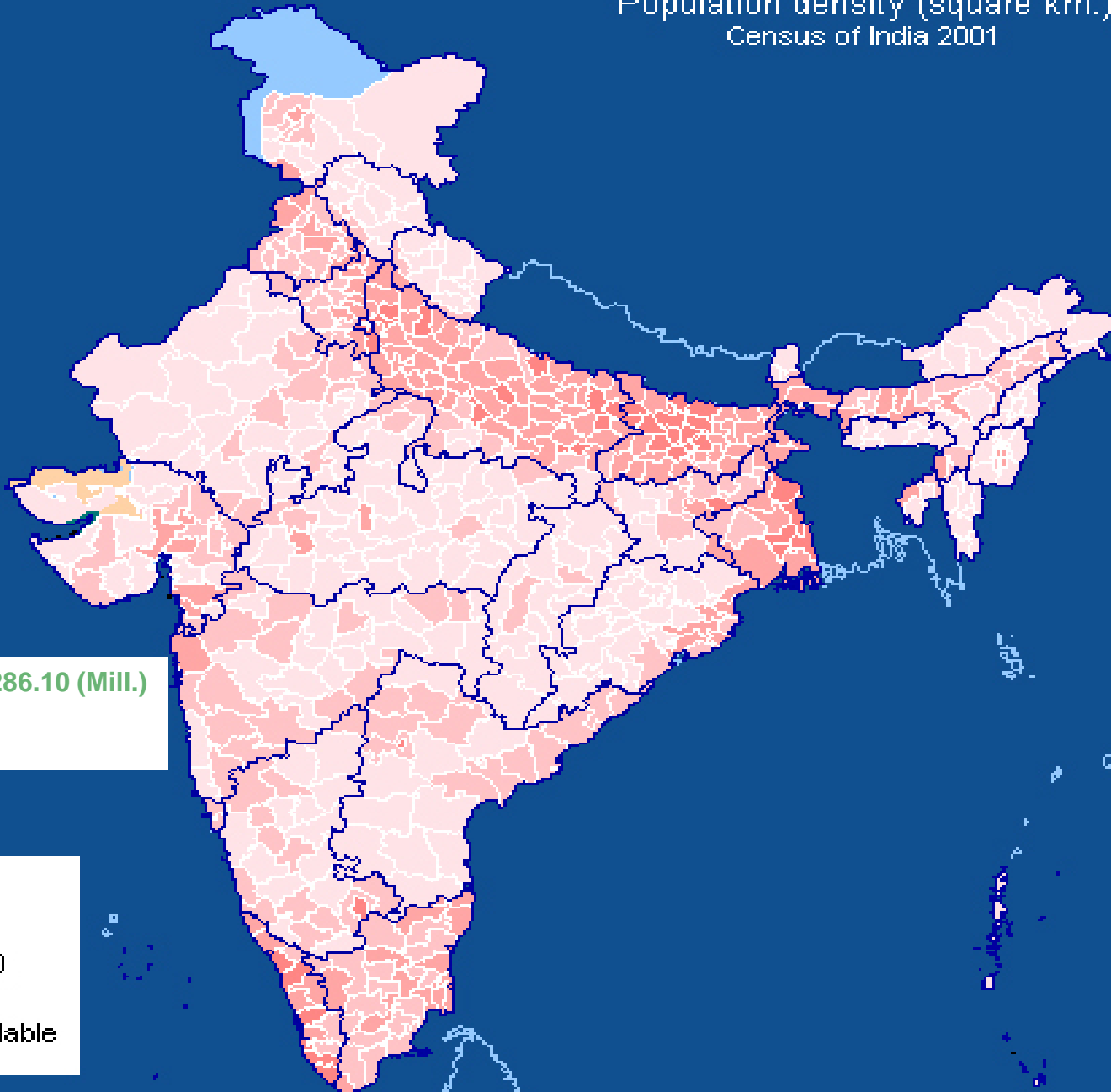
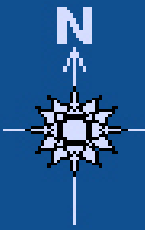







**Gender
Equality**
In An
Indian
Perspective

Sarita Singh,
Commissioner
Women Empowerment,
Government of Rajasthan, India.

