

## CHAPTER -7

### Empowerment of Women and Development of Children

Women have been subjected to neglect and suppression since time immemorial. The society in India has generally been male dominated and the lady of the house has often been relegated to the kitchen. In such a scenario, exploitation and abuse has also been common.

Himachal Pradesh too has seen these gender based social discriminations but the extent has never been as an expression of intent to repress and deny their rights and hence there has been a difference, as compared with rest of the country. Women in Himachal Pradesh have been primarily involved in economic activities outside their homes. They work in fields, rear animals and are also engaged in small and cottage industries. Besides, they are also holding jobs in government offices as well as in private sector. All these factors have contributed to their economic independence, freedom of movement, mobility, decision making power and social recognition. The socio-economic status of women is analyzed below:-

#### 1. Male-Female Ratio:

**7.1.1** Demographic presentation of male- female ratio in Himachal Pradesh based on population census is given in the following table:-

**Table -1**

**Demographic data on Male-Female Population.**

Item	Unit	1971 Census	1981 Census	1991 Census	2001 Census
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
1. Population					
Total	Lakh Persons	34.60	42.80	51.70	60.77
Male	Lakh Persons	17.67	21.70	26.17	30.88
Female	Lakh Persons	16.93	21.10	25.53	29.89
2. Decennial Growth of Population	%	23.04	23.71	20.79	+ 17.53
3. Sex Ratio	Females Per 1000 Males	958	973	976	968

**7.1.2** As would reveal from the above, Himachal Pradesh has shown an upward trend in sex-ratio during decades from 1971-91. However, in the last decade of 1991-2001, sex ratio has dropped from 976 to 968. The census figures of 2001 show a decline of 8 points in the sex-ratio which has serious socio-economic implications. This drop out in the sex-ratio is mainly attributed to the adoption of two child norms by the couples which has resulted in favouring one sex over other. Of the 12 Districts in the State, the

problem of declining sex-ratio is more pronounced in 5 districts viz Solan, Bilaspur, Hamirpur, Una and Kangra where it is below 900. It appears to have been influenced by the culture of neighbouring states. The Govt. has taken a number of steps to improve the sex-ratio but results will be visible at the time of 2011 census.

## 2. Education and Literacy

**7.2.1** Literacy and education becomes an important tool for economic growth and effective decision making which ultimately result in empowerment of the women. Quality of life and human development attainments invariably are high in the countries, which have invested heavily in education. In a country, which is in transition phase and is increasingly recognized as knowledge economy in the global market, education to women becomes of paramount importance. The male-female literacy data in respect of Himachal Pradesh is given in the following table:-

**Table-2**  
**Male-Female Literacy Percentage-Census (1971-2001)**

Item	Unit	1971	1981	1991	2001
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
Literacy Percentage					
Total	%	31.96	42.48	63.86	76.50
Male	%	43.20	53.19	75.36	85.30
Female	%	20.20	31.46	52.13	67.40

**7.2.2** As would reveal from the table given above, overall literacy percentage according to 2001- Census was 76.50%. It has recorded 44.54% increase within a period of 30 years between the period 1971 to 2001. Whereas male literacy rate has shown an increase of 42.10%, female literacy has recorded an unprecedented increase of 47.20 %. Despite sharp increase in female literacy, it is still far below the male literacy percentage. One contrasting feature of increase in literacy among women is that it has not helped Himachal Pradesh in checking the decline in sex-ratio. However, it has helped women in attaining economic empowerment.

## 3. Work Force Participation

**7.3.1** Human Development is viewed as composite of indices, namely socio-economic empowerment, health, educational status etc. Economic empowerment of women can be gauged by measuring their participation in the work, nature of work, role and responsibility at work place as also the remuneration received in turn thereof. Since, per capita income continued to be important indicator of economic well being, but due to data constraints on per-capita income of women, it is not possible to estimate the income of women separately. The following table depicts the participation of women in the workforce on the basis of 2001 Census:-

**Table-3**  
**Details of Work Force- 2001 Census**

Sr. No.	Item	Unit	2001 Census
1	2	3	4
1.	Population	Lakh Persons	60.78
2.	Main Workers	Lakh Persons	19.64
a)	Male	Lakh Persons	13.34
b)	Female	Lakh Persons	6.30
3.	Marginal Workers	Lakh Persons	10.27
a)	Male	Lakh Persons	3.51
b)	Female	Lakh Persons	6.76
4.	Non-Workers	Lakh Persons	30.78
a)	Male	Lakh Persons	13.95
b)	Female	Lakh Persons	16.83

**7.3.2** It reveals from the above table that among main workers, females constituted 32.8% whereas in marginal workers it accounted for 65.80%. It speaks of higher involvement of males in full time work and that of females in seasonal work. In non-workers, females account for 54.68% which indicates that the traditional trend of engaging women in non-remunerative domestic chores still has its strong hold on our society. Low literacy rate among females is the main reason for their non-participation in full time work or jobs of professional nature. It also speaks of their less freedom in works of their choice.

**7.3.3** Decadal work participation (1991-2001) data is analyzed as under:-

**Table-4**  
**Work Participation Rate by Sex, 1991-2001 Census**

Item	1991 Census			2001 Census		
	Total Workers (male + female) %age to total population	%age of male workers to male population	%age of female workers to female population	Total Workers (male + female) %age to total population	%age of male workers to male population	%age of female workers to female population
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
Total	42.8	50.6	34.8	49.2	54.7	43.6

**7.3.4** The above table shows work participation rate by sex among total population in 1991 and 2001 Census. The work participation rate for 2001 census has been recorded as 49.2 % of total population as against 39.1% at national level. In 1991 Census, it was just 42.8%, thus showing a net increase of 6.4 points. The sex wise work participation rate of the state among males stands at 54.7% in 2001 as against 50.6% in 1991 census. Among the females, it came to 43.6% in 2001 from 34.8% in 1991 Census. Though an increase in work participation rate has been noticed for both the sexes in 2001 census as

against 1991 census, but in case of females the state has shown a very significant increase of 8.9 points in comparison to males which has shown an increase of 4 points only.

