

A Study on Orphanage destitute and women Rehabilitation in India

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Abstract

Under the scanner and scrutinization of orphanage's destitute women with pragmatic approach and rehabilitation in terms of legacy policy issues, which are getting substantial amount of deep-seated consideration, that are in-depthly inherent in each and every operation of orphanage destitute women and rehabilitation measures. Central Government as well as State Government have meticulously concentrated in a multi facet empirical approach through the various orphanage destitute women schemes and extended beyond the rehabilitation perspective. Ultimately this article is gives huge weight age in the field of women empowerment through providing excellent policy and welfare scheme towards orphanage destitute and in terms of women rehabilitation measures.

Introduction

In the government of India had scintillatingly adopted National policy for the orphanage orientated scheme that are the Nation's most crucial asset and ensures that "It should be the policy of the state to provide adequate services to children both before and after birth through the period of their growth, to ensure their full physical, mental and social development in larger extent. The state should progressively increase the scope of such services so that within a reasonable period all children in the country would enjoy optimum conditions for their maximum growth". Destitute livings in orphanages are getting only basic facilities and not much programmes are provided for them to improve their self-esteem. The researcher had adopted descriptive research design as well as pedagogical study in a deep-rooted consequences level. In Coimbatore this study was scrutinized and highly explored in thorough manner. Subsequently 20th century, the numbers of orphanages are increasing in India that is highly pathetic and vulnerable especially in Indian context. Because of magnitude of problems and issues those family divorce of parents, poverty, AIDS, physical and mental disability, was changing attitude of the society about family and increased number of unmarried mothers. Physically and mentally these children are faced lots of problems. In the developmental stage of children the most important period is during childhood. In the nation development children's are the future backbone of economic development. The development of child mainly includes good health, education, family environment, proper training, love and care, and also good diet. Many of these children's have lack of parental guidance and control, lack of positive models. Many of them grow a street children or loss of parents and siblings.

These children are growing up in pressurized circumstances without adequate parenting supporting and opportunities. They are developed high risk of anti social behavior in society and also becoming less productive individual in society. Our society orphan children's are vulnerable group. They are faced lots of problems like psychological distress, safety measures, and lack of parental nurturing, problems with basic needs, inheritance lack of education, emotional problems, loneliness and self-esteem.

Lack of family tacit support and prevailing social customs. It is hard reality that despite implementing various schemes and programmes for empowerment of rural women, they are not able to get the benefits. First, they are not made aware about the schemes and programmes by the implementing agencies. Secondly, there are many young women who have interest to join SHG but due to the prevailing social customs, rituals and lack of support from their families; they confined themselves to the four walls of the house. In order to overcome this problem, NRLM should ensure that at least one member from each identified rural poor household, preferably a woman, is brought under the (SHG) network in a time bound manner.

In the spirit of pilot Project to Combat the Trafficking of women and Children for Commercial Sexual Exploitation in source and destination areas for providing care and protection to trafficked and sexually abused women and children. Components of the scheme include networking with law enforcement agencies, rescue operation, temporary shelter for the victims, repatriation to hometown and legal services, etc.

Destitute Widows' Pension Scheme

This scheme was kick started in first June of 1975 under the light of government initiatives. Destitute widows of any age, who have not remarried are benefited under this scheme even if they have legal heirs aged 18 years and above. An amount of Rs.400 is paid as pension under this scheme. The entire expenditure under this scheme is borne by the State Government. The Government of India has recently launched a new pension scheme on 19th February 2009 namely, Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme. The Government of Tamil Nadu has decided to implement the scheme and the District Collectors have been given instructions to identify the beneficiaries under the above scheme and sanction the pension as per scheme guidelines of Government of India. All widows between 40-64 years of age belonging to below poverty line households will be benefited under the scheme. However, the other destitute widows who are receiving pension under the State Scheme but not eligible under the National Scheme would continue to get their pension under the State Scheme. A sum of Rs.288.11Crore has been provided in the budget estimate for the financial year 2009-2010. A sum of Rs.300 Core has been provided in the Budget Estimate for the financial year 2010-2011 for the above schemes.