INDIA
Population density (square km.)
Census of India 2001



Total Population – 10286.10 (Mill.)
M- 5321.57
F- 4964.54

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
|  | <= 250 |
|  | 250.0 to 500 |
|  | 500.0 to 1000 |
|  | >= 1000.0 |
|  | Data not available |

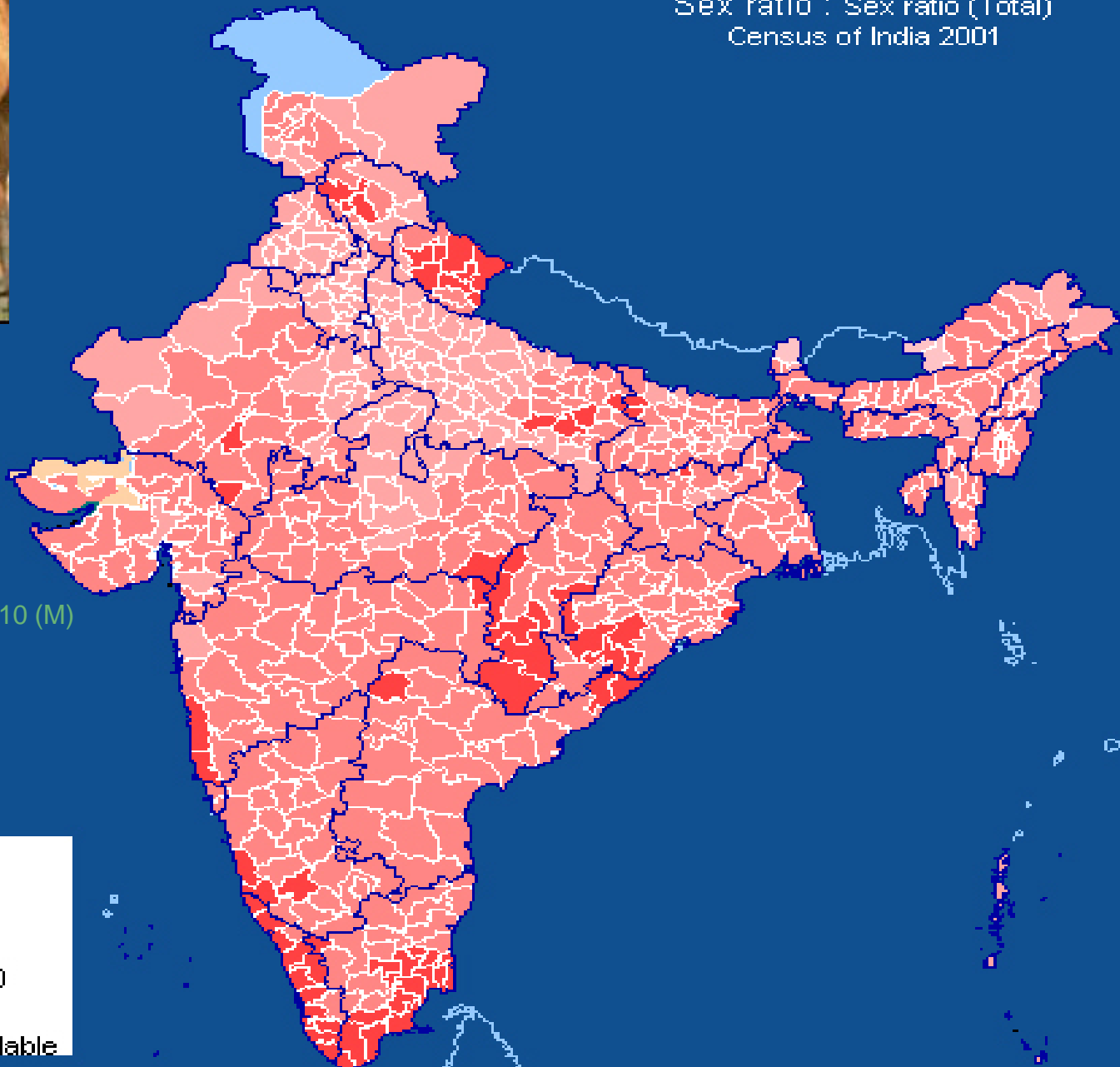
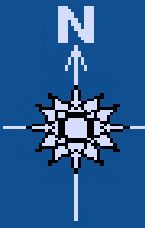
Source :
Office of the Registrar General, India
<http://www.censusindia.net/>

