

Research Paper

A Descriptive Study on the Performance of *Beti Bachao Beti Padhao* (BBBP) and *Mahila Shakti Kendra* (MSK) Schemes in Nagaland

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ABSTRACT

Nagaland is a state where 48.21% of the total populations are women. Naga society is a patriarchal society and it is believed that women must be respected but Naga society clearly distinguishes gender roles and gender responsibilities. Naga women are in charge of domestic issues such as family while men deal with society and village councils and administration. Women are excluded from the decision making and inheritance of land whether it's ancestral or self equipped land. Women centric schemes like BBBP and MSK support women and girl child with education and health, encourage them to be more independent, participate in decision making, gives awareness of different day to day activities and importance of girl child. The study highlights the status of *Beti Bachao Beti Padhao* (BBBP) and *Mahila Shakti Kendra* (MSK) and achievement of this two schemes in Nagaland.

HIGHLIGHTS

- In Nagaland, the growth rate of release of fund is found 8.85 per cent and utilization of fund increases of 11.43 per cent.
- For the scheme MSK, the growth rate of sanction fund was estimated -0.41 per cent in the North East Region while in Nagaland the growth rate is found at 1.89 per cent.
- As per 2011 Census the literacy of women in the state is recorded 76.11 per cent is quite satisfactory compared to 65.46 per cent of national female literacy.
- The government should take the responsibility to make sure that the funds of women are utilized effectively and reach out to the backward areas in the state.

Keywords: Empowerment, *Beti Bachao Beti Padhao* (BBBP), *Mahila Shakti Kendra* (MSK), State Resource Centre for Women (SRCW)

Women empowerment allows the women to make life determining decision through different problems in the society. The participation of both men and women is required for the achievement of sustainable development. Women should also be given equal chance in all aspects in political, social, economic and health issues. The empowerment of women takes place when women participation increased in decision making and implementing processes of all decision in political

and administrative area. Government of India made various constitutional and legal provisions for protection of women's rights, but yet women face various problems in day to day life. Moreover, educated women have become aware of their rights and of gender discrimination. Women tend to be

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victims of gender discrimination due to societal perception towards women as subordinate to men. The status of women is comparatively better in the Northern eastern parts as compared to other states in India. Naga women constitute 48.21 per cent of the total population and society is a casteless in nature where women have enjoyed a high social positioning and a fair spirit of independence, and plays a central role in family and community affairs. The society is a patriarchal society and it is believed that women must be respected, should be given equal opportunity and their security cannot be compromised. But the traditional law of the society clearly distinguishes gender roles and gender responsibilities. In their society women are in charge of domestic issues while men deal with society including village administration and council. The impression about women being empowered in the society is largely a myth. However, much progress has been made in the field of education and employment, especially in the urban areas, yet empowerment in the real sense is debatable as women do not have real decision making powers within their home, community, over land property etc.

LITERATURE REVIEW

M Shettar Rajeshwari (2015), reported in article *A Study on Issues and Challenges of Women Empowerment in India* that women of India are relatively disempowered and they enjoy somewhat lower status than that of men in spite of many efforts undertaken by Government. It is found that acceptance of unequal gender norms by women are still prevailing in the society. The study concludes by an observation that access to Education, Employment and Change in Social Structure are only the enabling factors to Women Empowerment

Devi Rama (2017), reported in his article *Gender Equality and Women Empowerment* made an attempt to present some of the key determinants of inequalities that exist in our country so as to have an idea about to what extent the women is empowered.

Alam Meraj *et al.* (2017), reported in an article *Women Empowerment through Gender Budgeting in India An overview* studies how the innovative concept of gender has received a substantial attention worldwide. The study found out that there

is positive impact of gender budgeting on the socio economic and health status of women in India

Statement of Problem

Women empowerment is a critical aspect of achieving gender equality and for transforming power relations for women. Women are continuously facing many problems in their daily life even after they have given equal rights and opportunities like men. Empowering women and girls contribute to the health and productivity of the community and countries creating a ripple effect and the ability to bring a positive change and benefits to everyone. Women centric schemes & programs safeguards the rights of the women and enables them to be more independent, focuses on the importance health and education of women and girl, encourage participation in decision making both at home and community and safeguards them from any form of violence.