#### **4. Women and Health**

**7.4.1** WHO defines health as “State of complete physical, mental, social and spiritual well being and not merely the absence of diseases and infirmity”. The fundamental determination of health apart from the genetic constitution is nutrition, environment and lifestyle. The health of any rural Indian society is directly linked to its value system, cultural traditions, socio-economic setup and political organization. Each of these has a profound influence on the health of an individual or community.

**7.4.2** The links between health and economic prosperity of the society are well known. Low nutritional intake and subsequently poor health has its linkage with low levels of income. Health improvement can accelerate economic growth. Therefore, investment in health, nutrition and other areas impacting women is not a matter of choice. Himachal Pradesh compares favorably with rest of India in terms of health indicators and over the time, indicators for women have improved sharply than their male counterparts, yet if compared with better placed states like Kerala or developed nations, Himachal is quite behind. Himachal Pradesh is passing through the demographic transition and the trends in fertility given in table No. 5 below, demonstrate it clearly:-

**Table-5**  
**Total Fertility Rates**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Himachal Pradesh</b>	<b>India</b>
1981-83	4.0	4.5
1991-93	3.0	3.6
1997-99	2.4	3.2
2005-06	2.0	2.8
2006-07	1.9	2.7

Source: SRS, Registrar General, India.

**7.4.3** During the period from 1991 to 2007, Total Fertility Rate for Himachal Pradesh has declined sharply as compared to the decline in the TFR of India.

**7.4.4** Crude Birth Rate (CBR) for Himachal Pradesh has shown steady decline and is well below the national average of 25.4. According to SRS estimates for the year 2007, the CBR in Himachal Pradesh stands at 17.4. The trend in birth rates is given as under:-

**Table-6**  
**Birth Rates**

Year	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000	2005	2007
Rate	32.1	30.2	27.4	25.2	22.1	20.0	17.4

Source: SRS Estimates.

In 1980, the CBR was 32.1 and thereafter it has declined continuously. There appears to be no problem in achieving the target of 15 by the year 2020.

**7.4.5** Infant Mortality Rate for the state, according to SRS is 50, while there is significant gap in male and female ratio. It clearly shows the disparity in terms of choice of male child. The sex-wise infant mortality rates are as under:-

**Table-7**  
**Infant Mortality Rates**

Year		1985	1990	1995	2000	2006
Rate	Male	77	62	68	57	45
	Female	92	75	56	45	55

Source: SRS Estimates

**7.4.6** It is noteworthy that decline in female infant mortality over the years is sharper than the males. While in the year 1985, female IMR stood at 92 as compared to male IMR of 77. In the 1990-2000 decade, State witnessed the lower female infant mortality rate for the first time but the trend did not last long and further surged to 55 in the year 2006 as is visible from the table given above.

**7.4.7** Life expectancy at birth for males and females is given in the table below:-

**Table-8**  
**Life Expectancy Trends**

Period		1970-75	1976-80	1981-85	1986-90	1993-97	2002-06
Age (Years)	Female	50.9	54.9	62.8	62.8	65.2	67.3
	Male	54.8	58.1	58.5	62.6	64.6	66.5

Source: SRS Estimates

**7.4.8** Life expectancy at birth for males was 54.8 as against 50.9 years for females for the period 1970-75. The females are genetically considered robust and are expected to live longer than their male counterparts. As per the SRS rates for the period 2002-06, life expectancy for females is 67.3 years as compared to 66.5 years for males which shows a healthy trend, however, the average difference in life expectancies in the developed countries between males and females is 5 years.

**7.4.9** Himachal Pradesh still has a long way to go in this direction. When compared with all India scenario, female life expectancy in Himachal Pradesh compares favorably. However, these aggregate figures tell a bit incomplete story and if age wise life expectancy figures are analyzed, a different picture emerges. This comparative advantage in life expectancy remains valid till the age of 40 years, while after the age of 40, it is male who has more probability to live longer than female. This is mainly due to treatment seeking behaviors and social or cultural inhibitions that might prevent women to seek medical help. Whatsoever is the reason, in the older years, females have disproportionate burden. The life expectancies at different age groups of male and females are as under:-

**Table-9**  
**Life Expectancy at Different Ages**

Life Expectancy	Overall	Male	Females
Y0	65.1	64.6	65.2
Y1	68.5	68.1	68.5
Y10	60.8	60.1	61.1
Y20	51.3	50.6	51.7
Y30	42.5	42	42.7
Y40	33.7	33.5	33.7
Y50	25.2	25.1	25
Y60	18.1	18.7	18.2
Y 70+	12.2	13.9	10.1

Source: Vital Statistics Division- Register General Office.

**7.4.10** It is apparent from the table above that females maintain their comparative advantage till the age of 40, while in the abridged life tables, life expectancy at the age of 50 for males is 25.1 years as compared to 25 years for females. However, this gap increases, and at 70 plus, while a male may be expected to live 13.9 years more, a female is expected to live only 10.1 years more. Since then onwards there is no data which segregates health adjusted life years for females and males. For Himachal Pradesh, it strongly suggests that in terms of female health life, there is every likelihood of her to have less healthy years as compared to her male counterpart. Further life expectancy data is not available for individual districts, so regional disparities are difficult to assess.

**7.4.11** A recent study, carried out by PGI, shows that in Himachal Pradesh leading causes for premature mortality among women are easily manageable and preventable if essential health care is provided and accessibility is improved. The major causes for premature mortality account for almost 48% of total mortality. The main cause of premature mortality among women is iron deficiency/ anaemia. The other leading causes of the premature mortality among women and premature mortality percentage are as under:-

**Table-10**  
**Leading Causes of Premature Mortality (% age) among Women**

Sr. No.	Causes	Premature Mortality (%)
1	Diarrhea Diseases	16.48
2	Lower Respiratory Infections	15.86
3	Other Maternal Conditions	6.46
4	Other Infectious Diseases	4.81
5	Prenatal Conditions	4.8
6	Ischemic Heart Diseases	3.37
7	Falls	3.02
8	Tuberculosis	3.01
9	Self Inflicted Injuries	2.96
10	Maternal Hemorrhage	2.95

**7.4.12 Mean Age of Marriage:** The SRS data for the year 2003 shows that female age for effective marriage is 22 years. Despite the evidence of increase in the age of marriage, NFHS-II estimates show that almost 11% of women married before the legal age of marriage (in 20-24 age group responses). However, Himachal Pradesh is first state in the country to have enforced compulsory “ H.P. Marriage Registration Act, 1996”.

