

Student's Perception Towards The Effectiveness Of Kanyashree Prakalpa In Kotulpur Block Of Bankura In West Bengal

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Abstract:

The current study finds its root at Kotulpur block of Bankura district in west Bengal. The study mainly tries to reveal the impact of Kanyashree at a time grant in the life of its direct beneficiaries. By constructing the sample size with 100 respondents the study makes an attempt to verify the truth behind the scenario. Accordingly, the study ends with plenty of serious information regarding the implementation as well as the effectiveness of the particular scheme. As far as women empowerment is concerned several motivational factors work together to broaden the efficacy of the aforementioned grant. Eventually, it is concluded that different educational and career centric approaches basically construct a new arena of women empowerment. According to the study, Kanyashee grant as a financial push from outside has been playing an important role in building up their self-esteem and self-dependency as well.

Key words: Women empowerment, Child marriage, School dropouts, Girls Education.

Introduction:

Kotulpur is a large community development block situated at bankura district in west Bengal. As this place is adjacent to the Hooghly district it contains a mixed form of culture in it. An age-old tradition of Jairambati and kamarpukur enriches this place with the widely spread spiritualism and folk culture.

The particular community development block consists of five higher secondary schools including two girls schools namely Kotulpur high school, Gogra High School, Mirjapur High School, Kotulpur Saroj Basini Balika Vidyalaya and Deopara Champamoni High School. There are six gram panchayats situated in the CD block. These GPs work together under the supervision of Block development office and administration in order to provide the necessary public services to the residents of the CD block. There are numerous examples of such women centric government or government sponsored schemes like kanyashree prakalpa, Rupashree prakalpa, laxmir vandar etc which have been widely accepted by the majority of female members of the particular block as the financial sources regarding their daily economic affairs. Nowadays, women are getting more conscious about their own status in society. Particularly Education is being largely used by them as the best weapons to resist the hidden dangers that exist in the society.

KanyashreePrakalpa is such a scheme which provides certain amounts to the unmarried girl students from class eight onwards. Subsequently, those who have reached or crossed the age of 18 as well as still pursuing their study at schools or colleges are provided with a 25000 rupees grant in the form of assistance money to amplify their aim of life.

Review of related literature: The reviews of literature mainly identify the source and consequences of a problem. It also helps to build up a hypothetical base of the selected problems. The researches associated with the similar problems are mainly being gathered together in order to assimilate the knowledge and information regarding the issue. For understanding the sphere of the current study the researcher had looked into some previous researches which are mentioned below.

Nandy & Nandi in their study namely Kanyashree Prakalpa, “A Stepping stone towards Empowerment of Women: An Analytical View” aimed to analyze the effectiveness as well as to search out the loopholes whose removal is essential for speeding up the programme. The study reached out the facts from the primary survey of 1050 households conducted by them in three districts of WB ---Howrah, Murshidabad and Koch Bihar that Kanyashree Prakalpa can contribute a lot in this regard by providing stimulus to the parents of girl students through financial benefits. It has also reduced both the dropout and early marriage rates of girl students in the state of West Bengal. Despite this the scheme suffers from some loopholes, though it is a concrete step to uplift the women with greater participation in economic activities, higher degree of economic independence, social freedom and enough decision-making power in their families in future.

Molla & Sarkar in their paper “Impact of Kanyashree Prakalpa on Academic Performances of Girls Student: A Study” mainly aimed to know the impact of Kanyashree Prakalpa on academic performance in the respect of location (urban &rural). The study found that Kanyashree Prakalpa has a positive impact in these factors (e.g., enhancing enrolment, retention, drop out attendance and of girls students) which are essential for increasing the higher level of academic performance of girl-students particularly belonging to BPL like girls students residing in the rural areas colleges of North 24 Parganas district in the state of West Bengal.

Kanrar did a study on the Impact of Kanyashree Project on the “Academic Development of Students: A Study with Special Reference to Howrah District of West Bengal”. The objectives of this study are to get knowledge about the utilization of the fund of Kanyashree project by students as well as to know the current status of this scheme. And last but not the least, to estimate the effects of this scheme on the studies of students. From the particular study it is clearly observed that this scheme is an excellent effort of the West Bengal Government and also very beneficial for girls, particularly for those poor talented girls who are unable to receive education due to lack of sufficient money and usually get married by their parents. For these types of girls this scheme is like a blessing. By using this scheme they can again start their education and can delay their marriage at least until the age of 18 years.

