

AN ANALYTICAL STUDY OF IMPACT OF JAGANANNA AMMA VODI SCHEME ON EDUCATION IN VISAKHAPATNAM DISTRICT

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Abstract:

People are empowered and liberated by literacy; the first step towards education is literacy. As a result, literacy can be seen as a component of education. To gauge a nation's education level, literacy is a crucial criterion. A nation's economic development depends on its literacy rate. Literacy alone cannot make a person wiser, but education can make a person wiser and give them the ability to recognise right from wrong. It can therefore be concluded that learning to read and write is the first step in receiving an education. Education is the only real answer for both of these. At the time of India's independence from colonial rule in 1947, only 12% of its population was literate. From day one, Independent India put a lot of emphasis on education, and after 75 years of independence, we are nearing an 80% literacy rate.

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 work provides a detailed overview of an extensive case study meticulously examining the implementation and impact of the Jagananna Amma Vodi scheme on education in Visakhapatnam District. 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 Rs. 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 Rs. 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 Rs. 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.

Last year around 42 lakh beneficiaries have got the benefit of Amma Vodi scheme and this year the number has increased to 44.48 lakh. In the fiscal budget, the state government has allocated Rs 22,604 crore to the education sector out of Rs 2,24,789.18 crore. In the year 2020 budget, the government has sanctioned Rs 17,971 crore to the education sector has been increased in the budget for 2021. Out of this amount Rs. 6,107 crores have sanctioned for the Amma Vodi scheme. The second phase under the Amma Vodi scheme has launched on 11 January 2021 by the chief Minister YSR Jagan Mohan Reddy from Nellore. Under the second phase of Amma Vodi Scheme around 44 lakhs, women received Rs 6400 crore on this scheme.

The Amma Vodi Free Laptop Yojana 2021 is also called the Jagananna Amma Vodi Laptop Scheme 2021 which was launched by the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, as a part of 'Navaratnalu'. AP Free Laptop Yojana 2021 is launched to provide financial assistance to each mother/ guardian of the below poverty line families, regardless of the creed, caste, region, and religion to enable her to educate the children from Class 1 to 12. All government, private aided schools, and private unaided schools, junior colleges including the residential schools in Andhra Pradesh are part of the Amma Vodi Free Laptop Scheme 2021. The distribution of laptops for classes IX to XII in lieu of direct benefit transfer is to the students under the scheme. Next academic session onwards, the mothers of these children could opt for laptops in place of DBT from 1st February 2021.

The Objective of the Amma Vodi Scheme:

Launched on 9th January 2020 by Honourable 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.

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 Rs.10, 000 per month in rural areas or Rs.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.

Statement of the Problem:

The development of a nation largely depends upon its human resource development. The index of a nation’s social development is dependent on the social and economic policies and priorities of the State. The process of welfare and development has undergone evolutionary changes with the changing phases of various experimental development programmes in India. The present study is undertaken to unearth vital welfare measures implemented for promoting child education welfare in Andhra Pradesh during the period taken up for study. The success of these implemented programmes like Jagananna Amma Vodi lies in achieving its goals and determining its effectiveness. Hence, this research adopts a socio-economic approach to analyse child education welfare measures of the Andhra Pradesh Government.

Objectives of the Study:

1. To understand the socio-economic conditions of the respondents in Visakhapatnam District of Andhra Pradesh.
2. To elicit the impact of Jagananna Amma Vodi scheme on education in the study area.
3. To examine the various schemes implemented in Andhra Pradesh and to identify numerous welfare measures provided to children.

Sample Selection:

A sample is a small proportion of a population selected for observation and analysis. For the sampling, all the revenue villages totally 400 respondents are chosen for this research work Visakhapatnam District. The purposive sampling as a method of sampling where the researcher deliberately chooses who to include in the study based on their ability to provide necessary data.

Data Collection:

For the distribution of sampled parents as primary data of school going children in the present study are framed as per the following independent variables taken as criteria and tabulated. Opinion towards education policy and the conditions of the school, a questionnaire was prepared to help to study the environmental conditions of school and its reflection on the strength of each class. So to study the problem, the researcher has taken Visakhapatnam district from Andhra Pradesh state as the areas for investigation. The areas selected for the study are having accessibility to the scholar, which in turn will give facility for data collection.

In the present study, the necessary secondary data from Government records were collected to complete the data collection work for the study. In addition, data pertaining to welfare schemes, Jagananna Amma Vodi Scheme, population and other records were collected from the Block Development Offices. These collected data were compared with the A1 Register in the Visakhapatnam Office of Visakhapatnam District.

