

Jagananna Amma Vodi: A Case Study on the Implementation and Impact of a Welfare Scheme in Andhra Pradesh

Dr. V. Mallikarjuna Naik

Secretary, Institute for Tribal Development Studies (ITDS), Visakhapatnam

Abstract:

Jagananna Amma Vodi Scheme launched by Andhra Pradesh Government aims to promote education and social development. This summary summarizes a case study evaluating the implementation and effectiveness of the scheme. Through detailed analysis, it assesses the effectiveness of the scheme in improving educational outcomes, reducing dropout rates, and promoting socio-economic progress in Andhra Pradesh. The scheme provides financial assistance to financially disadvantaged mothers or guardians of their children. Provides quality education. Empirical evidence highlights the scheme's transformative results, as an example of effective welfare policy, the Jagananna Amma Vodi scheme demonstrates its potential to uplift communities and shape Andhra Pradesh's education sector.

Keywords: Jagananna Amma Vodi, Government schools, Urban/rural areas, Students, Parents

Introduction:

Jagananna Amma Vodi, spearheaded by the Government of Andhra Pradesh, has emerged as a transformative force, offering a glimmer of hope for educational empowerment and societal advancement. This abstract provides a detailed overview of an extensive case study meticulously examining the implementation and impact of the Jagananna Amma Vodi scheme. Through a comprehensive analysis of its objectives, execution, and outcomes, the study seeks to shed light on the scheme's efficacy in augmenting educational attainment, mitigating dropout rates, and propelling socio-economic progress in Andhra Pradesh. Launched by Chief Minister Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy on January 9, 2020, with an initial budget allocation of ₹6,455.80 crore for the academic year 2019–20, the Jagananna Amma Vodi scheme has been a lifeline for students hailing from approximately 43 ~ 45 lakh households. Its subsequent phase, inaugurated on January 11, 2021, with a budget infusion of ₹6,673.20 crore, extended support to an expanded beneficiary base of 45 lakh households. Amid the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the scheme displayed flexibility by temporarily relaxing the mandatory 75% attendance requirement, ensuring continued support to vulnerable families.

At its core, the scheme remains steadfast in its commitment to provide financial assistance to economically disadvantaged mothers or recognized guardians, thereby fostering equitable access to education and bolstering educational outcomes. Through the provision of an annual financial aid of ₹15,000 per child enrolled in Classes 1st through 12th, the scheme alleviates financial burdens and cultivates a conducive learning environment. Its robust framework encompasses stringent eligibility criteria, streamlined

application processes, and robust impact assessment mechanisms, ensuring transparency, efficiency, and accountability in implementation.

The impact assessment underscores transformative results, unveiling significant strides in educational access, attendance, and academic performance. By incentivizing parental engagement and regular school attendance, the scheme has witnessed a tangible reduction in dropout rates and a commendable enhancement in academic achievement. Empirical evidence underscores the scheme's pivotal role in fortifying families and propelling socio-economic development across the length and breadth of Andhra Pradesh.

In essence, the Jagananna Amma Vodi scheme stands as an exemplar of effective welfare policy, catalyzing educational empowerment and community upliftment. As it continues to evolve and expand its ambit, the scheme holds boundless potential to reshape the educational landscape and catalyze holistic development across Andhra Pradesh, heralding a brighter future for future generations.

Let's delve into the details:

The objective of the Scheme: Launched on 9th January 2020 by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Shri YSR Jagan Mohan Reddy, the objective of Jagananna Amma Vodi is to provide financial assistance to poor mothers or recognized guardians to support their children's education. The scheme aims to enhance access to schools, ensure equity, improve attendance, and achieve better learning outcomes among school-going children.

Financial Assistance: Under the Jagananna Amma Vodi scheme, eligible mothers receive ₹15,000 per annum for sending their children to school. This financial support is directly deposited into the beneficiary's savings accounts annually until the child passes Class 12th. Additionally, ₹1,000 is deducted at the source and released to School/College Committees for the District Toilet Maintenance Fund, ensuring the provision of adequate sanitation facilities in educational institutions.

