

## **Gender Budgeting: Impact of Socio-Economic Welfare Schemes on Women in Maharashtra**

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### *Abstract*

*Gender Budgeting is a methodology to assist governments to integrate a gender perspective into the budget as the key national plan for public expenditure.*

*The rationale of gender budgeting arises from the fact that national budgets impact various sections of the society differently according to the pattern of resource allocation and priority accorded to competing sectors. (Handbook of Gender Budgeting, Ministry of WCD, GOI)*

*Women stand apart as one segment of the population that needs special attention due to their vulnerability and lack of access to state resources. The purpose of gender budgeting is to assess quantum and adequacy of allocation of resources for women and establish the extent to which gender commitments are translated into budgetary commitments. (Background note on Gender Budgeting, Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India).*

*Maharashtra is the first state in India to formulate Women Policy in 1994, which was revised in 2001 and New Women Policy has been announced in 2013. Several schemes and initiatives have been undertaken to empower women. (Handbook of Gender Budgeting, Ministry of WCD, GOI)*

*The objective of this paper is to study the impact of socio-economic welfare schemes of the government of Maharashtra on women who constitute 48.2 percent (census 2011) of the total population of the state.*

**Keywords:** Gender Budgeting, Socio-Economic Welfare Policies, Maharashtra

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