning the sale of junk food in schools and said the state's education department itself was empowered to do so under the Delhi Schools Education Act.

"You need not wait for instructions from the Union Health Ministry. By April 17, we want to know what instructions can be issued by the Delhi Government to ban sale of junk food and carbonated drinks in schools canteens," said the



• Students gorging on junk food in a school canteen in the Capital.

RAJK RAJHT PHOTO

bench. The court was hearing a PIL filed by Rahul Verma of NGO Uday Foundation, seeking a ban on junk food in schools in the Capital. "It is time we change the way kids eat in schools. Such a ban will set new standards for healthy food. On the one hand, children are taught in class-

rooms about good nutrition ... on the other hand, we continue to make junk food available to them," he said.

Verma said most schools allow easy access to junk food and carbonated drinks for children in canteens and nearby shops.

Hindustan Times, March 21, 2013, P.6 (Junk Food-Ban)



**WOMAN'S ACT**

**BILL HIGHLIGHTS**

Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Bill, passed on Feb 26, 2013, seeks to protect women, including domestic helps and agricultural labourers, from sexual harassment at workplace

**SALIENT FEATURES**

- > Sexual harassment, to be covered under the law, includes any unwelcome physical, verbal or non-verbal conduct of sexual nature
- > All workplaces to set up internal committee for redressal of such complaints
- > Cases to be disposed of by in-house committees within 90 days, failing which penalty of ₹ 50,000 will be imposed
- > Repeated non-compliance will lead to higher penalties and cancellation of licence or registration to conduct business
- > It also has provisions for safeguard against false or malicious charges. However, failure to prove charges will not be construed as mala-fide intention

**STANDING TOGETHER**

“Passing the sexual harassment at workplace bill is a major step and it will provide a proper recourse to the victim”

**Pinky Anand | SC LAWYER**

Times of India, March 16, 2013, P.6

(Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Bill/ Women's Act))

# Govt in race against time on anti-rape law

**DEADLINE** Govt needs Parliament approval before it is dispersed on March 22

## how safe are women in india?

HT Correspondent

#letters@hindustanimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** Divergent views within the government on definition of rape and reduction in age of consent for sex seems to have hit its forward movement barely a fortnight before the deadline to seek Parliament's nod for tougher anti-rape laws ends.

Home and law ministries had finalised the Criminal Laws (Amendment) Bill on Tuesday, which will replace the ordinance issued on February 3, but it was not on the agenda for Thursday's cabinet meeting.

A key change in the latest bill is to restore the term rape in criminal law, which was replaced by a wider definition of sexual assault in the ordinance. This has led to divergent views within the government.

After the ordinance became a law last month, women activists protested against sexual assault being made a gender neutral offence and had taken their demand to Congress president Sonia Gandhi and had also met senior ministers.

Following this, the home ministry decided to bring back rape in the Indian Penal Code and decided to keep it as a gender specific offence, which states that only men can be charged with having committed it.

The law ministry accepted this view with riders, stating in its opinion that a number of expert bodies, including the Law panel, government's own high powered committee and parliamentary standing committee, had recommended replacement of rape with sexual assault.

Some ministers have also expressed concern over the possible misuse of some provisions and there are divergent views on lowering the age of consent for sex from 18 to 16 years.

Given such a scenario, the government is learnt to have decided to quickly thrash out the differences and move ahead with the bill, possibly next week.

Any ordinance issued by the government has to be approved by both houses of parliament within six weeks of the beginning of the session. Therefore, if the anti-rape ordinance is not approved before the break, it will lapse since the second half of budget session will begin on April 22 and the ordinance deadline will end on April 4.

Hindustan Times, March 8, 2013, P.8  
(Anti-Rape Law)



## Over 24,000 rape, eve-teasing cases pending in courts

New Delhi

Over 24,000 cases related to rape and sexual harassment are pending in the Supreme Court and various High Courts of the country, with Uttar Pradesh leading the tally with 8,215, the Rajya Sabha was informed on Monday.

The Centre has requested the chief justices of the 21 High Courts to set up Fast Track Courts for speedy trial of pending rape cases in district and subordinate courts with a high pendency, reports PTI.

The government has also requested them to monitor the progress of the cases to ensure timely disposal, Law Minister Ashwani Kumar said in a written reply.

According to the Law Ministry statement, out of a total of 24,127 cases, 335 are pending in the apex court as on February 28.

Amongst the High Courts, 8,215 cases are pending in the Allahabad High Court as on September 30, 2012.

3,758 cases are pending in Madhya Pradesh High Court, 2,717 in the Punjab and Haryana High Court, 1,533 in Chhattisgarh, 1,080 in Orissa, 1,164 in Rajasthan, 1,009 in the Bombay High Court and 824 in the Delhi High Court.

The Jharkhand High Court has 822 cases related to rape and sexual harassment pending, while Patna High Court has 797 cases before it. Kerala HC has 420 cases, Andhra Pradesh HC 269, Karnataka HC 243 cases, Gujarat HC 230 cases, Madras HC 179 cases, Himachal Pradesh HC 177, Gauhati 174, Jammu and Kashmir 28, Calcutta 27, Uttarakhand 26. The Sikkim HC has no such case pending before it.

## SC NOTICE TO MINISTRIES ON JUVENILE LAW'S PROVISIONS

HT Correspondent

at letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** The Supreme Court has issued notices to ministries of home, law and women and child development on a petition challenging certain provisions of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act that provide for negligible punishment for juveniles irrespective of the nature crime they are convicted of.

The petition challenges the provisions of the Juvenile Justice Act, 2000 as "unconstitutional and contrary to general public interest" in so far as they grant undue protection to juvenile offenders involved in heinous crimes such as rape and murder.

There has been public uproar after the sixth accused in the December 16 gang rape case was declared a juvenile. Even if convicted, he would spend a maximum three years in a reformatory.

