



e-ISSN: 2319-8753 | p-ISSN: 2347-6710

# IJIRSET

International Journal of Innovative Research in  
**SCIENCE | ENGINEERING | TECHNOLOGY**

# INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF INNOVATIVE RESEARCH

IN SCIENCE | ENGINEERING | TECHNOLOGY

Volume 12, Issue 7, July 2023

**ISSN** INTERNATIONAL  
STANDARD  
SERIAL  
NUMBER  
INDIA

Impact Factor: 8.423

9940 572 462

6381 907 438

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# Evaluation of Government Schemes Implemented for Women Empowerment (with special reference to NIRBHAYA and Ujjwala 2.0 Schemes)

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**ABSTRACT:** The Indian Government has started various schemes to ensure women empowerment. While the schemes implemented by the Government like Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban & Rural), the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), the initiatives like Samagra Shiksha, Scheme of National Overseas Scholarship, Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatrawas Yojna, Swacch Vidyalaya Mission, etc. ensure that schools are girl-friendly especially for vulnerable sections of society and have adequate facilities in place to fulfil their special requirements. Further, the National Education Policy (NEP), 2020 prioritizes gender equity and envisions ensuring equitable access to quality education to all students, with a special emphasis on Socially and Economically Disadvantaged Groups (SEDGs). In order to enhance the employability of female workers, the Government is providing training to them through a network of Women Industrial Training Institutes, National Vocational Training Institutes and Regional Vocational Training Institutes. To ensure economic independence of women through skill development and vocational training, the Government has also introduced Skill India Mission. The National Skill Development Policy focuses on inclusive skill development, with the objective of increased women participation for better economic productivity.

In India the place of women has always been very important, and that is why the women here are considered to be the form of Goddess. Statistics of last few years shows that there has been a rise in the cases of female harassment in India. But beside this the positive thing is that the government has noticed this issues related to women and quickly introduced various schemes to fight with the atrocities against the women and uplift their spirit, great opportunity for contribution in countries economy and development. various campaigns are being implemented by the Government of India from time to time for the empowerment of women. Eg. The national credit fund for women Beti Bachao Beti Padhao scheme, Ujjawala yojana and Nirbhaya Yojana etc. These schemes not only worked as women empowerment but also give financial support to women's. This paper evaluates the role of such government schemes in the empowerment of women, and critical analysis about Nirbhaya and PMUY 2.0 schemes mainly.

**KEYWORDS:** Women Empowerment, Welfare Schemes, Awareness, Wellness of women.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Women empowerment refers to making women powerful to make them capable of deciding for themselves. In the society all the rights belonged to men even something as basic as voting but as the times evolved, women realized their power. There on began the revolution for women empowerment. Almost every country, no matter how progressive has a history of ill-treating women. In other words, women from all over the world have been rebellious to reach the status they have today. While the western countries are still making progress, third world countries like India still lack behind in Women Empowerment. In India, women empowerment is needed more than ever. There are various reasons for this. Firstly, women in India are in danger of honor killings. Their family thinks its right to take their lives if they bring shame to the reputation of their legacy. Moreover, the education and freedom scenario is very regressive here. Women are not allowed to pursue higher education; they are married off early. The men are still dominating women in some regions like it's the woman's duty to work for him endlessly. They do not let them go out or have freedom of any kind. In addition, domestic violence is a major problem in India. The men beat up their wife and abuse them as they think women are their property. More so, because women are afraid to speak up. Similarly, the women who do actually work get paid less than their male counterparts. It is downright unfair and sexist to pay someone less for the same work

because of their gender. Thus, we see how women empowerment is the need of the hour. We need to empower these women to speak up for themselves and never be a victim of injustice.

#### Objectives of the study:

These are the major objectives of the study-

- To Analyze the status of women empowerment in India
- To evaluate the government scheme for women empowerment
- To analyze the status of Nirbhaya and Ujjawalla Yojana

## II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

1. Dimri, K. (2019). In her article entitled “Empowering Women: Striding Towards Progress” the author tried to examine the status of Women empowerment and also discussed the Nirbhaya Fund.
2. Dabadge, A., Sreenivas, A., & Josey, A. (2018). In the article entitled “What has the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana” the authors described a detailed analysis of PMUY. In the article they tried to defined every aspect of the PMUY.
3. Ranjan, R., & Singh, S. (2020). “Household cooking fuel patterns in rural India: Pre-and post-Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana”, this article discuss on the Pradhan Mantri Ujjawala Yojana in detailed. In this article the author’s gives a detailed analysis about the Household cooking fuel patterns in rural areas of India, and also gives a comparative study of the LPG uses status pre and post the PMUY.

