

## **EXAMINING AWARENESS LEVEL OF DISHA APP USAGE AMONG FEMALE SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS**

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### **ABSTRACT**

The present study has been designed to study the Awareness of Using Disha App among Girl Students in Secondary Schools in Prakasam district. Various Indian and foreign studies were reviewed. Descriptive Survey method has been used in this study. The sample consists of 100 girl students studying in secondary schools of Prakasam district. The investigator used stratified random sampling technique for selecting the sample. Questionnaire was constructed for the Students to find out the opinions on the Influence of Technology on Secondary School Students in Prakasam district. The data were analyzed using various statistical methods like mean, SD, 't' test and F-test were the statistical techniques used. The score obtained by different groups are compared across the variables like class, medium, school management, locality, parental qualification and parental income. The results are discussed in light of previous research studied; suggestions and Recommendations for further research were also suggested.

**Key words:** Awareness, Disha App Girl Students.

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

A personal safety app or SOS app is a mobile application which can be used to aid personal safety. Such apps received increased prominence in the media after the 2012 Delhi gang rape case<sup>[1]</sup> and consequent protests against "brutal rapes, molestation and mistreatment of women".<sup>[2]</sup> Technology, including social and mobile tools, are playing an important role in improving overall personal safety, with technologies such as GPS, SMS, video, alerts, alarms, and more, allowing a user in distress to alert bystanders and close friends.

DISHA is a step towards the safety and location by Andhra Pradesh govt.. Disha SOS services helps the women and citizens in emergency situation. DISHA app also integrated with needful information like nearby safety places, nearby police stations, nearby hospitals and useful contacts. Disha contains tracking safety feature for every user. This APP also gives you phone numbers that you can dial to get emergency help and support. DISHA also contains links like Helpline Numbers. We hope that this APP.

Disha app, developed by the technical services division of the Andhra Pradesh police, sends an alert to the Disha control room when a woman or girl in distress just shakes the mobile phone which contains the Disha App. The app also provides another way of calling for help - they can also press a button on the phone, but in emergency situations if that is not possible, the victim can send an alert to the police by simply shaking phone five times. The personnel at Disha control room in turn will alert the police available near the spot. Police will rush to the spot using GPS-equipped vehicles and assist the person in trouble or anticipating trouble.

The Disha Act mandates completion of the investigation into cases of sexual offences within seven working days from the time of record, and the trial must be concluded within 14 working days from the date of filing the charge-sheet. The appeal against the sentence passed under the new law has to be disposed of within six months.

It envisages the completion of investigation in 7 days and trial in 14 working days, where there is adequate conclusive evidence, and reducing total judgment time to 21 days from existing 4 months. The Act also prescribes, death penalty for rape crimes where there is adequate conclusive evidence, and this provision is given by amending Section 376 of Indian Penal Code (IPC), 1860. In cases of harassment of women through social/digital media, the Act states 2 years' imprisonment for first conviction and 4 years for second as well as subsequent convictions. For this purpose, a new Section 354 E will be added in IPC, 1860. It also prescribes life imprisonment for other sexual offences against children and for this purpose includes Section 354 F and 354 G in IPC.

#### **Need and significance of the study:**

According to the Disha Act, investigations into sexual offences must be completed within seven working days of the date of record, and trials must be completed within 14 working days of the date of filing the charge-sheet. An appeal against a penalty imposed under the new law must be resolved within six months. It calls for the investigation to be completed in 7 days and the trial to be held in 14 working days if there is sufficient conclusive evidence, bringing the entire judgement time down to 21 days from the current 4 months. The Act also mandates the death penalty for rape offences where sufficient irrefutable evidence exists, and this provision is made by altering Section 376 of the Indian

Penal Code (IPC) of 1860. The Act stipulates a two-year sentence for the first conviction and a four-year sentence for the second and subsequent convictions in cases of social/digital media harassment of women. In the IPC, 1860, a new Section 354 E will be included for this purpose. It also mandates life imprisonment for other sexual offences against children, and incorporates Sections 354 F and 354 G of the IPC for this purpose.

