

# Declining Female Child Sex Ratio in Maharashtra: a Case Study

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**Abstract:** “ SATYAMEV JAYATE” - It was indeed a good attempt by Actor Amir Khan to bring volatile issues to the fore to awaken social, moral, civic and national conscience. His 1st episode on Female Foeticide created storm at all levels. There have been many Non-Government Organisations ( NGOs ) & Corporate sector ( as a corporate social responsibility -CSR) already working to improve the child sex ratio. Government is also implementing various schemes in this direction. But there has been not much improvement in the scenario. This study is aimed at finding facts that made every effort of improving sex ratio futile particularly in Maharashtra state which is considered to be an economic center of the country. The present research work is based upon primary as well as secondary data.

**Keywords:** . Female Foeticide & infanticide, Gender Equality, Child Sex ratio, Ultra Sonography, Amniocentesis

## 1. INTRODUCTION

January 24 is observed as the National Girl Child Day with an aim to create awareness of issues related to girls particularly the evils of female foeticide, female infanticide and discrimination in matters of health, nutrition, education and opportunities.

The principle of gender equality is enshrined in the Indian Constitution in its Preamble, Fundamental Rights, Fundamental Duties and Directive Principles. The Constitution not only grants equality to women, but also empowers the State to adopt measures of positive discrimination in favor of women. Today, the declining child sex ratio has been the issue of grave concern both to the Government and to the entire society as well.

The 2011 census report shows that in India, the number of girls for 1,000 boys in the age group of 0-6 years has declined from 927 in 2001 to 914, with an overall decline of females from 940 in 2001 to 933 as per 2011 census. Maharashtra state is much behind in the list of states with highest sex ratio (ranked 19th) with 946 females as per 2011 census. The Maharashtra state has registered decline in number of girls in the age group of 0-6 yrs from 913 in 2001 to 883 in 2011. This steep decline in girl child sex ratio is extended to Nagpur city in Maharashtra inspite of many efforts by the civic bodies, NGOs & Social organisations.

The present paper is aimed to study the efforts taken at various levels to improve sex ratio in Maharashtra with particular reference to Nagpur City & an attempt is made to find out the possible reasons for failure.

## 2. WHAT IS FEMALE FOETICIDE

Female foeticide refers to sex selective abortion, conducted to avoid birth of girl child. It includes violation of two legal laws –

1. Illegal determination of sex of the fetus.
2. Followed by illegal termination of pregnancy.

Female foeticide disturbs the natural sex ratio in society and reduces number of women as compared to men leading to a situation where men may not find brides to marry, resulting into increased trafficking of women, & worse violence against women leading to social disharmony.

## 3. OBJECTIVES & RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The thrust of this study is the examination of the various related facts, understanding the perspectives of women in the subject matter be it a student, housewife, working lady & also the views of the men on such a highly sensitive subject. Objectives of this research is as follows.

1. To examine the effectiveness of the various schemes implemented by the Govt. local bodies, NGOs & Social organization.
2. To examine the involvement of the common man in resolving this social problem.
3. To find out the possible reasons of failure in attaining desired child sex ratio.

The area selected for the study is Nagpur in Maharashtra & the outcome of the study can be made applicable to all those regions where the child sex ratio is declining. For this purpose, sampling was done as under.

Sample	Income group		No. of samples
Housewives	Lower class	Middle / Higher Middle class	20 each
Working women	Lower class	Middle / Higher Middle class	20 each
Men	Lower class	Middle class	20 each

Thus total 120 samples from various strata are selected to study the female foeticide problem, declining child sex ratio, impact of Govt. policies & measures adopted by social organisations through questionnaire. Secondary data required for the present research work is collected from the District Census Handbook published by Government of Maharashtra, Nagpur Municipal Corporation (NMC), Social Non Government Organisations (NGOs) & reviewing Research papers on women issues. The primary and secondary data collected is analysed with the help of required statistical tools to arrive at the conclusion.