The petition filed by advocate Krishna Dev Prasad demanded that criminal responsibility of such juvenile offenders should be fixed according to their physical and mental traits and the gravity of the offence. Criminal liability can't be determined merely on the basis of a juvenile's date of birth, it added.

Petitioner's counsel RR Kishore contended that unlike India, in the USA, the UK, Canada, Australia and several European countries juvenile offenders did not enjoy complete immunity.

A bench of justice KS Radhakrishnan and justice Dipak Misra issued the notices on February 22 and now the matter is to be taken up for hearing on March 15.

Free Press Journal, March 5, 2013, P.3

Hindustan Times, March 4, 2013, P.8

(Juvenile Law's)



Asian Age, March 5, 2013, P.3  
(Female Foeticide/ PNDT Act)



Pioneer, March 22, 2013, P.5  
(Anti-Rape Law)

## 5.4 Budget Allocation/Funding (Health /Education /Nirbhaya Fund)

**Health, sanitation get healthy share**

DC CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI, FEB 28

Finance minister P. Chidambaram on Thursday proposed a mere hike of 7.5 per cent in India's health budget.

While, the Budget estimate for 2012-2013 was ₹30,702 crore for the year 2013-2014, it saw a miserly hike of ₹33,278.

On the other hand, last year the health budget saw an increase of 15 per cent over 2011-2012. With special focus on medical education, training and research, the finance minister proposed to allocate ₹37,330 crore to the ministry of health and family welfare.

"Of this, the new National Health Mission combines the rural mission and the proposed urban mission will get ₹21,239 crore, an increase of 24.3 per cent over the revised estimates (RE)," Mr Chidambaram said while presenting the Budget on Thursday.

Indicating health for all as government's key priority, the finance minister proposed to provide ₹4,727 crore for medical education, training and research.

Other than this, ₹150 crore was proposed to be allocated for the health care of elderly. While the national programme is being implemented in 100 selected districts of 21

**Aapka paisa aapke haath (your money in your hand) Direct Benefit Transfer Scheme will be rolled out throughout the country**

— P. Chidambaram  
Finance minister

states, eight geriatric centers are being funded for the development of dedicated geriatric departments.

The minister said the government would mainstream the department of AYUSH — Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy — through the national health mission. Keeping this in view, he proposed to allocate ₹1,069 crore to the department of AYUSH.

The minister said six All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS)-like institutions had admitted their first batch of students in the academic session that commenced September 2012.

Drinking water and sanitation ministry also got an increased allocation in the budget of as against the revised estimate of ₹13000 crore in the last year.

Asian Age, March 1, 2013, P.2 (Health Budget)



# Special focus on training, research

AGE CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI, FEB. 28

Finance minister P. Chidambaram on Thursday proposed a hike of mere 7.5 per cent in India's health budget. While, the budget estimate for 2012-2013 was ₹30,702 crore, for the year 2013-2014 it is ₹33,278 crore. On the other hand, last year the health budget saw an increase of 15 per cent over 2011-2012.

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tion, training and research.

Other than this, ₹150 crore was proposed to be allocated for the health care of elderly.

While the national programme is being implemented in 100 selected districts of 21 states, eight geriatric centres are being funded for the development of dedicated geriatric departments.

The minister said the government would mainstream the department of Ayush — Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy — through the national health mission. Keeping this in view, he proposed to allocate ₹1,059 crore (10 billion) to the department of Ayush.

The minister said six All India Institute of Medical Sciences-like institutions had admitted their first batch of students in the academic session that commenced September 2012. The hospitals attached to the colleges will be functional in 2013-14.

"I propose to provide ₹1,650 crore (₹16 billion) for these institutions," Mr Chidambaram said.

Deccan Chronicle, March 2, 2013, P.6  
(Health Budget)

# Education budget is up by 17%, Raju terms hike 'little'

AGE CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI, FEB. 28

In a major move to upgrade human skills in the country, finance minister P. Chidambaram gave a 17 per cent jump to the education sector with an allocation ₹65,867 crore for 2013-14 fiscal. In his Union Budget speech, the finance minister said as education is the other high priority for the government, "I propose to allocate ₹65,867 crore to HRD ministry, which is an increase of 17 per cent over the revised estimate of the previous year".

With an aim of providing support to institutions of excellence, he also pledged a grant of ₹100 crore each to Aligarh Muslim University, Banaras Hindu University, Tata Institute of Social Sciences and Indian

National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage.

However, human resource development minister M.M. Pallam Raju termed the hike as "little" increase and said he would be asking for more to meet the goals.

The plan expenditure for Department of School Education has been kept at ₹49,659 crore while the plan expenditure for Department of Higher Education has been put at ₹16,198 crore.

"The Sarva Siksha Abhiyan (SSA) and the RTE are firmly in place. I propose to provide ₹27,258 crore for SSA," Mr Chidambaram said.

In 2012-13, the school education department had got ₹45,969, which was scaled down to ₹42,729 in the revised estimate. Similarly, the higher education

department had got ₹15,438, but it was also cut down to ₹13,479 in the revised estimate. The Rashtriya Madhyamik Siksha Abhiyan, aimed at universalisation of secondary education, has got ₹3983 crore for 2013-14, an increase of ₹25.6 per cent over the revised estimate. The mid-day meal programme has been allotted ₹13,215 crore. Reacting to the budget outside Parliament, Mr Raju said, "I think there has been little bit of increase. But the important factor is that the deadline for implementing the Right to Education Act is coming up and subsequent to that, there will be a lot of demand from the states for Central share of money and I think that is what we should be prepared for."

Asian Age, March 1, 2013, P.2 (Education Budget)

# Skills plus education: Prescription for jobs



## DEMOGRAPHIC DIVIDEND

Charu Sudan Kasturi

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**NEW DELHI:** The UPA has picked job-oriented skills over traditional education as its silver bullet to target youth in an election year; the budget announced by P Chidambaram on Thursday suggests, echoing a key focus of Congress vice-president Rahul Gandhi.

