

Assessing the Effectiveness of the Mythri Scheme Among the Transgender Persons

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Abstract

The present study examines the effectiveness of the Mythri scheme, a welfare initiative of the government of Karnataka, among transgender beneficiaries. Using a descriptive and inferential research design, data were collected from 50 beneficiaries to assess socio-demographic characteristics, awareness, accessibility, economic impact, social inclusion, and overall effectiveness of the scheme. Descriptive statistics, reliability analysis, and inferential tests (ANOVA and t-test) were employed. The findings indicate high levels of awareness and accessibility, moderate social inclusion outcomes, and comparatively limited economic empowerment. The scheme demonstrates strong overall effectiveness with uniform implementation across socio-demographic groups.

Keywords: Mythri scheme, transgender welfare, social inclusion, economic empowerment

INTRODUCTION

Transgender persons in India face persistent socio-economic marginalization, limited access to education, employment discrimination, and social stigma. In response, the government of Karnataka introduced the Mythri scheme to provide financial assistance, livelihood support. And social security to transgender persona. Evaluating the effectiveness of such welfare schemes is essential to understand their impact and guide policy refinement. The present study assess the Mythri scheme from the perspective of beneficiaries, focusing on awareness, access, economic outcomes, and social empowerment.

Objectives of the study

To analyse the socio-demographic profile of the beneficiaries of the Mythri scheme.

To assess the level of awareness and accessibility of the Mythri scheme

To examine the economic and social impact of the scheme on the beneficiaries

To test whether perceived effectiveness differs across selected socio-demographic variables

Methodology

Research design

A descriptive research design was adopted

Sampling method

The study was conducted among transgender beneficiaries of Mythri scheme selected through purposive sampling

Tool for data collection

A structured questionnaire consisting of items measured awareness, accessibility, economic impact, social inclusion, and overall effectiveness of the scheme using a Likert type scale

Data analysis

Descriptive Statistics					
	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
I am aware of the Mythri Scheme offered by the Government of Karnataka	50	2	5	4.32	.891
I understand the purpose and objectives of the Mythri Scheme	50	2	5	3.74	.664
I came to know about the scheme through trusted sources (NGOs, media, etc.)	50	2	5	4.42	.785
I believe the government has made sufficient efforts to spread awareness	50	3	4	3.50	.505
The eligibility criteria for the scheme are clear to me	50	2	4	3.74	.565
Awareness programs about the scheme are available in my locality	50	1	5	4.02	1.097
The application process for the scheme is simple and user-friendly	50	2	5	4.14	.756
I received assistance during the application process	50	2	5	4.32	.999
Required documents were easy to obtain	50	2	4	3.80	.495
The officials handling the application were supportive and respectful	50	2	4	3.44	.541
I was able to apply without any discrimination	50	2	5	4.36	.827
The application status was communicated clearly	50	1	5	3.58	.785
The financial assistance I received was timely	50	2	5	2.84	.681

The amount provided is sufficient to support basic needs	50	1	4	2.54	.613
The scheme has improved my financial stability	50	1	4	2.26	.633
I used the funds for starting or supporting a livelihood activity	50	1	3	2.74	.487
The scheme reduced my dependence on sex work/begging	50	1	3	1.46	.579
I feel more economically empowered after receiving support	50	1	3	1.58	.609
The scheme has helped improve my dignity in society	50	1	3	1.92	.396
I feel more socially accepted since benefiting from the scheme	50	1	3	2.70	.544
The scheme has contributed to reducing social stigma	50	1	3	1.70	.580
I feel more confident about participating in public life	50	4	5	4.86	.351
The scheme has enhanced my motivation for education or skill-building	50	1	3	2.10	.580
I have a greater sense of belonging to the community	50	4	5	4.68	.471
I received support from NGOs/social workers during or after the process	50	2	5	4.38	1.028
The government regularly follows up on the welfare of beneficiaries	50	1	4	3.06	.424
The grievance redressal system for the scheme is effective	50	2	5	3.20	.535
I trust the government's commitment to transgender welfare	50	3	4	3.62	.490

I would recommend this scheme to other transgender persons	50	4	5	4.84	.370
The Mythri Scheme is a sustainable and effective welfare initiative	50	2	5	3.68	.587
Valid N (listwise)	50				

Descriptive analysis showed high mean scores for awareness and accessibility, indicating that beneficiaries are well informed about the Mythri Scheme and find the application process supportive. Economic impact items reported lower mean values, suggesting limited sufficiency of financial assistance and modest improvements in financial stability. Social inclusion outcomes were mixed, with strong confidence in public participation but weaker perceptions of stigma reduction and dignity. Overall, the Mythri Scheme appears effective in awareness and access but comparatively less effective in economic empowerment.

Reliability

The reliability analysis indicates that the questionnaire items demonstrate **acceptable internal consistency**, confirming that the scale reliably measures the effectiveness of the Mythri Scheme.

