



Awareness of Government Programmes on Child Marriage in Bihar

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Abstract : *Child marriage is an unhealthy practice for a developing nation. Although there is lots of laws and rules to minimize or vanish the child marriage, yet India has 3rd largest number of child bride in the world. It is fact that a healthy child leads a healthy country so it is important to overcome this problem. In India, child marriage is one of the socio-economic consequences. There is more than 70% family where child marriage occurs due to economic burden. It is revealed that girls married under 18 years faced elevated risk of complication in pregnancy and childbirth and contracting sexually transmitted disease including HIV and experiences social and educational disadvantage (ICRW Report, 2015). The study concluded that a large section of people is unaware of various*

schemes of central and state Government and those people who are aware of the schemes; very few of them become the beneficiary of the schemes.

Keywords: *Child marriage, socio-economic, complication, burden, awareness*

Introduction:

“No girl should be robbed of her education, health and her aspiration. Yet today millions of girls are denied their rights each year when they are married as child bride” says Michelle Bachelet, M.D, Executive of Director of UN women (Basa, 2016).

Child marriage is a violation of child rights and has a negative impact on physical growth, health, mental and emotional development and educational opportunity. Child marriage can be seen across the country among the boys and girls but girls are affected most of the time. Rural areas are most prominently suffered. Girls from poorer families, scheduled caste, scheduled tribe and with lower educational level are more likely to marry at a younger age. According to the Registrar General of India (RGI) Report (2001), Rajasthan has the highest (40.8%) of females ever married among 15-19 year old girls as compared to India (24.9%) followed by Bihar (36%) (Lal, 2015).

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