The finance minister increased the nation's education budget only marginally, from ₹74,056 crore last year to ₹79,451 crore, the 7% hike — the lowest year-on-year increment in a decade — mainly on account of special, one-time grants to select institutions than for any new initiatives.

Instead, he announced ₹1,000 crore under a new fund to encourage youth to take up job-oriented skills courses, with the lure of a ₹10,000 award on completing the course. The National Skills Development Council will formulate curriculum and standards for training in different skills, Chidambaram said.

"My budget for 2013-14 has before it one overarching goal: to create opportunities for our youth to acquire education and skills that will get them decent jobs or self-employment that will bring them adequate incomes that will enable them to live with their families in a safe and secure environment," Chidambaram said. With the economic slowdown threatening job opportunities in the world's youngest major economy, the finance minister's focus reflects a priority shift that first became apparent with the cabinet reshuffle last October, widely believed to carry a Rahul Gandhi stamp.

Within the school education outlay of ₹52,701 crore, budgetary funding for the Sarva

Shiksha Abhiyan has come down for the first time.

Funding for IITs and IIMs has increased substantially, and Chidambaram

announced ₹100 crore grant to Aligarh Muslim

University, Banaras

Hindu University, the Guwahati campus of the Tata Institute of Social Sciences and the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage. But the thrust was on skilling youth for jobs.



MORE ON THE WEB

[www.hindustantimes.com/youth](http://www.hindustantimes.com/youth)

Hindustan Times, March 1, 2013, P.17 (Education Budget)



# No fear, women can now bank on Nirbhaya fund

TEAM TOI

Seeking to dispel the dark shadows of anti-government sentiment in the aftermath of the Nirbhaya incident, the government sought to woo women by stepping up allocations to Rs 8,500 crore for women-specific schemes and announcing a slew of measures, including an all-women bank and a Rs 1,000 crore initiative, called the Nirbhaya fund, for empowerment.

In a step towards financial inclusion, the finance minister announced the country's first women's bank with Rs 1,000 crore as initial capital to support women's self-help groups and livelihood. HSBC's India head Naina Lal Kidwai described it as a positive measure but added that the announcement was made with the intention of playing to the gallery.

The ministry for women and child development has been given an additional Rs 200 crore that is likely to support schemes like a one-stop crisis centre, a national helpline and effective implementation of the domestic violence act and discrimination at work place act.

Centre for Budget and Governance Accountability executive director Subrat Dass said initiatives like an all-women's bank and Nirbhaya fund were "piecemeal" efforts. "There is a need to

reorient the fiscal policy that continues to lack in gender responsiveness," he said, adding while spending on women and children had increased to Rs 27,248 crore in 2013-2014 compared to Rs 18,878.5 crore last year, it still constituted a meagre 5.3% of the total Budget.

Bharti Ali of HAQ for Child Rights said the expansion of National Nutrition Mission—meant to tackle maternal and child malnutrition through a multi-sectoral programme in 200 high burden districts—had been staggered to next year. The mission has been allocated Rs 300 crore for this fiscal.

Times of India, March 1, 2013, P.6  
(Nirbhaya Fund/Women's Bank)

## All Kendriya Vidyalaya students may get life cover

By Prashant K. Nanda  
prashant.n@livemint.com

NEW DELHI

The Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) plans to spend about ₹4 crore a year on securing life insurance covers for the 1.1 million students in its schools across the country.

The government-backed school chain is also putting in place a policy to provide monetary support to students involved in accidents as part of efforts to assure parents of KVS's sensitivity towards student safety.

"The insurance plan will cost us nearly ₹4 crore a year," said KVS commissioner Avinash Dikshit.

While the Kendriya Vidyalaya board has approved the monetary support plan, the group insurance proposal is on the table, KVS officials said.

"Some schools take insurance while taking students on a trip but I have not come across life insurance for students. This is an enabling provision," said Baladevan Rangaraju, head of India Institute, a research organization that recently conducted a survey on private schools. "It shows that the management wants to establish the school as a community institution and student welfare is at the core of their planning. It's a conscious aspect to the education process."

KVS, being the country's largest school chain with about 1,100 centres, has to deal with instances of accidents involving its students either within or near its schools, some of them fatal, Dikshit said.

KVS will pay ₹3 lakh to the families of students killed in such accidents, and a one-time payment of ₹2 lakh to students disabled in such cases, show documents reviewed by *Mint*.

market is expected to cross \$4 billion in four years and revenue from newer segments such as cloud computing will reach \$5 billion in five years, according to researcher Zinnov Management Consulting.

game Zulux, have been downloaded 118.85 million times in emerging markets.

To remain successful, the app needs to be continually upgraded, developers pointed out.

Spice Labs' Hangman app has crossed 20 million downloads since its launch two-and-a-half years ago and the company; it's revised once almost every month.

Many app developers don't realize the importance of doing this regularly, said Katyayan Gupta, analyst, Forrester Research Inc. "Second, they do not have the funds to keep on developing apps for a longer period of time if they do not see an ROI (return on investment). And that's a problem, given that India is a free-app-oriented economy," he added.

Apps need to continually upgraded so that users don't drop them because they remain unchanged.

"You need to continuously keep adding stuff to it. We have talent on the development side of things, but we don't mix it well when it comes to the designing aspect," said Amrit Sanjeev, an engineer at software firm Intuit and a co-organizer of the Bangalore Android User Group.

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Hindustan Times Mint, March 5, 2013, P.5

# Ministry demands early release of 'Nirbhaya Fund'

Bindu Shajan Perappadan

**NEW DELHI:** While Union Minister for Women and Child Development (WCD) Krishna Tirath recently announced a list of projects to be undertaken with funds released under the "Nirbhaya Fund" announced by the Central Government, senior officials in the Ministry confirmed that no nodal agency has yet been selected to handle the fund.

