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### **Impact of Government Schemes on the Dropout Rate of Girl Students**

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**Abstract :** *India has one of the fastest growing youth population in the world, with an estimated 190 million adolescents. Girls below 19 years of age comprise one quarter of India's rapidly growing population. Their education plays a vital role in building up of society and nation at large. As there is a famous saying that if you educate a man you educate him only and if you educate a woman you educate the whole family. In India today the number of school going children is quite less and the plight of girl students is even worse.*

*Government of India also considers this matter very seriously which is very obvious when we study the various successful schemes and policies running successfully both at the central and the state level. If we look towards the objectives of these successfully running schemes, then the result shows a very positive disposition of government towards girls which*

*is appreciable. But in Bihar the past statistics reveals that the plight of girls is considerably worse than that of boys. Bihar has the lowest enrollment for both boys and girls, 40% of the children in class 1 to 4 dropped out in 1999-2000 compared to 38% in 1997-1998.*

*To study this problem a sample of 100 girls' parents (50 from urban and 50 from rural areas) were selected by incidental sampling technique. These girls were from four Government schools of Bihar viz. Rajkiya Kanya Uchch Vidyalaya, Dhanarua, Rajkiya Kanya Uchch Vidyalaya, Shripalpur, Rajkiya Kanya Madhya Vidyalaya, Adalat Ganj and Manorma Vidyapeeth Girl's High School, Patna. The analysis of the data reveals that at the primary level Balika Poshak Yojana and Mid Day Meal were in demand whereas at the secondary level Balika Cycle Yojana had a major impact on reducing the dropout rate of girls. The study also reveals that during past five years the girls' dropout rate has also decreased considerably. As various schemes have been formulated so it will be prudent to know about the impact of these schemes in Bihar. Thus in our study we tried to find out how government schemes increase the enrolment of girls in schools and made them stay at least upto elementary level.*

**Key words:** *Dropout, Dropout Rate, Government Schemes, Elementary level and Enrolment.*