Item-Total Statistics				
	Scale Mean if Item Deleted	Scale Variance if Item Deleted	Corrected Item-Total Correlation	Cronbach's Alpha if Item Deleted
I am aware of the Mythri Scheme offered by the Government of Karnataka	97.22	102.542	.886	.913
I understand the purpose and objectives of the Mythri Scheme	97.80	107.796	.803	.916
I came to know about the scheme through trusted sources (NGOs, media, etc.)	97.12	105.414	.824	.915
I believe the government has made sufficient efforts to spread awareness	98.04	115.100	.365	.922
The eligibility criteria for the scheme are clear to me	97.80	109.061	.842	.916
Awareness programs about the scheme are available in my locality	97.52	100.540	.799	.915

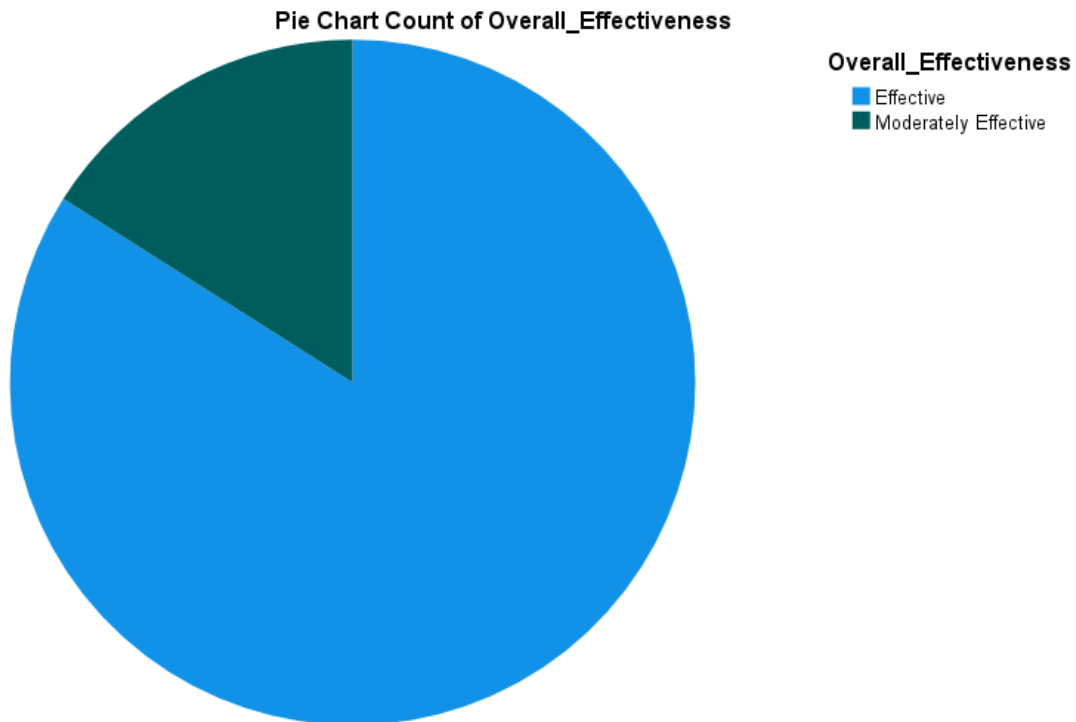
The application process for the scheme is simple and user-friendly	97.40	107.224	.735	.916
I received assistance during the application process	97.22	101.481	.837	.914
Required documents were easy to obtain	97.74	110.360	.838	.917
The officials handling the application were supportive and respectful	98.10	113.398	.489	.920
I was able to apply without any discrimination	97.18	104.640	.827	.914
The application status was communicated clearly	97.96	105.794	.799	.915
The financial assistance I received was timely	98.70	112.459	.443	.921
The amount provided is sufficient to support basic needs	99.00	113.673	.403	.921
The scheme has improved my financial stability	99.28	116.165	.202	.924
I used the funds for starting or supporting a livelihood activity	98.80	113.184	.569	.920
The scheme reduced my dependence on sex work/begging	100.08	114.279	.380	.922
I feel more economically empowered after receiving support	99.96	114.978	.304	.923
The scheme has helped improve my dignity in society	99.62	118.567	.069	.924
I feel more socially accepted since benefiting from the scheme	98.84	116.668	.200	.924
The scheme has contributed to reducing social stigma	99.84	118.749	.018	.926
I feel more confident about participating in public life	96.68	119.773	-.076	.925

The scheme has enhanced my motivation for education or skill-building	99.44	115.272	.297	.923
I have a greater sense of belonging to the community	96.86	119.307	-.021	.925
I received support from NGOs/social workers during or after the process	97.16	101.117	.829	.914
The government regularly follows up on the welfare of beneficiaries	98.48	116.051	.337	.922
The grievance redressal system for the scheme is effective	98.34	114.474	.398	.921
I trust the government's commitment to transgender welfare	97.92	115.218	.366	.922
I would recommend this scheme to other transgender persons	96.70	115.153	.506	.921
The Mythri Scheme is a sustainable and effective welfare initiative	97.86	115.307	.291	.923

Reliability Statistics	
Cronbach's Alpha	N of Items
.922	30

The reliability analysis yielded a **Cronbach's alpha of .922** for all 30 items, indicating **excellent internal consistency**. This suggests that the questionnaire is highly reliable for measuring the effectiveness of the Mythri Scheme.