Also the WCD Ministry has not got any information about when the Rs.1,000

crore corpus will be released to them.

Speaking about the funds, WCD Secretary Prem Narain said: "We have already written to Department of Economic Affairs asking them to make us the nodal agency for handling the funds and to ensure that the money is released at the earliest."

The Central Government had announced the "Nirbhaya Fund" for women's safety in memory of the Delhi gang-rape victim in the 2013 Union Budget. The fund with Rs. 1,000 crore corpus is

aimed at supporting initiatives of the government and non-government organisations working towards protection of women.

Speaking about the corpus, Ms. Tirath said: "This is a one-time payment and the Ministry has already initiated talks with various stakeholders about how to ensure that the funds are utilised in the best possible manner."

"The gang-rape that took place in Delhi brought to light the need for the Government to take strong steps to ensure that these incidents are prevented. And while there is a need to ensure safety of women there is also an urgent need to work on the long term mindset of the society and us as a community," noted the Ministry.

Stating that with more women entering public spaces for education, work,

access to services and leisure, there are more reports of violence against them, the WCD Minister said her Ministry along with other concerned ministries will work out the details of the structure, scope and the application of the funds.

Hindu, March 27, 2013, P.4 (Nirbhaya Fund)



# Budget pays lip service to food security

Gargi Parsai

**NEW DELHI:** Although Finance Minister P. Chidambaram has pledged an additional amount of Rs. 10,000 crore to meet the requirement of providing concessional foodgrains to only identified beneficiaries under the proposed National Food Security Bill, it appears that he has garnered this sum by curtailing the annual budgeted Public Distribution System food subsidy requirement of the Department of Food.

The food subsidy budgeted for 2013-14 is Rs. 80,000 crore, and compared with the Rs. 85,000 crore projected in the revised estimates for 2012-13, this indicates a reduction of Rs. 5,000 crore.

Having made this reduction, the Minister has, therefore, allocated only an additional Rs. 5,000 crore for the food subsidy bill. According to informed sources, the annual budgeted subsidy estimate of the ministry for 2013-14 was around Rs. 90,000 crore. As against this, the allocation is for Rs. 80,000 crore.

The estimated requirement of food subsidy in the government's National Food Security Bill was Rs. 1,17,000 crore for distribution of 7 kg of foodgrains per person per month.

## Subsidy demand

The Parliamentary Standing Committee, to which the Bill was referred, projected a subsidy demand of Rs. 1,12,000 crore for the distribution of 5 kg foodgrains per person per month. They suggested coverage of 67 per cent of the population.

By all accounts, the food bill subsidy allocation should be between ideally Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 30,000 crore, unless the government intends to reduce the number of beneficiaries.

Hindu, March 1, 2013, P.9  
(National Food Security Bill)

# Nirbhaya fund for safety of women

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The Central government has announced "Nirbhaya Fund" for women's safety in memory of the Delhi gang-rape victim in the 2013 Union Budget.

The fund with Rs 1,000 crore corpus will support initiatives by the government and NGOs working towards protecting the dignity and ensuring safety of women.

Nirbhaya is one of the names by which the media referred to the Delhi gang-rape victim.

Finance Minister P Chidambaram while announcing the budgetary provisions said: "We have a collective responsibility to ensure the dignity and safety of women. Recent incidents have cast a long, dark shadow on our liberal and progressive credentials. As more



women enter public spaces, for education or work or access to services or leisure, there are more reports of violence against them. We stand in solidarity with our girl children and women. And we pledge to do everything possible to empower them and to keep them safe and secure."

The Ministry of Women and Child Development, along with several other concerned ministries, will work out details of the structure, scope and the application of the fund.

Deccan Herald, March 1, 2013, P.6 (Nirbhaya Fund)

# PC leaves education sector wanting

**NEW DELHI:** The Union Budget proposed to allocate Rs 65,867 crore for the education sector, 17 per cent more than the previous year's revised estimate. However, funds allocated for the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) and the Right to Education (RTE) Act appeared insufficient.

Presenting the 82nd Union Budget here in the Lok Sabha, Finance Minister P Chidambaram maintained that education featured high in the government's priority list.

Underlining that the SSA and RTE were "firmly in place," Chidambaram proposed to allocate Rs 27,258 crore for the implementation of the UPA government's two flagship programmes.

The finance minister also proposed to allot Rs 3,983 crore for the Rashtriya Madhyamaik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA). The investment in the programme could not be postponed "any longer," he said. The mid-day meal scheme got Rs 13,215 crore. "The proposed increase in the allocation for RMSA was 25.6 per cent over the revised estimate of the current year," the finance minister maintained.

The education budget, however, did not impress HRD Minister M M Pallam Raju, who wanted more funds, especially to support the implementation of the SSA and RTE pro-



An allocation of Rs 13,215 crore was made for the mid-day meal scheme.

grammes and schemes meant for improving the quality of school education.

Expenses incurred by the ministry may go up since a number of schools are yet to meet infrastructure and staff requirements mandated by the RTE Act despite the March 31 deadline. The schools which fail to abide by the recommendations will have to face ligitations and may be de-recognised.

"I think there has been a little bit of increase. But the important factor is that the dead-

line for implementing the RTE Act is coming up and subsequent to that, there will be a lot of demand from the states for central share of the money and I think that is what we should be prepared for," Raju said after the Budget presentation.

He added that capacity-building in secondary and higher secondary education was also imperative. "We will definitely be asking for more money," he said.

The HRD Minister had urged Chidambaram to increase allocation for SSA to Rs

39,115 crore in the revised estimate for 2012-13. He had also requested the finance minister not to cut down the allocation for the teacher training programme. The quality of teachers was critical to improve the quality of education, he said.