The above mentioned studies perfectly display the need and effect of the government schemes in societal context. The revolutionary schemes and projects always make a special impression in public life. Such studies mainly try to collect the information regarding the overall impact of specific schemes and projects through valuable expertise.

Here, the aforementioned studies perfectly cater to the current research area and also provide a scope to bridge the existing knowledge gap through the current study.

The study area:

The study area of the current study is actually situated on the border line of Bankura and Hooghly district of west Bengal. Accordingly, the population of the study area largely illuminates the cultural settings of this place. According to the local mythology, Kotluol Khan the king of the then capital of the local kingdom namely Gar Mandaran, was assassinated in a war, in the era of Mughal. Consequently, the name of the place bears a deep connection with the name of the then king. The whole area of the current study is divided into eight gram panchayat areas namely Deshrahkoyalpara, Kotulpur, Lego, Mirzapur, Gopinathpur, Laugram, Madanmohanpur and Sihar. Therefore, the survey for data collection had been conducted in those different places. Alongside, a certain minimum distance has also been kept maintained throughout the study in order to avoid the homogeneity in the particular case. Here, the schools which are situated in this place are constantly disseminating knowledge and education over the years. Certain numbers of schools which have been visited during the study are namely Kotalpur High School, Gogra High School, Mirjapur High School, Sarojbasini Balika Vidyalaya & Deopara Champamoni High School.

Methodology:

The whole study has been conducted through a rigorous process including sampling, data collection, and data analysis. The overall process begins with its first step that is sampling. For the particular study a sample size containing one hundred kanyashree² recipients has been selected. Secondly, a set of questionnaires containing selective questions setups has been used for taking interviews of the respondents.

Objective of the study:

The study mainly objectifies

- To understand the association of Kanyashree Prakalpa with women empowerment in Kotulpur block of bankura district.
- To examine the decision making power of K2 recipients.
- To assess the capability of women in adopting skill development through income generating programmes.
- To verify what is the role of local administrations in the process of disbursement of student's scholarship in this particular place.
- To examine which are the requirements of girl students regarding their education and career in this locality?

Data Sources

The chosen data source for this current study consists of two different resources. One is primary data and the other is secondary data source. The secondary data has been collected from different prior works and studies done on this particular study area. Some of the digital govt. sites also have been visited in order to collect proper information regarding the current topic. Alongside, the major part of the current study mainly depends on the primary data which has been collected during the field work. Basically, the data and pertinent information have

been collected through one to one interviews as well as observation methods in this particular case. The kanyashree recipients, their parents, school and college teachers, local administration including gram panchayat, B.D.O office, Librarians of local public libraries, Kanyashree Sangha organizers are considered as the main data source.

Result and discussion:

Part I: Usefulness of KOTG (Y) is the predictor variable.

Table - I: Correlation study between predictor variable usefulness of KOTG(Y) and 21 casual variables.

Variables	'r' Value
<i>Level of Education (X₁)</i>	.6114**
<i>Respondent's age (X₂)</i>	.6352**
Guardian's profession (X ₃)	-.0054
Monthly earning of Guardians(X ₄)	.0132
Monthly earnings of family (X ₅)	.0180
Frequency of going to educational institution(X ₆)	.0245
Consumption of meal (X ₇)	-.0784
<i>Power connection at home (X₈)</i>	.1983*
<i>Adhaar card accessibility (X₉)</i>	.3579**
<i>Distance to educational institutions from home (X₁₀)</i>	.2869**
<i>Mode of transportation from home to EI(X₁₁)</i>	.3526**
<i>Access to private tuition (X₁₂)</i>	-.3922**
efficiency of Kanyashree grant for restricting school dropouts(X ₁₃)	.0311
Family approval for availing school or college education (X ₁₄)	.1521
School's function in receiving Kanyashree grant (X ₁₅)	-.0960
Availability of KanyashreeSangha (X ₁₆)	.1642
<i>Accessibility of rural public library (X₁₇)</i>	.2806**
habit of using public library (X ₁₈)	.0666
<i>Function of PL in getting Kanyashree grant (X₁₉)</i>	.1683
Function of gram panchayats in getting KOTG(X ₂₀)	.1319
Function of Block Development Office in getting public services (X ₂₁)	.0001
The usefulness of KOTG(X ₂₂)	1.0000

