

Interventions for Girls and Gender Activities

SSA acknowledges that reaching out to the girl child is central to the efforts to universalize elementary education. SSA's focus on gender parity is rooted in the National Policy on Education and the POA (1986/92) which brought centre-stage the issue of gender and girls' education. More importantly, it linked education of women and girls to their empowerment. NPE states that education should be a transformative force, build women's self-confidence, and improve their position in society and challenge inequalities.

The approach to gender and girls' education is based on the report of the Committee on Implementation of the RTE Act and the Resultant Revamp of SSA, which pointed out that although gender has become an accepted category in policy and programme formulation, it continues to be understood in limited ways. It is largely seen as a biological category (concerning only girls and women); as a stand-alone category (not related to other issues or other forms of discrimination); and in terms of provision of opportunities so that girls can 'catch up' with boys and 'close the gap'. Thus, achieving gender parity has been an overarching concern of the education system. While this is of critical importance and has led to some impressive improvements in girls' enrolment, retention and completion, it has also led to gender being understood primarily in quantitative terms.

Girls are not a homogenous or singular category and gender does not operate in isolation but in conjunction with other social categories resulting in girls' having to experience multiple forms of disadvantage. The dimensions of location (rural-urban), caste, class, religion, ethnicity, disabilities etc. intersect with gender to create a complex reality.

The following activities have been undertaken for gender/girls education

Orientation /Activation of women groups (Shakti)

A state resource group was constituted for organisation of women empowerment related activities. Selected members of gender resource group were got oriented by experts drawn from national level. The services of state Resource group so oriented were utilised to orient district/block level functionaries in organization of different programmes especially for girls. The members of the different Shakti groups at school level were also oriented on the following issues:

- Female foeticide and decreasing sex ratio
- Health and Hygiene.

- Monitoring of Mid Day Meals programme at school level.
- Active partnership in organization of Bal Melas at cluster level.

Involvement of mothers resulted in the increase and effectiveness of school development related activities. Quality of Mid Day Meal improved due to active involvement of mothers in Mid Day Meal monitoring.

This group is not a static formation. A few members of the group become inactive and other new faces are introduced in the group. Resource group presents a symbol of continuity in translating the set objectives.

Training/orientation/Meeting of VECs/MTAs/SMCs

All were oriented every year for school development activities. Monthly meetings of mothers at school level are proving helpful in providing feedback of children activities at home to teachers. Students progress is also shared with parents. This has helped in improving students' regular attendance in schools and also helped in improving their learning outcomes.

Skill Education

To improve the skill of girl child and make them confident and self reliant vocational training and life skill education for selected girls of all upper primary school was imparted .This activity was organized as per need and availability of instructors.

Education of different life skills have been introduced in districts. Different activities are being undertaken in different districts based on the local needs namely; Karate, electrification, Horticulture, floriculture handicraft, mushroom production knitting and embroidery cutting and tailoring , book binding , candle making , Training in Health and Hygiene, production of soft toys, embroidery in Chamba Rumaal, first aid, Yoga, painting, cutting and tailoring, Carpet weaving, Sewing, computer education and pickle and jam making, Judo, Karate etc.

Karate Training

In order to instill confidence in girl students' a state level initiative in Karate education was introduced in 40 selected schools of the Pradesh by **JUN-DO-KAN GOJU-RYU FEDERATION OF INDIA** in the year 2006-07. This activity was continued during 2007-08. A state level Karate camp was organized in Kangra in convergence with JUN-DO-KAN GOJU-RYU FEDERATION OF INDIA in which more than 200 girls from all

the 40 schools where this skill is being imparted to the girls participated in the same. Higher level skills were developed in the girls during this camp.

During 2008-09, karate education was imparted to girls at elementary level in some districts in convergence with **State Police Department**.