Eligibility Criteria: To qualify for the Jagananna Amma Vodi scheme, the mother or guardian should be a resident of Andhra Pradesh, and the child/children should be studying in Class 1st to Class 12th in recognized schools or colleges in the state. The total family income should be less than ₹10,000 per month in rural areas or ₹12,000 per month in urban areas (BPL). Furthermore, no family member should be a government employee or pensioner, except for families of sanitary workers.

Impact Assessment: The Jagananna Amma Vodi scheme has had a transformative impact on educational access, attendance, and outcomes in Andhra Pradesh. By providing financial incentives to mothers or guardians, the scheme has empowered families and brought dropouts back to school, contributing to overall educational development in the state. Empirical evidence suggests that beneficiaries of the scheme exhibit higher levels of academic achievement and retention compared to non-beneficiary counterparts.

Enrollment Trends in the Andhra Pradesh Education Sector:

Pre-Primary Age Group Enrollment:

- There has been a notable shift in enrollment patterns among young children aged 3-5 years, highlighting increased participation in early childhood education initiatives.
- In 2022, 66.8% of 3-year-olds were enrolled in Anganwadi Centres, showcasing a significant rise from 57.1% in 2018.
- Similarly, for 4-year-olds, Anganwadi enrollment surged from 50.5% in 2018 to a commendable 61.2% in 2022, indicating growing recognition of the importance of early childhood education.

Overall Enrollment (Age Group 6-14):

- The gross enrollment ratio for students aged 6 to 14 has consistently exceeded 95% over the past 15 years, showcasing robust participation in primary education.
- Despite disruptions caused by the pandemic, overall enrollment rates have exhibited an upward trajectory, ascending from 97.2% in 2018 to a commendable 98.4% in 2022.

Government School Enrollment:

- From 2014 to 2018, there was a gradual decline in the percentage of children (age 6 to 14) enrolled in government schools, reflecting a shift towards alternate educational avenues.
- However, a notable positive shift occurred from 2018 to 2022, witnessing government school enrollment surge from 65.6% to a promising 72.9%.
- This encouraging trend is not limited to Andhra Pradesh but is observable across various states in India, indicating a renewed trust in public education institutions.

Girls Enrollment:

- The percentage of girls aged 11-14 out of school has significantly diminished over the years, marking substantial progress in promoting girls education.
- In 2006, the out-of-school rate for this demographic was 10.3%, which dramatically reduced to 4.1% in 2018 and further dwindled to an impressive 2% in 2022.
- Notably, only three states report more than 10% of girls in the 15-16 age bracket out of school: Madhya Pradesh 17%, Uttar Pradesh 15%, and Chhattisgarh 11.2%.

Overall, Class 11th and 12th Enrollment:

- The gross enrollment ratio for students in Class 11th and 12th has consistently maintained levels above 95% over the past 15 years, indicating sustained interest in higher secondary education.
- Despite the challenges posed by college closures during the pandemic, overall enrollment figures have surged from 97.2% in 2018 to an impressive 98.4% in 2022, highlighting resilience in the face of adversity.

Government Colleges Class 11th and 12th Enrollment:

- While a decline was observed between 2006 and 2014 in the proportion of students (age 16-18) enrolled in government colleges for Class 11th and 12th, a remarkable resurgence occurred from 2018 to 2022.
- The proportion of students opting for government colleges for Class 11th and 12th surged significantly from 65.6% to an encouraging 72.9%, reflecting renewed confidence in public higher education institutions.
- This positive trend resonates across most states in India, including Andhra Pradesh, signifying a preference for quality education provided by government colleges.

Girls' Class 11th and 12th Enrollment:

- The percentage of girls aged 15-16 not enrolled in colleges has witnessed a remarkable decline over the years, underlining strides in promoting girls access to higher education.
- Nationally, the figure for 15-16-year-old girls not enrolled in colleges stood at more than 20% in 2008, which significantly reduced to 13.5% by 2018 and further dropped to a commendable 7.9% in 2022.
- Notably, only three states exhibit more than 10% of girls in this age group out of school: Madhya Pradesh 17%, Uttar Pradesh 15%, and Chhattisgarh 11.2%.