Critical value (2-Tail, 0.05) = +or- 0.197 *Significant at 5% level

Critical value (2-Tail, 0.01) = +or- 0.256 ** Significant at 1% level

The effectiveness of Kanyashree at a time grant (Y_1)–

From table 1 it is clear that the causal variable namely *Level of Education* (X_1) is showing a significant and positive approach towards the impact of *Kanyashree at a time grant* (Y_1) in the current context. As a reason for the phenomenon it might be said that whether the girls of the rural areas are getting access to the schools, colleges and other educational centres with the help of the money, the average level of education of girls is increasing day by day. Therefore, it is needless to say that the dependency over the aforementioned scheme has been widely accepted here.

Respondent's age (X_2) is another causal variable which indicates a strong positive association with the dependent variable that is the **effectiveness of Kanyashree Prakashpa** (Y). This scenario clearly identifies that the age group of a major portion of the respondents is mainly 18-24. As the aforementioned age group is productive as well as reproductive stage of life, girls who belong to this vital age are likely to be more self motivated to do better in their life. Therefore the girls have a tendency to avail the scheme in pursuing higher studies as well as building their career in order to earn self esteem in their life.

According to the study, the electricity connection in the entire Kotulpur block area is available. Therefore, the causal variable **power connection at home** (X_3) has a positive association with the dependent variable that is **effectiveness of kanyashree prakalpa** (Y); which means, the respondents who are having an electricity connection at their home for a long period are utilising the grant in order to become self dependent. As the electricity connection helps a person in many ways, it is needless to say that the girls also utilize the same for their betterment. Susmita Roy, a kanyashree recipient of Kotulpul block might be an example of this positive association between two aforementioned variables. According to the 23 years old girl, her family has been availing electricity service for more than 10 years, that's why she purchased an old computer desktop with the grant for her higher study.

Adhaar card accessibility (X_9) is also a causal variable which has a strong and positive connection with the dependent variable. According to the study every respondent is having her own identity proof in terms of voter identity card and aadhar card. Therefore, the girls have received the grant without any difficulties. The smoothness of the whole system has made them confident to avail and utilise the grant as well. In addition it can

also be said that women should be politically as well as socially empowered throughout the country. Thus they have every right to acquire their own identity proof in order to remain as legal citizens within the boundary of the country. In this respect, the kanyashree girls of the Kotulpur block can receive every benefit including govt schemes due to the availability of aadhar card and other identity proofs.

The causal variable *Distance to educational institutions from home* (X_{10}) is also positively associating with the aforesaid dependent variable in a strong manner. As a reason for this strong and positive association it has been revealed that the distance between the respondents home to their educational institution is not more than 4 to 5 kilometres in case of school going girls. Therefore the distance is not a bar any more here. During the study it has been revealed that in case of pursuing undergraduate degree, the Kayashree recipients generally depend on the local degree college namely **Chatra Ramai Pandit Mahavidyalaya**, situated at chatra village of Kotulpur block. The college was established in the year of 2000. Though sometimes the girls who aspire for acquiring post graduate degree or diploma, degree or diploma in nursing, medical, engineering, B.Ed, D.Ed, and others various higher study related courses have to go outside of their block as well as outside of bankura district, they can manage the transport related expenses with the help of the grant.

Mode of transportation from home to EI (X_{11}) is also an independent variable indicating a positive and strong connection with the aforesaid dependent variable. During the study it is revealed that Sobuj Sathi cycles have been proved as the game changer here. According to the respondents, they generally get the benefit of Kanyasree 2 grant in pursuing school as well as college education by managing the expenses of study in a similar way to how they use the Sobuj Sathi cycles as the means of transportation from their residence to educational institutions. In case of pursuing postgraduate degree and others they mainly depend on buses and E-vehicles as the means of transport. In this respect, they utilise the grant in managing the fare of transports.