OBJECTIVES

1. To study the status of *Beti Bachao Beti Padhao* and *Mahila Shakti Kendra* Schemes in Nagaland.
2. To study the achievements while implementing the scheme.

METHODOLOGY

The study is descriptive based on observation and secondary sources. The study focused on two different women centric schemes i.e. *Beti Bachao Beti Padhao* (BBBP) and *Mahila Shakti Kendra* (MSK).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Profile of the State

Table 1

Sl. No.	Heads	Particulars
1	Total Population	1978502
1.1	Male	1024649
1.2	Female	953853
2	Per cent of Rural Population	71.14%
3	Per cent of Urban Population	78.86%
4	Sex Ratio (female per 1000 male)	931
5	Literacy Rate	79.55%
5.1	Male Literacy	82.75%
5.2	Female Literacy	76.11%

Source: Statistical Hand Book 2021 (Population as per 2011 Census).

Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP)

The main objective of BBBP is to prevent sex-selective elimination that is gender biased, to protect the girl child and give her an equal chance of survival and to confirm education and participation of the girl child. State Social Welfare Board Nagaland is the implementing agency of BBBP. At the district level, the BBBP is being implemented for multi sectoral intervention in 7 districts i.e. Longleng, Mon, Wokha, Peren, Phek, Tuensang and Mokokchung. For media and advocacy, 4 districts are covered i.e. Zunheboto, Kiphire, Dimapur and Kohima.

Table 2 represents the amount sanctioned for BBBP from the year 2015-16 to 2019-20 of all the North Eastern Region. A total of ₹ 242.65 lakhs was released in the region in 2015-16 of which the utilization was ₹ 186.54 lakh. In 2019-20 a total of ₹ 1289.91 lakhs was sanctioned out of which ₹ 1132.78 lakhs was utilized. The growth rate of sanction fund

is found 4.32 per cent and growth of utilization is increasing with 5.07 per cent. While in Nagaland in the same period the fund released for the scheme increases from ₹ 32.51 to ₹ 320.33 lakhs of which utilization also increases from ₹ 24.05 to 298.91 lakhs. The growth rate of release of fund is found 8.85 per cent and utilization of fund increases of 11.43 per cent. The highest fund for the scheme was released in 2019-20 of ₹ 398.55 Lakhs in Manipur and least in Tripura of ₹ 25 lakhs.

In Nagaland the same amount was sanctioned from 2015-2018 i.e. ₹ 32.51 lakhs and in the year 2017-2018 all the amount i.e. ₹ 32.51 was utilized for BBBP activities. In Nagaland the highest amount was sanctioned in 2019-2020 i.e. ₹ 320.33 lakhs and 298.91 lakhs was utilised. The funds were used in creating awareness, workshops, seminars, organizing medical camps and giving hampers to newly born girl child.

Table 2: Amount Sanctioned for BBBP (2015-2020) in North East India (₹ in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	State	Total Fund 2015-2016	Utilization 2015-2016	Total Fund 2016-2017	Utilization 2016-2017	Total Fund 2017-2018	Utilization 2017-2018	Total Fund 2018-2019	Utilization 2018-2019	Total Fund 2019-2020	Utilization 2019-2020
1	Arunachal Pradesh	32.51	32.51	—	—	32.51	27.05	170.87	103.34	241.65	208.85
2	Assam	32.51	—	32.51	2.78	32.51	20.24	25.00	11.37	86.85	53.55
3	Manipur	15.13	—	15.13	15.13	44.95	44.95	269.45	241.94	398.55	367.73
4	Meghalaya	32.46	32.46	16.23	0.85	32.51	23.78	24.70	24.53	67.53	57.80
5	Mizoram	32.51	32.50	0.01	—	32.51	32.51	100.00	75.00	100.00	75.00
6	Nagaland	32.51	24.05	32.51	23.30	32.51	32.51	295.52	228.36	320.33	298.91
7	Sikkim	32.51	32.51	32.51	25.84	48.76	48.76	50.00	47.50	50.00	50.00
8	Tripura	32.51	32.51	—	—	—	—	25.00	—	25.00	20.94
TOTAL		242.65	186.54	128.9	67.9	256.26	229.8	960.54	732.04	1,289.91	1,132.78

Source: Ministry of Child and Women Development (2020-21).