Destitute/Deserted Wives Pension Scheme

This scheme was started on 25 April 1986. This scheme benefits the deserted wives/ destitute women who are not less than 30 years of age and who are deserted by their husbands for a period of not less than five years or who obtained legal separation certificate from a court of law. Deserted wives having legal heirs who have completed 18 years of age are also eligible for pension under this scheme. An amount of Rs.400 is paid as pension under this scheme. The entire expenditure under this scheme is borne by the State Government. A sum of Rs.48.14 Cores has been provided in the budget estimate for the financial year 2009-2010 under this scheme. Totally 103010 persons were benefited under this scheme till 2010. A sum of Rs.61 Cores has been provided in the budget estimate for the financial year 2010-2011 under this scheme

Schemes for Destitute Children

The Ministry of Women and Child Development is sophisticatedly implementing the comprehensive Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) for the welfare and rehabilitation of children in difficult circumstances as well as different aspect in viable plus valuable manner with solution seeking perspective that evokes positive result in a larger extent. One of the objectives of ICPS is to map the needs and services for children and families at risk. Financial assistance is provided to the State Governments/UT Administrations under the Scheme for, inter-alia, undertaking such exercise at district level and assessing the number of children in difficult circumstances. Another Scheme being implemented since 2004-05 in urban areas by the Ministry is the Scheme for Welfare of Working Children in Need of Care and Protection for providing support for the wholesome development of child workers and potential child workers, especially those with none or ineffective family support. The progress of implementation of ICPS is reviewed from time to time in regular meetings at State, regional and national levels, through monitoring reports received from the States and by the Project Approval Board set up in the Ministry to appraise and approve the financial proposals received from States Governments/ UT Administrations. The Scheme for Welfare of Working Children in Need of Care and Protection was evaluated by National Institute for Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD) during the year 2009-10. Thereafter, a Committee was set up in the Ministry for examining the evaluation report and recommending changes to the Scheme.

The Committee has recommended that, to avoid duplication of efforts and provide more comprehensive services to vulnerable children including working children, it would be advisable to discontinue the Scheme for Welfare of Working Children and cover the targeted children under the Open Shelter Component of the ICPS. Whereas, under ICPS funds are released to State Governments/UT Administrations and Child line India Foundation (CIF) only, under the Scheme for Welfare of Working Children in Need of Care and Protection, funds are directly released to the Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs) for implementing the scheme. The details of funds sanctioned under ICPS and Scheme for Welfare of Working Children in Need of Care and Protection during the last three years and the current year are as under:

Old Age Homes and Grants in Aid

Due to the changes in the family circumstances and behavior, the joint family system disintegrated very much. The aged people were therefore, being neglected in many families and thereby deserted. There were huge numbers of deserted and destitute aged people living in the poor families and suffering for want of food, accommodation etc. for their day-to-day life. In keeping with the growing importance of the problems faced by older persons, the Government of Tamil Nadu was assisting the Old Age Homes through Voluntary Institutions for their proper care and protection. The State Government had given permission to 16 Non-Governmental Organizations for running Old Age Homes where in 620 aged persons were provided with all the facilities and getting assistance at the rate of Rs.250/- per month for each person and three new homes which provided more facilities to the inmates get assistance at the rate of Rs.500/- per month. The concerned officials of Social Welfare Department at the Directorate and District level were inspecting the Old Age Homes to ensure their proper functioning. The Government formulated a “State Policy for the Aged” to secure a life of dignity and respect for our senior citizens in 2006. Special attention was paid to the welfare of the other vulnerable sections of the society such as children, the physically and mentally challenged and the aged. The Government encouraged the private sector to set up orphanages, homes for the aged, disabled, destitute and night shelters for street children providing land free of cost to those who came forward to take up this scheme on a non-profit basis.