Another causal variable namely *Access to private tuition* (X_{12}) is strongly associated with the aforesaid dependent variable in a negative manner. Actually, the particular study reveals that a huge number of school as well as college students are largely dependent on respective institutions and their teachers and also on school or college libraries for their regular study. Some of them also get study oriented assistance and guidance from their siblings. Thus, the expenses regarding private tuition are very less. Therefore, they generally utilise the grant in purchasing reference books, acquiring computer skills and other vocational courses. Especially, those girls between the 21 to 25 age group largely use the grant for pursuing different technical as well as vocational

courses like beautician course, tailoring course, Income generating Courses like poultry farming, animal husbandry etc.

The strong and Positive association of the causal variable *Accessibility of rural public library (X₁₇)* with the aforesaid dependent variable reveals that there is a greater access to the local rural libraries situated in the block. As the kanyashree girls largely depend on school and public libraries for their regular studies as well as studies for competitive exams, there is a clear tendency of availing the services provided by public libraries. Thus, the girls who receive the kanyashree 2 grant generally prefer to avail public library services to enlarge the periphery of knowledge as well as to improve the level of their learning capacity in terms of participation in e-learning programme, coaching for competitive exams, small scale income generating programme organized by local libraries.

Function of PL in getting Kanyashree grant (X₁₉) is another causal variable which has strong and positive correlation with the aforesaid dependent variable. Whereas the K2 recipients demand for better facilities from public libraries, the study reveals that there is a great shortage of library staff as well as infrastructure of libraries in the block. Most of all there is a great scarcity of public libraries in the locality. In this respect better amenities from public libraries are extremely required here. Whether the girls receive the grant they usually prefer to acquire training in a small scale income generating programme, coaching for competitive exams, books and journals for enlarging knowledge periphery. The study particularly reveals that the renowned public library namely dinobondhu gronthagar serves the local people including the kanyashree girls with books, papers and journals. Alongside the library also arrange assistance classes for the girl students.

Table II: Multiple Regression Analysis:

Variables	“β” value	“t” value
Level of Education (X ₁)	0.231615	1.299
Respondent's age (X ₂)	.322380	1.863
Guardian's profession (X ₃)	-.153754	-1.234
Monthly earning of Guardians(X ₄)	-.071676	-.394
Monthly earnings of family (X ₅)	.272945	1.497
Frequency of going to educational institution(X ₆)	-.029004	-.302
Consumption of meal (X ₇)	-.108672	-1.163
Power connection at home (X ₈)	.110036	1.149
Adhaar card accessibility (X ₉)	-.043434	-.458
Distance to educational institutions from home (X ₁₀)	.091370	.674

Mode of transportation from home to EI(X ₁₁)	.003633	.026
Access to private tuition (X ₁₂)	-.151786	-1.249
Efficiency of Kanyashree grant for restricting school dropouts(X ₁₃)	.080299	.867
Family approval for availing school or college education (X ₁₄)	.263089	2.861
School's function in receiving Kanyashree grant (X ₁₅)	-.043981	-.517
Availability of Kanyashree Sangha (X ₁₆)	-.028922	-.370
Accessibility of rural public library (X ₁₇)	.240443	2.735
habit of using public library (X ₁₈)	-.002916	-.036
Function of PL in getting Kanyashree grant (X ₁₉)	.141872	1.791
Function of gram panchayats in getting KOTG(X ₂₀)	.079310	.903
Function of Block Development Office in getting public services (X ₂₁)	-.077361	-.860

Critical value (2-Tail, 0.05) = +or- 1.987 *Significant at 5% level

Critical value (2-Tail, 0.01) = +or- 2.637 ** Significant at 1% level

Multiple R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Standard Error
0.77195	0.59590	0.48711	1.53396

Analysis of Variance

	DF	Sum of Squares	Mean Square
Regression	21	270.65254	12.88822
Residual	78	183.53746	2.35304

F = 5.47725 Signif F = .0000

From Table II it is found that all twenty one (21) variables elucidate their regression effects with “β” and successive “t” values. It is noticed that all twenty one causal variables can explain 59.59 percent of the total combined effect (R² =0.59590) towards the efficacy of the KOTG(Y).

