

Organising awareness campaigns

Why in News?

Recently, on completion of 10 years of **the 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' campaign**, an awareness campaign was organized in **the Government Girls Hostel** in Betul.

Key Points

Objective:

- The main objective of this program was to make women aware about education and to develop positive thinking regarding their rights in the society.
- During this campaign, the girls were given information on <u>POCSO Act</u>, <u>Child Helpline</u> (1098), <u>One Stop Centre</u> services and <u>menstrual hygiene management</u>.

The POCSO Act:

- It came into force on November 14, 2012, as a result of India's ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child in the year 1992.
- This Act defines **any person below the age of 18 as a child** . And provides for punishment based on the severity of the crime.
 - In the year 2019, this law was reviewed and amended, which provided for harsher punishments like death penalty in cases of sexual abuse of children.
- The Government of India has also notified the POCSO Rules, 2020 .

Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao

Introduction:

- 22 January 2025 marks the completion of 10 years since the launch of the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) scheme.
- It was launched on 22 January 2015 with the aim of addressing sex selective abortion and declining child sex ratio, which stood at 918 girls per 1,000 boys in 2011.
- It is a joint initiative of the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Ministry of Human Resource Development.

Main objectives:

- Prevention of gender based selection.
- To ensure the survival and protection of girl children.
- To ensure proper arrangement of education for girls and their participation.
- Protecting the rights of the girl child.