Indian Ladies Samaj

To prevent minor girls from undesirable association and guardianship, to educate and train them for an independent and honorable profession, under the initiation of Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy, Indian Ladies Samaj was established in 1923 and Lady Sivaswamiyer who headed many social reforms in Madras was the first President. They contacted Lady Sadasivalyer as the head to reclaim young girls from the premissious customs of society and provide facilities for their bringing up and education. With the abolition of Devadasi system in Madras, the temples freed a number of families from compulsory service. The girls of such families were to be trained in various kinds of profession. The samaj collected funds from the public and arranged for these girls who were trained as nurses, doctors and teachers. Most of them were married and began to lead a normal life. Such service was rendered till 1937.

Change in attitudes of Elders in families

Due to the socio-culture reasons, older women (mothers-in-law) do not allow their young women (daughters-in-law) in their family to become the members of SHGs. Because of which, younger women who are interested to join SHGs remain complacent and do not realize their full potential. It is in this view, family should be taken into account and all family members' particularly older ones should be convinced that they should motivate their daughter-in-laws to become the part of SHG. The leaders of existing SHGs and SMSs can be roped in motivating young rural women to overcome social/ cultural barriers and to come out from the four walls of their houses to get benefit of the schemes and programmes implemented for their development.

Disparities and Inequalities

The analysis of the situation on children and women in India in terms of the levels and progress of related indicators remains incomplete and irrelevant if it does not highlight the disparities that exist among states and the inequalities that persist among different subgroups of the population. This is not only important, but also essential for better targeting in terms of improved and pragmatic programme focus. The discussion in the note with regard to disparity and inequality will be limited to only three key indicators, namely Child Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Child Education as many of the other indicators link to these in the cause and effect chain.

Avvai Home

Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy was instrumental in abolishing the immorality on women and under her able guidance the Women's Indian Association started the Avvai home in 1930. The Avvai Home was started in Mylapore, Madras with ten girls. The main aim of the home was to protect all women especially young girls and children not only from the evil of poverty and destitution but also from the association to educate and train them to a useful profession. The institution depended on public support and the government grant was a merge one. With determined efforts of Muthulakshmi Reddy, the home had grown into a multipurpose centre with many sections catering to more than eight hundred beneficiaries and had spread its activities on one acre land in Adayar, Madras. The Avvai Home treated all the girls on equal footing without any caste distinctions. Muthulakshmi Reddy spent her whole life for the development of the home, which trained girls for useful occupations such as midwives, nurses, teachers and her sincere service was appreciated by all the social reformers including Mahatma Gandhi.

EVR Maniammaiya Ninaivu Poor Widows' Daughter Marriage Assistance Scheme

To avoid delays in the performance of marriage of the daughter of poor widows for want of adequate funds EVR Maniammaiya Marriage Assistance Scheme was introduced by the then Chief Minister M.G. Ramachandran (1980-1984) in February 1981. The assistance was raised from Rs.2000/- to Rs.3000/- during 1997-1998 and further to Rs.5000/- during 1998-1999 and again to Rs.7000/- during 1999-2000.40 The annual income of beneficiaries was not to exceed Rs.12000/-and the age of brides should be between 18 and 30.

Sathyavani Muthu Ammaiya Ninaivu Free Supply of Sewing Machines Scheme

With a view to increase the employment potential and to lead a decent life, sewing machines were supplied free of cost under "Sathyavani Muthu Ammaiya Ninaivu Free Supply of Sewing Machine Scheme" to widows, deserted wives and destitute below poverty line and to physically handicapped women. This scheme was started in May 1975. The annual income of the beneficiaries was not to exceed Rs. 12000/- while their age limit was to be between 20 and 40. The Government of Tamil Nadu spent Rs.38.00 lakhs for this scheme in 1996-1997 and was raised to Rs. 120.99 lakhs during 2006-2007.

Dr.Dharmambal Ammaiya Ninaivu Widow Remarriage Scheme

To rehabilitate the widows for their remarriage, the Government of Tamil Nadu under Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) introduced Dr.Dharmambal Ammaiya Ninaivu Widow Remarriage Scheme in June 1975. Under this scheme incentives were given to the husband and wife in the form of National Savings Certificate for Rs.7000/- and Rs.3000/- as Demand Draft or Cheque. The certificate had to be kept in deposit for 6 years. However, this scheme was restricted to the widows in the age group of 22 to 35 years.