MAP NOT TO SCALE

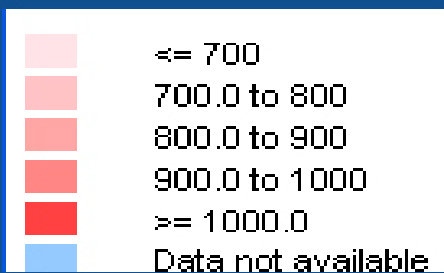


INDIA

Sex ratio : Sex ratio (Total)
Census of India 2001



Total Population 10286.10 (M)
M- 5321.57(M)
F- 4964.54(M)
Sex Ratio -933/1000



Source:
Office of the Registrar General, India
<http://www.censusindia.net/>

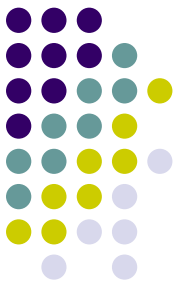
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Status of women in INDIA

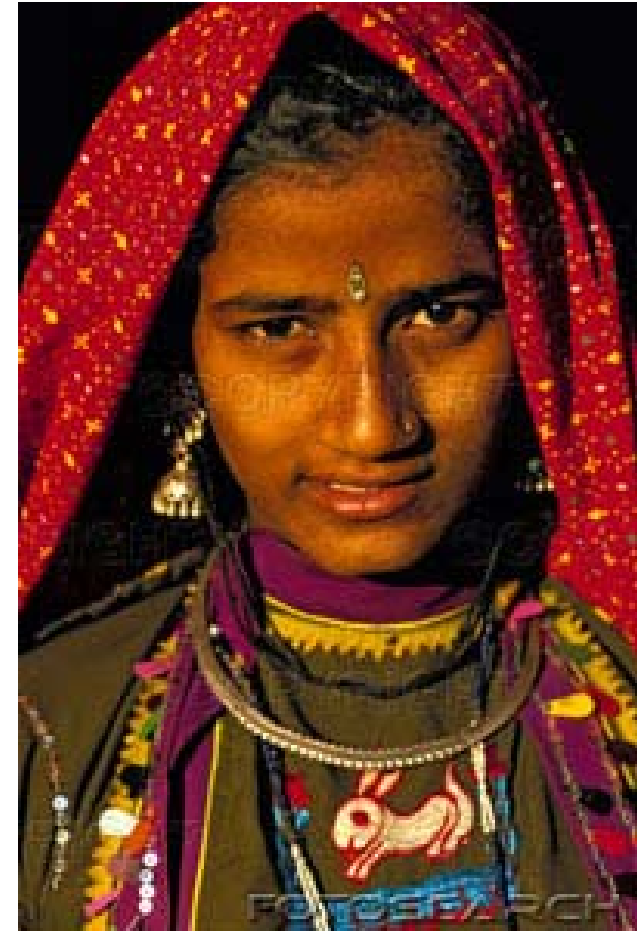


- In India, the position of women is poor.
- Nearly 60% of women in rural India marry before the age of 18
- 60% of married women become mothers before they turn 19 years.
- 85% of women workers earn only 50% of the official poverty line income and have no access to social security.
- The female literacy rate is 54%. Close to 189 million women still lack the basic ability to read and write (UNIFEM).

Situation of Women in India



- **Sex Ratio***
 - Total - 933
 - 0-6 yrs. - 927
- **Infant Mortality Rate 58per 1000 live births++**
- **Female Literacy 54.16%**
- **MMR- 301per one lac live births*****
- **Anemia among Women –51.8%++**
- **Anemia among Girls (15-19 yrs) –56.2% +**
- **Female Age at marriage:17.8 years***
(Couples married between 1996-2000)
- **Total Fertility Rate (TFR) 2.68**