Table III: Step-down Regression Model

Step I: X2

Multiple R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Standard Error
0.63524	0.40353	0.39745	1.66264

Step II: X14

Multiple R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Standard Error
0.68732	0.47240	0.46153	1.57175

Step III: X12

Multiple R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Standard Error
0.70342	0.49480	0.47901	1.54603

Step IV: X17

Multiple R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Standard Error
0.72103	0.51988	0.49967	1.51506

Consequently in the step down model, it is established that four variables i.e., *Respondent's age (X₂)*, *Family approval for availing school or college education (X₁₄)*, *Access to private tuition (X₁₂)*, *Accessibility of rural public library (X₁₇)* have explained **51.98** per cent of the whole effect. Therefore, the remaining seventeen variables explain only **7.61** percent of the total effect of students' level of perception on Kanyashree Prakalpa.

Table - IV: Correlation study between predictor variable the observation level of students on women empowerment (Z) and 22 casual variables:

Variables	'r' Value
Level of Education (X₁)	.2492*
Respondent's age (X₂)	.2060*
Guardian's profession (X ₃)	.0013
Monthly earning of Guardians(X ₄)	-.0784
Monthly earnings of family (X ₅)	-.0340
Frequency of going to educational institution(X ₆)	-.0393
Consumption of meal (X ₇)	-.1178
Power connection at home (X ₈)	.0793
Adhaar card accessibility (X ₉)	.0666
Distance to educational institutions from home (X ₁₀)	.0965
Mode of transportation from home to EI(X ₁₁)	.0575
Access to private tuition (X ₁₂)	-.1657
Efficiency of Kanyashree grant for restricting school dropouts(X ₁₃)	-.0007
Family approval for availing school or college education (X₁₄)	.2230*
School's function in receiving Kanyashree grant (X ₁₅)	.0285
Availability of KanyashreeSangha (X ₁₆)	-.0689
The usefulness of Kanyashree one time grant (X ₂₂)	.1734
Views about the empowerment of women (X₂₃)	.5323**
useful schemes for the empowerment of women (X₂₄)	.4670**
Function of PL in empowering women (X ₂₅)	.1553
Function of PL in providing public services (X₂₆)	.2694**
Function of PL in organizing IGP for women (X ₂₇)	.0667

Critical value (2-Tail, 0.05) = +or- 0.197 *Significant at 5% level

Critical value (2-Tail, 0.01) = +or- 0.256 ** Significant at 1% level

The table-4 shows the exact correlation between the dependent variable, namely **observation level of students on women empowerment (Z)** with the aforesaid causal variables which are twenty two in number.

One of the causal variables namely **Level of Education (X₁)** is strongly associated with the dependent variable namely **observation level of students on women empowerment (Z)** in a positive manner. This scenario directly indicates the improvement of educational status in the current context. The total study perfectly reveals the improvement of respondents' level of education after receiving the aforementioned grant. The study detects

that as most of the respondents are first generation learners, they have a tendency to utilize the money to maximize their level of education irrespective of the economic status of their families. As an example, the name of Madhuri ghosh might be mentioned here. According to her, she had received the grant almost 2 years before the interview. Presently she is doing her graduation from the nearest college. After receiving the grant she has been gracefully continuing her study with confidence. And in the current context this is a common phenomenon these days.

The strong positive correlation of the causal variable namely **Respondent's age (X₂)** with the aforesaid dependent variable indicates the usefulness of the kanyashree 2 grant. The study reveals that mainly a specific age group of kanyashree girls that is 20-25 years independently utilise the money for their study and career development. The scenario shows that the girls who are comparatively older by age use the money in different ways. Such as, some of the girls belonging to the definite age group use the money for pursuing nursing training, teachers training, beautician course, Physiotherapy training, coaching for govt jobs etc. Others have invested the money in microfinance systems as well as have joined in self help groups in order to receive knowledge and training for income generation. Exceptionally, others have expressed their desire for marriage. According to the last group of girls, their families have a common understanding about the utilisation of the grant as support money for their daughters' marriage.