## 4. STATISTICS AT NATIONAL LEVEL

Below given ( Table No.1 sex ratio) is the total women & child sex ( 0-6 yrs.) ratio state-wise, with Kerala heading the list with the highest women sex ratio & Dadra & Nagar

**Table 1: Sex ratio : Women / 1000 men Sex Ratio of Total population and child population in the age group 0-6 yrs : 2001 and 2011**

Ranking	State / UT	2011 census	2001 census	2011 census	2001 census
		Total Women		0-6 yrs	
	Kerala	1084	1058	959	960
	Pondicherry	1031	990	965	967
	Tamil Nadu	995	986	946	942
	Andhra Pradesh	992	978	943	961
	Chattisgarh	991	990	964	975
	Manipur	987	978	934	957
	Meghalaya	986	975	970	973
	Orissa	978	972	934	953
	Mizoram	975	938	971	964
	Himachal Pradesh	974	970	906	896
	Karnataka	968	964	946	968
	Goa	968	960	920	938
	Uttarakhand	963	964	886	908
	Tripura	961	950	953	966
	Assam	954	932	957	965
	Lakshadweep	946	947	908	959
	Jharkhand	947	941	943	965
	West Bengal	947	934	950	960
	Maharashtra	946	922	883	913
	Nagaland	931	909	944	964
	Madhya Pradesh	930	920	912	932
	Rajasthan	926	922	883	909
	Arunachal Pradesh	920	901	960	964
	Gujarat	918	921	886	883
	Bihar	916	921	933	942
	Uttar Pradesh	908	898	899	916
	Punjab	893	874	846	798
	Sikkim	889	875	944	963
	J & K	883	900	859	941
	Andaman & Nicobar	878	846	868	831
	Haryana	877	861	830	819
	Delhi	866	821	886	868
	Chandigarh	818	773	867	845
	Diu & Daman	775	811	909	926
	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	618	709	924	979
	INDIA- Average	940	933	914	927

Haveli at the bottom. Maharashtra is ranked 19th in the list.

The above list clearly indicates that the Indian states which are termed as backward with least industrial & economic development tops with the exceptionally good / improved overall women sex ratio. Though the average + growth in women sex ratio is reported as per 2011 census, the number of girls for 1,000 boys in the age group of 0-6 years has declined from 927 in 2001 to 914. It can be ascertained that barring few states, decline in child birth rate is seen in almost all states over past 10 yrs. as per the 2011 census. Various studies have confirmed that female foeticide & infanticide problem is rampant amongst the educated & rich families & is not a major problem in below poverty / lower income group families. Now there is a sign of relief in some rich states like Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh & Delhi who have improved the child sex ratio though marginally.

If seen at the above statistics, the declining child sex ratio / women ratio cannot be related to any specific religion's problem as Diu & Daman with very low sex ratio has major population of Hindus with widely spoken Gujarati language. While the Dadar & Nagar Haveli with the lowermost sex ratio is mainly dominant with tribals living with their own traditions. Pondicherry ranked at 2nd with women population of 1031 is a land with multinational, multilingual and multicultural population. From the above table it is crystal clear that in the most or rather to say 100% literate state like Kerala, there is no problem of female : male sex ratio.

Since the advent of ultrasound and detection technique for sex-determination, 10 million female fetuses have been aborted in India, according to a study conducted recently in India, the first systematic study on female feticide by an Indo-Canadian team. A shocking picture emerges-every year, about 50,000 unborn girls-one in every 25-are aborted and as a result the number of girls has actually gone down drastically in India.

In 1997 United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNPFA) report "India Towards Population and Development Goals", estimates that 48 million women were 'missing' from India's population. The report states "If the sex ratio of 1036 females per 1000 males as observed in state of Kerala in 1991 had prevailed in the whole country, the number of women would be 455 million instead of the 407 million (in the 1991 census).

## 5. LEGAL PROVISIONS

It is a well known fact that the right of termination of pregnancy was given to families under the law with a good intention of controlling the rampant growth of population by Govt. of India itself. With these considerations, the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act was passed in July 1971, which came into force in April 1972 & amended in 2002. This law was conceived as a tool to let the pregnant women decide on the number and frequency of children. However later it became the most concerned problem of the govt., as the women were forced to abort their girl child. Under the Indian Penal Code, causing an abortion, even if caused by the pregnant woman herself, is a criminal offense, unless it is done to save the life of the woman. The offense is punishable by imprisonment for a period of three years, by fine, or by both.

