

## KANYASHREE PRAKALPA

The legal age of marriage is 18 for girls and 21 for boys in India under the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 (PCMA). However several years of this Act being in existence, the early marriage of children continues to be practiced in West Bengal. According to DLHS -3, 2007-08, the state ranked fifth highest in the country when it came to the prevalence of child marriage, with almost every second girl a child bride (54.7%). It is more pervasive in rural areas, statistics revealed than even in non-slum areas of Kolkata, more than a quarter of girls are married before they reach adulthood. In reality, the districts with the highest incidence of child marriage in West Bengal are also those where trafficking is rampant. Marriage before reaching the adulthood and school drop-outs are the two sides of the same coin. In West Bengal, attendance of girls in school drops from 85% in the age-group 6-10 years to a mere 33% in the age group 15-17 years (NFHS III, 2005-06). Progress in enrolment and completion of elementary school has been noticed after the implementation of free and universal elementary education in India. The Department of Women Development and Social Welfare and Child Development (DWD) implemented anti-child marriage campaigns spreading the message of prevention, and endorsing enforcement of the law and its penal provisions for adults aiding and abetting child marriage after the enactment of the PCMA 2006. Despite it quickly became evident that legal prohibition and social messaging are largely ineffective in addressing child marriage. For one, India's multiplicity of formal and religious laws complicates the issue of what constitutes the 'appropriate' age of marriage for girls. Secondly, because the practice is ascribed to time-honoured tradition and is justified from a patriarchal perspective as essential for protection of girls from the 'evils of society', eradicating it requires tangible drivers of social change that can transform victims made vulnerable by their age and gender into actors determining their own lives. Financial Aid is provided to the students in many ways in Bangabasi Evening College. Not only has the Govt. introduced several financial aid programs like Kanyashree, Minority Scholarship SC/ST scholarships etc. the college by its own gives more and more half and full concessions of their tuition fees. In some cases admission fees are exempted altogether. Girl Students are given financial aids in the form of Kanyashree, of which almost all the girl students avail. Besides this, other usual benefits are also provided to them.

As per Kanyashree Prakalpa Website the girls student of this college are eligible for K2 Scheme.

**Any complaints regarding non-disbursement of fund on Kanysaree Prakalpa may be intimated directly to the Principal at [info@bangabasievening.edu.in](mailto:info@bangabasievening.edu.in) or at the helpline numbers: 7450861992**