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RESEARCH ARTICLE

IMPACT OF KANYASHREE PRAKALPA ON ACADEMIC PERFORMANCES OF GIRLS STUDENTS: A STUDY

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ABSTRACT

The present study is conducted the impact of Kanyashree Prakalpa on academic performance of girl's students in West Bengal. The Govt of West Bengal, Honourable Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has announced a scheme names Kanyashree Prakalpa to improve the social status and life of a women. The main objectives of this study are to know the impact of Kanyashree Prakalpa on academic performance in the respect of location (urban & rural), economic status (APL & BPL). The data are collected from randomly selected 400 girl students from urban and rural colleges of North 24 Parganas division. The questionnaire was developed and standardized by the researcher with the help of research guide. The raw data are tabulated in MS-Ex cell 2010 and t-test, χ^2 was used with the help of SPSS. The findings of the study reveal that there are significant impact Kanyashree Prakalpa and academic performance in girls' students.

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INTRODUCTION

Kazi Nazrul Islam, the famous Bengali poet has said in his poem – Man and woman both are the creators of the Universe. So, the basic components of the human society are Man and Woman. If any of them is obsolete, then the society turns to break down. But, prehistoric time to modern age, women have been treated lower than a man. Basically, they have been neglected through the ages. But by the time, the concept has been changed. Various steps have been taken to improve women's empowerment and education. Govt. and non-Govt. Organization across the world are very keen to give platform for their flourishing. India as well as West Bengal is not exception to improve the social status of a girl or women. In our state West Bengal, social status of a girl is very poor. The lives of girls are very insecure. They were compelled to marry before their puberty. Child marriage is curse to the state. Early child marriage brings various problems i.e. school dropout rate, early pregnancies, malnutrition among children, poverty etc. In this circumstance, the Govt. of West Bengal led by Honourable Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee

has announced a scheme named "Kanyashree Prakalpa" to improve the social status and life of a women. In 1st October, 2013, the Honourable C.M of West Bengal, Mamata Banerjee has launched this scheme. It is Govt. Motto to help those girls who belongs to poor families and cannot access higher education due to poverty. It helps them to lead a standard and self-confident life to make their goals successful. From ancient time, a number of names were used to denote a girl in her different stages of life and her different position in the family. But by the time, they become outdated. The word like *kanyā* and *duhitā* have survived to the present day. 'Kanyashree'- the word has two parts, one which is kanya, denotes the word daughter, and the other is shree, by which Devi Laxmi, the goddess of wealth or prosperity in Hindu religion. So, actual meaning of this word i.e. Daughter, who is the real Laxmi of a family or a Nation. It is very unfortunate to say that these girls are socially very deprived. In this situation, Kanyashree Prakalpa has introduced a new horizon to these girls.

The Scheme has two conditional cash benefit components.

- The first is K1, an annual scholarship of Rs. 750/- to be paid annually to the girls from 13 to 18 years of age group for every year that they remain in education, provided they are unmarried at the time. (Note: During

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the years 2013-14 and 2014-1 the annual scholarship was Rs. 500/-).

- The second benefit is K2, a one-time grant of 25,000/-, to be paid when girls turn 18, provided that they are engaged in an academic or occupations pursuit and are unmarried at the time.

The term 'Education' encompasses secondary a higher secondary education, as well as the various vocational, technical and sports courses available for this age group. To ensure an equity focus, the scheme is open only to girls from families whose annual income is Rs. 1,20,000/- or less. For girls with special needs, girls who have lost both parents, as well as for girls currently residing in Juvenile Justice homes, this criterion is waived. Although the annual scholarship is payable only when girls reach Class VIII, this, criterion is waived for girls with special needs whose disability is 40% or more.

Problem of the Study: The study is formally entitled "Impact of Kanyashree Prakalpa on academic performance of girl students: A study."