**7.4.13 Contraceptive Prevalence:** NFHS-III shows that contraceptive prevalence rate in Himachal Pradesh is quite high. As many as 97.7 % women and 97.9 % men have knowledge of at least one contraceptive method. However, gender bias is clearly evident as the extent of female sterilization is 93.9 % while for male it is 80.7% despite the fact that male sterilization is much more convenient and safer. The higher female sterilization, as in the rest of country underscores the attitudes, socio-cultural aspects and throws the light on the issues well known and related to female empowerment.

**7.4.14 Institutional Deliveries:** Population fund of India has rated Himachal Pradesh as one of the best state in the RCH implementation, yet issues remain. Despite having very high proportion of women receiving antenatal care (87.2%), the institutional deliveries lie at 53.31%

## **5. Crimes and Security**

**7.5.1** In the issues related to the security of women, Himachal Pradesh has been graded as one of the high ranking States. The year-wise status of crimes against women in the State is as under:-

**Table-11**  
**Crime Against Women in Himachal Pradesh**

<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Nature of Crime</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>
1	Murder	34	36	28	31	29	24	23	30	36
2	Cul. Homicide	2	1	-	-	1	1	1	2	1
3	Rape	129	124	137	126	153	141	113	159	157
4	Dowry Death	3	10	6	6	8	2	3	7	3
5	Kidnap/ abduction	97	106	119	96	97	101	108	153	137
6	Molestation	284	315	347	250	282	283	274	324	295
7	Abetment to commit suicide	65	84	52	50	61	61	58	69	83
8	Cruelty to women	304	326	234	221	252	228	256	343	343
9	Eve teasing	16	20	11	11	13	27	31	40	44
10	Chain snatching	1	-	-	-	5	1	2	1	4
11	Dowry (P) Act	3	9	4	5	5	1	2	4	2
12	Immoral Trafficking (P) Act	1	1	2	5	4	4	-	-	1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>939</b>	<b>1032</b>	<b>920</b>	<b>801</b>	<b>910</b>	<b>874</b>	<b>871</b>	<b>1132</b>	<b>1106</b>

It reveals from the above status that cases of crimes against women have increased during 2007 and 2008 in comparison to the previous years. This increase is attributed to the increased awareness among women, change in social values, ethos, social reassurances being provided by the society, free registration of cases and Suvidha scheme started by the State Government through the Police Department as women are more often coming forward to report the offences/ crime taking place against them. For social security, there are social security pension schemes, Matri-Sambal Yojana, Mukhya Mantri Kanya Dan Yojana and Widow Re-Marriage scheme etc.

However, some incidences of missing women and children do take place. The year-wise detail of missing women and children upto 18 years of age alongwith traced out figures is as under:-

**Table-12**  
**Details of Missing Women and Children in Himachal Pradesh**

Year	Missing Women	Traced Out	Missing Children		Traced Out	
			Male	Female	Male	Female
2004	281	229	37	28	37	22
2005	354	245	48	26	42	19
2006	399	276	57	31	37	23
2007	535	321	157	135	111	94
2008	582	197	106	100	100	55

However, there are no reports that the missing women and children, who are still not traced out, have been kidnapped for trafficking purpose. Most of the missing cases are for the purpose of marriage/ service out side the State or are due to family disputes.

## **6. Empowerment of Women**

**7.6.1** Empowerment of women is the much publicized cliché concept of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Everybody right from local politician to national leaders, NGOs, International Community and policy maker talk about it. Women are not yet full and equal participants in public policy and choices that affect their lives. In fact, women lag behind on vital aspects of life, be it in terms of access about education, employment opportunities or even crucial decisions about their families.

**7.6.2** Women are the most deprived amongst the marginalized communities. In 1994, the Beijing Declaration of platform for action stressed upon the need for empowerment. Subsequently, platform for action of the fourth World Conference on Women, 2000 stated, “Women should be empowered by enhancing their skills, knowledge and access to information and technology”. This would strengthen their ability to combat negative portrayals of women internationally and challenge instances of abuse of power. As a follow up of national commitments made during these conferences, India has formulated the “Women Empowerment Policy, 2001” for the upliftment of women, socially, politically and economically. This would require creation of an environment, though positive economic and social policies, for the development of women to enable them to realize their full potential.

**7.6.3** Himachal Pradesh Government has taken a number of steps to empower women in every sphere of life. In order to check the decline in sex ratio a massive awareness campaign has been launched to highlight that protection of female birth is vital to maintain the very fabric of society. The State Government is implementing schemes of cash incentives to promote sex ratio and protection of the female child. A scheme for awarding the Panchayats upto Rs.5.00 lakh for recording favourable sex ratio has been started.

**7.6.4** A scheme called “Indira Gandhi Balika Suraksha Yojana” to raise the status of the girl child and to prevent female foeticide is also under implementation in the State. Under this scheme, an incentive of Rs. 25,000/- is provided to the parents who adopt terminal family planning methods after the birth of the first girl child and the parents who adopt terminal family planning method after the birth of the second girl child are provided an incentive of Rs. 20,000/-. These incentives are given as interest bearing deposits in the name of girl child to be encashed at the time of marriage of the girl child. Assistance under “Matri Shakti Bima Yojna” has been increased 4 times. In the event of death due to accident, relief money has been enhanced from Rs. 25,000/- to Rs. 1,00,000/- and in the event of loss of a part of the body, this amount has been raised from Rs. 12,500/- to Rs. 50,000/-. Janashree Bima Yojna has been started for Anganwadi Workers and Helpers in the State under which no premium is to be paid by the beneficiaries. In the event of death under different circumstances, assistance ranging from Rs. 20,000/- to Rs. 75,000/- is provided under the scheme.

**7.6.5** Apart from above, one of the major strategies for securing gender equality for decision making about allocation of public resources and budget distribution, all departments of the State Government have been asked to ensure that atleast 30% of the funds are earmarked in women related sectors in a manner that these benefit and empower the women. The State Level Gender Budgeting Cell has been established under the Chairmanship of Director, Social Justice & Empowerment, H.P. to monitor and coordinate the activities of all departments. The representation in this Cell has been given to the Planning and Finance Departments. This will also compile and analyze the data received from various departments and will suggest policy interventions.