The objective of the Study:

To comprehensively evaluate the impact and effectiveness of the Jagananna Amma Vodi Welfare Scheme in fostering socio-economic development and educational empowerment within the state.

Sampling and Methodology:

A meticulous sampling approach was employed to ensure the robustness and reliability of this study conducted in Andhra Pradesh. A sample size of 1300 was thoughtfully gathered from all 26 districts of the state, aiming for comprehensive representation and inclusivity. This sampling strategy maintained consistency by systematically collecting 50 samples from each district, covering both urban and rural public schools as well as selective colleges, thereby capturing a diverse cross-section of educational contexts. Within these schools and colleges, a purposive sampling method was implemented, selecting 5 students randomly from each class. This intentional approach facilitated a nuanced understanding by directly gathering information from students and their parents, enriching the dataset with diverse perspectives and insights.

Moreover, a balanced ratio of 3:2 was maintained for data collection from government schools and colleges, ensuring equal representation and coverage across different educational institutions. This systematic approach minimized bias and distortion, leading to a more accurate portrayal of the educational dynamics within government school and college settings across all districts of Andhra Pradesh.

To analyze and interpret the collected data, a checklist questionnaire was utilized in an online format. This methodological choice aimed to capture a comprehensive snapshot of educational trends and patterns, providing valuable insights into the impact and effectiveness of educational initiatives within the state.

Data Analysis and Interpretations:

Table – 1: Release Amount and Beneficiaries of Jagananna Amma Vodi Scheme

Table 1, presents the release amount in crores and the number of beneficiaries in lakhs for the Jagananna Amma Vodi Scheme over the years from its inception.

Year	Release Amount (In Cr)	beneficiary (In Lakhs)
Scheme Start 2020	6,139.00	40,93,011.00
2020-21	6,349.00	42,33,098.00
2021-22	6,421.00	42,81,094.00
2022-23	6,424.00	42,83,057.00
2023-24	6,447.00	42,98,152.00

Source: AP Budget Volumes

The data illustrates the steady increase in the release amount and the number of beneficiaries over the years, reflecting the continuous expansion and impact of the Jagananna Amma Vodi Scheme in providing financial assistance to support children’s education in Andhra Pradesh.

Table – 2: Impact on Enrollment and Attendance

Table 2, presents the impact of the Jagananna Amma Vodi Welfare Scheme on enrollment and attendance rates in schools across different years.

Year	Enrollment Rate (%)	Attendance Rate (%)
2019-20	<i>Covid – 19</i>	<i>Covid – 19</i>
2020-21	<i>Online Class</i>	<i>Online Class</i>

2021-22	84.6	80.2
2022-23	90.7	90.5
2023-24	95.9	96.8

Source: School Education Dept. AP

In the academic year 2019-20, the enrollment and attendance rates were impacted significantly due to the Covid-19 pandemic, resulting in data not being available and 2020-21 online classes, from 2021-22 there was a noticeable increase in both enrollment and attendance rates, showcasing the positive impact of the Jagananna Amma Vodi scheme on educational participation among students. The enrollment rates have consistently remained high, with attendance rates also showing improvement over the years.

Table – 3: Dropout Rates Before and After Scheme Implementation

Pre-Scheme Dropout Rate (%)	Post-Scheme Dropout Rate (%)
Scheme Start 2020 4.9	0.52

Source: School Education Dept. AP

Table 3, provides a comparison of dropout rates before and after the implementation of the Jagananna Amma Vodi Welfare Scheme. The data is sourced from the School Education Department of Andhra Pradesh. The pre-scheme dropout rate refers to the percentage of students who left school before the implementation of the Jagananna Amma Vodi scheme. In contrast, the post-scheme dropout rate indicates the percentage of students who dropped out after the scheme was introduced. The data reveals a significant reduction in dropout rates after the implementation of the scheme, with the pre-scheme rate at **4.9%** dropping to **0.52%** post-scheme. This substantial decrease in dropout rates underscores the positive impact of the Jagananna Amma Vodi scheme in encouraging continuous educational participation among students.

