





#### **DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT**

# Report on Beti Bachao and Beti Padhao Campaign in Puducherry UT 2017



Implementing NGO



#### CONTENTS

1.	introduction	U5
2.	Background an Objective	05
3.	Structure of the Overall Campaign	07
4	Training and Capacity building for Anganwadi Workers	09
5.	Training and Capacity building for Health Workers	14
6.	Sensitization cum Awareness Training for Eligible Couples on planned Parenthood	17
7.	Magale Maghizhchi- Short Film Audio Launch	21
8.	National Girl Child Day Celebration	23
9.	Training and Capacity Building for Self Help Group	27
10.	Gender Sensitization programme for Adolescent Boys	31
11.	Life Skill Training for Adolescent Girls	38
12.	Poster Competition On Changing Gender Roles for Boys and girls	45
13.	Gender Sensitization Workshop for Medical College Students	48
14.	Photo Gallery	55

## Report on Beti Bachao a Beti Padhao Campaign in Puducherry UT 2017

#### Introduction

This report is about the Sensitization cum Awareness training programmes conducted with a subject matter of "Beti Bachao and Beti Padhao" meaning "Save girl child and educate girl child" campaign in Puducherry UT. This is a special scheme meant for the empowerment of women. The Scheme is a tri-ministerial effort of Ministries of Women and Child Development (MoWCD), Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) and Human Resource Development (MHRD). Hence, it was organized as a joint initiative of Ministry of Women and Child Development, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and MHRD. The Ministry of Women and Child Development was designated as the nodal agency for this initiative to implement the scheme.

The purpose of the program was to train the grass root level functionaries like Anganwadi workers, Health workers in order to create awareness among the people in the community about the importance of girl child and to discourage them against the female feticide, a cancer for the society. The program is first of its kind was hosted by the Satya Special School, Pondicherry UT. The program was aimed at ensuring girls are born, nurtured and educated without discrimination to become empowered citizens of this country with equal rights. There was a huge enthusiasm among the participants for the programmes. The workshop was a key activity for the ministries campaigning towards empowerment of girl children in society. This report provides over view of the workshop, background information and objectives, summary of the presentations/sessions and discussions.

#### **Background and Objective:**

Sex ratio, as we all know, is an important social indicator to measure the extent of prevailing equity between males and females in a given society at a given point of time. In the case of India, the sex ratio trends have been showing a declining trend with every passing Census since 1961. As decline of this degree is alarming to say the least I.e., 918 girls/1000 boys, this is a clear indicator of women disempowerment, reflecting both pre-birth discrimination against girls manifested through gender-based sex selection and also post-birth discrimination.

The principal factors influencing CSR are Sex Ratio at Birth (SRB – calculated as number of girls born per 1000 boys) and mortality in the early childhood. Our social construct discriminating against girls, further aided by the easy availability, affordability and subsequent misuse of diagnostic tools has played a critical role in increasing sex-selective elimination of girls, thereby leading to low SRB. And the strong socio-cultural and religious biases, preference for sons and discrimination against daughters have accentuated the problem.

Thus, alarmed by the sharp decline in CSR as pointed by Census 2011, the Government of India introduced an initiative namely Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao (BBBP – translating into English as 'Save the girl child, educate the girl child') with a view to addressing the issue of declining Child Sex Ratio. The first program of the kind has been first launched at Panipat in Haryana, the state that recorded the lowest Child Sex Ratio in the country as per Census 2011 (834 girls/1000 boys).

Hence, there was a felt need for harmonized and joint actions by different actors that includes information education communication, behaviour change communication and community mobilization initiatives to help combat this concern to improve the child sex ratio. Therefore, the overall goal of Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao Scheme was to celebrate the girl child and to enable her education. The overall objective of the Scheme is to improve the declining CSR and promote Education of the Girl child. The specific objectives of the noble initiative are (1) To prevent gender biased sex selective elimination (2) To ensure survival and protection of the girl child (3) To endure education of the girl child. Thus, the program is designed to equip gross root level functionaries like Anganwadi workers, health workers, NGOs to create a mass movement to protect and educate the girl child.

#### Structure of the overall campaign

The overall program was comprised and structured into various different components such as Capacitating the Anganwadi workers and Health workers in order to create awareness among the people in the community about the importance of girl child and to educate and protect girl child and to discourage the community against the female feticide; Educating and gender sensitizing workshops and life skill training for the school going adolescent girls and boys in the Govt schools; Sensitizing young couples on the importance of having a Planned Parenthood to protect girl children and their roles and responsibilities in educating girl child; to conduct National girl child celebration, to conduct Women's day celebration; sensitizing medical college students; and to conduct poster competition on changing gender roles of boys and girls. The composition of the different programs were aimed at campaigning towards ensuring girls are born, nurtured and educated without discrimination to become empowered citizens of this country.

#### case studies, activities, and awareness songs on the following topics:

- Major barriers to Girls enrollment.
- Retention and performance in education.
- Negative parental and community attitudes.
- The socialization process and gender inequality.
- Cultural and religious factors as economic barriers of the girl child.
- Migrant labor and absentee parents.
- Lack of female teachers.
- Gender insensitive school environment.
- Early marriage.
- Child abuse at schools.

#### **Participation**

The participants of the overall program were the Anganwadi workers, health workers, and young couples, school going adolescent girls and boys, college students, parents the Govt. officials and NGOs representatives. In total 1854 persons were directly reached, sensitized and made aware of the scheme and they in turn would increase the awareness of program amongst the public and the communities.

As part this campaign 9 different programmes were organized. In this connection it is pertinent to mention that BBBP has been included as a special theme for Special Outreach Programme. The Anganwadi workers and health workers were invited from all communes in Puducherry. So the main cadre of participants was the persons who are already in the women and child development brackets in their respective villages who regularly come into contact with the community. It is hoped that on returning to their stations they would influence people in general to learn about the importance of women empowerment to create a just society by educating girl child and protecting girl child.

They could therefore influence essential management of information and knowledge sharing with the target people particularly the parents and the family members. The successful implementation of any program depends upon the knowledge, attitude and practice among functionaries. Hence, implementation of this scheme as well depends on the key functionaries such as Anganwadi workers and health workers. Because the Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) and community health workers are a front line community workers assigned to work in the community and to create awareness among the public about the various rehabilitation facilities along with discharging the ICDS services

The AWWs are the most important functionaries of the various responsibilities in the community. The AWWs who are the main resource person and whose knowledge and skills do have a direct impact on the implementation of the various governmental schemes. Hence, the trained Anganwadi workers will be able to perform better in providing the basic services regularly, properly and effectively. The Anganwadi worker assumes an important role, since she is in close and continuous contact with the beneficiaries especially from rural and urban slum areas.