Data Analysis Processing

Collected data through schedule were processed by the help of data entry operator. Tabulation and graphical presentation of data were made in-form of bar graphs. The entire report has been compiled through awareness and opinions on different Government schemes in general and Jagananna Amma Vodi scheme in particular.

Table-1 Age Wise Distribution of the Respondents

S.No	Characteristics	Respondents	Category	Frequency	Percentage
1	Age	400	21-30 years	74	18.5
2			31-40 years	207	51.75
3			41-50 years	85	21.25
4			51 and above	34	8.5
	Total	400		400	100

The details shown in this table majority of the respondents 207 (51.75%) belong to the age group of 31-40 years followed by 85 (21.25%) of them were the age group of 41-50, while 74 (18.5%) of them belong to 21-30 age group and remaining last of age group respondents 34 (8.5%) were from 51 and above years.

Table-2 Status of Gender

S.No	Characteristics	Respondents	Category	Frequency	Percentage
1	Gender	400	Female	280	70
2			Male	120	30
	Total	400		400	100

The data in this table reveals that majority of the respondents 280 (70%) out of 400 are female and remaining 120 (30%) of them belong to male category.

Table-3 Marital Status Wise Distribution of the Respondents

S.No	Characteristics	Respondents	Category	Frequency	Percentage
1	Marital status	400	Married	312	78
2			Divorced	23	5.75
3			Widow	65	16.25
	Total	400		400	100

The data given in this table shows that majority 312(78%) of the respondents were married while 65(16.25%) of the respondents are from widow category and divorced are 23 (5.75%) taken as sample for this work.

Table-4 Status of Literacy

S.No	Characteristics	Respondents	Category	Frequency	Percentage
1	Literate/illiterate	400	Literate	276	69
2			Illiterate	124	31
	Total	400		400	100

The details depicted in this table reveals that the majority of respondents 276(69%) were literate while 124(31%) of them were illiterate category as sample.

Table-5 Educational Status of Respondents

S.No	Characteristics	Respondents	Category	Frequency	Percentage
1	Level of Education	276	Upto SSC	112	40.5
2			Intermediate	76	27.5
3			Graduation	51	18.5
4			PG and above	37	13.5
	Total	276		276	100

The details presented table shows that majority 112(40.5%) of the respondents were having education upto SSC next majority of the respondents 76(27.5%) are from Intermediate educated category. However, 51(18.5%) of them having graduation education and last 37 (13.5%) of the respondents are PG and above.

Table-6 Distribution of Respondent's Family Income

S.No	Characteristics	Respondents	Category	Frequency	Percentage
1	Level of income	400	Low	260	65
2			Middle	127	31.75
3			High	13	3.25
	Total	400		400	100

The details presented in this table reveal that majority of the above respondents 260(65%) are from low income group while 127(31.75%) of them belong to middle income category. However only 13(3.25%) of the respondents are high income category of people.

Table-7 Classification of Respondents According to the Religion

S.No	Characteristics	Respondents	Category	Frequency	Percentage
1	Type of religion	400	Hindu	194	48.5
2			Christian	103	25.75
3			Muslim	79	19.75
4			Others	24	6
	Total	400		400	100

The details presented in this table reveal that majority of the respondents 194 (48.5%) are from Hindus, while 103 (25.75%) are Christians, 79 (19.75%) are Muslims and 24 (6%) are taken from other religions. It is concludes that many of the respondents are taken from Hindu category in different forms because of this region is influenced by this religion.

Table-8 Classification of Respondents According to the Castes

S.No	Characteristics	Respondents	Category	Frequency	Percentage
1	Castes	400	OC	73	18.25
2			BC	134	33.5
3			SC	103	25.75
4			ST	90	22.5
	Total	400		400	100

The data analysed in this table shows that the majority of respondents 134 (33.5%) are BC category while 103 (25.75%) of them belong to SC. However 90 (22.5%) of the respondents are ST category, and rest of the category respondents 73 (18.25%) are OC by caste.

Table-9 Status of Ration Card

Characteristics	Respondents	BPL No	APL No	Total Percentage
Economic status as per government statistics	400	400	-	100
Total	400	400		100

The details mentioned in this table reveal that all most all the respondents 400 (100%) were comes under the BPL category. It is concluded that majority of the respondents as per government statistics are low economic status people are only eligible for Jagananna Amma Vodi scheme.

Table-10 Income Sources

S.No	Category	Frequency	Percentage
1	Daily wages	102	25.5
2	Agriculture	133	33.25
3	Employment	66	16.5
4	Others	99	24.75
	Total	400	100

Table shows agricultural products income constitutes 133(33.25%), next daily wages is 102 (25.5%) and 66 (16.5%) of the respondents based on employment and remaining 99(24.75%) comes under the category of others income. This shows that income of the agricultural produce is more than the other sources of income as seen from the table.