**7.6.6** On political front, women MLAs constitute 7.35% in the present Vidhan Sabha which is higher than Punjab and many other states. The %age of women participation in PRIs and ULBs is given in the table below:-

**Table-13**  
**Women Participation in Vidhan Sabha and Local Bodies**

Ward Members	38.4%
Panchayat Pradhans	33.4%
Chairpersons of Panchayat Samitis	38.6%
Members Zila Prishad	34.2%
Chairpersons Zila Parishad	33.5%

For future, State Government has raised the reservation to women to 50% in PRIs/ ULBs.

**7.6.7** National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 is being implemented in all the districts of the State w.e.f. 01.04.2008 through Rural Development Department. Though there is no specific provision for women in this Act, but as employment opportunities are offered equally to men and women, women do get benefit of this provision. Another provision beneficial to women is that in case the number of children below the age of 6 years accompanying the women working at any site is 5 or more, one of such women workers will be deputed to look after such children.

**7.6.8** To provide medical check-up facilities to the women prisoners, regular/ permanent medical officers have been appointed in the 4 Jails viz. Kanda, Nahan, Dharamshala and Bilaspur. There are only a few number of women prisoners in rest of the jails/ sub-jails, hence, permanent medical officers have not been appointed. However, Dispensers have been appointed in all the jails of the State. With a view to provide better facilities, women who are found victims in any case, are shifted to Kanda Jail. Children of women prisoners up to 5 years of age are also allowed to stay in the jail.

**7.6.9.** For protection of Women from domestic violence, “Domestic Violence (Prevention) Act, 2005” has come into force in the State w.e.f. 26th day of October, 2006. Under Section 8(1) of the Act, all ICDS Supervisors have been declared Protection Officers within their respective area of jurisdiction for the implementation of this Act. Orientation has been given to all the Protection Officers. Nari Sewa Sadan Mashobra in Shimla District has been declared as Shelter Home under Section 6 of the Act. The Government of Himachal Pradesh has declared all District Hospitals/ Referral Hospitals/CHCs/PHCs and Dispensaries (both Ayurvedic and Allopathic) as appropriate health institutions for providing health related facilities under Section 7 of the Act. Besides, 14 NGOs have been declared as Service Providers in the State under Section 10 of the Act. In order to prevent the sexual exploitation of women at work place, Complaint Committees have been constituted in all the Departments/ Boards/ corporations and Universities of the State.

**7.6.10.** The Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 enacted by the Central Government to prevent giving and taking of Dowry in the country is being implemented in the State of Himachal Pradesh through Police Department. Under the Act, Dowry Prohibition Rules-2000 have been notified by the State Government. To prevent dowry, all Child Development Project Officers (appointed under ICDS) have been designated as Dowry Prohibition Officers and to assist them Advisory Boards have been constituted in all Districts of the State.

**7.6.11** There are a number of other programmes/ schemes under implementation in Himachal Pradesh which are aimed at socio-economic upliftment of women and their general well-being. Scheme-wise description of such programmes being run by the department of Social Justice and Empowerment is given below:-

## **1. Working Women Hostels**

A centrally sponsored scheme, 'Working Women Hostel' is under implementation in the State from the year 1983-84. The objectives and achievement of this scheme are as under:-

- (a) To provide accommodation for single working women, unmarried widows, divorced, separated and married when husband is out of station.
- (b) To provide accommodation to women/girls who are trained for employment provided the training period does not exceed one year. Voluntary organizations, public trusts working in the field of women's welfare/social welfare/women's education are eligible for the assistance. Under this scheme, 14 Working Women Hostels have been constructed in the State. A provision of Rs.15.00 lakh has been made for maintenance of hostels during the year 2009-10.

## **2. State Women Council**

To review and monitor the effective implementation of the National Policy for the Empowerment of Women 2001(NPEW) and to advise on policy from time to time on issues like advancement, development and empowerment of women, a State Women Council has been notified and the Council was reconstituted during 2008-09 in the State. For the year 2009-10, a provision of Rs.2.50 lakh has been made for meeting expenses on TA/DA etc. of the members.

## **3. Honorarium to Anganwari Workers and Helpers**

The State Government was providing additional amount of honorarium @ Rs. 200/- and Rs. 100/- to Anganwari Workers and Helpers respectively from the State funds per month w.e.f.1<sup>st</sup> December, 1997 under ICDS. From 19.07.2007, the amount of additional honorarium to Anganwari Workers and Helpers from state funds has been increased to Rs. 300/- and Rs. 200/- respectively. From 01.04.2009, ICDS is being implemented on 90:10 (Centre:State) basis. Therefore, financial year 2009-10 onwards, State Government will have to bear additional expenditure @ Rs. 150/- (10 % of Central Share of Rs. 1500) and Rs. 75/-(10 % of Central Share of Rs. 750) respectively per month per Anganwari Worker and Helper. The rates of honorarium of Anganwari Workers and Helpers are as under:-

**Table-14**  
**Rates of Honorarium For Anganwari Workers and Helpers**

(In Rs.)

Particulars of Anganwari Workers/ Helpers	Total Honorarium fixed by the Government of India			Additional Honorarium being paid by State Govt.	Grand Total (4+5)
	GOI Share (90%)	State Share (10%)	Total (2+3)		
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
<b>1. Anganwari Workers</b>					
(a) Matriculate	1350/-	150/-	1500/-	300/-	1800/-
(b) Matriculate with 5 years honorary work	1378/-	153/-	1531/-	300/-	1831/-
(c) Matriculate with 10 years honorary work	1407/-	156/-	1563/-	300/-	1863/-
(d) Non-Matric	1294/-	144/-	1438/-	300/-	1738/-
(e) Non-Matric with 5 years honorary work	1322/-	147/-	1469/-	300/-	1769/-
(f) Non-Matric with 10 years honorary work	1350/-	150/-	1500/-	300/-	1800/-
<b>2. Anganwari Helpers</b>	675/-	75/-	750/-	200/-	950/-

A provision of Rs. 1024.00 lakh has been kept for the same during 2009-10. Scheme of awards has also been introduced for Anganwari Workers from the year 2000 and every year 15 Anganwari Workers are selected for the State Level awards.