#### **Proceedings of the overall Campaign**

## **Training and capacity building for Anganwadi** workers (Training the Trainers)-05-12-2016



As part of the campaign activity, capacity building and Sensitization programme was organized for Anganwadi workers under Beti Bachao Beti Padhao at meeting hall, Women and child Welfare at Saram Puducherry. Ms. Shanthi, DWCW, Ms. Malathy, DWCW, Ms. Bindu Modi, President of Satya Special School, Ms. Chitra Shah, Director Satya Special School, Ms. Sita Ramkumar, Secretary Satya Special School; Dr. Nalini, MSW department Pondicherry University honored the first program on the occasion. About 60 Anganwadi workers, the ICDS supervisors, NGO representatives were the main participants of the programme. The objective of the programme was to discuss briefly to prevent gender biased sex selective elimination; to ensure survival and protection of the girl child; to ensure education of the girl child; and to impart knowledge about Acts and laws related to safety and prevention of gender based violence. Ms. Bindu Modi, President of Satya Special School briefed about the various activities done for the empowerment of the children with disabilities. Ms. Shanthi briefed about BBBP and its importance given for the girl child promotion.

Thus, the BBBP campaign was launched in Pondicherry to restrain declining sex ratio in the state. During the programme the participants were apprised about survival, protection and education of girl child through presentations, lectures, plays and songs. They were informed about fallout of declining sex ratio and female feticide in the society. They were informed about steps being taken by the state Administration in this regard like Mass communication campaign, celebration of birth of girl child, monthly monitoring of sex ratio. The campaign involves active role of ICDS, Health, Education, Police and Rural Development Department.

The chief guests spoke and called for bringing a positive change in perception about birth of a girl child. They stressed upon sensitization at the ground level and regular monitoring of the campaign by the respective people. They emphasized upon better coordination between ICDS and Health departments and the pivotal role Anganwadi workers can play to make the promotion a success.

The resource person Mr. Perumal from Samugam Trust Salam, started briefing with the main objective of organizing such programmes. He said it was to involve more and more key functionaries like Anganwadi workers and health workers in generating awareness about Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, since they are in the main centre of the village and urban areas as they often come in to regular contact with the community members. He said and raised questions that in today's society what is the role and contribution of the woman or girl child? And he went on to explain how women were treated and what their status was in olden days and how the ancient people understood women in every aspect.



He also said according to the historical research it was the women who invented agriculture. But, women were restricted from going for hunting in the forests and then were restricted through marriage knot and family rituals customs. Further he said the factors that prevented women from being an equal citizen in the society that women had to obey parents and husband irrespective of the pros and cons of the advices and restrictions and rules and regulations enforced on women. Due to inferiority complex, superstitions, wrong thoughts, lack of security women had to continue to face inequality and discrimination. People even started to think about woman as an inferior being while growing in the fetus itself is affecting the image of a woman as it still happens in Usalimpatti village in Madurai district.

The resource person demonstrated an activity to explain the rules that are created by men in the society against the women without the consensus of the whole society. He did that by tying up the eyes one has to touch the flower drawn on the blackboard, he said and so he did but there were some misleading and wrong doing of the action to touch the flower. Thus, it was explained that while trying to touch the flower in the blackboard many did not follow the rule and many formed their own way of touching the flower, but it was all wrong doing and irrelevant way of doing it and approaching it he explained.



So, this is how the ancient people created their own rules and regulations and customary practices to be followed by the woman, he added. Whatever the woman follows as rules it was all done by enforced by the male dominated society, he explained.

Therefore, he insisted on early practices such grow up girl child from the early stage with self confidence, self respect, coping skills, problem solving skill, creativity and superior complex so that the girl child will grow up and empowered on par with male children, so all this elements should cultivated from the childhood onwards in order to face any sort of situation without depending on male society, he said. He went to say and explained that the girl children are affected by the gender biased attitude everywhere and in every walks of the life by citing the statistics of gender based violence in the state. Thus, he wanted to further add on to say and sing a song. He sang a song in Tamil that had it meaning we will also get opportunity and have life, we shall have prosperity that encouraged and motivated the participants to get on well with the training and achieve the goal a just society for all.



He also played another game namely Small pot and big pot. Through this game he tried to list out the difficulties, problems and hurdles faced by woman and their consequences in day to day life. Hence, he emphasized on early intervention to empower girl children would be very essential. He said the girl child should grow with Decision making skills; Problem solving skills; Critical thinking; Creative thinking; Inter-personal skills; Effective communication skills; Coping with emotion; Self awareness and understanding; self respect and self examination only then girls will grow up with more power and strength to beat equally with their counterpart, he added. He also said the people in general at home, working place and office should avoid the comparison between male and female because every child has got its uniqueness and different therefore he or she has the right to love and to be loved and to be respected, he added.

#### **FEEDBACK:**

The participants said they understood gender equality which is very important aspect to be followed by everyone. They felt the both male and female children should be treated equally without any discrimination. They said they could very well learn about the historical perspective and their approaches and behaviour towards woman and they well understood about the scheme. They also said they have understood that the ratio of girl child and learnt that the declining of the ratio would certainly affect the community and the society at large in many aspects. They said they would go back to their stations and recall all the aspects and inputs and collect them and consolidate them and put them into action and they said they would definitely generate awareness about the importance of the scheme amongst the community

### Training and capacity building for Health workers (Training the Trainers)-06-12-2016

As part of the campaign activity, a capacity building and Sensitization programme for Health workers was planned and organized under Beti Bachao Beti Padhao scheme at the meeting hall, Women and child development department premises at Saram Puducherry on 10/12/2016. Mr. Perumal Samagam Trust, Salam was the resource person. Ms. Vijaya, social worker, Satya Special School organized the programme. About 60 health workers had come and participated and benefited of the programme. The main objective of the programme was to help them understand the issues arising due to the gender biased practices by the community in general. Specifically the objectives were to discuss briefly about preventing gender biased sex selective elimination; to ensure survival and protection of the girl child; to ensure education of the girl child; and to impart knowledge about Acts and laws related to safety and prevention of gender based violence.



The resource person briefed about the causes and the consequences of the different approaches and discriminatory practices prevailing in the society. He said though our country is progressing in many fields yet to progress in a new era of development, hence the responsibility lies on each one of us to ensure gender equity and full participation of women towards the nation's building. As we know the women have historically been left out of important decision making both at home and in the public the cause for which lies in the culture of making discrimination against women and girls. Hence, without bringing about a change in this cultural mind set half the population of our country will remain bereft of assessing equal rights and opportunities.

Therefore this noble initiative of promoting the scheme of educate girl child and save girl child would be very much appropriate and working towards the goal will result positively. He said the entire program is to change the mindset that discriminates against women throughout their life. He explained how women are undergoing various discriminatory practices in the community. He said right from the stage of conception a girl's life is at risk as parents and society have prejudices against giving birth to female children.