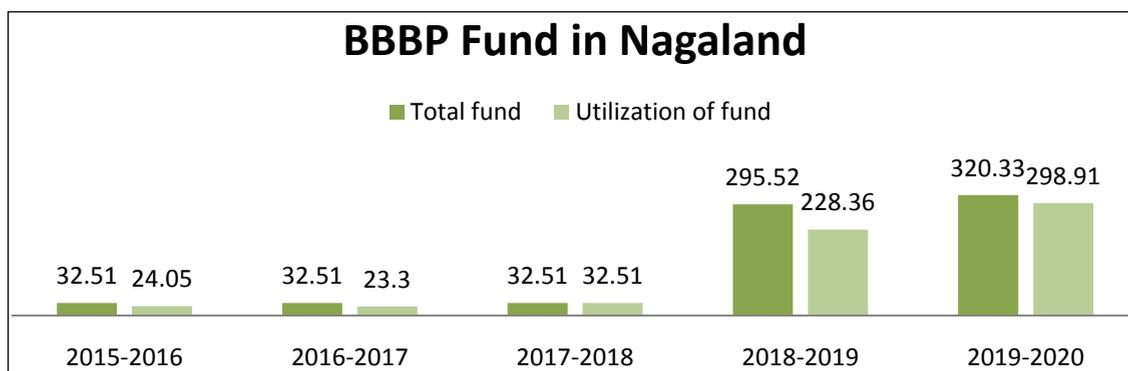


Fig. 1: BBBP Fund Release and Utilization in Nagaland

Mahila Shakti Kendra (MSK)

MSK provides an interface for rural women to approach the Government for availing their entitlements & for empowering them through awareness generation, training & capacity building. The State Resource Centre for Women (SRCW) is the Project Management Unit (PMU) for MSK district level and MSK block level. District Level Centre for Women (DLCW) has been extended to all multi-sectoral BBBP districts i.e. Mon, Wokha, Mokokchung, Peren, Phek, Longleng, Tuensang, Kohima and Aspirational District Kiphire. MSK block level will be set up only in aspirational district Kiphire.

Table 3 represents the amount sanctioned for MSK from 2017-18 to 2020-21 in all the North Eastern Region of India. A total of ₹ 1411.5 lakhs was sanctioned for MSK in the year 2017-18 which decreases to ₹ 831.56 lakhs in 2020-21. The growth rate of sanction fund was estimated -0.41 per cent. In Nagaland the sanctioned fund for MSK in the same period increases from ₹ 95.13 lakhs to ₹ 271.76 lakhs. The growth rate is found 1.89 per cent. In

2020-21 the highest fund released to the scheme to Assam of ₹ 473.79 lakhs and Mizoram is the least of ₹ 86.01 lakhs. The state Manipur, Meghalaya, Sikkim, Tripura and Arunachal Pradesh were not sanctioned any funds in the year 2020-21.

Fig. 2 represents the MSK funds in Nagaland. From the graph it can be seen that the highest amount was sanctioned in the year 2020-2021 i.e. ₹ 271.76 followed by ₹ 221.57 in the year 2018-2019. The lowest amount was sanctioned in the year 2017-2018 in Nagaland i.e. ₹ 95.13. The funds were utilized increasing awareness about the scheme, organizing workshops and seminars for women in rural areas and giving training in different activities like tailoring, cutting etc.

Achievements

National Award for Best Performing state under *Beti Bachao Beti Padhao* (BBBP): During the National Girl Child Day celebration on 24th January 2019 at New Delhi, Nagaland was rewarded for best performance in BBBP scheme among the top five states/union territories under state competition category for

Table 3: Mahila Shakti Kendra Fund Sanctioned 2017-2021 (₹ in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	State	2017-2018	2018- 2019	2019-2020	2020- 2021
1	Arunachal Pradesh	—	151.35	334.38	—
2	Assam	980	—	88.30	473.79
3	Manipur	137.34	33.21	4.29	—
4	Meghalaya	61.31	158.85	25.74	—
5	Mizoram	117.82	166.77	140.11	86.01
6	Nagaland	95.13	221.57	103.80	271.76
7	Sikkim	—	99.85	4.29	—
8	Tripura	19.9	125.50	—	—
Total		1411.5	957.1	700.91	831.56

Source: Ministry of Child and Women Development (2020-21).