#### **4. Mukhya Mantri Kanyadan Yojna**

Under this scheme, a grant of Rs. 11001/- per beneficiary is given to the parents/guardians of the girl or the girl herself for her marriage provided their annual income does not exceed Rs. 15000/-. For this purpose, a provision of Rs. 144.34 lakh has been made for 2009-10.

#### **5. Awareness Campaign**

To mobilize public opinion and strengthen social efforts against social evils like dowry, child marriage, and female foeticide and to make women aware about the departmental schemes and their legal rights, Awareness Camps are organized by the department for representatives of PRIs and women including SHG/ Mahila Mandal members. A provision of Rs.12.00 lakh has been made for 2009-10.

## **6. Vocational Rehabilitation Centre/ Vocational Training to Women in Distress**

Training in stenography and typing is given by the State Social Welfare Board. A provision of Rs.4.00 lakh has been made for the year 2009-10.

## **7. H.P. State Women Commission**

Himachal Pradesh State Commission for Women has been constituted under H.P. State Commission for Women Act, 1996 with the aim of furthering the fundamental rights guaranteed by Article 14, 15 & 16 of the Constitution of India with respect to women and to give effect to the Directive Principle of State Policy and in particular those enshrined in Articles 38, 39, 39A and 42 of the Constitution. The Commission strives to improve the status and dignity of women in society, to investigate into and take or suggest suitable remedial measures against practices derogatory to women, to effectively monitor and implement laws affecting women and to advise the Government in all matters related to the improvement and upliftment of status and dignity of women in society. The staff of this Commission is being charged to non-plan. A provision of Rs. 5.00 lakh has been made for 2009-10.

## **8. Widow Pension**

Widow pension @ Rs. 330/- per month is provided to widows/deserted women irrespective of their age, if the annual income does not exceed Rs.6000/ per annum. The income of earning sons should not exceed Rs.11000/- per annum. A provision of Rs. 813.49 lakh has been made under the scheme for the year 2009-10. The funds under the scheme have also been provided under non-Plan.

## **9. Widow Re-marriage Scheme**

From the year 2004-05, the State Govt. has started Widow Re-Marriage Scheme. The main objective of the scheme is to help in re-habilitation of widows by encouraging them to enter into wedlock with widows by providing some monetary incentive for the same. Under this scheme, Rs. 25000/- are provided as a grant to the couple. For the year 2009-10, a provision of Rs. 35.06 lakh has been made under the scheme.

## **10. Mother Teresa Akshay Maitri Sambal Yojna**

Annual grant of Rs. 2000/- is provided to all BPL, widows, divorcee and deserted women for upbringing of their children (only for 2 children upto the age of 18 years) in addition to widow pension. For the Annual Plan 2009-10, a provision of Rs. 137.25 lakh has been made for this purpose.

## **11. Self Employment Scheme for Women**

For the setting up of small ventures like tea-stalls tailoring works etc. financial assistance upto Rs. 2500/- is provided under the scheme to the women if their annual income does not exceed Rs. 7500/-.

## **12. H.P. Women Development Corporation**

The Himachal Pradesh Women Development Corporation is assisting the women entrepreneurs in the rural as well as urban areas in securing cheap loans from commercial and co-operative banks for running self employment oriented projects if their annual income does not exceed Rs.50000/- per annum. To make the loans cheaper, interest subsidy is provided on all banks loans so that the beneficiary may not have to bear the burden on interest beyond the rates fixed by the corporation. In addition to the above programmes, the corporation initiated new schemes with the financial assistance from state as well as central Government under STEP, RMK schemes. The Women Development Corporation has been appointed as nodal agency for Rashtriya Mahila Kosh.

## **13. State Home**

For destitute women and wayward girls/women, State Home is being run at Mashobra (Shimla) by the department. The inmates of this home are provided free boarding and lodging facilities and training in craft, tailoring and embroidery etc. For rehabilitation of such women, after leaving State Home, financial Assistance upto Rs. 10,000/- per woman is also provided.

## **14. Self Help Groups**

To promote economic empowerment, the women have been mobilized into Self Help Groups (SHGs). Through the network of Anganwari Workers, so far 24810 SHGs have been formed in the State by the SJ&E Department alone. Out of total 24810 groups, 12951 SHGs have been linked with banks with a total saving of Rs. 41.53 crore and total loan of Rs. 66.61 crore.

## **7. Development of Children**

**7.7.1** Planning at the National and State level has had the aim of achieving balanced growth and development of children. The process has moved from a sectoral to an integrated approach. During the earlier phases of plan period, child health issues alongwith other public health issues such as goiter, rickets and tuberculosis were attended by separate specialists whereas issues related to nutritional deficiencies, child care, etc. were being looked after by other staff. In the subsequent plans, the State Govt. formulated and implemented a number of schemes to enhance the nutritional level of children. It is a well known fact that under-nourished child is more prone to morbidity/

mortality and has longer periods of illness as compared to a well fed child. The State Govt. proposes to reduce malnutrition by less than five percent in its Health Vision, 2020.

**7.7.2** In pursuance of the Nation's Policy for children & India's commitment to children enshrined in the Directive Principles of the Constitution, Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Programme, on experiment basis, was introduced in 33 projects through out the country on 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 1975, on the occasion of 106<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, the father of nation. The programme envisaged following objectives:-

- i) to improve the nutritional and health status of children in the age group of 0-6 years.
- ii) to lay the foundation for proper psychological, physical and social development of children.
- iii) to reduce the incidence of mortality, morbidity , mal-nutrition and school drop out.
- iv) to achieve effective coordinated policy and its implementation amongst the various departments to promote child development and
- v) to enhance the capability of mothers to look after the normal health and nutritional needs of child through proper nutrition and health education.

