

National Girl Child Day

Why in News?

The National Girl Child Day was celebrated every year on January 24.

- It is an opportunity to raise awareness about the rights of girls and ensure they are provided with equal opportunities and support, free from gender biases.
- **Nodal Ministry** - Ministry of Women and Child Development.
- **Focus on** - Changing societal attitudes towards girls.
 - Addressing issues like female foeticide.
 - Raising awareness about the declining sex ratio and fostering a more inclusive.
 - Equitable environment for the girl child.

Initiatives for Girl Child Development

Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP)

- **Launched in** - 2015.
- **Aim** - To address declining Child Sex Ratio (CSR) and related issues of empowerment of girls & women over a life cycle continuum.

UDAAN - A program to give wings to girl students

- **Launched in** - 2014.
- **Aim** - At addressing the low enrollment of girl students in prestigious engineering institutions and bridging the gap between school education & engineering entrance examinations.

Scheme for Adolescent Girls (SAG)

- **Launched in** - 2010.
- **Aim** - At providing nutritional support to out of school girls in the age group of 11-14 years for improving their health and nutritional status.

National Scheme of Incentives to Girls for Secondary Education

- **Launched in** - 2008.
- **Aim** - To enhance educational opportunities for girls, particularly those from Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe (ST) communities.
- Now integrated into the National Scholarship Portal (NSP).

Scheme for Promotion of Menstrual Hygiene among Adolescent Girls in Rural India

- **Launched in** - 2011.
- **Aim** - Enhancing menstrual hygiene practices for girls aged 10-19 in rural areas.

Sukanya Samriddhi Scheme

- **Launched in** - 2015.
- **Part of** - Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao campaign.
- It encourages parents to build a fund for the future education and marriage expenses for their female child.

Child Protection Services Scheme

- **Launched in** - 2009-10.
- **Aim** - At building a protective environment for children in difficult circumstances.

POSHAN Abhiyaan

- **Launched in** - 2018.
- **Aim** - To address malnutrition issues across the nation through components like Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Application.

- **Legal measures** - To empower and protect the girl child includes,
 - Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006.
 - Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012.
 - Juvenile Justice Act, 2015.
 - Child Helpline and Track Child Portal.
 - PM CARES for Children Scheme.

Reference

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