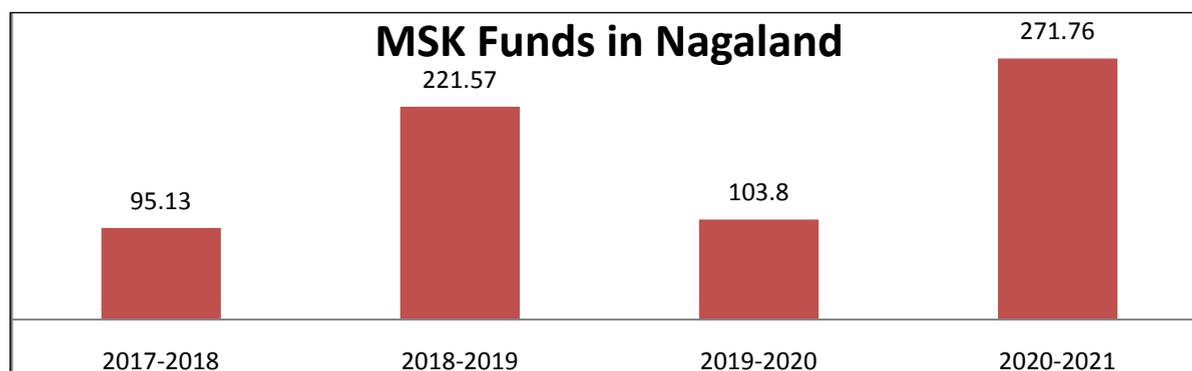


Fig. 2: MSK fund in Nagaland from 2017-2021

recognition of the “overall support, guidance, monitoring and achieving the targets of BBBP”.

National Award for Good Performing District under *Beti Bachao Beti Padhao*- Wokha District: In the year 2019, Wokha district received two national awards. Wokha was awarded in the category of “Effective Community Achievement” for its good performance.

On 6th September 2019 at the felicitation ceremony of “Good performing states and districts under BBBP programme” in New Delhi, Wokha was amongst the 10 districts in India felicitated for undertaking “good work in generating awareness and outreach activities”

District Level Centre for Women under Mahila Shakti Kendra (MSK) was introduced in 8 districts on 8th March 2019 i.e. Wokha, Mokokchung, Tuensang, Mon, Phek, Peren, Kohima and aspirational district in Kiphire.

Under the initiative of MSK and the District Administration of Kiphire, Cutting & Tailoring Centres were set up at Seyochung town and Pungro town Kiphire for Special and Destitute women.

CONCLUSION

Nagaland was rewarded for best performance in BBBP scheme among the top five states/union territories under state competition category for recognition of the overall support, guidance, monitoring and achieving the targets of BBBP. The study completely based on observation and secondary sources might have some limitation because a sample of larger dimension in the field study on women beneficiary of women component plan might reflect accurate and exact picture of the problem. But yet, analyzing the secondary data with observation it is found that women reflect the community as a whole. As per 2011 Census the literacy of women in the state is recorded 76.11 per cent is quite satisfactory compared to 65.46 per cent of national female literacy. The growth rate of sanction fund in 2015-16 to 2019-20 for BBBP scheme in the state is found 8.85 per cent and utilization

of fund increases of 11.43 per cent which is more than that of all North East Region with a growth rate of fund sanctioned of 4.32 per cent and growth of utilization of 5.07 per cent. For the scheme MSK, the growth rate of sanction fund was estimated -0.41 per cent in the North East Region while in Nagaland the growth rate is found at 1.89 per cent which seems satisfactory.

Women have been the epicenters and key forces of social and cultural heritage preservation. The government schemes for women will be a boost as it will create an environment where they can give their opinions in the society. The government should take the responsibility to make sure that the funds of women are utilized effectively and reach out to the backward areas in the state. There is adequate scope for the Naga women to grow if provided they are given equal opportunities and proper care and support to the girl child.

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