Even the higher education sector did not get funds as demanded by the HRD Ministry. The finance ministry allocated Rs 16,210 crore for the sector, just 20 per cent more than what was allocated in the previous fiscal.

DH News Service



**UNION BUDGET '13**



**A SHAME TO OVERCOME**  
"Maternal and child malnutrition in a country with abundant foodgrains is a shame that we must overcome. A multi-sectoral programme announced last year will be implemented..." —Budget Speech

**MEASURES & IMPACT**  
UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE, SPECIAL FOCUS ON PREMIER INSTITUTES

<b>MORE TO FIGHT MALNUTRITION</b> <b>IMPACT:</b> A 13 per cent hike in Integrated Child Development Scheme, retaining the focus on malnutrition since the Hungama report of 2012	<b>HEALTH MISSION SET TO GO URBAN</b> <b>IMPACT:</b> The National Rural Health Mission module set to be expanded to urban slums as the National Health Mission covering 779 cities	<b>SCHEMES AIMED AT THE SINGLE WOMAN</b> <b>IMPACT:</b> Rs 200 crore allocated. This proposal was part of the 12th Plan, long before government came under pressure to project a woman-friendly image
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Indian Express, March 1, 2013, P.23

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### STATE-RUN INSTITUTES OF HIGHER LEARNING

**IMPACT:** A new scheme, Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan, gets Rs 400 crore. To boost state-run higher education institutes across the country

### MONEY FOR CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE

**IMPACT:** Rs 100 crore each to Aligarh Muslim University, Banaras Hindu University, Tata Institute of Social Sciences (Guwahati) and INTACH

## HIGHER AND HIGHER

Budgetary (BE) and revised estimates (RE) for social schemes



## HOW FAR MGNREGA SCHEMES HAVE REACHED BETWEEN 2010-11 AND 2012-13

	FY 2010-11 (626 dists)*	FY 2011-12 (626 dists)#	FY 2012-13 (632 dists)
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS PROVIDED EMPLOYMENT	5.5	5.04	3.97
TOTAL (In Rs cr)	257.2	216.3	130.57
AVG PERSON-DAYS/EMPLOYED HOUSEHOLD	47 DAYS	43 DAYS	33 DAYS
EXPENDITURE (In Rs cr)	39377	38035	22922
EXPENDITURE ON UNSKILLED WAGES (Rs cr)	25687	24861	16961
WORKS TAKEN UP (In Lakh)	51	82.5	69.6

\* Provisional # Reported till Dec 3, 2012

Indian Express, March 1, 2013, P.23

# TARGETING WOMEN AND YOUTH

By LIZ MATHEW & ANUJA

NEW DELHI

The Congress party-led United Progressive Alliance (UPA) government has given policy support to its two key target groups—women and youth—by announcing several proposals aimed at both segments. This includes a gender budget allocation of ₹97,134 crore, India's first public sector bank that is exclusively for women, and training the youth for jobs.

The ruling Congress, which is gearing up for polls in 10 states and general elections next year, has recently started addressing the concerns of women and youth. Experts point out that tall promises apart, the

budget has not put money in the right places.

"It's a pre-election budget with focus on the sections who have been disillusioned with the government and the party. Apart from women and youth, he has focused on the lower middle class. The UPA has done good branding to pay heed to the restless voters differently," said Jai Mrug, a Mumbai-based political analyst.

Mentioning women at least 21 times in his nearly two-hour speech, P. Chidambaram said that women are among the three segments that define India, the other two being the poor and youth.

"We have examples of states growing at a fast rate, but leaving behind women, the scheduled castes, the scheduled tribes, the minorities, and some backward classes," he said. "The UPA does not accept that model."

Women form nearly half of India's population with an average sex ratio of 940, according to Census data. In the 2009 general election, the number of registered women voters was more than 340 million.

Chidambaram has announced an additional sum of ₹2,000 crore to the women and child development ministry to design schemes related to issues faced by "vulnerable" women.

"As more women enter public spaces—for education or work or access to services or leisure—there are more

reports of violence against them," he said.

The finance minister also announced a ₹1,000-crore Nirbhaya fund, in honour of the Delhi gang-rape victim, to promote women's safety.

However, economist Jayati Ghosh said, "This is belittling something which is not only a continuing tragedy but also a living reality."

The government has not spent on the right sectors such as health and universal access to good quality social services, she said. "They have not put their money where their mouth is."

The UPA hasn't been able to get approval for a Bill that reserves 33% of seats for women in the Lok Sabha and state assemblies. The Bill was passed by the Rajya Sabha in 2010 and has been pending before the Lok Sabha.

At its recent party conclave in Jaipur, party president Sonia Gandhi urged the party and the government to "recognise the new changing India". In her speech, she said India is "increasingly peopled by a younger, more aspirational, more impatient, more demanding and better educated generation."

The party also appointed Rahul Gandhi, 42-year-old son of Sonia Gandhi, as the vice president, a move political observers viewed as an attempt to woo the youth in the country, especially because they constitute more than 60% of the country's total population.

Chidambaram also focused on the youth. "My budget for 2013-14 has before it one overarching goal: to create opportunities for our youth to acquire education and skills that will get them decent jobs or self-employment that will bring them adequate incomes that will enable them to live with their families in a safe and secure environment."

Gurcharan Das, writer and political commentator, agreed that steps announced for the youth seem to be ballot-oriented. "But it's good that the government is finally focusing on youth. Once they focus on youth, they will address their aspirations and their concerns and they will focus on the middle class too."