As a remedial measure & to avoid the misuse of the act, the Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) PNDT Act had to be passed in 1994,

which came into force in January 1996. This act was also amended in 2002 in an effort to close loopholes contained in the original act. The Act prohibited determination of sex of the foetus (foetus is the embryo from the eighth week of development to birth), prevention of the misuse of such techniques for sex selection, before or after conception and stated punishment for the violation of the provisions.

Under the PNDT act, it is mandatory for registration of genetic counselling centres, clinics, hospitals, nursing homes, Radiology labs etc.. The act also provided reconstitution of statutory bodies and regular meetings of the Central Supervisory Board, State Supervisory Board and Advisory Committees to monitor effective implementation of the law.

Thus both these laws were meant to protect the childbearing function of the woman and legitimise the purpose for which pre-natal tests and abortions could be carried out. Anyone either the medical practitioner or the one who seeks the aid of the genetic clinic, if violates the provisions of the law is liable to a 3- 5 years jail term and a fine of approximately rupees 10,000 to 50,000/-. The name of the registered medical practitioner who has been convicted by the court shall be liable to be deregistered by State Medical Council for 2 yrs for the 1st offence & permanently for the subsequent offence. Under this law, all offenses are cognizable (arrest without warrant) & non-bailable .

The irony of the whole situation is that in the 10 years since India enacted the Pre-Natal Diagnostic Technologies (PNDT) Act, not a single person was convicted and in the beginning of April 2006 only, two people were convicted, fined and pronounced five years of rigorous imprisonment. Now today even if the Govt. has come into action, cases are pending with the judiciary waiting for disposal.

## 6. POLICY FRAMEWORK

Central Govt. had planned National Plan of Action exclusively for the girl child (1991-2000) in 1992 for the "Survival, Protection and Development of the Girl Children". The Plan recognized the rights of the girl child to equal opportunity, to be free from hunger, illiteracy, ignorance and exploitation. The launching of the Balika Samridhi Yojana in 1997 is a major initiative of Government to raise the overall status of the girl child. It intended to change family and community attitudes towards her and her mother. Under this scheme about 25 lakh girl children born every year in families below the poverty line are to be benefited by way of Rs.500/- as a post-delivery grant to the mother of the girl child as a symbolic gift from Government & provision of annual scholarships to the beneficiaries when they go to school and assistance for taking upon income generating activity when they attain the age of maturity. The policy was not implemented in true sense & in most of the cases beneficiaries are not aware of such govt. schemes.

The States are required to implement the Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakram in true letter and spirit so that the poor, needy and vulnerable sections of the society are brought into the institutional fold.

The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has adopted a multi-pronged strategy to check female foeticide, which includes legislative measures, awareness generation as well as programmes for socio-economic empowerment of women.

Besides various legislations have been enacted to address the root cause issues of foeticide and infanticide such as

- Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 (Amended in 1986)
- Hindu Marriage Act, 1955
- Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act, 1956
- Immoral Traffic Prevention Act, 1986
- Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 etc.

### 7. INITIATIVES IN MAHARASHTRA

Maharashtra is a one of the richest states of India with its capital Mumbai, the economic powerhouse of India. Maharashtra is also well known for its revolutionary thoughts from the date back to pre independence era. However, various statistics w.r.t. female crimes tell the different story. Beed district has become infamous for high incidences of female foeticide. with a very low girl child sex ratio.

In 1986, the Forum Against Sex Determination and Sex Pre-selection (FASDSP), a social action group in Mumbai, initiated a campaign against the increasing crime of female foeticide. Succumbing to public pressure, the Maharashtra government enacted the Maharashtra Regulation of Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques Act, 1988, the first anti sex determination drive in the country. This was followed by a similar Act being introduced in Punjab in May 1994.

Amidst reports of rising foeticide cases in Maharashtra, the state government officials raided number of sonography centres. Recently Maharashtra has registered cases against 317 sonography centres in the state found conducting unauthorized sex determination tests on fetuses. Besides, 27 doctors and four families of persons who sought the sex tests have been convicted with fines and jail terms in 25 cases lodged under the Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (PCPNDT) Act in the state. The Govt. has stated that the four doctors have been deregistered by the State Medical Council and names of another 40 doctors have been submitted for deregistration after they were booked under the PCPNDT Act.