### **7.7.3 ICDS Programme**

In 1975, at the time of launching of ICDS scheme, only one ICDS project was sanctioned to Himachal Pradesh by Govt. of India. The project so sanctioned was tribal project in Pooh block of Kinnaur district. During the course of Sixth & Seventh plan more projects were sanctioned to the State and in 1995-96, during universalization phase of the scheme, the Govt. of India extended the scheme to all 75 C. D. blocks and 4 new ICDS projects viz. Shimla (Urban), Haroli, Tauni Devi and Sulah were sanctioned. Today the scheme is operating in 75 C.D. blocks and one project is being run in Shimla town. Thus, total 76 ICDS projects are being run in the State. There are rural 68 projects and one urban project and remaining 7 tribal projects. All these projects are operational. One ICDS project (Gagret in Una District) is being run by an NGO known as Ankur Welfare Society, Gagret.

All over the state, 18248 Anganwari Centres are operational. District-wise details of Anganwari Centres are given as under: -

**Table-15**  
**District-Wise Anganwari Centres**

<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Name of District</b>	<b>Number of AWCs</b>
1.	Bilaspur	1087
2.	Chamba	1418
3.	Hamirpur	1342
4.	Kangra	4096
5.	Kinnaur	230
6.	Kullu	1042
7.	Lahaul-Spiti	123
8.	Mandi	2872
9.	Shimla	1987
10.	Solan	1244
11.	Sirmour	1454
12.	Una	1353
	<b>Total</b>	<b>18248</b>

In addition to the above, additional 138 Anganwari Centres and 539 mini-Anganwari Centres have been sanctioned by the Government of India which will be made functional shortly.

To achieve the aim of the programme, following six services are provided through 18248 Anganwari Centres in 76 ICDS projects in the State:-

**(a) Supplementary Nutrition**

It is provided to children below 6 years of age and expectant/ nursing mothers and BPL adolescent girls in such a way that the nutritional intake is supplemented by 500 calories and 12-15 grams of protein for children and 600 calories and 20-25 grams of protein for women.

**(b) Nutrition and Health Education**

It is organized in project area, as special campaigns and through home visits by Anganwari Workers. Women in the age group of 15 -45 years remain area of special focus.

### **(c) Immunisation**

All Children below six years of age are immunised against six deadly diseases viz. tuberculosis, diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, polio and measles. Expectant women are also immunized against tetanus. The achievements of 2008-09 are given below:-

i. DPT	:103.63 %
ii. Polio	:103.63 %
iii. BCG	:106.40 %
iv. Polio Booster	:82.00 %
v. DPT Booster	:82.01 %
vi. Measels	:96.79 %
vii. DT (5-6 Years)	:83.21 %
viii. Vitamin A -1 <sup>st</sup> Dose	:96.45 %
ix. Vitamin A-2 <sup>nd</sup> Dose	:81.68 %

### **(d) Health Check-up**

The expectant mothers are examined at least 4 times during pregnancy by health staff and are given iron and folic acid tablets. Post natal care to nursing mothers and care of new born babies is also provided. Periodical weight of children is recorded by Anganwari worker and close watch on their nutritional status is kept. The Anganwari worker is also required to detect diseases/ minor ailments / disabilities in children for which she also makes home visits. She also gives treatment for minor ailments like diarrhoea, dysentery and also distributes medicines for prevention of vitamin deficiency and anaemia. The medicine kit is provided to each Anganwari Centre, @ Rs. 600/-p.a.

### **(e) Referral Services**

Serious cases of mal-nutrition and illness are referred to appropriate health institutions and their proper follow up is ensured.

### **(f) Non-formal Pre-School Education**

Children between 3 to 6 years of age group are provided stimulation by organizing creative activities in the Anganwaris in such a way that the aim of developing desirable attitude, value and behavior patterns is achieved. Annually, pre-school education kits @ Rs. 500 are provided to each Anganwari Centre and this amount has been increased to Rs. 1,000/- w.e.f. 01.04.2009. During 2009-10, non-formal pre-school education is being provided to about 1, 70,000 children.

### **Beneficiaries under ICDS**

The population of the children in the age group of (0-6 years) is about 7.69 lakh which constitutes 12.84 % of the total population of the State. The surveyed population

being covered under ICDS is about 6.90 lakh. The population is scattered and villages are small; therefore, in hills at anganwari level average presence of children is less in comparison to other States. This year about 4,25,000 children, 97,000 pregnant/lactating mothers and 80,000 adolescent girls are being covered under Special Nutrition Programme in the State. Non-formal Pre-School Education is being provided to about 1,70,000 children.

#### **7.7.4 Supplementary Nutrition Programme (SNP) under ICDS**

Under the programme, cooked food is provided to the children in the age group of 6 months to 6 years, pregnant & lactating mothers and BPL Adolescent Girls, severely malnourished children. Ready to eat food is given to the children who are in the age group of 6 months to 2 years. Under Supplementary Nutrition Programme, 500 calories and 12-15 grams of protein are required to be supplemented to the children and 600 calories and 18-20 grams of protein to the lactating mothers, pregnant ladies & adolescent girls and 800 calories and 20-25 grams of protein to the malnourished children daily. The nutrition is procured through the H.P. Civil Supply Corporation. For effecting procurement, a State level purchase Committee under the Chairmanship of Director, Social Justice & Empowerment, H.P. with the following members has been constituted:-

1. Managing Director, H.P. Civil Supplies Corporation.
2. Director, Health & Family Welfare (H.P.).
3. Director, Food, Civil Supplies and Consumers Affairs (H.P.).
4. Special Nutrition Officer as Member Secretary.