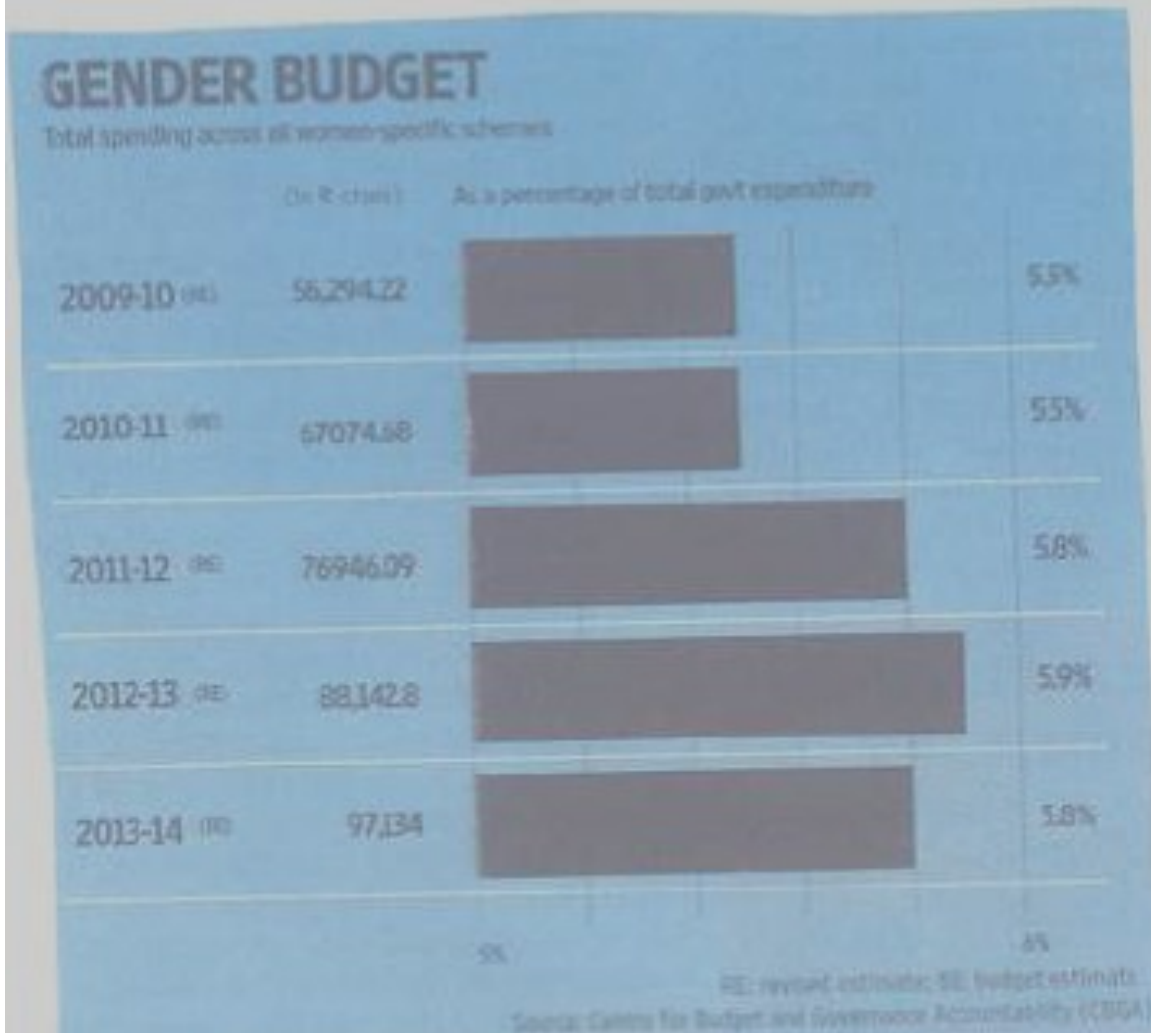
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Hindustan Times Mint, March 1, 2013, P.16

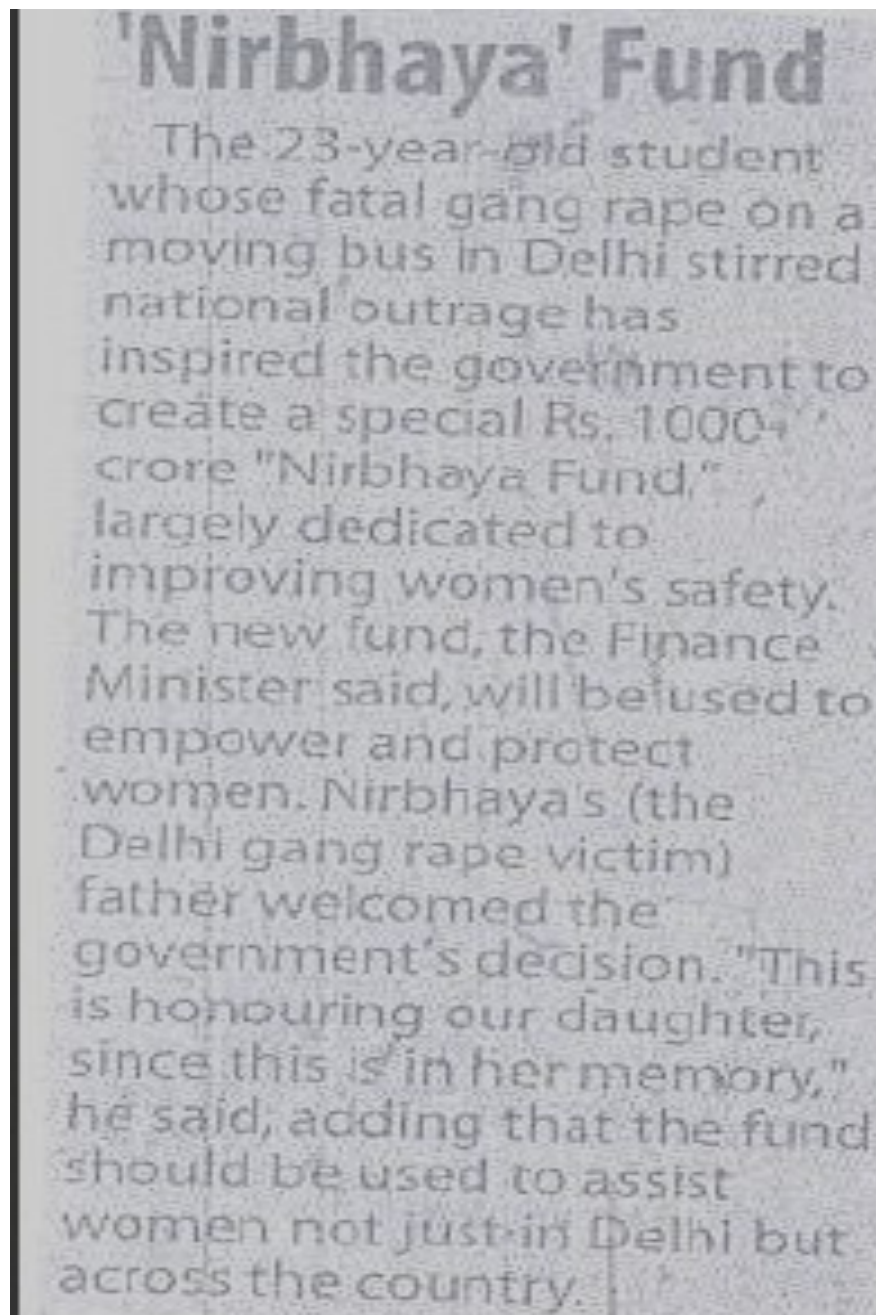
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**Chidambaram has allocated ₹2,000 crore to design schemes related to issues faced by 'vulnerable' women**