Filed Data Analysis:

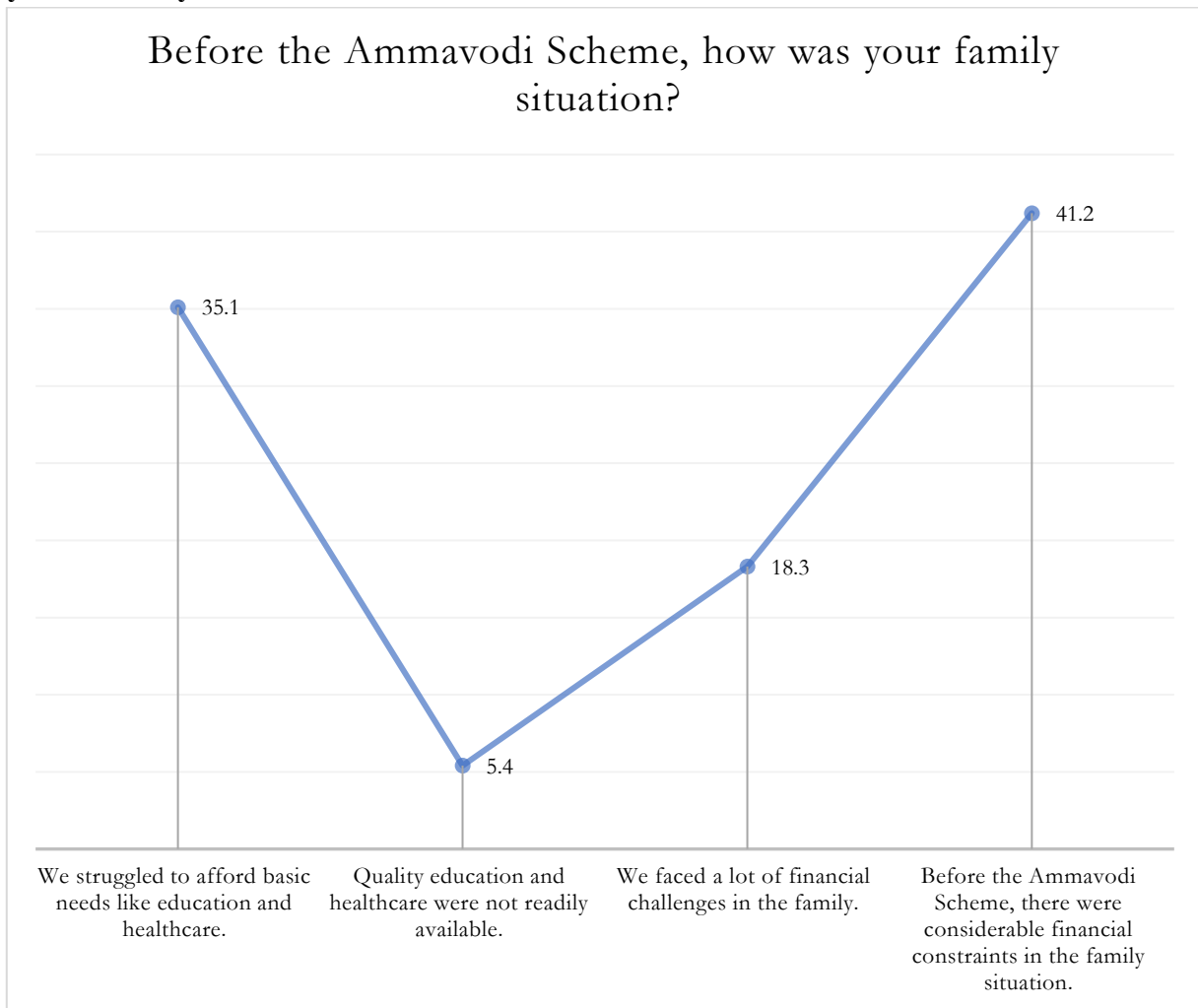
Parental engagement in the survey indicated that 29.2% of respondents came from Telugu medium backgrounds, while 70.8% were from English medium backgrounds.