#### Scheme for women welfare in India:

Under article 15(03) the constitution of India allows for positive discrimination in favor of women. The article, under right to equality, states that “Nothing in this article shall prevent the state from making any special provisions for women and children”. In addition, the directive principles of state policy states that: The state shall in particular direct its policy towards sec wing that the citizen’s men and women equally have the right to an adequate means of livelihood. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, addressed the nation from the ramparts of Red fort on 15 August gave a powerful message to people asking them to take a please to stop disrespecting women. A distortion has crept in our conduct and we at times insult women can we take a pledge to get rid of this in our behavior the prime minister said. Mentioning the Nari Shakti pol Modi said that “Respect for women is an important pillar for India’s growth we need to support our Nari Shakti.

The government programs for women development began as early as 1954 in India but the actual participation began only in 1974. At present the government of India has over 34 schemes for women operated by different department and ministries. Some of these are as follow.

1. The Rashtriya Mahila Rosh (National credit fund for women) was set up in 1993 to make credit available for lower income women in India.
2. Indra Gandhi matritva sahyaog yojana
3. Rajiv Gandhi scheme for empowerment of adolescent girls
4. Digital laado – giving digital wings to daughters
5. Mahila samridhi yojana, October 1993
6. Women entirprenuer development programme given top priority in 1997-98
7. Saw Shakti group
8. Support to training and employment programme for women
9. Saw lamb an
10. Swadhar
11. Dhanalakashmi 2008
12. Short stay homes
13. Ujjawala
14. Beti bachao beti padhao scheme
15. One stop ceutre sheme
16. Women helpline scheme
17. NIRBHAYA
18. Mahila police volunteers
19. Nari Shakti puraskar

**Evaluation of Nirbhaya Scheme:**

The government of India had set up a dedicated fund called Nirbhaya. Fund for implementations of Initiatives aimed at enhancing the security and safety for women in the country. An empowered committee of officers constituted under Nirbhaya framework appraises and recommends the proposals for funding under Nirbhaya fund in conjunction with the concerned ministries departments Implementing Agencies After Appraisal by the Ec the concerned ministries departments obtain approval of their respective competent financial authorities to release fund out of their respective budgets and implement the approved schemes directly through states implementing agencies.

Under the Nirbhaya Fund, one of the schemes namely “One Stop Centre (OSC) Schemes” is implemented across the country since 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015. OSCs aim to facilitate women affected by violence with range of integrated service under one roof such as police facilitation, medical aid, providing legal and psycho-social counseling and temporary shelter. OSCs are to be set up within 2 kms radius of the hospitals or medical facilities either in new constructed building in an approved design or in per- existing buildings. Under the scheme, One Stop Centers are being set up in all districts of the country. So far 704 OSCs have been operationalized and more than three lakh women have been assisted through them. The details of funds released and utilized under the OSC scheme during last three years, State/UT-wise including Karnataka, Rajasthan and Assam are placed at

**Annexure-I.**

The details of number of centers set up under the scheme, State/UT-wise including Rajasthan and Assam are placed at

**Annexure-II.**

The ministry of women and child Development has decided has implement the umbrella scheme for safety, security and empowerment of women as an integrated woman empowerment programme under the name ‘Mission Shakti’, including the component of One Stop Centers. For providing speedy assistance and services distressed and violence affected women at OSCs the Ministry has decided to set up more OSCs, in areas which are distant from district headquarters or having high rates of crime against women, to enhance the costing provisions for OSCs and to further enhance the synergy and coordination of OSCs with the other initiatives of the government, including those under Nirbhaya Fund and under mission Shakti. The information was given by the union Minister for women and child Development, amt. Smriti Zubin Irani, in a written reply in the Lok Sabha. LPG connections under the PMUY scheme has been in this phase, special facility has been given to migrant families.