With the popularity & high impact of the small screen program ‘Satyamev Jayate’ on common man, State Govt. Health Minister Suresh Shetty has revealed that he has sought the support of Film star Aamir Khan to the government’s campaign against female foeticide, which is rampant in some pockets. Well-known Marathi actors Sachin Pilgaonkar, his wife Supriya and their teenaged daughter Shriya are the brand ambassadors for the state-run campaign against female foeticide. Politician Supriya Sule, MLA & daughter of Sharad Pawar is conducting “Beti Bachao” campaigns in various parts of Maharashtra through Yashwantrao Chavan Pratishthan.

### 8. INITIATIVES IN NAGPUR CITY

On the similar lines, Nagpur city has witnessed various measures taken by the local govt. body. "BETI BACHAO RALLY" organized by District Collect-orate, Zilla Parishad, Nagpur Municipal Corporation jointly with RTM Nagpur University, Indian Medical Association, social organisations & NGOs in August 2012 received a huge response from general public, college & school students.

**Table2: Monthwise Girls  
birth rate / 1000**

Month	Yr 2012	Yr 2011
January	948	1000
February	880	878
March	925	946
April	952	904
May	877	909
June	926	938
July	875	882
August	869	951
September	928	941
October	951	952
November	966	923
December	953	906
<b>Average</b>	<b>924</b>	<b>929</b>

**Table3: Births from Jan-Dec 2012 in Nagpur**

Zone	Boys	Girls
West Zone (Educated/ Modernised)		
Laxminagar	99	88
Dharampeth	116	111
Dhantoli	113	105
East Zone ( Backward area)		
Lakadganj	123	136
Mangalwari	91	79
Hanumannagar	322	314
Nehrunagar	56	56
Gandhibag	105	98
Satranjipura	19	19
Aashinagar	86	89

## Declining Female Child Sex Ratio in Maharashtra: a Case Study

Health Dept. conducted massive drive in 2011 to detect the Sonography centres engaged in carrying out pre natal sex determination & abortions illegally. It was anticipated that the girl child birth rate would change drastically in 2012. But the findings of the recent survey & the govt. statistical records are shocking.

In spite of so much efforts to create awareness about female foeticide, the birth rate of girls in 2011 which was 929 got reduced to 924 in 2012.

The above table no.3 depicts the figures of girl births in Nagpur's two zones. Western zone which is considered more advanced & having the huge network of hospitals has reported birth of less girls while, in East zone, many localities struck balance between the birth of girls & boys.

Even the Muslim community dominated areas have shown the equal or higher girl child births The present study is done in the light of above data. As per the sampling, the research outcome is as given in Table no.4.

Sample Type	Working Women		Housewives		Men
	Middle class	Lower class	Middle class	Lower class	Middle class
	%	%	%	%	%
Awareness about the declining child sex ratio	66.67	22.22	33.33	16.67	50.00
Prefer to be a working lady	-	-	61.11	55.56	22.22
Active involvement in Family planning decision by women	44.44	22.22	16.67	27.78	55.56
Belief that Boy continues family line	5.56	16.67	16.67	27.78	44.44
Family was happy with Girl's birth	16.67	38.89	33.33	33.33	88.89
No discrimination between son & daughter for education	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Would like daughter to become financially independent	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Sonography for Sex determination done	11.11	-	16.67	-	-
Aware of sex determination Tests	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Awareness about declining girls to boys sex ratio	38.89	22.22	33.33	16.67	44.44
Awareness about the laws reg. female foeticide	55.56	33.33	38.89	27.78	66.67



Sample	Working Women		Housewives		Men
Education is must for women's upgraded status	75.00	90.00	92.00	75.00	65.00

The study was also focused on the actions taken by the Health Department of NMC against Doctors engaged in ultra sonography & it's overall impact.