Even after birth, many girls face lack of adequate care from their families, posing a serious risk to their survival and development. This discrimination creates obstacles for girls to achieve their full potential as they progress through different stages of life. Hence, in order to combat this problem we need to involve ourselves and the community at large to help change mind-sets in favour of women and girls. Therefore he insisted on the active involvement of the key functionaries towards creating a just society for the well being and empowerment of women and girls.

He further explained that how women are compared to the nature flower, moon, river through a song he sang for the participants. The society has the responsibility to protect the girls but in reality that does not happen and still the discrimination against the girls practiced, he added. Due to this problem the parents are reluctant to send their girls outside. The social media and the website also misused to degrade women and girls and the print media also spread the unwanted and wrong messages the girls therefore the parents are depressed and worried about the girls life.

He said the girls were explained about the good touch and bad touch. He insisted that parents should also be aware of the good touch and bad touch. He said, in today's world women and girls are affected due to some disturbing social factors like relationship with friends, school friends, caste, religion, social media etc.. When there is gender equity created or brought in the society all this troubles will be solved and vanished. So, gender equity implies both male and female are treated equally and the power is shared equally. But, the gender discrimination is done due to social construction, he added. So, gender biased discrimination affects both male and female in the society, he added. It is believed that man is superior to woman, man is masculine and stronger than woman. The family also expects that man should be able to earn more than woman, woman should accept and take up household responsibilities. But, in fact woman can do everything equally with man but the society does not accept it.

He also conducted a debate on the above said issues related to woman, some people from the audience participated in the debate and debated. It was done to help participants better understand the status of women in the society. Thus, the entire session was very useful to the participants. The participants also expressed that the session was really meaningful and gave insights on the gender equity and helped them shift their perspectives.

## Sensitization cum Awareness training for Eligible couples on Planned Parenthood and their roles and Responsibility-09-01-2017

The sensitization cum awareness training for the eligible couples on Planned Parenthood and their roles and responsibilities was planned and organized as part of the campaign under the BBBP scheme on 09/01/2017 at VTP Mahal, Embalam. Mrs. Kandasamy, Minster of Social Welfare was the chief guest for the program. Mr. Mihirvardhan, IAS, secretary-Welfare, Ms. Shanthi, Deputy Director DWCW, Dr. Allirani, Ms. Chitra Shah, Director Satya Special School and special invitee Ms. Oviya, social activist from Chennai were present and honored the program on the occasion. About 84 people including the eligible couples had come and participated and benefited of the program.

The objective of the program was to generate awareness amongst the eligible couples on the importance of promoting girl child and woman empowerment; to eliminate the practice of gender based discrimination and to make the community and the society to feel that through educating the girl child and protecting the girl child the society will prosper.



At the outset Ms. Vijaya the program organizer cum resource person from Satya Special School extended a warm welcome to the dignitaries and the audience and explained the purpose of the program in brief. At first Mr. Kandasamy, Welfare Minister Pondicherry addressed the gathering. Speaking on the occasion he said the selected theme for the campaign was very relevant and important for today's society. While speaking on the importance of the girl child and woman development he said each and every female child has unique capacity and that it is very obvious that they can shine very well in the area they want to flourish. Hence it is not wise for anyone to do comparison between men and women in any aspect. It is not always to say that men are superior in all the aspects and areas of life journey.

He further said a girl child is a pillar of strength for her family and provides all kinds of support, be it moral, emotional or financial. She supports all her loved ones with all her might. Normally, it is observed that women are able to make rational decisions, which are helpful in the long run. She will be there are you during all your atrocities and gives constant encouragement. Generally girls are optimistic and carry a positive aura around them. From being a wife/mother/daughter/sister to a lawyer/CEO/architect/manager and what not, a girl manages to excel in every aspect of her life. She handles everything with grace and maturity. Multitasking is something which comes naturally to them! From worrying about the dirty dishes to filling papers in the office, nothing escapes her mind. She gives her 100% in whatever she does. On one side, she has to take care of her household, rear children and on the other hand provide financial stability and support her husband.



A girl has many challenges and struggles to overcome, yet she doesn't complain. She tries to bring a smile on everyone's face with the best of her abilities. Therefore, he called for a just and equal society and that would be possible only if the parents think in the right way and the society accepts. So, for which the participants should carry forward whatever input given through the program it should be taken up and digested positively and contribute to create a society wherein all are equally treated forgoing any sort of discrimination against the woman and girl child, he added.

Speaking on the special occasion Ms. Oviya the social activist cum journalist said in to-day's world the women and girls are looked at as entertainment and pleasure objects for the society. Moreover due to the impact of the TV advertisement and modernization our culture of dressing and approaches also has been changed from the traditional way of dressing code. The girls have been affected by the modern dress and cosmetics. The right way of bringing up and nurturing the girl children lies with the mothers. Mothers and fathers have to take care of such things, she added. Mother also seems to advise the girl child from the early stages like learn to be a good mother, learn to be good mother in law learn to be good daughter in law. But, this is a wrong way of bringing up the girl child in the family, she concerned. Instead no one advices the girl child to be a good person, to be a good human being, moreover the TV channels and the big screen cinema also portray the educated girl as bad character.



The mother feels happy and proud of the male child born in the family, but sad about the girl child because of the various reasons like the society being an hindrance, lack protection and the discrimination against the girl child etc. Therefore, she feels its always better the family gets a male child and lessens the burden of bringing up the female child. The society looks at the male child and accepts at any condition even with disabilities but its not in the case of girl child. But today the pride of the girl or woman lies in the type of job she is doing in the society. If she is doing well qualified job she is treated high.

In today's trend it is the girl students who are able to score higher marks than the boys, thus, it is proved that girls are better than boys and girls can do any sort of work on par with boys or males in this society. So, we need to give equal importance to girl children and contribute to the development of the girl children, she added. When it comes to higher education there is less no of girls who offer to take up higher studies because of the family situation and in some families they are forced to get married due to the social norms and traditional belief, she added. She said still there are issues for the girl child in this modern world. So, in order to empower the girl child we need to educate her, nurture her and she has to be encouraged, motivated, and should taught all the required skills like Decision making skills; Problem solving skills; Critical thinking; Creative thinking; Inter-personal skills; Effective communication skills; Coping with emotion; Self awareness and Empathy, she added.

Finally she said even it be a fetus it has the value, it has the right to live. If the fetus is identified as female fetus it should be ignored of the basic rights. We should not allow fetus abortion; we should protect the same and respect the dignity of the human being.

**FEEDBACK:** Most of the participants expressed they would give importance to the girl child. They would give priority to girl child to do higher education. They would encourage girls to learn all the skills they required to face the male dominated society. They would give equal importance to both male and female children, they said. They said the sensitization and gender awareness was very much useful and good learning for them. The programme was followed by Releasing of a short film on Magale Maghizhchhi.