The survey data reflects a diverse representation of social groups among the participants. Among them, 24.3% identify as belonging to Other Castes (OC), showcasing a significant presence. Other Backward Classes (OBC) constitute the largest proportion at 36.4%, indicating a substantial representation within the surveyed population. Scheduled Castes (SC) account for 22.6% of the participants, highlighting a significant presence of this marginalized group. Additionally, Scheduled Tribes (ST) are represented by 16.7% of the participants, underscoring their contribution to the surveyed sample. This distribution emphasizes the importance of considering the varied social backgrounds of the participants in understanding the survey results.

The survey data reveals a diverse range of occupations among the participants. Agricultural Laborers constitute 18.3% of the surveyed population, indicating a significant presence of individuals engaged in agricultural work. Daily Laborers comprise the largest proportion at 36.8%, highlighting the prevalence of daily wage labor in the surveyed sample. Housewives represent 10.6% of the participants, emphasizing the contribution of homemakers to the surveyed population. Farmers account for 34.3% of the participants, showcasing a substantial representation of individuals engaged in farming activities. This occupational distribution underscores the varied economic activities and livelihoods of the surveyed population, reflecting the diverse socioeconomic landscape of the region.

The financial profile of the survey participants reveals a range of income brackets. A majority of participants, 54.2%, fall within the income range of 1 lakh to 2 lakh, indicating a significant proportion of individuals with moderate income levels. Additionally, 29.2% of participants have an income in the range of 2 lakh to 4 lakh, reflecting a substantial presence of individuals with slightly higher income levels. Furthermore, 16.6% of participants fall within the income range of 4 lakh to 6 lakh, highlighting a smaller yet notable proportion of individuals with relatively higher incomes. This distribution underscores the economic diversity among the surveyed population, with a significant number of participants belonging to middle to upper-middle-income brackets.

Analysis of Survey Data on the Ammavodi Scheme:

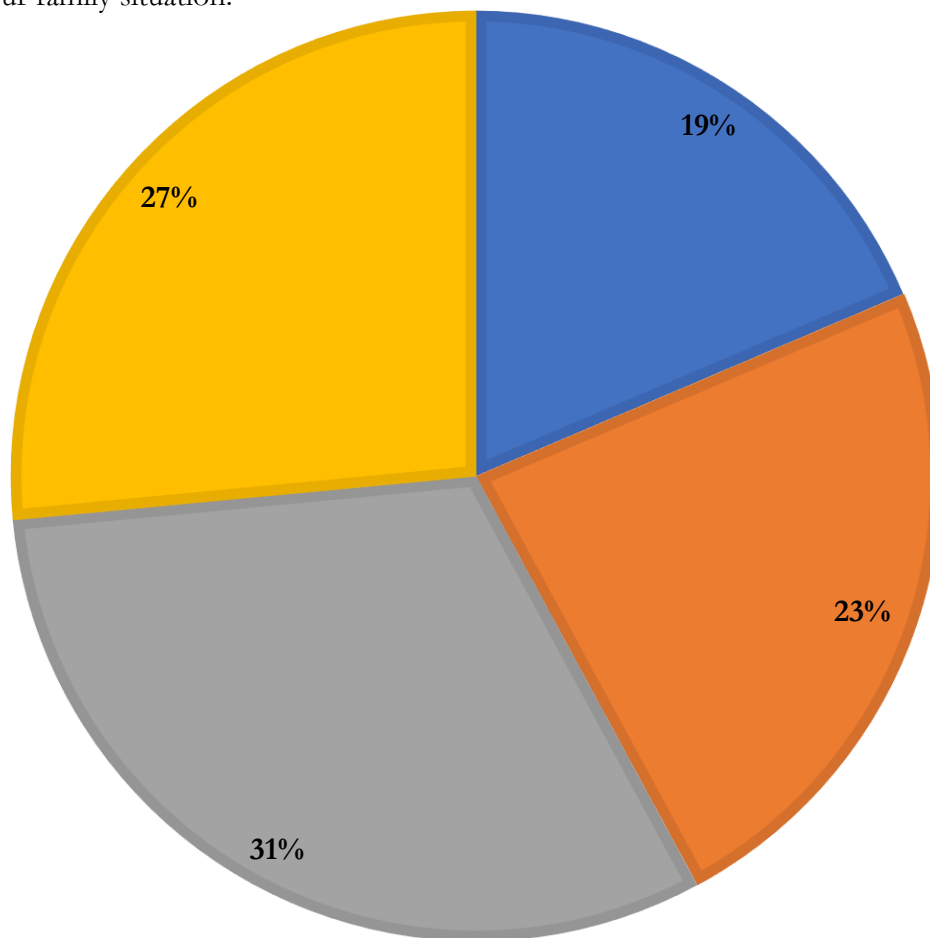


Source: field survey

Before the Ammavodi Scheme, many families in the surveyed area faced significant challenges. For 35.1% of respondents, affording basic needs like education and healthcare was a daily struggle. Quality education and healthcare were luxuries for 5.4% of families, highlighting the lack of accessibility to essential services. Nearly a fifth of respondents (18.3%) reported facing a multitude of financial challenges within their families, indicating the pervasive nature of economic hardship. However, the most striking statistic was that 41.2% of families experienced considerable financial constraints, painting a grim picture of the socioeconomic landscape before the Ammavodi Scheme was implemented.

AFTER THE AMMAVODI SCHEME, HOW WAS YOUR FAMILY SITUATION?

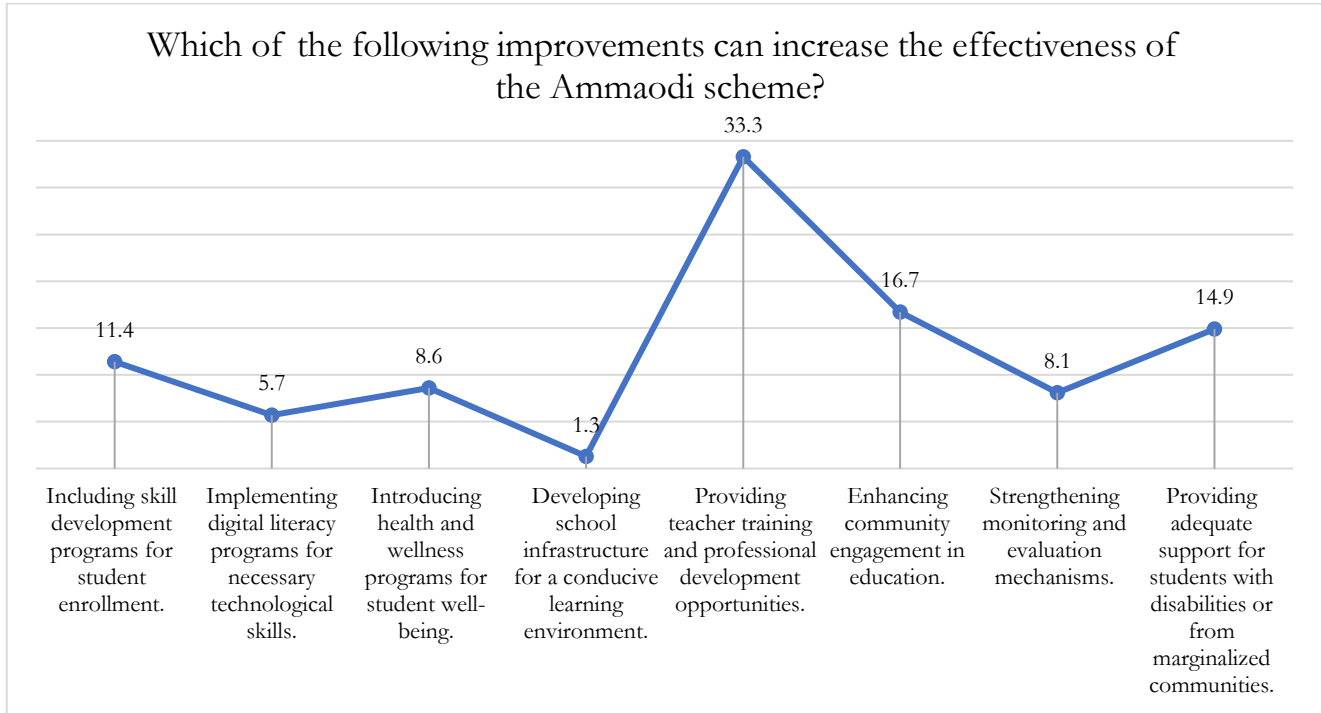
- We experienced an improvement in accessing basic needs like education and healthcare
- Quality education and healthcare became more accessible to our family
- Financial challenges were alleviated due to the benefits of the Ammavodi Scheme.
- The implementation of the Ammavodi Scheme significantly eased financial constraints in our family situation.