† NFHS II, ***Registrar General of India, SRS bulletin, 2004

++ NFHS III

*** Registrar General of India, SRS data 2003.

* Census of Rajasthan, 2001

**The mindset of community places women on a low pedestal.
The consequent results are :-**

Education

- **Out of School Children** **2.12lacs**
- **Gender Gap in school education** **10.70%**
- **Gender Gap in higher education** **25.5%**
- **Drop out rate of girls** **62.68%**

Social

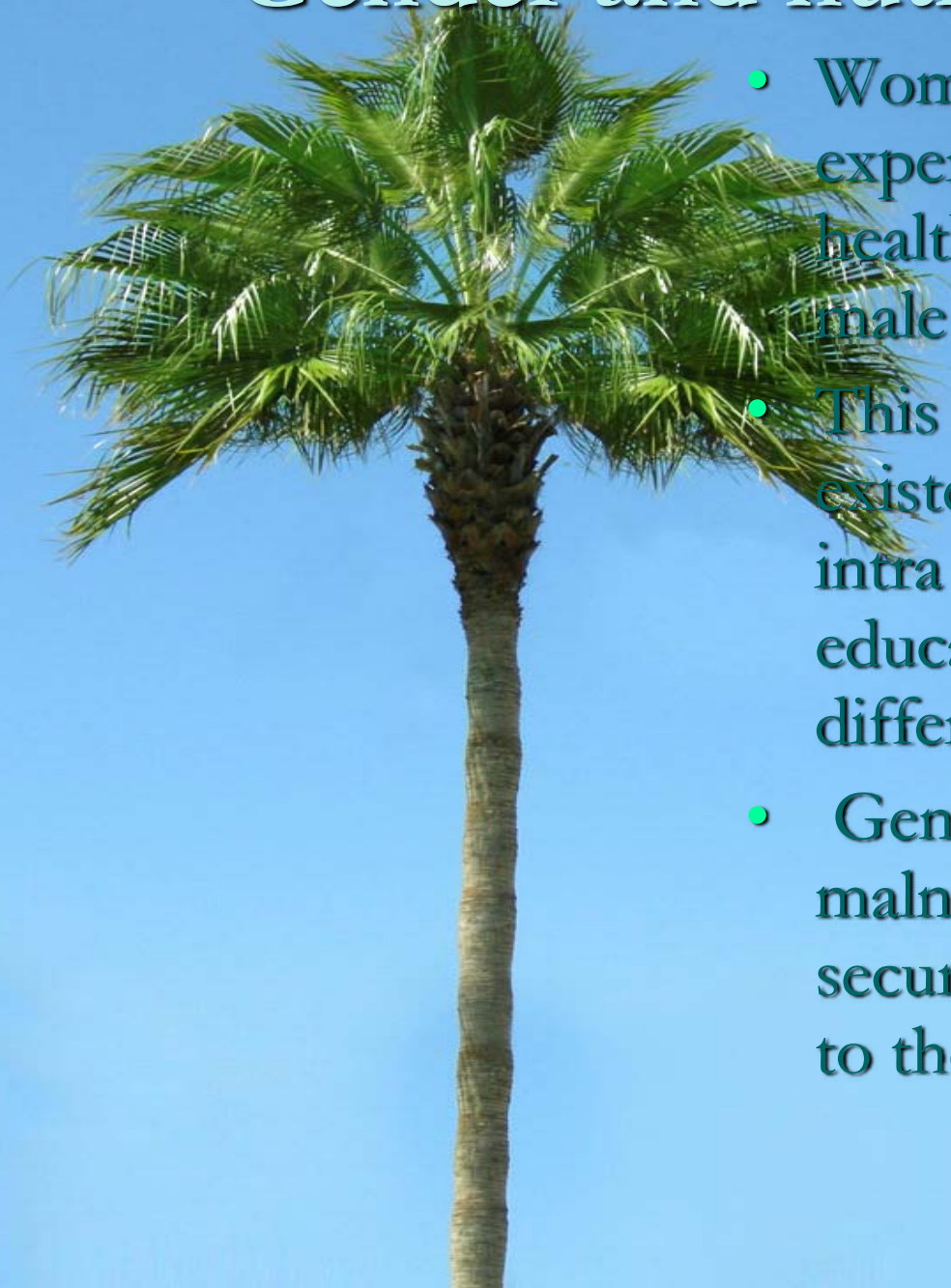
- **Declining sex Ratio of 0-6yrs children**
- **Early marriages :82% girls are married before the legal age of marriage.**
- **Gender inequality in health, nutrition and development opportunities.**