#### Magale Maghizhchhi — Short Film Audio Launch (VTB — Mahal, Embalam — 09.01.2017)



In a bit with an intention to further make the ongoing "Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao" (Save girl child, Educate girl child) Campaign more effective, a new Short Film on "Magale Maghizhchhi" meaning (Girl child is my happiness) was released on the occasion of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, caring for the Girl Child promotion was launched by Department of Women and Child Development.

The release of the short film is a chapter in an ongoing effort of spreading the information to larger section of the community to be aware of the cause of save the girl child. And this would be very much possible because today any sort of communication to people goes at ease through media. The video film has portrayed the grave situation of a poor family wherein the drunken father hates the birth of a girl child in the family due to his ignorance and unaware of the fundamental rights of the girl child.

But, the father inspired by the words of a well wisher in the same hospital and his inspiring words goes on to portray the great achievements of the different personalities like Indira Gandhi, Jayalalitha, Mamtha Benerji, Prathiba Patel, Phoolan Devi, Asha Roy, Kalpana chavla, Indira Nooyi that changes his attitude and mentality towards the girl child and finally feels proud of his daughter and feels that he must in no way ignore his girl child and wants to propaganda about the value inherited in the lives of girl children in India.

This shot film audio launched by Mr. Kandasamy, the Honorable Minister of Social Welfare. The Social activist Ms. Oviya, Ms. Chitra Shah, Director Satya Special School, Mrs. Shanthi Deputy Director, department of Women and Child Development, Director of Health Department and young parents were the special guests and participated in this program.

## National Girl Child Day Celebration @ Vel Sokkanathan Thirumanamandabam, Puducherry held on 24th January 2017)



As part of the overall campaign yet another programme on National Girl Child Day Celebration dated 24/01/17 was held at Vel Sokkanathan Thirumana Mandapam at Puducherry. Mr. Kandasamy. M, Minister of Social Welfare, Puducherry, Mr. Vaithilingam. V, Speaker of Puducherry Legislative Assembly. Ms. Vidya Ramkumar, Child Welfare Committee, Ms. Chitra Shah, Director of Satya Special School and Ms. Meena Kumari, Director of Social Welfare were present and participated as the chief guests and honoured the programme on the day. More than 650 people participated in the programme. Student from Govt. school, Samugam Trust and Satya Special School were present I the programme. Health workers, Anganwadi workers and the public were present for the programme.

The objective of the programme was to celebrate National Girl Child Day and sol to discuss briefly on topics of how to prevent gender biased sex selective elimination, to ensure survival and protection of the girl child, to ensure education of the girl child, to knowledge people about the Acts and laws related to safety and prevention of gender based violence, women empowerment, gender equality and related topics. As a part of the programme 35 girl children from different fields with cash award of Rs. 1000 and certificate. Achievers from specialized field of photography sports NSS National Science Exhibition winners from the common school and special schools were recognized with cash prize awarded and certificates were given.

On the day of the celebration the children from three NGOs (Satya Special School, Jolly home and Udhavi Karangal girl child home had come and participated in the Skit competition held to create awareness among participants on three different topics such as the difference between the life of Special children and normal children at house hold level; Girl child education; and woman empowerment respectively. First prize of Rs. 10,000 cash award was won by children from Udhavi Karangal girl child home, second prize of Rs, 5000 Cash award was won by children from Satya Special School and Jolly Home won third prize of Rs. 3,000 cash award.



The overall celebration was held with a motive to promote the girls position in the society to make their living better among society people. The celebration stressed on the necessity to remove different types of social discrimination and exploitation that girls generally face in their life. It was to increase the awareness of the girls' right in the society. The programme had various political leaders' speeches and officials from Govt. departments and social activists' speech that were about the girls' right for the equal education and fundamental freedoms. The programme focused on to increase the awareness among people about all the inequalities faced by the girl child in today's society. Since, the inequality against girl child in the family is a vast problem such as inequality in education, nutrition, legal rights, medical care, protection, honor etc.

Hence in order to redeem the girl child from all sort of inequalities and discrimination this program of celebration as a part of campaign aimed at raising awareness among people in different communities to realize the importance of girl's promotion. The overall program emphasized on the need to make a meaningful contribution of the girls in decision making processes through active support of the parents and other community members. The programme also emphasized woman was, and she is and she will always be on par with male child provided the opportunity and nurturing is given. Hence, it was felt we all have to be torch bearer to treat the girl child equal to boy child in every aspects of life, i.e. academic, sports, economic, social, recreation, spiritual, etc.



The speakers also noted that we need to have such program because as per the 2011 census Puducherry the ratio of a girl child with boy is 947 per 1000. It shows the ratio of the girl child is decreasing. So, in order to stop such downfall in the ratio of girl child in future it was felt state government and the civil societies have need to take effort to educate the community to become aware and contribute to create an equal and just society for girl child. The speakers came with shifted perspectives about girls in the society. Their speeches tailored to motivate the significance of girl child and stimulated to save the girl child. The speakers discoursed that from being a wife/mother/daughter/sister to a lawyer/CEO/architect/manager and what not, a girl manages to excel in every aspect of her life.

Speakers also noted the woman handles various roles and responsibilities and everything with grace and maturity. Her multitasking is something which comes naturally to her! From worrying about the dirty dishes to filling papers in the office, nothing escapes her mind. She gives her 100% in whatever she does. On the one side, she has to take care of her household, rear children and on the other hand she has to provide financial stability and support her husband as well. A girl has many challenges and struggles to overcome, yet she doesn't complain. She tries to bring a smile on everyone's face with the best of her abilities. However, times have changed, and girls have proved their equality and value. Sadly there are some people who have not come to terms with this revolution.



Dance performance by Satya Special School Children

#### **Training and Capacity Building for Self Help Group- 27/01/17**

Held at S.L.K. Mandapam, Kirumampakkam, More than 300 Anganwadi workers women, social workers, parents, local people; NGOs' staffs (Satya Special School) Pondicherry participated in the program. Mr. Kandasamy. M, Minister of Social Welfare, Puducherry and Ms. Meena Kumari, Director of Social Welfare Department were the chief guests for the program and honoured the program. The objective of the programme was to discuss briefly to prevent gender biased sex selective elimination, to ensure survival and protecting of the girl child, to ensure education of the girl child, to knowledge people about the Acts and laws related to safety and prevention of gender based violence. On the basis of above objective our resource person Ms. Vijaya briefed on the roles and responsibilities of parenthood. Discussions on the essential topics were carried out with the support of case studies, activities group discussions and awareness songs on the following topics.

The programme was striking a call to realize accelerating gender parity. The program stood witness for important change and attitudinal shift in participants' thoughts about women's equality and liberation. The programme helped to awaken the participants about the plight of women in present scenario even though great improvements have been made. E.g. women are still not paid equally to that of their male counterparts, women still are not present in equal numbers in business or politics, and globally women's education, health and the violence against them is worse than that of men. Hence it was to break the stereotype attitude of the people that woman are weak and has to be within four walls of the house, she mustn't interfere in any economic, social and political affairs, she is unable to contribute to the prosperity and progress of the family, society, community, nation and world as a whole.