The state of Andhra Pradesh will now create, run, and maintain an electronic register known as the 'Women & Children Offenders Registry.' This registry will be made public and will be accessible to law enforcement departments throughout the country

#### **Objectives of the study:**

1. To study the Awareness of Using Disha App among Girl Students in Secondary Schools in Prakasam District.
2. To study the significant difference among the perceptions of students based on their demographic variables i.e., class, medium, school management, locality, parental qualification and parental income towards Awareness of Using Disha App among Girl Students in Secondary Schools in Prakasam District.

#### **Hypotheses of the present study**

1. There is no significant difference among the perceptions of students based on their class towards Awareness of Using Disha App among Girl Students in Secondary Schools in Prakasam District.
2. There is no significant difference among the perceptions of students based on their medium of instruction towards Awareness of Using Disha App among Girl Students in Secondary Schools in Prakasam District.
3. There is no significant difference among the perceptions of students based on their school management towards Awareness of Using Disha App among Girl Students in Secondary Schools in Prakasam District.
4. There is no significant difference among the perceptions of students based on their locality towards Awareness of Using Disha App among Girl Students in Secondary Schools in Prakasam District.

## **2. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE**

Disha Bill, 2019: Deterrence for Sexual Offenders? By yash jain. This paper gives us the background to the act and examines its provisions deeply and it also analysis whether the act is enough to stop atrocities against women and what are the challenges in this act. Andhra Pradesh Assembly Passes Disha Act By Mr singh. In this e-journal it talks about the salient features of the act and its importance. Disha Act, the new law of Andhra Pradesh By Meera Patel– blog- It explains all the important provisions of the act and also critically analysis the act, it also compares the situation before and after this act and how it has a few challenges before it become a law that can make impact.

## **3. DESIGN OF THE STUDY**

The researcher followed the survey method of the descriptive research. For this investigation the questionnaire had been considered as a suitable tool for the collection of data. The questionnaire consisted of 45 statements as perceived by the Students.

**Reliability and Validity:** For the purpose of the present study the split- half method was adopted. The split-half reliability co-efficient for the Awareness of Using Disha App among Girl Students in Secondary Schools as perceived by students was 0.86 and for the validity of the scale it is based on the content and construct validity.

**Administration of Tool:** The tool was administered among students, necessary instructions were given in filling the tool. All the respondents followed the instructions and filled the tool by reading the all the items carefully.

**Data Collection:** The investigator personally visited the sampled schools and administered the tool among the sampled respondents. The data collected through questionnaire and Interview schedule were used for analytical purposes.

**Statistical Techniques Used:** The statistical techniques used mainly for analytical purposes were means, standard deviations were used To study the significant differences in between the socio-economic variables, 't'-test and 'F'-test (ANOVA) have been used by the investigator with the help of Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS).

**Table 1:** Overall perceptions of girl students towards Awareness of using Disha APP among Girl Students in Secondary Schools of Prakasam District

N	Min. Score	Max.Score	Mean	Mean Percent	Std. Dev.
100	40	120	101.01	84.18	9.10

Table 1. observed that, girl students expressed high perceptions towards Awareness of using Disha APP among Girl Students in Secondary Schools of Prakasam District. The mean and mean percentages are found to be 101.01 and 84.18% on their total score.

**Table 2.** Significant difference among the perceptions of students based on their demographic variables towards Influence of Technology on Secondary School Students in Prakasam district