**Table-16**  
**Rates of Nutrition**

<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Beneficiaries</b>	<b>Old rates (per beneficiary per day)</b>	<b>New rates (per beneficiary per day w.e.f. 01.04.2009)</b>
1.	Children	Rs. 2.00	Rs. 4.00
2.	Pregnant Mothers	Rs. 3.10	Rs. 5.00
3.	Lactating Mothers	Rs. 3.10	Rs. 5.00
4.	BPL Adolescent Girls	Rs. 3.10	Rs. 5.00
5	Severely Malnourished Children	Rs. 4.00	Rs. 6.00

From the financial year 2005-06, 50% cost of supplementary nutrition is being borne by Govt of India. The recipes being provided to the beneficiaries are decided at the State Level Nutrition Purchase Committee meetings. At present following recipes are being given:-

**A. Children between 6 months – 2 years**

- |             |                  |
|-------------|------------------|
| 1. Nutrimix | 6 days in a week |
|-------------|------------------|

**B. Children between 2-6 years, pregnant/ lactating mothers**

- |                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Khichri       | 2 days in a week. |
| 2. Sprouted Gram | 2 days in a week. |
| 3. Sweet Dalia   | 2 days in a week. |

**C. Adolescent Girls**

- |                         |                   |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Sprouted Bengal Gram | 4 days in a week. |
| 2. Sprouted Moth Dal    | 2 days in a week  |

**Budget**

The ICDS is a centrally sponsored scheme & in all ICDS projects are being run under central sector scheme. The State Govt. receives Grant -in-aid from Govt. of India for implementation of the scheme keeping in view the actual expenditure incurred by the State Government. From the financial year 2009-10, 90 % expenditure under ICDS is borne by the Government of India and rest 10 % by the State Government. For nutrition, cost is borne by the State Government and the Govt. of India on 50:50 basis. Budget under ICDS and SNP during 2009-10 is as under:-

**Table-17**  
**Budget under ICDS and SNP**

(Rs. In Lakh)

Sr. No.	Programme	Budget for (2009-10)		
		State Share	GoI Share	Total
1	ICDS	916.00	8674.68	9590.68
2	SNP	3000.00	0.01 (token)	3000.01

**7.7.5. Training under ICDS**

There is provision of regular Job/ Refresher training under ICDS and all the functionaries are provided trainings as under:-

**Table-18**  
**Details of Trainings to All Functionaries**

<b>Functionaries</b>	<b>Name of the Training Courses</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Institution where Training is provided</b>
Child Development Project Officers/ Asstt. Child Development Project Officers	Job Training	1 month	National Institute of Public Co-operation and Child Development, New Delhi/ Lucknow.
CDPO/ ACDPO	Refresher Training	1 week	--- do --
Supervisors	Job Training	1 month	Middle Level Training Centre, RAI, Sonipat, Haryana.
Supervisors	Refresher Training	1 week	-- do --
Anganwari Workers	Job Training	1 month	Anganwari Training Centre (AWTC), Theog, Gaggal, Sunni, Rasmai
Anganwari Workers	Refresher Training	1 week	--do--
Anganwari Helpers	Orientation Training	6 days	Trained functionaries (CDPOs/ DPOs)

#### **7.7.6 Innovations under ICDS**

- a. Syllabus for Pre-School Education has been prepared and introduced in the Anganwari Centres.
- b. Monthly grading of children is being done.
- c. Village Level Co-ordination Committees stand notified by name in all Anganwaris. Monthly meetings of the Committees are held on 3<sup>rd</sup> of every month.
- d. Mother and Child Care Cards have been introduced from the year 2007-08.
- e. Hb. Testing of 1,11,253, 1,74,300 and 89,000 Adolescent Girls was done during 2006- 07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 respectively.
- f. By utilizing the ECCE funds of Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan in the AWCs, writing tables (Chowkis) and Meena Kits have been provided. Various trainings for Education and ICDS functionaries are also being organized.
- g. A family based web-enabled software called e-kutumb where detailed information pertaining to every individual including women and children residing in the State is being made available.

### 7.7.7 Balika Samridhi Yojna

Balika Samridhi Yojna was introduced as a 100 % centrally sponsored scheme by Govt. of India on 15th August, 1997 to provide benefits to girls belonging to below poverty line families, born on or after 15.08.1997. From the year 2003-04, this scheme has been transferred to the State. The objectives of the scheme are as under:-

1. To change negative attitude of the family and community towards the girl child at birth and toward her mother.
2. To improve enrolment and retention of girl children in schools.
3. To raise the age at marriage for girls.
4. To assist the girls to undertake income generating activities.

#### Major Components of the Scheme

i). **A post birth grant amount of Rs. 500/-:** An amount of Rs. 500/- is deposited in an interest bearing account to be opened in the name of the girl beneficiary. On attaining adulthood (18 years age) the beneficiary can withdraw the amount from her account.

ii). **Scholarship:** Annual scholarships ranging between Rs. 300/- to Rs.1,000/- per annum (up to matric) is provided on following rates when girl child born on or after 15th August,1997 starts attending the school :-

1.	Class 1-3	Rs. 300/-	p.a.
2.	Class 4	Rs. 500/-	p.a.
3.	Class 5	Rs. 600/-	p.a.
4.	Class 6-7	Rs. 700/-	p.a.
5.	Class 8	Rs. 800/-	p.a.
6.	Class 9-10	Rs. 1,000/-	p.a.

The amount of scholarship can be utilized for the purchase of textbooks and uniform etc. for the girl child with due authorization of her parents/ guardians. For the year 2009-10, a provision of Rs. 80.00 lakh has been made under this scheme.

### 7.7.8 Kishori Shakti Yojna

A centrally sponsored scheme viz. Kishori Shakti Yojna was launched in 2001 in 15 selected blocks Hamirpur, Una, Kinnaur, Mandi and Lahaul Spiti districts of the State. During 2005-06, scheme was extended to all the 76 ICDS projects of the State. Objectives of the schemes are:-

- a) To improve the health status of the adolescent girls.
- b) To upgrade the skills required for employment generation by providing skill upgradation training to the adolescent girls in different traditional and non-tradition trades. Annually, funds to the tune of Rs.1.10 lakh per block are given under this scheme.

This is a 100% centrally sponsored scheme. There is a provision to spend Rs. 83.60 lakh (@ Rs.1.10 lakh per ICDS project for 76 projects) annually under the scheme which are provided by the Government of India.

#### **7.7.9 Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls (NPAG)**

This programme was introduced in Kangra District of the State in the year 2001. Under the scheme, food-grains (rice or wheat) @ 6 kg per beneficiary are provided to those adolescent girls whose weight is less than 35 kg. Originally, the programme was introduced for 2 years. Now the programme has been extended upto 31.03.2010. Under the scheme, about 48000 adolescent girls are being benefited. The objectives of the project are as under:-

1. Reduction in malnutrition
2. Reduction in chronic energy deficiency
3. Reduction of micro-nutrient deficiencies relating to Fe, I and Vitamin A.

The Government of India has formulated a new scheme by merging Kishori Shakti Yojna with “Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls” (NPAG) which is likely to be launched in the financial year 2010-11.

