

**Planning Commission
(HRD Division)**

Subject: Priority Themes proposed in 12th Five Year Plan in connection with Selection of Thrust Areas for Research/Study under the Research and Study Scheme.

1. Title: Status of Implementation of Girls' Hostel Scheme in States having more Educationally Backward Districts (EBDs) viz. Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

Background Note: This is a new Centrally Sponsored Scheme launched in 2008-09 and is being implemented from 2009-10 to set up a 100-bedded Girls' Hostel in each of 3479 Educationally Backward Blocks (EBBs) in the country. The Scheme has replaced the earlier NGO driven Scheme for Construction and Running of Girls' Hostels for Students of Secondary and Higher Secondary Schools, under which assistance was provided to voluntary organisations for running Girls' Hostels. The objectives of the scheme are to retain the girl child in secondary school so that girl students are not denied the opportunity to continue their study due to distance to school, parents' financial affordability and other connected societal factors; and to make Secondary and Senior Secondary education accessible to a larger number of girl students.

The target group for the scheme is girl students in the age group of 14-18 yrs. studying in classes IX to XII and belonging to SC, ST, OBC, Minority communities and BPL families. Students passing out of KGBV are given preference in admission in hostels. At least 50% of girls admitted will be from SC, ST, OBC and Minority communities.

It is observed that following the States with educationally backward districts not performing well in implementation of the scheme.

S. No.	Name of the State	No. of EBBs	No. of Girls' Hostels sanctioned
1.	Andhra Pradesh	737	355
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	38	5
3.	Bihar	530	115
4.	Haryana	37	18
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	97	19
6.	Jharkhand	203	81
7.	Odisha	173	--
8.	Uttar Pradesh	702	141
9.	West Bengal	87	--

Source: http://mhrd.gov.in/girls_hostel

Objectives: The major objective of the proposed research is to find the problem areas in implementation of Girls' Hostel Scheme. The other objectives are (i) to find out the fulfillment of specific requirements for the Girls Hostel Scheme in the Blocks where they are already established (ii) to know the quantum of grants provided and sufficiency of such grant (iii) to know the gaps in implementation of the scheme (iv) to know the problem areas in the States where the implementation of the scheme is still awaited and (v) to provide practical suggestions for improvement in the effective implementation of the scheme.

ToRs: (i) The research will be undertaken based on a medium sample size as it covers 9 States. Total of 5 to 20 blocks will be taken for the study where the scheme is implemented proportionate to the number of girls' hostels already in place. (ii) The time for the study should be 8 to 10 months. (iii) The primary data will be collected from block education officer, warden of the hostel, one panchayati raj (PRI) functionary, and two girls of each hostel. The questionnaire and personal interview will be the methods of data collection. (iv) Secondary data is to be collected by observing the records of girls' hostels and of the block education office related to the implementation of the scheme. MHRD fund releases, time of fund release, effective and timely utilization etc. can be the other areas of data collection. The data for reasons of non implementation of the scheme in Odisha and West Bengal and poor implementation in other States are also to be collected. (v) The data for other related areas like distance of the hostels from girls' residence; facilities available including food, hygiene, sanitation and availability of sanitary napkins; safety, boundary wall, availability of chowkidar, sweeper, cook and other supporting staff; social harmony amongst girls; performance of girls in the studies; at least 50% of girls admitted will be from SC, ST, OBC and Minority communities; and serving the need of the target group of girl students in the age group of 14-18 yrs. studying in classes IX and XII belonging to SC, ST, OBC, Minority communities and BPL families. (vi) The data to be collected is mostly qualitative and will be analysed subjectively based on the objectives. Somewhere the statistical tools may even be used by the researcher.

2. Title: Status of Trained Teachers in Government schools in North Eastern States and Possible time-bound delivery Mechanism for Teacher Training.

Background and rationale for the study: The Teacher Education Policy in India has evolved over time and is based on recommendations contained in various Reports of Committees/Commissions on Education, the important ones being the Kothari Commission (1966), the Chattopadhyay Committee (1985), the National Policy on Education (NPE 1986/92), Acharya Ramamurthi Committee (1990), Yashpal Committee (1993), and the National Curriculum Framework (NCF, 2005). The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, which became operational from 1st April, 2010, has important implications for teacher education in the country. Within the federal structure of the country, while broad policy and legal