Yoga Training:

For healthy living Yoga has been introduced in the schools of the Pradesh through existing Yoga trained school teachers. But they were very few in numbers. SPO SSA widened the scope of this Programme so that more schools can be covered. MoU was signed between Directorate of Elementary Education and Patanjali Yog Samiti, Art of Living. In first phase 376 schools were identified where this Programme was started. The programme was launched from GSSS (girls) Solan on 25th Nov., 2008. The function was presided over by Hon'ble Education Minister of Himachal Pradesh. A fifteen days training module was developed with the help of Art of Living and Patanjali Yog Samiti in the state level workshops. In second phase more schools were covered under this training programme.

Material For Women Groups- Self reading material for girl child of KGBV and teachers on adolescence education was developed for educationally backward blocks. Child health, early detection of disabilities and pre school education forms the core of the text of the print material developed by SPO. This material was provided to teachers for use at their end.

Teacher Sensitization towards existing social and gender discrimination: Gender sensitization of Teachers is an integral part of SSA. A teacher has not only to integrate children coming from different classes and sects but also deal with both girls and boys in actual classroom situation. Master trainers were oriented at state level for the same. All the teachers are being imparted gender sensitivity training during general teachers training. Reference material has been developed for training in gender and development which is being shared in different orientations and trainings. Earlier the module and material was developed at state level but now the training modules and materials were developed at district level. Gender resource group is being trained every year to impart this training.

This is a continuous process.

Gender review of the textbooks and curriculum.

With the objective that effective curriculum and proper text books provide a solid base for the development of bias free personality of the child initiatives have been taken by SPO SSA in this direction.

State has reviewed the textbooks of primary classes in gender perspective. Class-1st and class -2nd text books have been developed on the basis of NCF-2005 in gender perspective and implemented in the state for academic session 2013-14.

MEENA Initiative

Girl child is being provided enough opportunities at different levels for her personality development through Meena Manches. Meena Utsav at state level and MEENA WEEK/Balika Saptah at Block and cluster level were celebrated once in a year. It has resulted in better understanding of girls' related issues and also more participation of girls in different co-curricular activities in schools. Meena Manches at cluster level were activated. MEENA WEEKS were celebrated in the entire state every year. As a culmination of it one day state level MEENA Utsavs were celebrated. Hundreds of girls from all corners of the state were involved in this event. Children, Parents, VECs/ SMCs , members of Mahila Mandal participated in this campaign.

MEENA BOOKLET – Meena booklet was developed and distributed for effective implementation of Meena initiatives.

Organization of International Women Day

Women Empowerment through education is an important agenda of SSA. Women empowerment is important for social development of any society. International women day is being celebrated on 8th March every year. This event has shown its worth and as such this is being organized with more focused manner. The day is being celebrated in the right earnest at state level wherein community leaders, mainly women, SMC members participated and discussed development and other issues related to women. Interactive sessions are being organized so that leaders from different walks of life shared their views and understand different women related issues. Selected groups of empowered women from different district are being invited to share their experiences among all participants.

Exposure Visits

SPO has facilitated national exposure (Bharat Brahman) of nearly 60 girls students in March, 2008. The students visited Chandigarh, Delhi, Udaipur and Ahmadabad. This will provide them a chance to observe diversity of culture and Indian heritage thereby widening their outlook.

Districts have also undertaken exposure visits of girl students within and outside the district. Meritorious SC/ST/deprived/minority girls are being given exposure to the historical places. To give experience of train journey, to enable them to understand historical places, to understand the working of Bank/Post officers/Panchayat/ Police station Museum, Printing Press, Offices of DC/SDM/Dy.Dir.(Edu.),DIET, Distt. Library, Hydro Power Project, Apple orchards, Gram Panchayat, Roerich Art Gallery, Kullu Shawl Industry, Mineral Water plant and Floriculture Exposure will be inter district as well as interstate.