Table-11 Medium Background Details

S.No	Medium	Frequency	Percentage
1	Telugu	118	29.5
2	English	282	70.5
	Total	400	100

Parental engagement in the survey indicated that 118 (29.5%) of respondents came from Telugu medium backgrounds, while 282 (70.5%) were from English medium backgrounds.

Question-wise analysis of field survey:

1. As Jagananna Amma Vodi scheme helpful to prevent child dropouts?

S.No	Opinion	Frequency	Percentage
1	Yes	232	58
2	No	124	31
3	No Opinion	44	11
	Total	400	100

The details in this table mentioned that an overwhelming majority of the respondents 232 (58%) are agreed that Jagananna Amma Vodi scheme helpful to prevent child dropouts while 124(31%) of them said that they are not Jagananna Amma Vodi scheme helpful to prevent child dropouts and remaining 44(11%) of the respondents have no option for this aspect.

2. Is literacy rate increase due to Amma Vodi scheme in Andhra Pradesh?

S.No	Opinion	Frequency	Percentage
1	Yes	241	60.25
2	No	120	30
3	No Opinion	39	9.75
	Total	400	100

The data presented in this table shows that the maximum majority of the respondents 241 (60.25%) said that literacy rate increase due to government policies however 120 (30%) of them said that literacy rate is not increase due to government policies and remaining 39(9.75%) of the respondents have no opinion for this question.

3. Were students interested into English medium education?

S.No	Opinion	Frequency	Percentage
1	Yes	234	58.5
2	No	118	29.5
3	No Opinion	48	12
	Total	400	100

The information presented this table shows that the maximum majority of the respondents 234 (58.5%) said that students interested into English medium education while 118 (29.5%) of them said students not interested into English medium education and remaining 48 (12%) of the respondents said that they did not know anything about the medium of education.

4. Is enrolment increased in government schools?

S.No	Opinion	Frequency	Percentage
1	Yes	270	67.5
2	No	105	26.25
3	No Opinion	25	6.25
	Total	400	100

The data given in the above table reveals that the majority of the respondents 270(67.5%) said that enrolment increased in government schools with government schemes however 105(26.25%) of them said that enrolment not increased in government schools and rest of the respondents 25 (6.25%) have no opinion for this question. People equivocally expect more schemes from the government. However, more awareness schemes must be taken to make use of these schemes.

5. Is 15000 rupees enough for your children education?

S.No	Opinion	Frequency	Percentage
1	Yes	295	73.75
2	No	74	18.5
3	No Opinion	31	7.75
	Total	400	100

The information presented in this table shows that an overwhelming majority of the respondents 295 (73.75%) agreed that 15000 rupees enough for their children education while 74 (18.5%) of them said that 15000 rupees not enough for their children education and rest of the 31 (7.75%) of the respondents expressed no opinion.

6. Do you satisfied with the implementation of Amma Vodi by the government?

S.No	Opinion	Frequency	Percentage
1	Yes	275	68.75
2	No	93	23.25
3	No Opinion	32	8
	Total	400	100

The data presented in this table shows that an overwhelming majority of the respondents 275 (68.75%) satisfied with the implementation of Amma Vodi by the government however 93 (23.25%) of them not satisfied with the implementation of Amma Vodi by the government and remaining 32 (8%) of the respondents have no answer for this question.

7. Are child getting uniform, books, shoes and bags for free of cost at school?

S.No	Opinion	Frequency	Percentage
1	Yes	400	100
2	No	-	-
3	No Opinion	-	-
	Total	400	100

The information mentioned in this table shows that all most all the respondents 400 (100%) said that their children getting uniform, books, shoes and bags for free of cost at school.

8. Do you aware of direct benefit transfer (DBT)?

S. No	Opinion	Frequency	Percentage
1	Yes	304	76
2	No	67	16.75
3	No Opinion	29	7.25
	Total	400	100

The details depicted in this table shows that above three fourth of the respondents 304 (76%) said that they aware of direct benefit transfer while 67 (16.75%) of them agreed that they are not aware of direct benefit transfer and last 29 (7.25%) of the respondents have no answer.