## 9 OBSERVATIONS

Observations from the research study are

1. Women, both working & housewives, from lower income group as well as middle class are reluctant to reveal their identity & to give their honest opinion on sensitive issues like female foeticide, infanticide, to discuss the opinions of their family members on girl child birth etc. In spite of higher education & economic independence, women choose to support the husband in all his deeds, most of the time unwillingly. They do so as they feel, to protect the marriage is their sole responsibility.
2. Official statistics reveals that the girl child birth ratio is less in western part of the city where the concentration of educated & well to do people is more as compared to East Nagpur. However, in certain pockets of east Nagpur, especially where there is high literacy rate the ration of girl/ boys is relatively less.
3. Not more than 25% Housewives & working women from lower class are aware of the gravity of the female foeticide issue & take it as a very casual matter. Only average 37.77% of the respondents are educated about the declining sex ratio.
4. Families from lower class & even uneducated welcome the birth of a girl with open heart considering it as a goddess Laxmi.
5. It is observed that only about 20 % of women respondents irrespective of their status think that the boy only will continue the family against 44.44% men.
6. During interviewing the respondents, it was observed that in lower class, women are still forced to continue to give birth till the boy is born.
7. In most of the cases, it has been the desire of the woman as well as other family members to know the sex of the fetus during pregnancy.
8. About 80% Male respondents were not ready to accept their inclination towards the baby boy & exhibited that they equally welcome the girl child.
9. 22% male respondents were very happy to have only sons as they co-relate girls with honor.
10. Women in general showed ignorance towards the fact that the sex of the baby is dependent on man's chromosomes & woman is no way responsible for the same.
11. During the study it is also observed that women respondents are not aware of the protection provided under the law in case of illegal abortions.

12. Male respondents though aware of the legal provisions, are not scared of the law possibly because of laxity in its implementation.
13. The most surprising observation is that 100% respondents are of the view that the girls should be made economically independent & about 80% respondents supported that the education to the girls should be given.

## 10 ANALYSIS OF STUDY

Declining sex ratio- a matter of grave national concern- who is responsible? Who should own the responsibility to bring change in the current scenario? There are many questions; many opinions, actions & reactions from the society, Govt. officials to address this serious problem. But the problem is still persistent.

It definitely however throws light on certain facts.

1. That the Female foeticide has started showing adverse impact on the society. In Haryana, boys don't find girls in their community to marry. Cases of polyandry or interstate marriages with brides from Kerala being sent to Haryana coming to fore. Trafficking is also on increase. Women are treated as a commodity to be sold or purchased as a wife & then treating her as a servant. This is also leading to worsening the status & dignity of women in the society. However this is only beginning. Female foeticide is going to destabilize social structure if the problem is not wiped out in time.
2. There is a general belief that the Muslim community is orthodox & is not much liberal as other religions. But study proves this belief wrong with the Hindus mainly opting for female foeticide, child marriages & infanticide. Christians can be termed more liberal with the best sex ratio as seen in Kerala, Pondicherry where Christianity is practiced mainly.
3. There is an urgent need to change the mindset of people particularly of men. The study indicates that the problem of female foeticide is more prevalent in orthodox families. Till today, for orthodox families, son is necessary for father as his heir to continue possessing his property, even after his death. People still thinks that the girl is a financial burden & it seems that the practice of dowry started for his daughter's maintenance at her in laws place. Now it has become the prestigious issue in rich families to give away valuables to daughter & son in law in marriage. This can be the one of the reasons for not wanting the girls even in educated & financially sound families.
4. An honor killing is getting widespread in the society. It is most commonly the murder of a female by her own relatives, for supposed sexual or marital offenses. Mainly orthodox families feel that the girl may bring dishonor by teaming up with the lower caste boy or may get sexually assaulted & bring shame to family in the society. This is also one of the major reasons for avoiding the birth of a girl child.
5. Implementation of stringent law alone cannot curb this ill practice of female foeticide & infanticide as barely the provisions of enacted laws can be implemented in

true sense till the men in society consider women as a human being & not a commodity. The society must change its perspective & thinking about women, giving her respect & due importance in life as an equal partner in everything. Along with the wife even the daughters can be made strong enough by men as a moral & social responsibility so that the future of an Indian woman is secured & colorful.

6. There is no shortcut for long term success. Women can regain their position through education, becoming independent economically, physically, mentally & intellectually strong so that she can fight odds & atrocities in life, to have a decent and dignified life..
7. Women Reservation Bill if implemented, can add some privileges in women's life. However the bill is still pending for approval with the Loksabha. This in fact shows the insensitive approach & tendency of the men towards women. Women's participation in the politics may bring policies & laws in favor of women. The sense of power & individuality in women can do the miracles in solving such burning issues.

In our country issues ultimately end up with the passing on responsibilities on the other's shoulders. Whom to blame? A male dominated society, an ineffectiveness of the govt. machinery to implement the law at grass root level or the muteness of the responsible citizens to ignore the ill effect of such foeticide or the corrupt practice engulfing the nation or the reluctant approach & deafness amongst women themselves to listen to anything braking barriers of old customs?.