The worst sufferers are Adolescent Girls who are ill-equipped to face the challenges of life

Gender and nutrition issues

- Women are more likely to experience malnutrition and health related hazards than their male counterparts.
- This actually originates from the existence of biased allocation of intra household resources; but education is bringing a difference
- Gender budgeting is addressing malnutrition , health and social security leading to accessibility to the basic services



The nutritional status of the child is a
outcome of a process that goes on over the
entire life cycle, and without the right
interventions, leads to an inter-generational
transfer of ill being from women to children,
irrespective of the later's gender.



INDIAN CONSTITUTION AND WOMEN



- Article 14 – Equal rights and opportunities on men and women in political, economic and social spheres.
- Article 15 – Prohibits discrimination against any citizen on the ground of sex, religion, caste etc.
- Article 15(3) – Empowers the state to make affirmative discrimination in favour of women.
- Article 16 – Provides for equality of opportunities in public appointments of all citizens.
- Article 39 – Providing equal right to means of livelihood and equal pay for equal work.
- Article 42 – Directs the state to ensure just and humane condition of work and maternity relief.
- Article 51 (A) (e) – Mandates every citizen to renounce practices derogatory to the dignity of women.

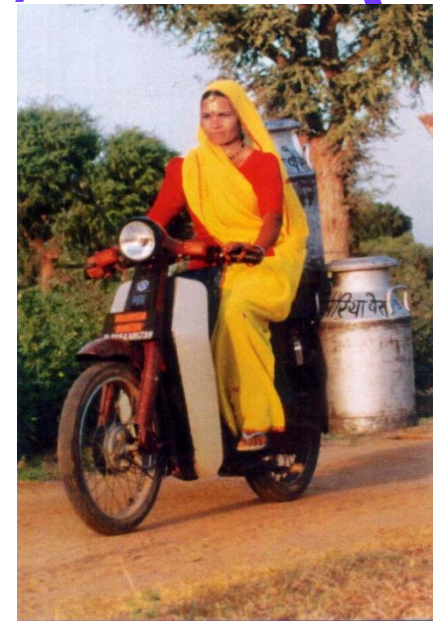
Legal framework



- ✓ **73rd Amendment for reservation of women for participation in local self government**
- ✓ **Prohibition of Dowry Act. 1961.**
- ✓ **Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act. 2006**
- ✓ **Supreme Court's Guidelines for Prevention of Harassment at Workplace .**
- ✓ **Prohibition of Child Marriages Act. 2006.**
- ✓ **National Women Commission Act.**
- ✓ **Pre-conception & Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques(Prohibition of Sex Selection Act, 1994**

Gender Policies

- National Policy for the Empowerment of Women (2001).
- National Population Policy(2000).
- National Youth Policy (2001)
- The National Policy for Children (1974)
- National Policy on Education (1986)
- National Nutrition Policy (1993)



Projects and Programmes



- Promotion of Self Help Groups
- Swayamsidha programme
- National Rural Health Mission.
- Sarva Shiksha Ahbiyan.
- Kishori Shakti Yojana.
- Total Sanitation Campaign.
- Integrated Child Development Services.
- National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme.
- Gender Budgeting and Auditing.
- Special programmes for Women Empowerment by State Govts like Chief Minister's 5 Point Programme for Women Empowerment.



Issues and Challenges



- **Traditional beliefs and cultural barriers:-**
 - **Child Marriages**
 - **Sati, Nata, Dayan etc. Pratha**
- **Parda Pratha.**
 - **Widowhood**
 - **Polygamy**
 - **Foeticide and infanticide**
- **Gender Gap in :**
 - **Education**
 - **Political Participation**
 - **Employment**
 - **Seeking health care services**
 - **Adverse sex ratio**



Issues and Challenges contd.