Girls' Resource Rooms: The resource rooms were established in the year 2011-12 in the GSSS of block headquarter where we could use existing infrastructure. This room was equipped with items useful for girls viz. library books, sports items, first aid/ dispensary items. For specifically women related biological and psychological issues girls room will provide them an opportunity to interact amongst themselves and lady teachers. It will also be a sort of counseling apartments, giving stress-free environment. Girls Room will provide girls with a feeling of personal space. It will give them an opportunity to share their problems and confusion with each other. An environment of caring, sharing and growing together will develop them into wholesome personalities.

Career Counseling Camps -Career Counseling Camps were organized in collaboration with NIIT, ITI and Doctors other departments.

Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV)

Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) provides for setting up residential schools at the upper primary level for girls belonging predominantly to the SC, ST, OBC and minority communities. KGBVs are set up in educationally backward blocks, where the female rural literacy is below the national average (i.e. below 46.13% as per Census 2001) and gender gap in literacy is above the national average of 21.67%. Further, the scope of the scheme was enlarged to cover the blocks that have rural female literacy below 30% and urban areas with female literacy more than the national female literacy (urban) of 53.67% as per Census 2001. This was again enlarged to cover all the educationally backward blocks with rural female literacy of 46.13%. 3.7.2.2 Such residential schools are set up only in those educationally backward blocks which do not have residential schools at the upper primary level for girls under any other scheme of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Ministry of Tribal Affairs or the State Government. This shall be ensured by the District Level Authority of SSA at the time of actual district level planning of KGBV initiatives by coordinating with the other Departments/Ministries. KGBV programme has been

revised twice since its inception, first in April 2008 when criteria for identifying EBB were revised, and, later, in April, 2010 when the criteria were revised again besides the decision to allow unit cost for civil works according to the state SoR rather than the fixed cost⁷. The importance of the KGBV Scheme in addressing the educational needs of girls from marginalized communities has been highlighted in various reviews.

There are ten Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBVs) functioning in Himachal Pradesh. Eight KGBVs are in District Chamba, one each in district Shimla and Sirmour. Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya is functioning under model- III, in which hostel facility is provided in the existing govt. schools.

Enrollment : There is a provision of housing 50 girls in each KGBV hostel.

Different activities are being undertaken in these Vidyalayas along with normal studies.

- Girls are being imparted skill education
- Curriculum instructions are being supplemented through Remedial teaching.
- Exposure visits to different places within and out side the district.
- Libraries have been established in all KGBVs in collaboration with Room To Read .540 titles were provided to each library along with Almirah and Display Board.
- One day training was imparted to all the hostel wardens, BRCCs concerned and Gender coordinators on library management and activities.
- Two days training was imparted to all the hostel wardens, BRCCs concerned and Gender coordinators on effective implementation of KGBV interventions.
- Hindi version of Revised Guidelines of GOI for implementation of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs) has been developed at SPO level and shared with concerned DIETs, BRCCs and KGBV staff.
- A detailed guideline for the effective implementation of KGBV activities has been prepared by SPO, SSA in a state level workshop held at DIET Chamba in the month of May, 2009.

S.No.	District	Block	Name of the Hostel
1	Chamba	Salooni	GHS Himgiri Kothi
2			GSSS Kihar
3		Tissa	GHS Bagheigarh

4			GMS Tissa
5		Mehla	GSSS Mehla
6			GHS Krian
7		Pangi	GSSS Sach
8		Bharmour	GHS Bharmour
9	Shimla	Chauhara	Gonsari
10	Sirmour	Shillai	GSSS Shillai