Hindustan Times Mint, March 1, 2013, P.16



Free Press Journal, March 1, 2013, P.1 (Nirbhaya Fund)

# Social sector pays the price

The focus in this pre-election budget has shifted from the flagship MGNREGS to cash transfer-related schemes

If there was any expectation that the combination of an economic crisis and an election year would alter the government's priorities, the Finance Minister was quick to dismiss it. Early in his Budget speech, he made it clear that "we must unhesitatingly embrace growth as the highest goal... without growth there will be neither development nor inclusiveness." He went on to put the numbers to back this contention, with the fiscal deficit being kept closer to target levels than many thought would be possible. This commitment to growth at all costs demanded a price in terms of providing less than what is needed for the social sector. And the way Mr. Chidambaram has paid this price suggests the Congress party will be going into an election year without the resources that the government had in 2009.

## Frozen on MGNREGS

The first step in this strategy has been to gloss over those parts of the social sector where there is no real increase in allocations. The most striking example is that of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), which acted as the main vehicle of the Congress's electoral fortunes the last time round. Mr. Chidambaram has kept the allocation for this activity frozen at the level set in the last Budget. He has spoken of this as an increase by comparing it to the Revised Estimates for the current year rather

than the Budget Estimates. But the fact that the revised estimates for MGNREGS was 11 per cent less than the budgeted figure only suggests that the decision not to make this scheme the leading light of the next election campaign has already been taken.

With poor growth restricting the resources available for an electorally rewarding boost to the social sector, the emphasis would have to be on more sharply focused social sector expenditure. And the broad contours that this approach could take are evident in the budget documents. At the heart of this approach is the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) or the direct cash transfers to beneficiaries identified using the Unique

Identification Authority of India (UIDAI). In a year when MGNREGS has been frozen at the level of the previous budget, the allocation for UIDAI has been raised by 40 per cent over the current year's Budget Estimates and 65 per cent over the year's Revised Estimates, to reach Rs.1,819 crore.

There does seem to be some recognition, though, of the need to hasten slowly on this front. The budget figures do not suggest any move to expand cash transfers rapidly into new areas. The cash transfers are supposed to reduce subsidies by preventing leakages. But the budget documents do not suggest any reduction in the major subsidies. On the contrary, while the fertilizer subsidy is budgeted to be kept at around the Revised Estimate for the current year, the budget estimates the food subsidy to go up to Rs.90,000 crore, up from Rs.85,000 crore in the Revised Estimates for the current year and Rs.75,000 crore in the Budget presented last year. Thus when Mr. Chidambaram assured the House in his speech "that the DBT scheme will be rolled out throughout the country during the term of the UPA Government," he was apparently referring to the spread of only the schemes that are currently covered in the various pilot projects of the DBT or a few other similar ones.

## Focus on women, children

Having decided to focus on a relatively narrow base of schemes that are compatible with cash transfers the budget also reveals a clear focus on women and children. In listing the three faces that he saw as representing the country the Finance Minister began with women and youth before going on to the DBT related poor. It is then no surprise that the budget has substantially increased allocations to schemes that allow for direct cash transfers to women and young Indians. The Indira Gandhi Matritva Sahyog Yojana (IGMSY) that envisages providing cash assistance directly to pregnant and lactating women has seen its Budget allocation for the coming year going up to almost five times the Revised Estimate for the current year. Similarly, the allocation for pre-matric scholar-

ships for Other Backward Classes has been trebled from the Budget and Revised estimates for the current year. The allocation for post-matric scholarships for the same category has also gone up by 44 per cent to reach Rs.810 crore.

## Food Bill

This focus on cash transfer related social sector spending does not rule out expenditure on other more traditional electorally rewarding social sector activities. The offer of food at low prices has been a staple of Indian politics in several States. The proposed Food Security Bill is designed to take this benefit to the national stage. By making an allocation for the incremental costs of the food subsidy after the Food Security Bill becomes a law the Finance Minister has sought to confirm his party's commitment to this cause. But the less-than-adequate allocation of Rs.10,000 crore suggests that Mr. Chidambaram only expects the Food Security mechanism to come into play for a relatively small part of the year, perhaps just long enough for it to have a political benefit.

