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Title: Need to extend financial benefit to second girl child also in a family under Indira Gandhi Scholarships Scheme.

SHRI ARUNA KUMAR VUNDAVALLI (RAJAHMUNDRY): In an effort to set right the country's skewed gender ratio, Government of India took several measures and announced many schemes. Such programmes have, however, barely begun to address the problem. Now, of course, slowly and steadily, the female sex ratio is increasing. Shrimati Indira Gandhi, who, despite being a single child, achieved greatness and played a vital role in shaping the world. To perpetuate Indiraji's memory and make her a source of inspiration for our girls, all female students at the college/university level, who are single girl child, are being extended financial benefits under 'Indira Gandhi Scholarships'. Now, there is a technical problem. The Scheme stipulates that the incentives meant for single girl child will be stopped, the moment the second girl arrives in the family. The hapless parents are perplexed. It will be better to double and even triple the incentive to parents when the next girl arrives in the family. The parents of the second girl child must be more vigorously lauded.

Through this august House, I urge upon the Government, to take up the matter seriously and frame certain guidelines and rules to provide incentives for second girl child so that the female ratio will lead within a span of short time and will be impetus to uplift the status of women.