9. Do you know when Jagananna Amma Vodi scheme launched was?

S. No	Opinion	Frequency	Percentage
1	Yes	245	61.25
2	No	132	33
3	No Opinion	23	5.75
	Total	400	100

The details mentioned in this table indicated that majority of the respondents 245 (61.25%) know that Jagananna Amma Vodi scheme was launched while 132 (33%) of them don't know that Jagananna Amma Vodi scheme was launched and last remaining 23 (5.75%) of the respondents having no response about this time. The Jagananna Amma Vodi scheme was launched on 9th January 2020 by honourable Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh Shri YSR Jagan Mohan Reddy.

10. Do you know Rs.1000 from Amma Vodi amount (Rs15, 000) should go to the district toilet maintenance fund?

S. No	Opinion	Frequency	Percentage
1	Yes	225	56.25
2	No	143	35.75
3	No Opinion	32	8
	Total	400	100

The information presented in this table indicating that the majority of the respondents 225 (56.25%) said that they know Rs.1000 from Amma Vodi amount go to the district toilet maintenance fund however 143 (35.75%) of them opined that they don't know Rs.1000 from Amma Vodi amount go to the district toilet maintenance fund and last 32 (8%) of the respondents silent for this question. An amount of Rs.1000/- from each beneficiary shall be deducted at the source and released to School/College Committee as District Toilet Maintenance Fund (DTMF) under the control of the District Collector.

11. Is there any political influence for implementing the Amma Vodi scheme?

S. No	Opinion	Frequency	Percentage
1	Yes	128	32
2	No	237	59.25
3	No Opinion	35	8.75
	Total	400	100

The details presented in this table shows that the majority of the respondents 237 (59.25%) said that there is no political influence for implementing the Amma Vodi scheme while 128 (32%) of them opined that there is a political influence for implementing the Amma Vodi scheme and rest of the 35 (8.75%) respondents have no opinion about this aspect.

Major findings of the study:

- The majority of the respondents 207 (51.75%) belong to the age group of 31-40 years and majority of the respondents 280 (70%) out of 400 are female.
- An overwhelming majority 312(78%) of the respondents were married and the majority of respondents 276(69%) were literate.
- Majority 112(40.5%) of the respondents were having education upto SSC and majority of the above respondents 260(65%) are from low income group.
- The majority of the respondents 194 (48.5%) are from Hindus and majority of respondents 134 (33.5%) are BC category.
- All most all the respondents 400 (100%) were comes under the BPL category and agricultural products income constitutes 133(33.25%).
- The majority of the respondents 282 (70.5%) were from English medium backgrounds and an overwhelming majority of the respondents 232 (58%) are agreed that Jagananna Amma Vodi scheme helpful to prevent child dropouts.
- The maximum majority of the respondents 241 (60.25%) said that literacy rate increase due to government policies and an overwhelming majority of the respondents 295 (73.75%) agreed that 15000 rupees enough for their children education.
- The majority of the respondents 270(67.5%) said that enrolment increased in government schools with government schemes and an overwhelming majority of the respondents 295 (73.75%) agreed that 15000 rupees enough for their children education.
- An overwhelming majority of the respondents 275 (68.75%) satisfied with the implementation of Amma Vodi by the government and all most all the respondents 400 (100%) said that their children getting uniform, books, shoes and bags for free of cost at school.
- Above three fourth of the respondents 304 (76%) said that they aware of direct benefit transfer and majority of the respondents 245 (61.25%) know that Jagananna Amma Vodi scheme was launched.
- The majority of the respondents 225 (56.25%) said that they know Rs.1000 from Amma Vodi amount go to the district toilet maintenance fund and the majority of the respondents 237 (59.25%) said that there is no political influence for implementing the Amma Vodi scheme.

Conclusion:

This study was an attempt to examine the impact of Jagananna Amma Vodi Scheme on education in Visakhapatnam District of Andhra Pradesh state. The aim of the study was to recognize the different social welfare schemes introduced for the vulnerable sections of the society. 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. Maximum of the parents expressed their satisfaction about four of the six aspects, such as awareness of the Amma Vodi scheme, benefiting under this scheme, the amount credited directly to their accounts, and their children receiving uniforms, books, shoes, and bags at no cost.

The study on the whole reveals the concept of social welfare and development process in all its facets. As welfare is a multi-dimensional process, it can progressively improve the social, cultural, economic, political, personal and human conditions of the people. Still, there are many hurdles on the way to make welfare schemes successful. State government should give more emphasis on awareness programmes, workshops to aware the beneficiaries. Awareness programmes are to be arranged in intensity, about the various welfare policies and programmes available for their benefit. Media support should be utilized efficiently for the motive. The present burdensome procedure of filling in application forms should be simplified. By implementing all these programs also in Andhra Pradesh, the literacy rate has somewhat progressed much when compared to other states.

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