Source: field survey

After the implementation of the Ammavodi Scheme, there was a noticeable improvement in the surveyed families' situations. For 18.6% of respondents, accessing basic needs such as education and healthcare became easier, marking a positive change. Additionally, 23.5% reported that the scheme made quality education and healthcare more accessible to their families, indicating a significant impact on their lives. A significant proportion (31.4%) mentioned that the scheme helped alleviate financial challenges, suggesting a tangible improvement in their financial situation. Furthermore, 26.5% stated that the implementation of the Ammavodi Scheme significantly eased financial constraints in their family situation, highlighting the scheme's effectiveness in improving their overall quality of life.

Which of the following improvements can increase the effectiveness of the Ammaodi scheme?



Source: field survey

Improvements to Increase the Effectiveness of the Ammaodi Scheme:

Including skill development programs for student enrollment: 11.4% of respondents believe that incorporating skill development programs into the scheme could enhance its effectiveness. These programs could equip students with practical skills that can improve their employability and future prospects.

Implementing digital literacy programs for necessary technological skills: 5.7% of respondents suggested that introducing digital literacy programs could be beneficial. This would help students acquire essential technological skills, which are increasingly important in today's digital world.

Introducing health and wellness programs for student well-being: 8.6% of respondents emphasized the importance of health and wellness programs. Such programs could address physical and mental health issues, ensuring that students are healthy and able to focus on their studies.

Developing school infrastructure for a conducive learning environment: While only 1.3% of respondents mentioned this, improving school infrastructure could have a significant impact on the learning environment. This could include better classrooms, libraries, and laboratories, creating a more conducive atmosphere for learning.

Providing teacher training and professional development opportunities: The most popular suggestion, with 33.3% of respondents supporting it, was to provide teacher training and professional development opportunities. This would help teachers improve their teaching skills and stay updated with the latest educational practices, ultimately benefiting students.

Enhancing community engagement in education: 16.7% of respondents highlighted the importance of community engagement. This could involve involving parents and the local community more actively in the education process, creating a more supportive environment for students.

Strengthening monitoring and evaluation mechanisms: 8.1% of respondents suggested that strengthening monitoring and evaluation mechanisms could improve the effectiveness of the scheme. This would ensure that the scheme is being implemented effectively and that its objectives are being met.

Providing adequate support for students with disabilities or from marginalized communities: 14.9% of respondents emphasized the need to provide adequate support for students with disabilities or from marginalized communities. This could include additional resources, support services, and accommodations to ensure that these students are not left behind.

Conclusion:

The Jagananna Amma Vodi Scheme has emerged as a transformative initiative in Andhra Pradesh, significantly impacting educational access, attendance, and outcomes. Through its provision of financial assistance to economically disadvantaged mothers or guardians, the scheme has not only alleviated financial burdens but has also encouraged greater parental engagement in education. The scheme's success is evident in the significant reduction in dropout rates and the improvement in academic achievement among beneficiaries.

The scheme's robust framework, including stringent eligibility criteria and streamlined application processes, has ensured transparency, efficiency, and accountability in its implementation. The scheme's impact extends beyond individual families to communities, fostering socio-economic development across the state. As the Jagananna Amma Vodi Scheme continues to evolve and expand its reach, it holds immense potential to further uplift communities and reshape the educational landscape of Andhra Pradesh. By continuing to prioritize education and social development, the scheme paves the way for a brighter and more equitable future for the state's youth.