With the size of the allocation for the implementation of the Food Security Bill being small enough to create doubts about when, and even if, the Bill will come into effect, the main social sector take-away from the Budget would remain its clear focus on the cash transfer related schemes. The slow growth rate and the government's prioritisation of growth over welfare may have constrained the resources for the social sector. But in the distribution of those limited resources, the Finance Minister has made it clear that the electorally rewarding schemes come first.

(Prof. Narendar Pani is with the National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore.)



# Finally, her fair share?

Outlay on gender budgeting was third highest after finance and defence; rape victim relief up by 99%

Lubna Kably | TNO

Finance minister P Chidambaram didn't just say the word 'women' 24 times in his budget speech, it seems he also put the money where his mouth is. In this year's budget, the allocation of Rs 97,134 crore towards gender budgeting (GB) — or the clear allocation of funds for programmes related to women — is significant, at least on paper. In fact, it is next only to budgetary allocations for the finance ministry (MoF) and defence ministry (MoD).

An in-depth analysis of numbers relating to gender budgeting across ministries shows that one of the largest spikes in budgetary allocation — nearly 99% — is towards programmes relating to the relief and rehabilitation of rape victims.

The ministry of women and child development (MWCD) has allocated Rs 76.9 crore for this purpose during 2013-14, against a revised budgetary allocation of just Rs 84 lakh last year.

## CASH BUT NO FLOW

Mere allocation of money isn't enough; timely release of funds and its proper utilisation is also essential. To illustrate, while the budgetary allocation for working women's hostels during 2011-12 was Rs 10 crore, only Rs 49 lakh was released by March 2012. Vibhuti Patel, head of the department of economics at SNDT Women's University, says, "Once funds are earmarked, they must flow towards various schemes and be available to the operational teams within a month. In case of centrally sponsored schemes, where states are required to contribute funds, land or building, the MWCD must pressure state governments to do so." She also stresses the importance of commissioning evaluation studies to highlight the gap between plan outlay and outcome as well as studies showing the inter-linkages between gender-sensitive budgeting and women's empowerment.

The budgetary estimate of total expenditure has been set at Rs 16.7 lakh crore, of which the largest allocation of funds appears to be towards MoF (Rs 6.3 lakh crore), followed by Rs 2.5 lakh crore to MoD. Next in line is the allocation towards GB of Rs 97,134 crore, which is 10.2% higher than the previous year and constitutes 5.8% of total expenditure.

During 2012-13, based on revised budget estimates, the allocation towards gender budgeting was at fourth place. The petroleum ministry benefited from a largesse of Rs 53,300 crore as subsidy, bringing its revised budgetary expenditure to Rs 97,500-odd crore, nearly 10% more than the funds earmarked for GB. With steps being taken to ease this subsidy burden, the third slot now occupied by GB may not change.

Allocations towards 100% women-specific programmes have increased by 18.6% to Rs 27,248 crore for 2013-14, from Rs 22,969 crore in the previous year.

## FLASH THE CASH

Gender budgeting allocation on the rise		
Year	Budgetary Estimates (Rs Cr)	% Increase Year on Year (Approx)
2009-10	56,858	NA
2010-11	67,750	19
2011-12	78,251	15
2012-13	88,143	13
2013-14	97,134	10

Formal earmarking of funds, of at least 99% in all women-related sectors, began in the Ninth Five-Year Plan (1997-2002) period. The gender budget outlay will be spread across various ministries, of which the MWCD typically garners the highest share. The Rs 20,440-crore allocation of funds to MWCD in this year's budget is an increase of nearly 16% over last year's revised estimate of Rs 17,263 crore (budgetary estimate of Rs 18,584 crore). However, the allocation for 2013-14, nearly 84% is earmarked towards child welfare programmes and just 4.5% for women welfare schemes. The balance funds are meant for nutritional schemes and programmes specific to the north-east, covering both children and women.

A detailed analysis of budgetary allocations of various programmes under MWCD shows that apart from the steep 99% increase in allocation for rape victim relief, some other schemes have also got a hefty raise. A sum of Rs 67.50 crore has been allocated this year, for the first time, for implementation of the provisions of the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act. Allocation towards working women's hostels has increased by nearly 59% to Rs 18 crore, and for STEP (the training programme for women) by nearly 83% — to Rs 18 crore.

## IS IT AN EYEWASH?

The Centre for Budget and Governance Accountability (CBGA) in its gender budgeting analysis points out that the Rs 97,134 crore earmarked for women in 2013-14 is questionable.

"It may be difficult for some ministries or departments (such as those dealing with infrastructure) to report any part of the funds in their existing schemes as earmarked for women. It is imperative to formulate new women-specific schemes, as in Kerala," says Subrat Das, executive director, CBGA.

There is a view that some of the allocations shown under GB are misleading. For instance, the entire Indra Awas Yojana allocation is shown under "100% allocation for women". Similarly, two-thirds of funds earmarked for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) is shown under GB, as is the entire mid-day meal scheme. In the minority affairs ministry, the entire pre- and post-matric scholarship amount has been shown in GB. "Such on-paper allocations are meaningless. Most ministries have no guidelines on how to allocate for women. Anything that vaguely sounds like it concerns women and children is labelled GB," says a sceptic. But others point out that the government's GB norms are in line with global practices. "GB ensures better allocation of funds for schemes that mainly benefit women, even as they have a positive benefit for society," says Janet Stotsky, advisor, office of budget and planning at IMF.

In addition to the gender budgeting outlay, the government has announced it will set up a Nirbhaya Fund with an initial allocation of Rs 1,000 crore and a women's bank with an initial capital of Rs 1,000 crore.

But there's a huge catch in these allocations. A substantial part of what is shown under GB is quite arbitrary. Also, as gender economists point out, mere allocation is not enough — the gulf between allocation and disbursement can be quite wide (see boxes).

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