Family approval for availing school or college education (X₁₄) is also a causal variable which has a strong and positive correlation with the aforesaid dependent variable. According to the respondents, their guardians are very much aware of their study and career. Most of the parents encourage their daughters to go to the schools. Additionally, the grant namely kanyashree 2 plays a vital role in developing the particular mindset of parents. The current study reveals that Kanyashree prakalpa as a whole is a key factor behind the psychological transmission of parents. As a reason it might be said that whether people of poor financial background receive a certain amount of money to fulfil the requirements regarding their children's education generally take positive initiative to send their children to educational institutions.

The strong and positive correlation between the dependent variable namely **the observation level of students on women empowerment (Z)** and the causal variable namely **Views about the empowerment of women (X₂₃)** mainly indicates that there is a huge possibility of women empowerment in the Kotulpur block. During the intensive survey it is revealed that as Kanyashree prakalpa is working as a prime factor behind the

maximization of girls’ education, the average attitudinal reflections as received from the respondents highly indicates an overall development of women in the name of their socio-economic empowerment over here.

It has been observed that causal variables, namely **useful schemes for the empowerment of women (X₂₄)** strongly correlate with the aforesaid dependent variable in a positive manner. From the ground level facts as collected during the survey mainly reveal that schemes like kanyashree, rupashree, sobuj sathi, lokkhir vandar had a huge demand among the women over here. While they were asked about the reason behind the scenario, they replied firmly about their basic requirements such as education, food and money. The elaboration of the aforementioned points highly indicates a chain of demands to be fulfilled through the existing government schemes. For instance, a girl would go to school to get education with the monetary help of the kanyashree scheme. Eventually she would get married with the help of Schemes like rupashree and subsequently she would receive a certain amount of money from Lokkhir Vandar scheme in order to meet with her day to day living. Considering those facts the respondents prioritize receiving monetary schemes throughout their life.

During the survey it has been observed that the existence of a public library namely kotulpur dinobondhu gronthagar which is situated beside the vegetable market at the centre of kotulpur village has a great impact on public life. School and college going girls receive various services like books, daily newspapers, journals etc. from the library. Yet, during the study it is revealed that here, information dissemination regarding such government public service schemes like kanyashree, rupashree is not considered as its primary function by the library. In this context, girl students have a positive requirement regarding various public services including kanyashree prakalpa which indicate the strong positive impact of causal variable **Function of PL in providing public services (X₂₆)** towards the aforesaid dependent variable.

Table V: Multiple Regression Analysis

Variables	“β” value	“t” value
Level of Education (X ₁)	.266753	1.399
Respondent’s age (X ₂)	.046445	.247
Guardian’s profession (X ₃)	-.043796	-.335
Monthly earning of Guardians(X ₄)	-.200510	-1.015
Monthly earnings of family (X ₅)	.308001	1.581
Frequency of going to educational institution(X ₆)	-.048298	-.501
Consumption of meal (X ₇)	-.160307	-1.588
Power connection at home (X ₈)	.107584	1.039
Adhaar card accessibility (X ₉)	-.126288	-1.266
Distance to educational institutions from home (X ₁₀)	.086734	.584
Mode of transportation from home to EI(X ₁₁)	-.195880	-1.324

Access to private tuition (X ₁₂)	-.080741	-.636
Efficiency of Kanyashree grant for restricting school dropouts(X ₁₃)	.071742	.734
Family approval for availing school or college education(X ₁₄)	.291102	2.840
School's function in receiving Kanyashree grant (X ₁₅)	.117807	1.225
Availability of KanyashreeSangha (X ₁₆)	-.150593	-1.755
The usefulness of KOTG(X ₂₂)	-.089356	-.768
Views about the empowerment of women (X ₂₃)	.380717	4.118
useful schemes for the empowerment of women (X ₂₄)	.276954	2.970
Function of PL in empowering women (X ₂₅)	-.020775	-.218
Function of PL in providing public services (X ₂₆)	.129387	1.277
Function of PL in organizing IGP for women (X ₂₇)	.020494	.226