Recommendations:

Expanded Outreach and Awareness Campaigns: Implement comprehensive outreach programs to raise awareness about the scheme among eligible beneficiaries, particularly in remote and marginalized communities. This can involve leveraging various media channels, community networks, and grassroots organizations to ensure maximum participation.

Targeted Support for Marginalized Groups: Develop targeted interventions and support mechanisms for marginalized groups, including students with disabilities, indigenous communities, and those from low-income backgrounds. Tailored assistance programs can address their specific needs and challenges, ensuring inclusivity and equity in the scheme's implementation.

Enhanced Monitoring and Evaluation: Strengthen monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to track the scheme's impact more effectively. This includes regular data collection, analysis, and feedback loops to identify areas for improvement and ensure accountability at all levels of implementation.

Integration of Skill Development Programs: Integrate skill development programs into the scheme to complement academic education with practical skills training. This can enhance students' employability and entrepreneurial abilities, preparing them for the evolving job market and contributing to long-term economic empowerment.

Promotion of Digital Literacy: Expand initiatives to promote digital literacy among students and their families, ensuring they can effectively utilize technology for learning and communication. This includes providing access to digital devices, internet connectivity, and training programs to bridge the digital divide.

Partnerships with Civil Society and Private Sector: Foster partnerships with civil society organizations, private sector companies, and philanthropic foundations to leverage additional resources and expertise for the scheme's implementation. Collaborative efforts can enhance service delivery, innovation, and sustainability.

Continuous Capacity Building: Invest in continuous capacity building for teachers, school administrators, and other stakeholders involved in the scheme. Professional development programs, workshops, and mentorship opportunities can enhance their skills, knowledge, and motivation to support students effectively.

Promotion of Parental Engagement: Encourage greater parental engagement in their children's education through targeted initiatives such as parent-teacher associations, workshops, and community events. Empowering parents as active partners in the educational process can strengthen academic outcomes and school-community relationships.

Infrastructure Development: Prioritize infrastructure development in schools, including classrooms, libraries, laboratories, and sanitation facilities, to create a conducive learning environment. Adequate infrastructure is essential for promoting student well-being, engagement, and academic success.

Research and Innovation: Encourage research and innovation in education policy and practice to identify emerging trends, best practices, and areas for improvement. This can inform evidence-based decision-making and drive continuous improvement in the Jagananna Amma Vodi Scheme and the broader education sector.

By implementing these recommendations, the Jagananna Amma Vodi Scheme can further enhance its impact, reach, and sustainability, ensuring that it continues to be a catalyst for educational empowerment and socio-economic development in Andhra Pradesh.

Reference:

1. <https://educationforallindia.com/school-dropout-between-2020-21-and-2021-22-udise/>
2. School dropout rate at secondary level 2021-22: These seven states' numbers higher than national average – India TV (indiatvnews.com)
3. Education | In 2021-22, school dropout rate at secondary level was higher than national average in seven states - Telegraph India
4. In 2021-22, school dropout rate at secondary level higher than national avg (business-standard.com)
5. 404 Error Page - Sorry, Page Not Found | [Careers360](http://careers360.com)
6. APREIS (apcfss.in)
7. ESAG-2018.pdf (education.gov.in)
8. RTE (ap.gov.in)
9. Department of School Education (ap.gov.in)
10. AP_Economy_in_brief-2021.pdf
11. Jagananna Amma Vodi (myscheme.gov.in)
12. Jagananna Amma Vodi Scheme – Eligibility, Benefits, How to Apply (buddy4study.com)
13. GO_MS NO 79 Ammavodi (English).pdf (ap.gov.in)
14. 'Jagananna Amma Vodi' gives women a reason to cheer - The Hindu
15. Andhra Attendance | Dashboard
16. India: gross enrolment ratio in Andhra Pradesh by gender 2022 | Statista

17. (38) IMPACT OF GOVERNMENT EDUCATIONAL SCHEMES AND PROGRESS OF SCHOOL EDUCATION IN ANDHRA PRADESH, INDIA: A SURVEY | [accounts ziraf - Academia.edu](#)
18. <https://apfinance.gov.in/FirstPage.do>