MahalirThittam

"MahalirThittam" is an offshoot of Tamil Nadu women development project. "MahalirThittam" covers all rural areas of the entire state. This announcement can also be

seen as another path-breaker, involving a massive replication of TNWAP successes to cover about 10 lakhs poor women of the state. This scheme is intended to promote economic development and social empowerment of the poorest women through a network of Self Help Groups formed with active support of NGO's. The vision of the project is to reach out and empower 10 lakhs poorest and most disadvantaged women below the poverty line, through 60,000 self-reliant and sustainable Self Help Groups. These groups would, not only engage in productive economic activities, but also function as important sustainable rural structures, for dissemination of knowledge about health and nutrition, literacy, education, adoption new agricultural practices, farm and non-farm sector economic activities, and help prepare women to take up leadership positions. The objective of the project is social empowerment, economic empowerment and capacity building of the poorest and most disadvantaged women in Tamil Nadu

Propagation against Polygamy

The leaders of All India Women's Conference tried their level best to propagate against the evils of certain social customs, which hindered the progress of women. These leaders supported the bills of social reforms supporting monogamy and women's right to property. Muthulakshmi Reddy supported all the social reforms relating to monogamy. The members of Women's Indian Association held meetings throughout the presidency and educated women on the purpose of legislations pending before the legislatures. The Association presented a memorandum favoured monogamous principle in regard to the Hindu Sacramental Marriage. Miss. VilasiniShenoy, advocate of Madras explained the objectives of bills in all the conferences. Giving evidence before the Hindu Law Committee Ambujammal, H.A. Janaki, B.T. Chokkammal gave evidence in favour of monogamy. RadhaBaiSubbrayan, a member from Madras to Central Assembly piloted a bill on monogamy and succeeded in her efforts due to the efforts of enlightened women of the province.

Propagation against Dowry System

To wipe from ground level the other social evil which made the marriage of a girl of middle and poor classes an intolerable burden to the parents was the dowry system. Through the system prevailed in many parts of Tamil Nadu, it was predominant in the Madras Presidency. Unless parents of girls were willing to give away as dowry to their daughters much more than what they could actually afford, it was not possible to get bridegrooms. Even the educated people did not have done away with this pernicious practice. The Sixth Session of All India Women's Conference was held at Madras in 1931. In this conference the members requested the parents to educate their daughters so that they would gain self confidence and would enable them to take decisions in personal matters like marriages. Muthulakshmi Reddy firmly believed that the spread of education among women alone could drive away this sort of evil from the society. They propagated in favor of inter-caste marriages to discourage the dowry system. With the growth of education among boys and girls, their outlook and vision were being widened. In higher educational institutions like colleges and universities, coeducation prevailed. So boys and girls got an opportunity to decide their future. The educated women also began to enter government services and this employment of women proved injurious to the dowry system.

Encouragement to Inter-Caste Marriages

Women's Indian Association and Women Conference on 1931 encouraged the inter-caste marriage. Dr. Hari Singh Gaur's Bill permitted marriage among Hindu and allied faiths, Buddhists, Jains and Sikhs. In 1933 Mr. Bhavan Das tried to introduce a bill to widen the scope of inter-caste marriages but he was not successful due to orthodox opposition. Education enlarged the vision of the public. The social enactments enabled women to attain economic independence. Moreover co-education gave them an opportunity to free mixing and enabled them to take decisions on personal matters like marriages. Moreover they gained self confidence due to their educational attainments. Again the teachings of Mahatma against

caste distinctions encouraged them to push back their caste to a secondary place. Under Scheme-I, a sum of Rs.20000 (Rs.10000 in the form of Demand Draft/Cheque for marriage expenses and Rs.10000 in the form of National Savings Certificate) is provided with effect from second October 1997 to the newly married couple among whom one spouse should be from Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe and the other from a different community. Under Scheme-II, a sum of Rs.15000 (Rs.5000 for marriage expenses in the form of Demand Draft/Cheque and Rs.10000 in the form of National Savings Certificate) is provided with effect from second October 2007 to the newly married couple where a forward community person marries a Backward Class or Most Backward Class person. A sum of Rs.400 Lakhs has been provided for the benefit of 2896 couples in the budget estimate for the year 2008-2009 for this scheme. A sum of Rs. 525 lakhs has been provided for the benefit of 2713 couples in the budget estimate for the year 2009-2010.80 A sum of Rs.535.50 Lakhs has been provided in the budget estimate for the year 2010-2011 for this purpose.