Critical value (2-Tail, 0.05) = +or- 1.987 *Significant at 5% level

Critical value (2-Tail, 0.01) = +or- 2.637 ** Significant at 1% level

Multiple R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Standard Error
0.73532	0.54070	0.40947	1.17343

Analysis of Variance

	DF	Sum of Squares	Mean Square
Regression	22	124.81521	5.67342
Residual	77	106.02479	1.37695

F = 4.12029 Signif F = .0000

From Table V it is found that all twenty two (22) variables clarify their regression effects with “β” and succeeding “t” values. It is perceived that all twenty two causal variables can make clear 54.07 percent of the total combined effect (R² =0.54070) towards the *observation level of students on women empowerment (Z)*.

Table VI: Step-down Regression Model

Step I: X_{23}

Multiple R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Standard Error
0.53231	0.28335	0.27604	1.29926

Step II: X_{24}

Multiple R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Standard Error
0.60808	0.36976	.35676	1.22468

Step III: X_{14}

Multiple R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Standard Error
0.63030	0.39728	0.37844	1.20387

Step III: X_1

Multiple R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Standard Error
0.65144	0.42437	0.40014	1.18267

Therefore, in the step down model, it is observed that three variables i.e., *Views about the empowerment of women (X_{23})*, *useful schemes for the empowerment of women (X_{24})*, *Family approval for availing school or college education (X_{14})*, *Level of Education (X_1)* have illuminated **42.43** per cent of the total effect. Thus, the remaining nineteen variables clarify only **11.64** percent of the total effect of the *observation level of students on women empowerment (Z)*.

Findings: During the study it has been observed that there are few girls who have been toiling hard for the financial improvement of their families in an absolutely different way. A girl namely Sabitri das from

gopinathpur village in Kotulpur block is an example in her as instead of depending on govt. or private jobs, she has devised new means of becoming self-dependent. Actually, she has the acumen of transforming the waste into money. The girl's traditional wisdom as well as indigenous practices helped her in generating satisfactory income even from the waste like cow dung.

She makes cakes out of cow dung. Her hands are skilled enough to convert heaps of cow dung into numbers of cakes of similar size and shape. According to her, after the process of transformation, those cakes would be kept in the open air to be sun dried. Not only from the waste component, but also milk would become an essential product to be sold in the market. According to her she was the kanyashree recipient of the year of 2018. Since she purchased one cow with a portion of the total money, now she is running the profitable business through cow based products with zero production cost. Right now, she is keeping four cattle in total at her house.

Another girl namely Supriya murrmu has developed her tailoring shop. This girl also has expended from kanyashree money which she received in the year of 2020 during the lockdown period. Since her family condition was too poor to continue her study after her higher secondary exam, she developed her own home based startup business with the help of the money. According to her, after receiving the 25000 rupees she purchased a sewing machine at her own risk, eventually she has become a famous tailor these days. This whole scenario indicates how the kanyashree scheme is improving the social acceptance of women in general. The year wise Kanyashree report under Kotulpur development block which has been received from Kotulpur Block Kanyashree database is mentioned below.

Kanyashree report year wise under Kotulpur Development Block

Year	Uploaded & sanctioned K1	Uploaded & sanctioned K2
2013-14	5329	125
2014-15	5662	511
2015-16	6252	545
2016-17	6435	523
2017-18	6462	740
2018-19	6802	837

2019-20	6792	938
2020-21	6881	1089
2021-22	6858	1168
2022-23	5005	999

Conclusion: Throughout the ages women have been treated as a burden of family in society. Schemes like kanyashree prakalpa are the basic government initiatives to remove the disparities between male and female around the society. The scheme implementing agency is based on a systematic hierarchy starting from state level to block level. The study at kotulpur reveals that the achievement rate of kanyashree prakalpa is almost 100 percent in this block. That means every deserving girl who continues their study up to the age of 18 receives the money through their bank account. According to the kanyashree girls, they get much help from the administration in order to make their parents understand about the evil effects of child marriage as well as practice of child labor. As a consequence school dropout rates among girls have decreased noticeably. Though there are no such protocols or norms from the government to be followed in the utilization of the money, most of the girls and their families of this block positively utilize the money for the wellbeing of the beneficiaries.

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