छात्राओं ने लिया रिवर क्रॉसिंग का प्रशिक्षण

एडवैंचर एंड स्पोर्ट्स कैंप का 3 दिवसीय शिविर हड़सर में आयोजित

भरमौर, 28 नवम्बर (उत्तम): सर्वशिक्षा अभियान की ओर से शिक्षा खंड भरमौर की 15 छात्राओं का एन.पी.ई.जी.ई.एल. प्रोग्राम के तहत 3 दिवसीय एडवैंचर एवं स्पोर्ट्स कैंप का आयोजन हड़सर में किया गया। इस अवसर पर 14 वर्ष से कम आयु की लड़कियों को एना एडवैंचर एंड टूअरज संस्था द्वारा रेपलिंग रॉक क्लाइंबिंग, रिवर क्रॉसिंग, जूमरिंग, टैट पिचिंग व अन्य तकनीकों का प्रशिक्षण दिया गया। संस्था द्वारा अच्छा प्रदर्शन करने पर ज्योति देवी राजकीय मिडिल

स्कूल बोरड को प्रथम पुरस्कार व वरिष्ठ माध्यमिक पाठशाला पुलिन की स्नेहलता को भी अच्छा प्रदर्शन करने पर पुरस्कृत किया गया। इस मौके पर शिक्षा खंड भरमौर के बी.आर.सी. रेबल सिंह जरयाल ने मुख्यातिथि के रूप में शिरकत की। उन्होंने कहा कि ऐसे आयोजनों में बच्चों को बड़े-बड़े कर भाग लेना चाहिए जिससे बच्चों को अनुशासन में रहकर विभिन्न साहसिक गतिविधियों को सीखने का मौका मिलता है। उन्होंने कहा कि खेल-खेल में बच्चे बहुत कुछ सीख जाते हैं तथा भविष्य में उसका लाभ मिलता है। स्वस्थ तन व स्वस्थ दिमाग से अच्छी पढ़ाई का माहौल बनता है इसलिए इस तरह के शिविर बच्चों के लिए लाभदायक सिद्ध होते हैं।

एना एडवैंचर एवं टूअरज संस्था के प्रमुख प्रबंधक संजय कुमार ने कहा कि ऐसे कैंप बच्चों के जीवन

में अहम रोल अदा कर सकते हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि संस्था की तरफ से पहली 5 प्रथम आने वाली छात्राओं

को अगले सत्र में ईनाम के तौर पर मुफ्त में 7 दिवसीय कैंप में मौका दिया जाएगा। उन्होंने कहा कि संस्था

अन्य राज्यों के साथ-साथ स्थानीय बच्चों को भी साहसिक गतिविधियों के लिए प्रेरित करती रहेगी।



भरमौर : शिविर के दौरान साहसिक गतिविधि में भाग लेती छात्राएं।

(चपरा)



National Programme for Education of Girls at Elementary Level

Teachers Trainings under NPEGEL

Gender sensitization trainings for teachers were organised at cluster level. DRGs /BRGs (NPEGEL) of different districts were oriented during state level programmes organised by SPO. Special emphasis was laid on preparatory / initial activities which need to be undertaken in newly added Shillai block to NPEGEL programme.

Community Mobilization under NPEGEL

Community orientation workshops were organized at cluster level in all the NPEGEL blocks. PRIs, MTAs and community members of these clusters participated in these workshops for planning and ensured their participation in implementation of the NPEGEL programme.

Life skill Education / Remedial teaching under NPEGEL

Under Life Skill Education different activities were undertaken in different districts based on the local needs. The details of activities undertaken in different districts is as follows:

Sr. No.	District	Activities undertaken
1.	Chamba	Judo, Karate, Sewing, Embroidery in Chamba Rumaal , Health education, first aid, Yoga, painting, cutting and tailoring, Carpet weaving, computer education and pickle and jam making.
2.	Shimla	Tailoring, Health and Hygiene.
3.	Mandi	Self defence, Tailoring, Health and Hygiene.
4	Sirmour	Self defence, Health and Hygiene, production of soft toys, Knitting of Tat Patties and making of brooms with the help of local date tree

The NPEGEL activities have created positive attitude and awareness towards the education of girl child. The girls are taking keen interests in studies and their enrollment and participation has increased. The community has started to share their resources for the welfare of the girls.