## 11 CONCLUSION & SUGGESTIONS

“Satyamev Jayate” - this program on small screen gave momentum not only to the society but also to the Government to think about the various critical issues contradicting our rights as mentioned in the Preamble of our constitution - Justice, Liberty, Equality & Fraternity. This program has awoken the mass who otherwise was ignorant of the fact that the sex linked abortions done wide spreadly has such an adverse effect resulting into declining girl child ratio.

Combating female foeticide is challenging. Though there is law against sex determination and illegal abortions, there is a wide spread tolerance if not acceptance of female foeticide. Moreover there are social evils like corruption amongst law enforcing authorities, medical professionals willing to violate law.

During the study it was observed that on an India level almost 5% of female fetuses are illegally aborted while in some states such as Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, Rajasthan it is more than 10% . This declining girl child ratio is alarming as it is going to worsen the situation of women in society. In Haryana the cost of a cow is around Rs. 25000/- whereas, the cost of a baby girl is just around Rs.2500/-.

The present study reveals that the several programmes have been introduced to improve the female child birth ratio in India including at Maharashtra state level & in Nagpur city. However, the study found that the desired results are not attained to curb the female

foeticide & infanticide for increasing the girl child sex ratio. Even though the law is a powerful instrument of change, yet law alone cannot root out this social problem.

## 12 SUGGESTIONS

To address this volatile & critical issue, based on the present sample study, it is suggested that

1. The utmost priority of the Govt. should be to deal with socio-cultural factors like dowry, child marriage, illiteracy by changing the mindset of the people. It is essential to create awareness amongst women & men about social evils particularly about fetus killing affecting woman's health adversely, leading to infertility many a times. It should be imbibed in their minds to change their mental outlook through intensive workshops, campaigns, mass appeal, social actions & literatures about the importance of girls education, self independence, health issues of children & mother. Government should allocate substantial funds for awareness generation.
2. In addition, co-ordination is required in implementation of various programs & policies amongst all concerned i.e. the religious and social leaders, voluntary organisations, women's groups, media, the doctors; the Medical Council/Association and the law enforcement personnel.
3. States like Punjab, Haryana & Chandigarh where the very low birth rate was reported as per 2001 census, has improved drastically in the child sex ratio. Nawanshahr district in Punjab witnessed very low girl sex ratio. However with the efforts of Dy. commissioner Mr. Krishnakumar since yr. 2005, the district has reported considerable growth in the women population as per census 2011 & recording the 100% ( 1000/1000) female sex ratio in district Mazargaon village. It is suggested that the strategies implemented by Nawanshahr should be studied by all the state Governments as a case study & to customize it & make it applicable to their own states in the interest of nation.
4. There is a need to setup a special cell to provide support to the victims of aborted child, child marriage, domestic violence & child widows to ensure their right to education & to impart them skilled training to earn their livelihood & to make them ambassador to spread awareness about the evil effects of such ill practices in affected areas.
5. An initiative by the govt. is required to educate the people particularly women about the various laws protecting their right to equality & dignity.
6. It is of grave concern that female foeticide is prominently done in orthodox & well do educated families. They are aware of the pros & cons of such sex determination & sex linked pregnancy termination. In such cases, effectiveness of the awareness programs launched by local bodies & social organizations is doubtful. To arrest such problems, formulation of the strict laws, their effective implementation can be one of the major remedies. Appropriate Authorities in district must ensure strict compliance of PCPNDT Act and other acts to ensure that proper compliance of the procedure is done by the doctors.

7. It is suggested that not only Medical Professionals but also the families involved in sex determination & termination cases should be punished considering the foeticide as homicide. Cases against doctors should be dealt in Fast track courts & maximum punishment should be awarded so that the other doctors should think twice before committing such heinous act.
8. At the same time necessary action should be taken to curb the mass level corruption in the implementation of the legal provisions.
9. It is also suggested that the people should be motivated to inform / report such foeticide cases & should be awarded appropriately.
10. Younger generation should be targeted to change their mind set.
11. Incentive scheme should be designed by the government for those couple having girl child, such as job promotions, increment, interest free educational loans for higher studies, reservation in jobs etc.

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