Review of related literature: A study conducted by Nazrul Roy (2018) investigated "The Impact of Kanyashree Scheme in West Bengal". This study reveals that Kanyashree Prakalpa is a flagship scheme for the prevalence of a girl child marriage, empowerment of adolescent girls, promoting girl's education, to make them independent, skillful to improve the status, wellbeing, social power and self-esteem of the girls. Samsujjaman & Tarini Halder (2018) found that this Prakalpa can decrease the rate of child marriage, increase the interest of girls in higher education and there is difference between Urban and Rural girls students about the awareness and also indicate that there is no difference between the girls students of class X and XI about the awareness of Kanyashree Prakalpa. Nitu Kumar Kanrar (2018) found that positive relationship between Kanyashree project and the development of students. Ganesh Mondal & U. Rani Sasmal found that (2018) positive impact of the prevention of girl students from school and girls child marriage. Srimoyee Bhattacharjee & Kumaresh Sau (2018) found that positive attitude of parents and teachers towards Kanyashree Prakalpa scheme.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The objectives of the present study are given below

- To access the role of Kanyashree Prakalpa in academic performance among the girls' student.
- To find out the impact of Kanyashree Prakalpa on child marriage.
- To examine the relative effect of Kanyashree Prakalpa among the girl's student in relation to economic status (i.e., Above Poverty Line & Below Poverty Line).
- To compare the effect of Kanyashree Prakalpa on girl students in relation to location (Rural & Urban).
- To find out the impact of Kanyashree Prakalpa in academic performance of girl's student under different factor like enrolment, attendance, and retention.

Objective wise Hypothesis & Research Question

The hypotheses of the present study are given below

- Ho1. Is there any significance between Kanyashree Prakalpa and academic performances in education of girl students?

- Ho2. There is no significant difference between the urban and rural girls' students by the effect of Kanyashree Prakalpa.
- Ho3. There is no variation effect of Kanyashree Prakalpa between Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Above Poverty Line (APL) girls' students.

Research question: The research questions of the present study are given below-

- RQ1. What is the impact of Kanyashree Prakalpa on child marriage?
- RQ2. Does the Kanyashree Prakalpa increase the motivation of girls' students in education?
- RQ3. Does the Kanyashree Prakalpa effect the enrolment, attendance and retention of girls' students in education?

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Methodology: In the present investigation, the descriptive survey research method was used.

Population of the study: The investigator has been selected 5 rural and 5 urban colleges in West Bengal for this study.

Sample of the study: Out of 21 districts of W.B, one district namely North Twenty-Four Parganas has selected. 400 sample has been selected randomly only North twenty-four parganas district.

Research tools: The questionnaire was developed and standardized by the researcher with the help of research guide North Twenty-Four Parganas was used collected for data.

Scoring: The item is respondent over 5 points scale ranging strongly disagree to strongly agree and with yes, no response.

Statistical analysis: To analyze data Mean, Median, Standard Deviation, and t-test has been used.

Level of significance: For the conducted study, 0.01 and 0.05 levels are consisted level of significant.

Variable: The variable was used in this study:

- **Independent Variable:** Impact of Kanyashree Prakalpa.
Dependent Variable: Academic performance & girls' students.

RESULTS

Ho1. Is there any significant association between Kanyashree Prakalpa and academic performance in education the girl's students? we should be noted that table that the calculate value of Chi-square (χ^2) i.e., 1.51 is less than the critical values both at 5 % and 1 % level of significance, therefore the null hypothesis is accepted. So, we can conclude that there is no doubt about significant association between Kanyashree Prakalpa and academic performance of girl's students in education.

Table scoring pattern scales

Scale	Item	Response				
		Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	strongly agree
Self-constructed	1-10	1	2	3	4	5

Variables compared	Calculated value (χ^2)	Critical value (5% level)	Critical value (1% level)	
Kanyashree Prakalpa and Academic performance	1.51	P< 0.05	P< 0.01	Significant

Students	N	Mean	SD	t value
APL students	132	93.41	13.13	10.872
BLP students	121	88.52	11.57	

Locality	N	Mean	SD	t value
Rural	187	91.17	11.59	13.07
Urban	213	89.23	9.89	

Kanyashree prakalpa & child marriage	Yes (positive responses)	No (negative responses)
Number of responses	370	30
Percentage (%)	92.5	7.5