**Table 01 : The State/UT-wise details of funds released and utilized under the scheme (OSC) during the Last three Years.**

(Amount in Rupees)

| S.No. | States /UTs                              | Amount released |           |          | Utilization |
|-------|--|-----------------|-----------|----------|-------------|
|       |  | 2018-19         | 2019-20   | 2020-21  |             |
| 1     | Andaman and Nicobar Islands              | 3687641         | 4159792   | 3859069  | 7990951     |
| 2     | Andhra Pradesh                           | 39063148        | 26099278  | 21105250 | 35143545    |
| 3     | Arunachal Pradesh                        | 78202084        | 13418151  | 52014408 | 8811508     |
| 4     | Assam                                    | 78695087        | 80408520  | 63614400 | 15492697    |
| 5     | Bihar                                    | 30832455        | 104609180 | 70966339 | 989813      |
| 6     | Chandigarh                               | 930799          | 1500450   | 3383756  | 2381249     |
| 7     | Chhattisgarh                             | 66244372        | 67738483  | 35320987 | 87736269    |
| 8     | Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu | 50000           | 7345503   | 4601200  | 306879      |
| 9     | Delhi                                    | 0               | 36255285  | 18304950 | 8851903     |
| 10    | Goa                                      | 492000          | 1500450   | 3000900  | 392000      |
| 11    | Gujarat                                  | 562669778       | 67951666  | 85084669 | 63336101    |

|    |                   |           |           |           |           |
|----|-------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 12 | Haryana           | 47960546  | 40192416  | 40443694  | 42362758  |
| 13 | Himachal Pradesh  | 10118850  | 31729794  | 19805400  | 1703950   |
| 14 | Jammu and Kashmir | 15020425  | 9639473   | 22483933  | 7253204   |
| 15 | Jharkhand         | 70436941  | 40853107  | 69124908  | 3553664   |
| 16 | Karnataka         | 59444419  | 58203580  | 73508758  | 17423208  |
| 17 | Kerala            | 28331849  | 14090453  | 23705850  | 8516076   |
| 18 | Ladakh-UT         | 0         | 0         | 6545042   | 2203172   |
| 19 | Lakshadweep       | 0         | 2091225   | 1350225   | 0         |
| 20 | Madhya Pradesh    | 112391390 | 167092445 | 104431900 | 60519822  |
| 21 | Maharashtra       | 38929425  | 66998501  | 64620010  | 21344257  |
| 22 | Manipur           | 35722445  | 24884407  | 50193815  | 20436592  |
| 23 | Meghalaya         | 18639947  | 37430224  | 21161595  | 9674467   |
| 24 | Mizoram           | 27264535  | 21870881  | 17263928  | 17065675  |
| 25 | Nagaland          | 45487024  | 20934647  | 33590577  | 42979808  |
| 26 | Odisha            | 77459998  | 20934647  | 93155192  | 15005985  |
| 27 | Puducherry        | 4766836   | 4376136   | 7201800   | 0         |
| 28 | Punjab            | 52633488  | 35183739  | 48461272  | 33738091  |
| 29 | Rajasthan         | 30860275  | 67711508  | 56686911  | 227338091 |
| 30 | Sikkim            | 3923225   | 6809569   | 6601800   | 123608    |
| 31 | Tamil Nadu        | 113995447 | 71359691  | 106060397 | 117407585 |
| 32 | Telangana         | 58948915  | 62446827  | 77573415  | 30635786  |
| 33 | Tripura           | 26901349  | 6001800   | 15603600  | 0         |
| 34 | Uttar Pradesh     | 222830497 | 123193989 | 228832664 | 129811493 |
| 35 | Utrakhand         | 27225409  | 22907445  | 27308659  | 30360381  |

Source: Statistical website, Govt. of India.

**Table 02 : The State/UT-wise details of number of Centers set up under the scheme (OSC)**

| S. No. | States /UTs                                | Number of OSCs set up |
|--------|--|-----------------------|
| 1      | Andaman and Nicobar(UT)                    | 03                    |
| 2      | Andhra Pradesh                             | 13                    |
| 3      | Arunachal Pradesh                          | 24                    |
| 4      | Assam                                      | 33                    |
| 5      | Bihar                                      | 38                    |
| 6      | Chhattisgarh                               | 01                    |
| 7      | Chandigarh                                 | 27                    |
| 8      | Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman &Diu (UT) | 03                    |
| 9      | Delhi (UT)                                 | 11                    |
| 10     | Goa  | 02                    |
| 11     | Gujrat                                     | 33                    |
| 12     | Haryana                                    | 22                    |
| 13     | Himachal Pradesh                           | 12                    |
| 14     | Jammu& Kashmir (UT)                        | 20                    |
| 15     | Jharkhand                                  | 24                    |
| 16     | Karnataka                                  | 30                    |
| 17     | Kerala                                     | 14                    |
| 18     | Lakshadweep (UT)                           | 01                    |