Variable	Category		Mean	Std. Dev.	t/F-value	p-value
Class	9th Class	50	100.84	9.61	0.26 <sup>NS</sup>	0.80
	10th Class	50	101.17	8.60		
Medium	English	40	102.40	8.71	1.99*	0.05
	Telugu	60	100.06	9.27		
Management	Government	50	99.67	8.99	3.24**	0.00
	Private	50	106.55	7.37		
Locality	Rural	50	101.76	9.17	2.12*	0.03
	Urban	50	106.55	7.37		
Parental Qualifications	Illiterate	25	102.61	8.20	3.15*	0.04
	Primary	30	98.95	8.87		
	Secondary	23	100.54	8.69		
	Inter	12	102.70	10.75		
	Degree	7	105.38	8.80		
	PG	3	96.29	11.06		
Parental Income	Below Rs. 5 Lakhs	85	100.72	8.97	2.01*	0.03
	Above Rs .5 Lakhs	15	102.50	9.75		

There is no significant difference between the perceptions of Students based on their class towards Awareness of Using Disha App among Girl Students in Secondary Schools in Prakasam district.

There is a significant difference among the perceptions of Students based on their medium towards Awareness of Using Disha App among Girl Students in Secondary Schools in Prakasam district and English medium Students perceived high than that of the rest.

There is a significant difference among the perceptions of Students based on their School Management towards Awareness of Using Disha App among Girl Students in Secondary Schools in Prakasam district and Private school Students perceived high than that of the rest.

There is a significant difference among the perceptions of Students based on their locality towards Awareness of Using Disha App among Girl Students in Secondary Schools in Prakasam district and urban area Students perceived high than that of the rest.

There is a significant difference among the perceptions of Students based on their parental qualification towards Awareness of Using Disha App among Girl Students in Secondary Schools in Prakasam district and Degree qualified parents of Students perceived high than that of the rest.

There is a significant difference among the perceptions of Students based on their parental income towards Awareness of Using Disha App among Girl Students in Secondary Schools in Prakasam district and above Rs. 5 lakh parental income of Students perceived high than that of the rest.

#### **4. FINDINGS OF THE STUDY**

1. There is no significant difference between the perceptions of Students based on their class towards Awareness of Using Disha App among Girl Students in Secondary Schools in Prakasam district.
2. There is a significant difference among the perceptions of Students based on their medium towards Awareness of Using Disha App among Girl Students in Secondary Schools in Prakasam district and English medium Students perceived high than that of the rest.
3. There is a significant difference among the perceptions of Students based on their School Management towards Awareness of Using Disha App among Girl Students in Secondary Schools in Prakasam district and Private school Students perceived high than that of the rest.

4. There is a significant difference among the perceptions of Students based on their locality towards Awareness of Using Disha App among Girl Students in Secondary Schools in Prakasam district and urban area Students perceived high than that of the rest.
5. There is a significant difference among the perceptions of Students based on their parental qualification towards Awareness of Using Disha App among Girl Students in Secondary Schools in Prakasam district and Degree qualified parents of Students perceived high than that of the rest.
6. There is a significant difference among the perceptions of Students based on their parental income towards Awareness of Using Disha App among Girl Students in Secondary Schools in Prakasam district and above Rs. 5 lakh parental income of Students perceived high than that of the rest.

## **5. CONCLUSION**

AP government made so many laws for the safety of women but their implementation was not done properly. These laws did not stop the harassment cases. We know that always “PREVENTION IS BETTER THAN CURE”, so we have to take measures to stop this type of incidents. The sexual harassment and sexual assault on women decrease when there is a change in the attitude towards women. Respect for women should come from within the heart then only this type of incidents will be decreased. The laws only provide justice after the loss but we have to concentrate on the ways to stop these bad incidents. The new law Disha Act, 2019 is an appreciable enactment for today’s growing crimes like rape, gang rape, and other offenses against women and children. All states should enforce such laws so that India can be a rape-free society.

## **6. SUGGESTIONS**

- Girls should be always aware of their surroundings.
- Girls should Learn some kind of self-defense. So that they can protect themselves in a difficult situation.
- Girls should always fight against eve-teasing, molestation.
- Girls should let their close ones know if they are using a cab or public transport late at night.
- To ensure the security of the women, the entire population should be well educated and the laws should be very tough against every kind of crime. Both the men and women of the society should be empowered with proper education and income so that they can fight against any harm to them.

## **7. REFERENCES**

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