Voluntary organization

Like Kalaiselvi Karunalaya Social Welfare Society (KKSS) was founded in 1983 by a young zealous post graduate Mr. A. Purushothaman who wanted to educate poorest from most marginalized communities in everlasting effort. Consequently now it has grown into a huge social service organization working for rescue and rehabilitation of orphaned children, the abandoned elderly, women in distress, people of gypsy community, people addicted to drugs and liquor and victims of natural disasters in rural and urban Tamil Nadu. These people need help - a home, an education, someone with whom to share their problems, or just care and companionship. Yet, having little or no money and no-one to turn to, they are often left neglected and alone. So, by providing shelter, support, counseling, and empowerment in terms of gradual growth orientated perspective, we give them a chance to live the life they deserve. One filled with hope and happiness which best and rest tagline of this organization.

Anjugam Ammaiya Ninaivu (Memorial) Inter-Caste Marriage Assistance Scheme

In order to abolish discrimination along caste lines and to eliminate dowry harassment, the Government of Tamil Nadu introduced a scheme to encourage inter caste marriage by providing financial assistance was launched on 1 July 1967 and it is now being implemented as Anjugam Ammaiya Ninaivu Inter-Caste Marriage Assistance Scheme. There is no income limit for availing of this assistance under this scheme.

Annai Theresa Ninaivu Orphan Girls Marriage Assistance Scheme

To help financially for the marriage of the orphan girls, the then Chief Minister M.G. Rama Chandran (1980-1984) introduced Annai Theresa Marriage Assistance Scheme during 1985-1986. To avail the facilities the orphan's annual income was not to exceed Rs. 12000/- and she was to be of the age from 20 to 30. The marriage assistance was extended to only one daughter of the orphan.

Pension to Un-married, Poor and Incapacitated Women Age of Above 50

The government has introduced a new scheme of providing monthly pension of Rs.400 to unmarried, poor, incapacitated women of age 50 years and above. This scheme was started on first July 2008. The entire expenditure under this scheme is borne by the State Government of Tamil Nadu. A sum of Rs. 5 Cores has been provided in the budget estimate for the financial year 2009-2010 under this scheme. Totally 11,860 persons are benefited under this scheme till 2010. A sum of Rs.5.39 Cores has been provided in the budget estimate for the financial year 2010-2011 under this scheme.

Grant in Aid Scheme to NGOs for welfare of Women Labour

With satellite view approach, the Ministry is running with the big Grant-in-aid Scheme for the welfare of women labour to impetus effort to their daily walk of life. Subsequently this Scheme, which has been continuing since Sixth Five Year Plan (1981-82), was administered

through voluntary organizations by giving grant-in-aid to them with mammoth scope of welfare's measure in a prosperous manner with recurring effect. Organizing working women and educating them about their rights/duties, Legal aid to working women and Seminars, workshops, etc. aiming at raising the general consciousness of the society about the problems of women labour. Under this Scheme, Voluntary Organizations/NGOs are being provided funds by way of grants-in-aid to take up action-oriented projects for the benefit of women labour. Projects relating to awareness generation campaigns for women labour are funded under this Scheme. The focus of the Scheme is awareness generation among women labour, in the area of wages, like minimum wages, equal remuneration, etc. to disseminate information on various schemes of Central/State Government Agencies available for the benefit of women labour. This Scheme was introduced with the intention of furthering Government's policy of helping women workers become aware of the rights and opportunities available to them under various Schemes of the Government. Proposals of VOs/NGOs for providing grant-in-aid for undertaking awareness generation campaigns on women labour will be considered under this Scheme subject to their suitability. As per the productive provisions of the Scheme towards welfare measure, grants-in-aid is being provided as 75% of the total cost of the project. However, the projects relating to studies entrusted to various institutes are funded in full, i.e., 100%.