The resource person's speeches tailored to motivate the significance of women. She said the times have changed, and women have proved their equality and value. Sadly there are some people who have not come to terms with this revolution. The resource person discoursed that the women is no more inferior to men except on physical aspect rest all the aspects women are far more better than men. She said the era has gone away when the primary aim of a woman was to rear children and takes care of her husband and household. Nowadays, women handle their professional and personal life with ease. It is a wrong notion that it is only the men who are the producers and can work outside to earn. Women have always been capable of doing that had the society allowed them to do so. An educated girl child is a valuable asset, who can easily support her family financially.

A woman is a pillar of strength for her family and provides all kinds of support, be it moral, emotional or financial. She supports all her loved ones with all her might. Normally, it is observed that women are able to make rational decisions, which are helpful in the long run. She will be there are you during all your atrocities and gives constant encouragement. Generally women are optimistic and carry a positive aura around them.



The speaker also added that each and every woman has unique capacity within them and that it is very obvious that they can shine very well everywhere the area they want to flourish. The speaker also stressed on the subject why every time and every places woman are compared to river, flower or moon. He just stressed the reason why the society compares in such a way. He also sang a song related to this topic about the plight of the female and why such comparison is done in this male dominating society. Even the parents are not ready to send their daughters out of home to avoid endanger they has to face from the ugly world. Parents are witnessing even in medias such as television or newspaper highlighting how female are used only for modeling or show off purpose, misused in unethical way or abused in ugly entertainments in this corrupt society. They are not treated respectfully. He also discoursed the speech on "Good Touch and Bad Touch" and said this knowledge must reach to every parents and children (male or female), as society is unable to provide cent percent coverage and protection to every children as specially girl child and woman.

The speaker also mentioned why there are differences or comparison in the society and also differentiating in caste, race age, and sex and even between the siblings in the family. Till now our society is not able to improve the condition of the women and give them status equal to men 100%. In some parts of the society still in the same dogma that it is only the men who has to be the bread earner or head of the family and not the women. Hence awareness program must arrange canvassing that even women has right to participate in meeting, debate, organization, decision making, voting, election etc. and not just to chain to be within the four walls of the house and suppress them just to become a house wife.

**FEED BACK**: - The program got very good response and applauses.

- They said the community should be educated to rectify and prohibit female infanticide totally from the society. The participants said the Govt should increase the literacy level of the women to think better
- No one must do comparison between male and female. Whenever there is a parents meeting they should talk about the issue of female infanticide and the same must not be done in the society at any cost.

- Women's Day celebration should have debates on issued faced and the statuses so that the public will become more aware of the women's rights are to be equally treated on par with men.
- The community and society has to take steps to change their attitude of defaming or degrading and demoralizing woman.
- The participants also raised oath to respect woman in every corner of the world. To outlook woman as an important asset for the prosperity of the nation. To raise voice and take action against aborting female fetus, to save and protect girl child and woman overall.
- Participants thanked the organizer for reviewing about the women's rights, protection and importance in bringing up the awareness on the women's rights.
- Orator's counselling was very helpful and gave the participants a new perspective on available opportunities.
- The participants thanked briefing as to why the women are equally important in the society. Because they understood "A strong woman builds her own world and she is one who is wise enough to know that it will attract the man with whom she will gladly share it."
- At the end the participants pledged for women's rights and said let women are independent and treated fairly.



## The school programme on Gender Sensitization amongst adolescent boys and girls:

The gender sensitization program was conducted in varies schools run by the government has listed below. The preparatory work was done prior to the program. Prior permission was obtained from each school principal or Headmaster the topics were gender sensitization gender equality, gender discrimination, life skill education. As part of the promotion of the scheme the school program was designed and organized in 20 schools run by Government of Pondicherry.

DETAILS OF WORKSHOP ON BETI BACHAO BETI PADHAO (BBBP) SCHEME AT GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS BY SATYA SPECIAL SCHOOL					
SI.No	Name Of School/ Venue	Date of Programme	No. of Participants		
1	SinnathaGovernmentt Girls Higher secondary school	5.12.2016	70		
2	AnnaiSivagamiHr Sec. Government School	05.12.2016	67		
3	Navallar Ned. Higher Sec. School	23.1.2017	66		
4	Thattanchavady Government High School	25.01.2017	67		
5	PerunthalaivarKamaraj Government Boys High School, Mutialpet	30.01.2017	67		
6	ThillaiyadiValliAmmmal Government High School, Kathirkamam	03.02.2017	70		
7	SubramaniBarathiyar Girls. Higher Sec. School, Puducherry	07.02.2017	82		
8	IllangoadigalGovernmnet. Higher Sec. School, Muthrapalayam	11.02.2017	66		
9	Jeevanandam Higher Sec. School, Karamanikuppam	14.02.2017/ AM	69		
10	TheerarSatyamoorthy. Higher Sec. School, Murungapakkam	14.02.2017/ PM	79		
11	Government High School, Kannvapet	16.02.2017/AM	65		
12	Kamban Girls. Higher Sec. School, Nettapakkam	16.02.2017 /PM	73		
13	MaraimalaiadigalGovernmnet. Higher Sec. School, Embalam	23.2.2017	86		
14	VOC, Puducherry	20.02.2017 /AM	57		
15	CheddilanGovernmnet. Higher Sec. School, Abisegapakam	20.02.2017 /PM	61		
16	K.B.Governmnet. Higher Sec. School, Kuruvinatham	22.02.2017	60		
17	Governmnet. Higher Sec. School, Kalmandapam	17.02.2017	42		
18	Government High School, Sorapet	23.02.2017	59		
19	Government High School, Thirukkanur	24.02.2017	63		
20	A.S.D.Government High School, Vadhanur	24.02.2017	57		

The programme on gender sensitization was aimed at sensitizing school adolescent boys and girls on gender perspectives. Because they are the future of a just society, if they have a clear understanding about the gender perspective there won't be any discriminated family, or the society against the women. So, it is the present generation particularly the young generation who are immediately going to be the family creators who have to have better understanding about the girl child. That's the reason why the program was designed to have campaign amongst school students so that the scheme would really impact with good results. We have to start anything from the students if we wanted good reach out particularly the scheme like Beti Bachao Beti Padhao.

Ms. Shanthi, DWCW, Ms. Malathy, DWCW, Ms. Bindu Modi, President of Satya Special School, Ms. Chitra Shah, Director Satya Special School, Ms. Sita Ramkumar, EC member Satya Special School; Dr. Nalini, MSW department Pondicherry University honored the first program at Govt. School along with school Principal, Head Mistress and Teachers. Ms. Bindu Modi, President of Satya Special School briefed about Satya special school activities and initiatives for the girl children with disabilities. Ms. Shanthi briefed about scheme of the BBBP. She talked about the relevance of organizing such programmes and its importance in youth's life.