|    |                 |            |
|----|-----------------|------------|
| 19 | Ladakh (UT)     | 02         |
| 20 | Maharashtra     | 37         |
| 21 | Madhya Pradesh  | 52         |
| 22 | Manipur         | 16         |
| 23 | Meghalaya       | 11         |
| 24 | Mizoram         | 08         |
| 25 | Nagaland        | 11         |
| 26 | Odisha          | 30         |
| 27 | Punjab          | 22         |
| 28 | Puducherry (UT) | 04         |
| 29 | Rajasthan       | 33         |
| 30 | Sikkim          | 04         |
| 31 | Tamil Nadu      | 34         |
| 32 | Telangana       | 33         |
| 33 | Tripura         | 08         |
| 34 | Uttar Pradesh   | 75         |
| 35 | Uttarakhand     | 13         |
| 36 | West Bengal     | 00         |
|    | <b>Total</b>    | <b>704</b> |

Source: Statistical website, Govt. of India.

### Evaluation of PMUY 2.0:

In May 2016 ministry of Petroleum and Natural gas (MOPNG) introduced the Pradhan Mantri Ujjawala Yojana (PMUY) 2.0 as a flagship scheme with an objective to make clean cooking fuel such as LPG available to rural and deprived household which were otherwise using traditional cooking fuels such as firewood, coal, cow dung cakes etc. usages of traditional cooking fuel had detrimental impacts on the health of rural women as on the environment. The scheme was launched on 1<sup>st</sup> may 2016 in Ballia, Uttar Pradesh by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. In the first Year of its launch, the connections distributed were 22 million against the target of 15 million. As of 23 October 2017, 30 million connections were distributed, 44% of which were given to families belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes 6 The number crossed 58 million by December 2018. In 2018 Union Budget of India, its scope was widened to include 80 million poor households. 21000 awareness camps were conducted by oil marketing companies (OMC). The scheme led to an increase in LPG consumption by 56% in 2019 as compared to 2014. The highly popular scheme has benefited over 14.6 million BPL families in Uttar Pradesh, 8.8 million in west Bengal 8. 5 million in Bihar, 7.1 million Madhya Pradesh and 6.3 million in Rajasthan. In the Union Budget of 2021-2022, the government announced that 1 Crore more connections be provided under this scheme.

At the 107 the Indian Science Congress held in January 2020 in Bengaluru, Narendra Modi declared that technology has helped India “in recognizing the 8 Crore [80 Million] women who were still using coal or wood for cooking” and also “in understanding how many new distribution centers must be built, via the help of technology. The national Family Health Surveys demonstrate significant improvement in access to cleaner cooking fuels due to PMUY. Yearly growth in access to cleaner fuel accelerated around 2015 and increased by almost seven times, 0.8% in rural areas before 2015 to 5.6% after

The target under the scheme was to release 8 Crore LPG Connection to the deprived households by March 2020. On 7th September 2019, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India handed over the 8th Crore LPG connection in Aurangabad, Maharashtra. The release of 8 Crore LPG connection under the scheme has also helped in increasing the LPG coverage 62% on 1st may 2016 to 99.8% as on 1st April 2021. Under the Union Budget for FY 21-22, provision for release of additional 1 Crore According to the latest Govt. reports under PMUY 1.0 total 94969244 LPG



Connections has been distributed to the rural women up to 1 September 2022. And there were 15087935 LPG Connections has been distributed under PMUY 2.0 up to 1 September 2022. The impact of this scheme can be identified with these data analysis that in the financial year of 2014-15 the domestic sale of the LPG was 16041, but in the financial year of 2021-22 it was 25502. So a growth rate of 59 percent can be seen in the LPG distribution. The another scenario shows that in April 2014 total domestic LPG users were 14.52 crore across the country, in which number of PMUY users were zero, but in the April 2022 the total number of LPG users were 30.53 crore in which number of PMUY users were almost 9 crore. It shows the successful ratio of the PMUY Scheme.

### III. CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis of two very important schemes of the Government of India related to women empowerment, it can be said that the Government of India is continuously implementing new schemes for the upliftment of women. It is also clear from this study that during the implementation of such schemes, the government not only takes special care of protecting the interests of women, but the schemes are made in such a way that through which the social and economic development of women may also be achieved.

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**Impact Factor: 8.423**



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