- **Male dominated society.**
- **Domestic Violence**
- **Harassment at Workplace**
- **Adverse mindset for girl child and women.**
- **Preference for male child.**
- **Girls are taken as burden due to Dowry tradition.**
- **Low literacy rate and lack of awareness.**
- **Lack of Capacity to participate in development Programme.**
- **Acceptance of role as a passive bearer of all decisions.**

Steps towards Women Empowerment

Establishment of National Women Commission and State Women Commission
Domestic violence bill
Establishment of *Zila Mahila Sahayata Samiti*
Establishment of Women Resource Center
Implementation of child marriage restraint act
33-50% reservation for women in local self governance

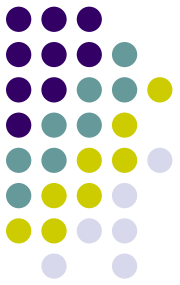
Government efforts to reduce Gender Discrimination



- Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan:
 - ✓ To encourage girls enrolment and retention.
 - ✓ To mainstream out of school girls in the development process.
 - ✓ To empower adolescent girls .
- National Rural Health Mission:
 - ✓ To reduce MMR and IMR.
 - ✓ To provide services for safe mother
 - ✓ To improve health status of women.
- Programmes for Women Empowerment



Role in promoting gender equity



- **To participate in policy making for Women Empowerment.**
- **To monitor and supervise the progress of implementation of State Policy for Women.**
- **To promote Women Empowerment through implementation of various programmes.**
- **To develop and implement programmes relating to awareness generation at community level and advocacy at the level of stakeholders.**
- **Nodel Officer for enactment of Acts relating to Women.**



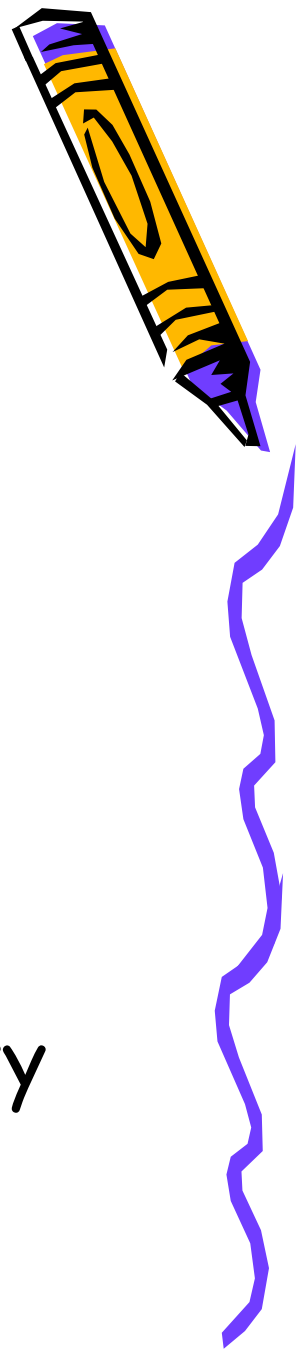
INDIA SHINEING

Women in India have realised that the onus is onto them to determine gender equations.

It is time to get up and demand gender rights and equity.

SEMINAR INPUTS

- Triple burden of women
- Gender needs
- Approaches-WID<GID
- Levels of empowerment
- People centric approach
- Self-reliance leads to sustainability





KISHORI SHAKTI *Yojna:* ***Adolescent Empowerment Programme***

- Need for Programmes to positively channelise KISHORI SHAKTI to make a marked difference to the status of the girl child in the family and society .

Gender issues can best be addressed through the adolescent girls collective .