Ms. Vijaya and Ms. Elizabeth from Satya Special School were the resource persons and coordinated the entire workshops at 20 schools in Pondicherry. The objectives of the workshops were to prevent gender biased sex selective elimination; to ensure survival and protection of the girl child; to ensure education of the girl child. Ms. Vijaya also handled special session on Life skill education for the students. She briefed about the kind problem today the adolescents face and how to cope with the different situations by using the life skills at younger age, she explained.

The sessions focused on gender sensitization for the target group of higher secondary school boys and girls. About 600 students in various schools in Pondicherry participated. The main concept behind this gender sensitization program was to help the students, adolescents understand the gender perception between male and female and reasons and consequences of the problem arising due to differentiating between gender in the family as well as in the society



The resource person provided different shifting perspectives on issues related to girls in the society. Her speech was motivating and the significance of girl child rights. She said the discrimination against girls/women still prevailing in many parts of the world. The girl child is not given enough worth, for it is believed that it is the son who is going to take full responsibility of the family and carry forward the legacy. However, times have changed, and women have proved their equality and value. Sadly there are some people who have not come to terms with this revolution.

It is a well-known fact that a girl child is more obedient, honest and sincere than a boy child. She discoursed that the girl is no more inferior to boys except on physical aspect rest all the aspects girls are far better than boys. This difference was created by the orthodox society. Boys usually get easily distracted, with all the sports and technology! Girls appear to be more meticulous and have a stronger sense of responsibility towards their family and their own aspirations. It is evident from the fact that most of the top exams have girls as toppers! If we need to generalize, then they are quieter and have a better concentration level. Her guilty conscious will never allow her to disappoint her parents or any loved one.

She stressed the importance of the women and their plight in the society because in today's society everyone seems to junk away girl child. For example in the earlier days for example women had a bigger role in the society and they played a major important role such as they did agriculture and they performed various important and necessary accessories necessities for the society.



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A game session was conducted by Mr. Sharif and the participants and some awareness songs too. He also stressed that each and every girl child has to be grown up with confidence and self-respect and gratitude. When compared, female has high power than male in the society. For example 5 year old boy cannot give protection to the 11 year old girl child. There has been miscalculation in the society with respect to such matter. Even while buying play items elders do differentiate between girl and boy e.g. dolls or kitchen set only for girls and cricket bat and car for boy. Such attitude of the parents and elders must change to bring gender equality and give respect for the female group.



The speaker also added that each and every female child has unique capacity within them and that it is very obvious that they can shine very well everywhere the area they want to flourish. Hence it is not wise for anyone to do comparison between men and women in any of the aspects of human beings life. It is not always to say that men are superior in all the aspects and areas of life journey.

He said a girl child is a pillar of strength for her family and provides all kinds of support, be it moral, emotional or financial. She supports all her loved ones with all her might. Normally, it is observed that women are able to make rational decisions, which are helpful in the long run. She will be there are you during all your atrocities and gives constant encouragement. Generally girls are optimistic and carry a positive aura around them.

From being a wife/mother/daughter/sister to a lawyer/CEO/architect/manager and what not, a girl manages to excel in every aspect of her life. She handles everything with grace and maturity. Multitasking is something which comes naturally to them! From worrying about the dirty dishes to filling papers in the office, nothing escapes her mind. She gives her 100% in whatever she does. On one side, she has to take care of her household, rear children and on the other hand provide financial stability and support her husband. A girl has many challenges and struggles to overcome, yet she doesn't complain. She tries to bring a smile on everyone's face with the best of her abilities.



#### **FEED BACK**

During the feedback the beneficiaries expressed that we should comparison between male and female. Whenever there is a parents meeting, they should talk about this issue about female infanticide or female isolation and the same must not be done in the society at any cost. So whatever the problems faced by the women should be discussed during 'WOMEN'S DAY' in the public.



#### **Life Skill Training**

The resource person Ms. Vijaya conducted the life skill training for the adolescent students and she explained clearly about the need for such training. She said according to 2011 census the ratio of a girl child is 947 per 1000. It showed the ratio of the girl child is decreasing. So, in order to stop such downfall in the ratio of girl child in future, state govt. and the central government have jointly taken initiative of such campaigning on educate girl child and save girl child.

As a part of the campaign the program of life skill training was designed to make the girl students aware of their right to education and protection. The life skill training would enable them to learn to cope up with various situations in their life as they have to lead a challenging role in the society. Hence such life skill trainings are given to the school students especially male and female adolescent groups.



She said that Life skills are the very important skills that everyone needs to deal effectively with the challenges in everyday life, whether it be school, work or in our personal lives. The promoting of life skills amongst the students will pave way for an empowering status for the students especially to the girl students.

By giving such type of training the girl child can cope up with the difficulties and hindrances they are facing at present and will be in future. The purpose of the training is to make them understand about themselves, their own life and their role in the society and along the education she can lead a dignified and self-respect life in future.

She taught students that according to W H O there are 10 skills designed as life skills. It is such as Decision making skills; Problem solving skills; Critical thinking; Creative thinking; Inter-personal skills; Effective communication skills; Coping with emotion; Self awareness and Empathy.



It is the duty right to know to integrate all these virtues in the life of girl child so that in future she can withstand all sorts of issues and stresses which will face in her life journey. The family has to play a major role in providing such life skill training and attitude to the girl child so that she can be bold enough to face the challenge in her life. In this session the speaker raised one question to the participants "Why the society must provide education to the girl child?" the participants said that educating the girl child will help to improve the family status, flourish in life, gain self-awareness, nurturing her children. It gives confidence and provides the rights to the women and ultimately contributes to the prosperity of the community, economic development of the nation. By gathering all the resources a girl child will be able to understand her, her roles to be played in the family and society.

The target group included the higher secondary students of government schools in order to prevent the dropout of the girl child from the school which is a major drawback in the society. The teenage girls needed such training because they are the important persons right now as they lack self-confidence sometimes and are unaware of what power they possess as they have to play a prime role in the society and prosperity of the nation.



The learning of the sessions: It was about confidence, importance of the higher education, nutrition, respect to elders, self-help awareness, a cordial relationship with others, to prevent dropouts, how to handle self in all stress situations, positive thinking and positive attitudes, problem solving, about the protection, group working, a communication strategies adjustments, creating skill development and formulating or finding solution to solve their own problem. This kind of session or training will certainly help them to cope up with all types of stresses and problems inside the family and in the society where they have to come up and work in the society. How the sessions are conducted? By simple session, lecture session, group discussion, awareness songs, visual Medias, and all these Medias were used to impart the importance of life skill training to a girl child.