Perceived Overall Effectiveness of the Mythri Scheme among Beneficiaries



The pie chart shows that the majority of respondents perceive the Mythri Scheme as **effective (approximately 84%)**, while a smaller proportion considers it **moderately effective (16%)**. This indicates that most beneficiaries experience positive outcomes from the scheme. Overall, the scheme demonstrates a high level of effectiveness according to participant perceptions.

Summary of Inferential Analysis on Effectiveness of the Mythri Scheme

Sl. No	Effectiveness Dimension	Independent Variable	Statistical Test	Test Value	df	Sig. (p)	Result
1	Economic Impact (Economic_Mean)	Income Group	One-Way ANOVA	F = 2.809	(2, 47)	0.070	Not Significant
2	Awareness (Awareness_Mean)	Education Level	One-Way ANOVA	F = 2.058	(4, 45)	0.102	Not Significant
3	Overall Effectiveness	Residential Area (Urban/Rural)	Independent Samples t-test	t = 0.094	48	0.925	Not Significant

Inferential analysis revealed no statistically significant differences in the effectiveness of the Mythri Scheme across selected socio-demographic variables. One-way ANOVA results indicated that economic impact did not significantly vary across income groups, $F(2, 47) = 2.81, p = .070$. Similarly, awareness levels did not differ significantly across educational qualifications, $F(4, 45) = 2.06, p = .102$. An independent samples t-test further showed no significant difference in overall effectiveness between urban and rural respondents, $t(48) = 0.09, p = .925$. These findings suggest that the Mythri Scheme has been implemented in a uniform and equitable manner across beneficiary groups.

Results and discussions

Discussions

The findings of the study provide important insights into the effectiveness of the Mythri scheme across

awareness, accessibility, economic empowerment, and social inclusion dimensions.

Socio-demographic context and scheme reach

The predominance of beneficiaries in the 21-40 years age group indicates that the scheme is reaching economically active transgender persons who are at a critical stage of livelihood formation. The representation of trans women compared to trans men is consistent with earlier observations in transgender welfare programmes, where trans women are more visible and more likely to access government schemes, the high proportion of rural beneficiaries highlights the successful penetration of the Mythri scheme beyond urban centers, which is a significant achievement given the structure barriers faced by transgender persons in rural areas.

Awareness and accessibility of the scheme

High mean scores on awareness-related items suggest that information dissemination mechanism—particularly through NGOs, community network, and media have been effective. Beneficiaries largely perceived the application process as simple, supportive, and non-discriminatory. Assistance during application and respectful behaviour of officials further reinforce the role of the administrative sensitivity in improving access to welfare for marginalized communities. These findings indicate that procedural barriers, often reported in welfare delivery, were relatively minimal in the context of the Mythri scheme.

Economic impact and livelihood outcomes

Despite positive perceptions regarding awareness and access, economic impact indications recorded comparatively lower mean score. Although many questions many respondents utilized the assistance for livelihood activities the amount of financial support was widely perceived as insufficient to meet basic needs or ensure sustained financial stability. The limited reduction in dependence on sex work or begging suggests that while the scheme provides short term relief it may not be adequate as a standalone intervention for long term economic transformation. The highlights the need for complementary measures such as skill training, market linkages, and continued financial mentoring,

Social inclusion and psychological empowerment

Social inclusion outcomes were mixed, respondents reported high levels of confidence in participating in public life and strong sense of community belonging, indicating positive psychological empowerment. However, perceptions related to dignity, reduction of social stigma, and broader societal acceptance are relatively weaker. This suggests that while welfare schemes can enhance individual confidence, structural stigma and social exclusion require broader social change interventions beyond financial assistance.

Uniformity of Scheme Effectiveness across groups

Inferential analysis revealed no statistically difference in perceived effectiveness across income groups, education levels, or residential areas. This uniformity suggests equitable implementation of the Mythri scheme across diverse beneficiary categories. Such consistency is an indicator of inclusive policy execution and reduces the risk of differential exclusion within the transgender community.

Reliability and measurement strength

The High Cronbach's alpha value (.922) confirms excellent internal consistency of the measurements scale, lending credibility to the findings. The Reliability results indicate that the instrument effectively captured multiple dimensions of scheme effectiveness and beneficiary perception.

Conclusion

The study that the Mythri scheme has been largely effective in creating awareness, ensuring accessibility

and promoting social inclusion among transgender beneficiaries. while the scheme demonstrates strong administrative support and positive social outcomes, its economic impact remains modest. Enhancing the quantum of the financial assistance , strengthening livelihood linkages, and expanding skill development opportunities any further improve economic empowerment. Overall the Mythri represents a significant and inclusive welfare initiative with scope for further strengthening.

Implication for Social Work Practice and policy

The findings have direct implications for social work practice and welfare and welfare policy. Social workers can play a crucial role in facilitating access to schemes, strengthening follow up support, and linking beneficiaries to skill development and livelihood opportunities. Policy makers may consider enhancing the financial assistance component, integrating livelihood training, and institutionalizing NGO-government collaboration to ensure sustainable outcomes for transgender communities.