Every institution with the focused eye of welfare policy in terms of schemes must be provided proper guidance and counseling facilities for the destitute in redemption effort in a pinpoint laser shooting measures with wider perspective in a longer endurable vision towards empirical approach. Adequate intervention from the government authorities ensuring the health, safety and welfare measures of the destitute women staying in orphanages and also there should take proper monitoring about the rules and regulations of profoundly pertaining organizations is followed properly or not. The organizations should be maintained homely atmosphere and the inmates feel a friendly environment. It will help the destitute for their future life. The authorities of the organization must help the orphanage destitute to rectify their personal problems as well as out of the box. If they needed proper professional help must be arranged by the authorities. Special care and attention for the children who have deviant behavior and also gave them to proper counseling and guidance for their future life. It should be perennial and during for lifelong safeguard measure schemes.

Conclusion and Suggestions

It is quite pathetic as well as too unbearable, Broken families had created the highest number of destitute and children. This implies that the marital bonds/ relations in the society are degrading and disgruntle in a larger extent. Persisting poverty and helpless single parent ranks second in creating a large number of destitute and children. This implies that the financial conditions of the single parent are extremely weak and dismantle to afford their own children. AIDS is dreadful sexually transmitted diseases which kills the lives of many parents thus leaving their children as destitute. Another imperative casual factor for destitute children is that either both the parents or one of the parents died of illness other than AIDS such as drinking, heart attack, cancer or some unknown diseases. Insurgency problems is another for child destitution where the parents were killed by the underground people (UG) or father joined UG and left home and mother died of diseases or mother stayed at her paternal house. Another factor responsible for child destitute is that parent(s) died either by accident or committed suicide. The poor parents (daily wages earners) in their venture to earn their livelihood, they met accident and died. Some parent(s) committed suicide due to lost of mutual trust and relationship and overburdened by the family problems. Abandoned by parents just after birth leads to child destitution rarely. Regarding educational facilities, majority of the children are sent in the Government schools and they expressed their desire to study in the Private schools as Private schools are far better than the Government schools.

All the Children of Homes are imperative first sent in the Government schools. If they are good in their academic performance in academic height as well as syllabus wise weight then they are sent to Private schools. If the children are not doing well in their studies then they are again sent back to the Government schools. This technique serves as a kind of motivation among the children to do their studies well. All the Homes arrange private coaching for all the children by maintaining paid tutors. But arrangement of subject expert teachers inside the Homes is not seen as it is very expensive. Some of the Destitute Home allowed the children to play within the premises of the Home only. These children expressed their desire to play and mingle with children of the locality in the local playgrounds. Vocational training programmes are not arranged in some of the Homes. Children in these Homes expressed their desire to undergo vocational programmes which would help them to generate an income in their future life. Regarding fording facilities, almost all the respondents are satisfied with the fording facilities that are being provided by the Homes. Only a few children expressed their desire for better fording facilities.

Almost all the children in the Destitute Homes are satisfied with the clothing facilities provided to them. Only a few children face some inconveniences which should not be neglected. Majority of the destitute children are satisfied with the health care system provided by the children Homes but some of them expressed the need for improving the health care system with better facilities. This department has enacted various Acts and framed Rules to safeguard the interests of the Senior citizen, women and children, which are implemented effectively. Rules have been framed and notified under the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007, Dowry Prohibition Act and Prevention of women from domestic violence Act. These Acts give safety and security to the Senior citizen and the women affected by domestic violence. This Government is interested in the welfare of Transgenders and has formulated various welfare schemes for the Transgenders enabling them to move in the society with their heads held high due to the introduction of schemes like sanction of margin money and sanction of bank loan which are implemented through the Transgenders Welfare Board. Under the centre and state government initiative, the Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department is extending its best and special services to the children, women, Senior citizen and other vulnerable sections of society to secure economic development, equality, social rights and social justice.

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