#### **7.7.10 Mother Teresa Asahay Matri Sambal Yojna**

For the bringing up of children upto the age of 14 years, the destitute, widow, deserted and divorced women belonging to BPL families whose annual income is below 18,000/- are provided annual assistance of Rs. 2000/- per child (for two children). During the financial year 2009-10, an amount of Rs. 137.25 lakh has been provided under the scheme.

#### **7.7.11 Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006**

The prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 has been implemented in the State with the objective of prohibiting child / minor marriages. The Child marriage/ minor marriage means a marriage taking place between a male who has not completed 21 years of age and a female who has not completed 18 years of age. The Child Development Project Officers appointed under ICDS have been declared as the Child Marriage Prohibition Officers within the areas of their jurisdiction.

## 8. Child Protection and Juvenile Justice

### 7.8.1 Programmes for the children in need of care and protection.

- (i) **Child Welfare Committees:** 12 Child Welfare Committees comprising of Deputy Commissioner of the respective district with four members have been constituted. This committee is to function as bench of magistrate having powers conferred by Code of Criminal Procedure 1973. This committee is the final authority to dispose of the cases for the care, protection, treatment, development and rehabilitation of children as well as to provide basic needs and protection of Human Rights.
- (ii) **Children Home/ Shelter Home:** 21 institutions as per details mentioned below have been established for children in need of care & protection are running across the state:-

**Table-19**  
**Institutions Established for Care and Protection of Children**

S.No.	Name of Ashram	Implementing Agency	Capacity
<b>A.</b>	<b>Govt. Run Institution</b>		
1.	Children Home, Sundernagar (Mandi)	Department of SJ&E	50
2.	Bal Ashram-cum-Children Home, Tutikandi (Shimla)	Department of SJ&E	100
3.	Balika Ashram -cum-Children Home, Mashobra (Shimla)	Department of SJ&E	100
4.	Bal Ashram -cum-Children Home, Sujanpur (Hamirpur)	Department of SJ&E	50
5.	Balika Ashram-cum-Children Home, Pragpur (Kangra)	Department of SJ&E	50
6.	Bal Ashram-cum-Children Home Masli (Shimla)	Department of SJ&E	100
7.	Bal/Balika Ashram-cum-Children Home, Killar (Chamba)	Department of SJ&E	60
<b>B.</b>	<b>NGO Run Institutions</b>		
8.	Balika Ashram-cum-Shelter Home, Sunni (Shimla)	HPCCW (NGO)	50
9.	Balika Ashram-cum-Shelter Home Kalpa, ( Kinnaur)	HPCCW(NGO)	50
10.	Balika Ashram-cum-Shelter Home, Tissa (Chamba)	HPCCW(NGO)	50

S.No.	Name of Ashram	Implementing Agency	Capacity
11.	Bal Ashram-cum-Shelter Home, Bharmour (Chamba)	HPCCW(NGO)	50
12.	Bal Ashram-cum-Shelter Home Kalheli ( Kullu)	HPCCW(NGO)	50
13.	Bal Ashram-cum-Shelter Home, Sarahan (Shimla)	HPCCW(NGO)	100
14.	Bal Ashram-cum-Shelter Home, Rockwood (Shimla)	Kasturba Gandhi Memorial Trust (NGO)	50
15.	Balika Ashram-cum-Shelter Home, Durgapur (Shimla)	Kasturba Gandhi Memorial Trust (NGO)	50
16.	Balika Ashram-cum-Shelter Home Chamba, (Chamba)	Mahila Kalyan Mandal Chamba (NGO)	50
17.	Bal Ashram-cum-Shelter Home Shilli, (Solan)	Himgiri Kalyan Ashram (NGO)	50
18.	Bal Ashram-cum-Shelter Home, Dehar (Mandi)	Divya Manav Joyti Anathalaya Trust(NGO)	100
19.	Bal Ashram-cum-Shelter Home Bharnal (Mandi)	Deen Bandhu Sewa Mandal (NGO)	30
20.	Bal Ashram-cum-Shelter Home, Kalpa (Kinnaur)	Red Cross Society, Kinnaur	20
21.	Anathalaya-cum-Shelter Home, (Kotkhai)	Giri Vidya Gayan Joyti, Anathalaya, Kotkhai	40

The above institutions are running under the State sponsored scheme “**Mukhya Mantri Bal Udhhar Yojna**—an integrated scheme for the children in need of care and protection. The institutions mentioned above except Sr. No. 1 have been brought under the purview of JJ Act by declaring these institutions as Bal/Balika Ashrams cum Children Home/Shelter Home. The above institutions are also covered under the centrally sponsored scheme “A programme for Juvenile Justice”. Under Mukhya Mantri Bal Udhhar Yojna, there is a budget provision of Rs. 232.00 lakh for the financial year 2009-10.

- (iii) **Shishu Grih:** One Shishu Grih having capacity of 15 children has been setup through Himachal Pradesh Council for Child Welfare at US Club Shimla for the abandoned children. The Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) is providing grant-in-aid.
- (iv) **Adoption Agency:** For all matters related to adoption of orphans and abandoned children, the Himachal Pradesh Council for Child Welfare has been declared as Licensed Adoption Placement Agency (LAPA) for carrying

out adoptions in the State. So far, 68 abandoned children have been given in adoption by the above agency.

- (v) **Child Line:** A Child Line with toll free number **1098** has been setup at Shimla through HP Voluntary Health Association. The Child Line Foundation India is providing funds for the same.

### **7.8.3 Programmes for the children in conflict with Law**

- (i) **Juvenile Justice Board:** Two Juvenile Justice Boards consisting of Judicial Magistrate 1<sup>st</sup> Class with two social workers have been constituted at Una & Shimla having jurisdiction of 6 Districts each. These boards have powers to deal exclusively with all proceedings under **Juvenile Justice (care and protection) Amendment Act, 2006** relating to Juveniles in conflict with Law.
- (ii) **Observation Home cum Special Homes:** One Observation Home-cum-Special Home for the temporary reception of Juvenile in conflict with law during the pendency of inquiry and for the reception of Juvenile in conflict with Law and for their rehabilitation has been established for the whole of the State at Una.