Session 2
Adolescents Rights: Current Challenges and Future Opportunities

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Date: 24.10.2013
PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

- BACKGROUND
- SITUATION ANALYSIS
- EXISTING LEGISLATIONS
- EXISTING POLICIES
- EXISTING PROGRAMMES
- WAY FORWARD
BACKGROUND
Over 225 million adolescents live in India (21% of population)

Have right to be healthy, knowledgeable and informed

Have right to necessary skills, to be compatible in a globalised economy

Need for public investments in adolescents

Deprivation of adolescents weakens democracy and diminishes community participation

Investing in the adolescents can accelerate the fight against poverty, inequity and gender discrimination.
SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS
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- **Addressing different age groups**
  - Younger age group -- nutrition, care
  - Older group -- education and employment

- **Gender Inequity and Sensitization**
  - Gender equality and equity
  - Empowerment of women
  - Elimination of all kinds of violence against women
SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

- **Nutrition**
  - Under-nutrition leads to poor academic performance and low productivity in work force
  - To prevent under-nutrition, as early as possible, across the life cycle

- **Education**
  - Decline in drop-out rate from 57.33 percent in 2007 to around 47.9 percent in secondary level of education
  - Poverty, unskilled employment, distance from school, sibling care, gender discrimination, toilet facilities are the major reason
SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

- **Health:**
  - Physical Health
  - Mental Health
  - Emotional Health

- **Reproductive and Child Health:**
  - Lack of awareness and access to contraceptives among adolescent
  - Adolescent High risk mothers, maternal morbidity and mortality.
  - Low birth weights, high infant mortality.

- **Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) including HIV/AIDS**
SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

Child Labour

• Awareness and sensitisation campaigns
• Anti-poverty programmes

Skill Development and vocational education

• Skill enhancement: Orientation towards building skilled workforce
• Linkages with Industry needs
Drug abuse

- Peer pressure- affiliation with deviant or delinquent peers,
- Easy drug availability,
- Relaxed laws and regulatory policies.

Adolescents in Conflict with Law

Violence against adolescents -

- Promote peace education
- Check corporal punishments
EXISTING LEGISLATIONS, POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES
EXISTING LEGISLATIONS

- Immoral Traffic Prevention Act (ITPA), 1956
- Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986
- Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000
- Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006
- The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2010
- Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012
EXISTING POLICIES

- National Policy on Education, 1992
- National Nutrition Policy, 1993
- National Youth Policy, 2003
- National Policy for Children, 2013
EXISTING NATIONAL PROGRAMMES AND SCHEMES

- Adolescent Reproductive and Sexual Health (ARSH) Programme
- Weekly Iron & Folic Acid Supplementation Programme
- School Health Program
- Adolescence Education Program (AEP)
- Mid Day Meal Scheme
- National Program for Education of Girls for Elementary Level (NPEGEL)
- National Program for Youth and Adolescents (NPYAD)
EXISTING NATIONAL PROGRAMMES AND SCHEMES

- Ujjawala – Anti trafficking scheme
- Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for Empowerment of Adolescent Girls (RGSEAG) - SABLA
- Scheme for the Adolescent Boys –Saksham
- National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme
- Modular Employable Skills (MES) under Skill Development Initiative Scheme (SDIS)
- Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS)
FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES
WAY FORWARD

- Strengthen coordination mechanisms and fostering multiple partnerships among key stakeholders addressing adolescent issues.

- Inclusive and holistic implementation of legislations, policies and programmes for adolescent development

- Gender Dimension in Policy and Institutional Framework

- Investing in capacity building initiatives at all levels to nurture collaboration across various Departments and Sectors to effectively use limited resources.

- Involving adolescents in policymaking and making them a part of social monitoring and evaluation processes.

- Exchange of best practices
THANK YOU!