

Regarding need to formulate a comprehensive policy for welfare of single girl child in the country-laid

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO (BOLANGIR): In our country, girl child faces several challenges like female infanticide and foeticide, gender discrimination, abuse, trafficking, child marriage, malnutrition, dowry, drop out, low gross Enrollment Ratio etc.

The CBSE and UGC have been implementing scholarship/fellowship Schemes exclusively for Single Girl Child. However, the percentage of Single Girl Child availing these scholarships is very less compared to their population. The amount and number of Scholarships under Government Schemes are not sufficient and there is a need for increasing it. There is also need for scholarships for foreign education of single girl child on the lines of SCs/STs/OBCs.

There is an urgent need for Government to make concerted efforts for welfare of Single Girl Child through various policy intervention and special provisions like 33 percent reservation for women in Government Services, fee waiver for education, reservation in admission, reservation in hostels, fee waiver in recruitment, relaxation in age and number of attempts in exams conducted by public service commission, coaching facility for competitive exams etc.

I urge upon the Government to formulate a comprehensive policy for welfare of Single Girl Child in the country to enable them to contribute to development of New India? during *Amrit Kaal*.