She also wanted to integrate the session with different opinion of gender equity. She said Gender encompasses socially constructed and culturally based roles of women and men with a

BETIBACHAO BETIPAD AO Save the Girl Cirls

view to understand how unequal power relations between them are shaped and operate. The session explained the need for gender sensitization. Gender sensitivity is not about pitting women against men. On the contrary, education that is gender sensitive benefits members of both sexes. It helps them determine which assumptions in matters of gender are valid and which are stereotyped generalizations. She said gender awareness requires not only intellectual understanding and effort but also sensitivity and open-mindedness to change one's views and limited perspectives and values. It opens up the widest possible range of life options for both women and men and builds their ca-

pacities to be more wholesome and humane.



She explained that male and female are distinguished only with their physical aspect otherwise they have equal ability and talent to prove equality in any workplace provided they must get the opportunity. She further said it was the society that has categorized the work that female has to do domestic work and male due to their muscle power to do jobs in factory or offices or field. Hence, female has been affected the most due to male dominating society. Most of the time the female has been harassed, hence if the girl is educated then only she can bring up the family to better standard of living. Female has a bigger role in all the corner of the world such in family, school, work place, community, nation and world as a whole. They should be understood and included at all level of the life. While concluding she said clearly that the problem with this division, however, starts when one thing is considered inferior to the other which is regarded as superior.

The sessions included group discussions and group play and games among the participants on the topic such as importance for girl child, save female fetuses, educating girl child and give them protection which is the most needed of the hour she said. The gender differences is been brought only by the orthodox, illiterate society. It is artificial; temporary existed in such male dominating society and has to bring changes in gender sensitization in every corner of the world.

Case Studies, activities, and awareness songs on the following topics were briefed to the participants

- Major barriers to Girls enrollment
- Retention and performance in education
- Negative parental an community attitudes
- The socialization process and gender inequality
- Cultural and religious factors as economic barriers of the girl child
- Migrant labour and absentee parents
- Society's attitudes towards early marriage

Thus, the trainees gained insight into the provision and services of various schemes by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare thereby improving access to services. And this would support them to motivate community to avail the service for their benefit.



#### **FEED BACK:**

The organizer requested the people with open hands to save the lives of the girl child and also administered them an oath to fight female feticide, celebrate the birth of a girl and educate them. The participants took pledge to organize a big campaign to increase people's consciousness towards the girl children in every area of Pondicherry. To awake many parents, teachers and elders to take steps to change their attitude of differentiating between girl and boy; To outlook girl child also as an important asset for the development of family, society and nation; To raise voice and take action against aborting female fetus, to save and protect girl child.



The participants also took oath to canvas spreading and implementing on girl child issue such as to promote the girls position in the society to make their living better among society people. The department officials, elders and parent promised to participate in program and contribute their resources for scheme such as Beti Bachao Beti Padhao", "Save Girl Child" etc.

# Poster Competition on Changing Gender Roles for Boys and Girls-07-03-2017

Held at Udhavi Karangal. About 100 students had participated in the program. The poster competition on changing gender roles for boys and girls was conducted to offer

The program was to involve the children both boys and girls to think and come out with their own understanding and changing attitude of gender equality. Generally children start learning gender expectations as soon as their parents and other adults know if the baby will be a boy or a girl. These gender roles often lead to an unequal access to resources and decision-making power that harms women's health. One way to make sure girls and boys will be equally valued is to raise children with the same expectations, rights, and responsibilities.



Before the competition started the resource persons explained about gender sensitivity and said it is not about pitting women against men. On the contrary, education that is gender sensitive benefits members of both sexes. It helps them determine which assumptions in matters of gender are valid and which are stereotyped generalizations. Gender awareness requires not only intellectual understanding and effort but also sensitivity and open-mindedness to change one's views and limited perspectives and values. It opens up the widest possible range of life options for both women and men and builds their capacities to be more wholesome and humane.

It is said that male and female are distinguished only with their physical aspect otherwise they have equal ability and talent to prove equality in any workplace provided they must get the opportunity. It is the society that has categorized the work that is female has to do domestic work and male due to their muscle power can do jobs in factory or offices. Female has been affected the most due to male dominating society. Most of the time the female has been harassed. Hence if the girl is educated then only she can realize what role she has to play in her life at every stage and place. She can bring up the family to better standard of living. Female has a bigger role in all the corner of the world such in family, school, work place, community, nation and world as a whole. They should be understood and included at all level of the life.





To conclude it was clearly stated that the problem with this division, however, starts when one thing is considered inferior to the other which is regarded as superior. In each and every session through the group discussion and group play among the participants on the topic such as importance for girl child, save female fetuses, to educate girl child and give them protection which is the most needed one. The gender differences is been brought only by the orthodox, illiterate society. It is artificial; temporary existed in such male dominating society and has to bring changes in gender sensitization in every corner of the world.

# Gender Sensitization cum Awareness workshop for Medical college students at Sri Venkateswara Medical College, Ariyur-09-03-2017



The awareness workshop on Beti Bachao Beti Padhao was organized on 09.03.2017 at Sri Venkateswara medical college. The Principal of the Physiotherapy Department was the chief guest. Mr. Sudharshan, Trainer of Murugappa groups was the resource person. About 87 physiotherapy students participated in the programme. The objective of the workshop was to understand the importance of concept of the scheme particularly to help them better understand the prevention of gender biased sex selective elimination, to ensure survival and protection of girl child, and to ensure education of girl child.

The session comprised of group discussion, PPT. The Principal of the Medical College extended a warm welcome to all the participants and resource person. Ms. Vijaya, the program organizer briefed about the scheme. The resource person briefly explained what is all about Gender. The resource person asked the participants to write it and show to whole audience about what they feel about the theme on Beti Bachao Beti Padhao. Why there is gender bias in India the so called one of biggest democratic country in the world? And why do we give importance to men and not women?



The participants came out with their answer wrote it in the paper and stuck on the board. The resource person commented on the answers given by the participants. He said the main reason could be that it stands biggest barrier to the girls is the negative attitude of the parents, family members and the community at large. He said there are other factors like cultural and religious factors that affect the girl child protection and promotion.



Mr. Sharif one of the organizers did an exercise with the group wherein he said to touch the flower which was drawn in black board. He also marked several unknown rules which made society to differentiate between boy and girl. He said that Self- Confidence and Self-respect measures have to inculcate inside the child from the right age. He also highlighted that the differences of sex like male and female child is major reason why the girl child suffers. The differences in the sex play the main role as a hindrance for the development of girl and indirectly for the society. He also showed several statistic records and events and news to prove that how the females are degraded in the society.



He said the girl child is more obedient, honest and sincere than a boy child. A girl child is a pillar of strength for her family and provides all kinds of support, be it moral, emotional or financial. She supports all her loved ones with all her might. Normally, it is observed that women are able to make rational decisions, which are helpful in the long run. She will be there are you during all your atrocities and gives constant encouragement. Generally girls are optimistic and carry a positive aura around them.