Kanyashree prakalpa & motivation of girl's student in education	Positive responses	Negative responses
Number of responses	363	47
Percentage (%)	91.75%	8.25%

Kanyashree prakalpa & effect the enrollment, attendance and retention of girl's students.	Positive responses	Negative responses
Number of responses	329	71
Percentage (%)	82.25%	17.75%

Ho2 There is no significance difference between the urban and rural girl's student the effect towards Kanyashree Prakalpa. APL and BPL level students regarding effect of Kanyashree Prakalpa on academic performance in terms of calculated mean, S.D., t values and level of statistical significances. The above table (vide table 8) indicates that the calculated value of $t = 9.872$ is still larger than the tabulated value at 5 % and 1% level of significance. Therefore, the null hypothesis is rejected and the alternative hypothesis is accepted. Therefore, it can be concluded that BPL girls' students are more benefited than the APL girl's students' effect of Kanyashree Prakalpa in the college girl' students of North twenty-four Parganas district in West Bengal.

Ho3 There is no variation effect of Kanyashree Prakalpa between Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Above Poverty Line (APL) girls' students. The above table (vide table 8) indicates that the calculated value of $t = 13.07$ is still larger than the tabulated value at 5 % and 1% level of significance. Therefore, the null hypothesis is rejected and the alternative hypothesis is accepted. Therefore, it can be concluded that Rural girl's students are more benefited than the urban girl's students' effect of Kanyashree Prakalpa in the college girl' students of North twenty-four Parganas district in West Bengal.

What is the impact of Kanyashree Prakalpa on child marriage? Showing response, the impact of Kanyashree Prakalpa on child marriage in percentage (yes or no). From the table 5 showed that percentage of positive response (yes) on child marriage is 92.5% and percentage of negative response is

7.5%. The table is indicating that after implementation of Kanyashree Prakalpa child marriage are decrease in education and society.

RQ1 Does the Kanyashree Prakalpa increase the motivation of girls' students in education?: rom the table showed that percentage of positive response of Kanyashree Prakalpa & motivation of girl's student in education is 91.75% and percentage of negative response is 8.25%.So, the table has indicating that Kanyashree Prakalpa, increase the motivation of girls 'students in education.

RQ2 Does the Kanyashree Prakalpa effect the enrolment, attendance and retention of girls' students in education? From the table showed that percentage of positive response of effect the enrolment, attendance and retention of girl's students is 82.25% and percentage of negative response is 17.75%. So, the table has indicating that Kanyashree Prakalpa are more effect the enrolment, attendance and retention of girls' students in education.

Delimitation of the study: Because of paucity of time and resource the research had been delimited to be on specified area of investigation as

- The sample of present study was conducted only girl's students in North 24 Pgs.
- The sample of the present study were restricted 400 girls from rural and urban college.
- There are several tools but the researcher was used only Questionnaire for this study.
- The Study delimited to certain background factor within specific variable i.e. location, enrolment, attendance and retention.

Finding of the study: Findings of the study with selected their objectives are given below:

- There is significant association between Kanyashree Prakalpa and academic performance in education the girl's students.
- There is significance difference between the urban and rural girl's student the effect towards Kanyashree Prakalpa.
- There is variation effect of Kanyashree Prakalpa between Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Above Poverty Line (APL) level girls' students.
- Kanyashree Prakalpa can decrease the child marriage.
- Kanyashree Prakalpa can increase the motivation rate of girls of higher education.
- Kanyashree Prakalpa can increase the enrolment, attendance and retention rate of girls' students in education.

Suggestion for the further research: The researcher can the further work in the present study are given below:

- The researchers can study in various geographical areas.
- The researchers can develop different academic year on this area.

CONCLUSION

We can conclude that Kanyashree Prakalpa has a positive impact in these factors (e.g., enhancing enrolment, retention, drop out attendance and of girls students) which are essential for increasing the higher level of academic performance of girls students particularly belongs to BPL level girls students residing in the rural areas colleges of North 24 Parganas district in the state of West Bengal.

The result of chi-square test is a significant association between Kanyashree Prakalpa and academic achievement of girl's students. Kanyashree Prakalpa has increasing the motivation of the girl students.

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