Vocational trainings leading to self employment

Adolescent anemia programme



Basic literacy and numeracy skills

Life skill education

Exposure visits for personality development

Proposal for formation of Adolescent Girls Clubs

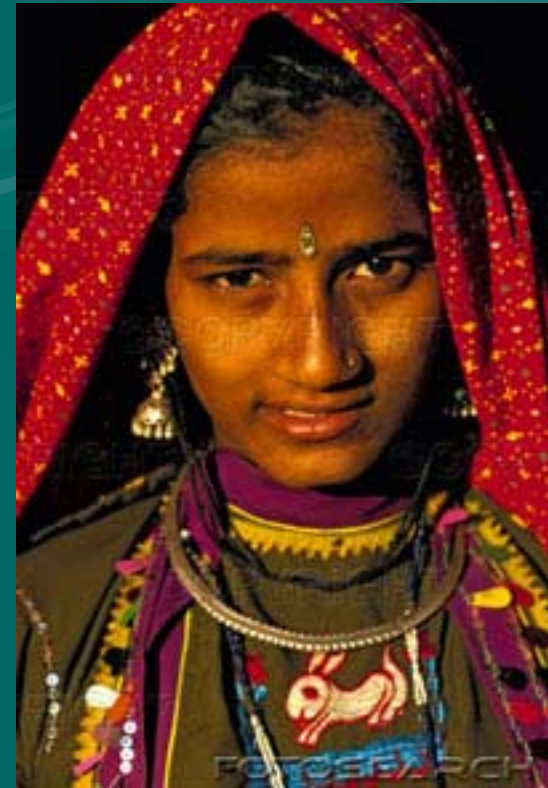
Objectives: -

- To invest in the future of AGs.
- To help AGs realize their rights specially right to health, nutrition & survival and livelihood .
- To create an environment of gender equity.
- To provide them vocational skills.
- To equip them with appropriate skills for safe motherhood.



Strategy

- Formation of Adolescent Girls Clubs
- One Adolescent Girls Club at each Gram Panchayat.
- Each Club having 35 Adolescent Girls who are not going for formal education.
- Adolescent Girls will be provided with;
 - Life skill education
 - Environment awareness.
 - Nutrition and home nursing training.
 - Vocational training.
 - Learning through exposure visits.
 - Legal literacy.



Implementing Agency

Through the Mechanism of Women Development Programme

Objectives of WDP:-

- Make women aware of their own potential.
- Create awareness among them about social evils such as child marriage, illiteracy, foeticide etc.
- Increase the participation of Women in Development Programme.



Expected Outcomes:

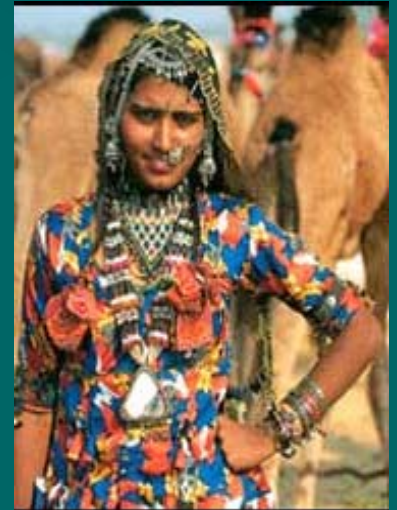
Enhancement in the dignity of girl child through: -

- Enhancement in life skills of Adolescent Girls.
- Better practices of hygiene and sanitation.
- Better health status of Adolescent Girls.
- Enhancement in their career opportunities.
- Equipped with appropriate skills for safe motherhood.
- Enhancement in self confidence to face future challenges.



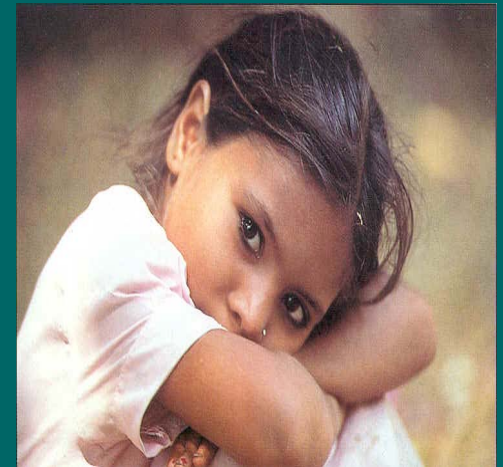
Indicators to measure:

- Increase in retention of girls in schools.
- Reduction in MMR.
- Reduction in Anemia among Adolescent Girls.
- Increase in female age at marriage.
- Reduction in IMR.
- Increase in work participation by women.
- Improvement in Sex Ratio.
- Back to school-non-formal schooling.
- Sustainable gender mainstreaming.



Overcoming Challenges

- Orienting the parents to permit AGs to participate in the club activities .
- Delay the age at marriage
- Commitment and mobilization of the SATHIN- the change agent.
- Ensuring that ultimately AG is back in school
- Overcoming apprehensions related to security, potential and knowledge base of AGs



THANK YOU