The resource person also added that each and every female child has unique capacity within them and that it is very obvious that they can shine very well everywhere the area they want to flourish. Hence it is not wise for anyone to do comparison between girl and boy in any of the aspects of human beings life. It is not always to say that boys are superior in all the aspects and areas of life journey.



Women are leaders everywhere you look from the CEO who runs a Fortune 500 company to the housewife who raises her children and heads her household. Our country was built by strong women, and we will continue to break down walls and defy stereotypes. The resource person actually stressed the importance of the women and their plight in the society. Because, in this society most of the people have negative thought about girl child. For example in the earlier days the woman had a bigger role in the society and they played a major important role such as they did agriculture and they performed various important and necessary accessories necessities for the society.



The speaker also stressed on the subject why every time and every places woman are compared to river, flower or moon. He also sang a song related to this topic about the plight of the female and why such comparison is done in this male dominating society. Even the parents are not ready to send their daughters out of home to avoid endanger they has to face from the ugly world. Parents are witnessing even in Medias such as Television or newspaper highlighting how female are used only for modeling or show off purpose, misused in unethical way or abused in ugly entertainments in this corrupt society. They are not treated respectfully.

He also discoursed the speech on "Good Touch and Bad Touch" and said this knowledge must reach to every parents and children (male or female), as society is unable to provide cent percent coverage and protection to every children as specially girl child and woman.

There is no extreme process that male and female has to behave in a particular way. So when we are in a team they should understand the concept of the team what they are what role they have to play and what way they can develop themselves and in what way they can do better to their family and society and nation statistics shows that only 1 percent of all the resources are handled by the women are handling and 99 percent of resources are handled by men only. In Parliament only it is also inequality to give just 1 % of family property for the women there are many differences in certain areas of life where women are made feeble. These types of differences in sex or inequality between male and female must be cleared out so that we can give dignity for the women.



#### FEED BACK: -

The participants appreciated the organizers and resource person's speech and the various inputs given. The participants initiated to take steps to change their attitude of differentiating between girl and boy. To look at girl child also as an important asset; to raise voice and take action against aborting female fetus; to save and protect girl child.

### Feedback of the participants of the overall program

Feedbacks were collected during the programs. Feedback from the participants and students and official revealed that a good number of people in the rural villages and urban areas are not aware of the Scheme meant for girls and women.

The participants appreciated the programmes as the organizers offered a platform for various participants from diverse area such as implementing departments, key functionaries, parents, youths, school going adolescents, college students, social activists to interact with one another on understanding women's rights particularly girls education and protection that would pave way for an empowered society for women.

The participants were widely sensitized about the rights of the girl child and said they would in turn take initiative to spread the message of educate girl child and protect girl child as they are the base for the better human society.

The participants appreciated deeply for all the schemes launched by the Government of India for the empowerment of women and welfare of the girl child in the society as they are the sole creators of the family.

Key functionaries like Anganwadi workers and health workers appreciated the efforts for creating awareness and reaching out to even the most remote part of the state and they also ensured that they would definitely give back to the community whatever they learned from the workshops they attended.

The key functionaries and the students of the regular schools requested the organizers to hold more of such awareness programmes in future so that the targeted beneficiaries are empowered.

Participants appreciated the initiative for the protection and development of girl child through BBBP and felt that the awareness programmes should be organized in all the commune villages and urban areas.

The participants felt that sex determination of the fetus is a major social evil and all those involved in such activities should be punished.

People opined that the government should strictly implement women's rights Act.

More incentives should be given for girl child including reservation in education & employment. Dowry Prohibition Act should be strictly implemented.

Right to property for women should be strictly enforced. Villagers were not much aware about a several governmental schemes for the all round development of the girl child.

The participants felt that there are many factors which play a major role in changing the attitude of society towards the girl child, and local institutions like Panchayath, Government Bodies and elected representatives of the people can play a major role.

Participation of government officials and local NGOs representatives and college students were vital for making the programs more effective.

Appreciated the facilitators for the initiative of honoring local girl student achievers. This was appreciated and they felt that this should carry on in future programmes too. The several government welfare schemes particularly those meant for the girl child such as free girls education, women reservation, women empowerment schemes etc for overall development of the girl child was very useful learning for them, they expressed.



## **Photo Gallery**



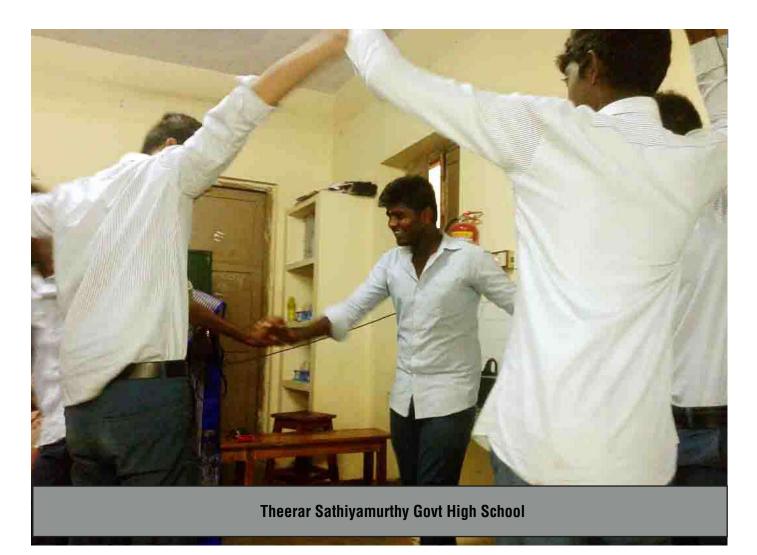




Kavignar Bharathidasan Govt High School - Kuruvinatham



Subramaniya Bharathiyar Govt Girls Hr. Sec. School



Therer Sathiyamurthy Govt High School





Jeevanantham Govt Hr. Sec School







Sekkizhar Govt High School- Thattanchavady



Thiru Vi. Ka. Govt High School – Arumbarthapuram



Thiru Vi. Ka. Govt High School – Arumbarthapuram



Thiru Vi. Ka. Govt High School – Arumbarthapuram



Sekkizhar Govt High School- Thattanchavady



Kamban Girls Hr sec School-Nettapakkam

#### Sekkizhar Govt High School- Thattanchavady





Govt Hr sec School-Kalmandapam



**Govt High School -Kanuvapet** 



Navalar Nedunchezhian Govt. Hr. Sec. School



Perunthalaivar Kamaraj Govt High School



Govt High School -Sorapattu



Subramaniya Bharathiyar Govt Girls Hr. Sec. School



Cheddilal Govt Hr. Sec. School

Resource person Mr. Perumal Speech on Importance of the Girl Child





## Proverb related to status of the girl child activity



# Poster Competition On Changing Gender Roles at Udhavi Karangal Home











