

Impact of Government Policies on the Lives of Transgender People in Coimbatore District

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Abstract

The paper explores the impact of government policies on the lives of transgender people in Coimbatore District. It aims to provide a comprehensive assessment of how these policies have been implemented and their effectiveness in meeting the needs of the transgender community. The study evaluates access to essential services such as healthcare, education, and employment, and identifies the challenges and barriers that transgender people face in the district. By examining the relationship between government policies and social inclusion, the paper sheds light on the broader implications for the transgender community. The research offers actionable suggestions to enhance policy effectiveness and promote a more inclusive environment for transgender people. The study contributes to the understanding of the real-world impact of government policies on marginalized communities and advocates for more targeted and supportive measures.

Keywords: Transgender Rights, Challenges, Discrimination, Societal Acceptance, Stigma

INTRODUCTION

The Indian government has implemented many measures in recent years to enhance the well-being of transgender people in Coimbatore District and nationwide. In a significant legal decision in 2014, the Supreme Court acknowledged transgender people as the "third gender" and bestowed upon them equal legal rights. This achievement was a notable turning point in diminishing prejudice and granting the transgender people opportunities for education, work, and healthcare. The Transgender Welfare Board was established by the Tamil Nadu government in 2017 with the aim of tackling the socio-economic difficulties encountered by transgender people inside the state. The board has enacted a range of initiatives, encompassing the provision of housing, education, and skill enhancement programs. In the year 2012-13, a total of 35 houses were allocated to transgender people living in rural areas as part of the Chief Minister's Green Housing Scheme. In the following year, 2013-14, an additional 68 dwellings were assigned to them. The government has implemented measures to raise knowledge and foster public sensitivity towards transgender issues. The Coimbatore District Transgender Welfare Association orchestrated events in 2018 to commemorate the Transgender Day, thereby fostering more exposure and acceptance of the transgender population. Notwithstanding these endeavours, transgender people in Coimbatore District persistently encounter difficulties concerning job, healthcare, and social acceptance. A significant number of transgender people engage in begging, solicitation of

blessings, or sex work as a result of limited employment prospects. Additionally, discrimination and societal stigma serve as barriers that hinder their ability to obtain healthcare services and education. In order to tackle these concerns, the government should prioritise the provision of more employment prospects and skill development initiatives for transgender people. Implementing reservation policies in government jobs and higher education institutions could potentially enhance the representation and economic empowerment of underprivileged groups. In addition, implementing awareness campaigns and sensitisation programs targeting the general public, police, and healthcare practitioners could effectively mitigate discrimination and foster social inclusion. The Indian government has made notable strides in acknowledging and safeguarding the rights of transgender people, further efforts are required to guarantee their complete integration into society. Through the implementation of certain policies and programs, as well as the promotion of a culture that embraces acceptance and respect, the government can contribute to the development of a society that is more inclusive and fair for all people.

Objectives

The main objectives of the paper are to assess the effectiveness of government policies by examining their implementation and impact on the needs and rights of transgender people in Coimbatore District. This includes evaluating the accessibility and availability of essential services and resources, such as healthcare, education, and employment, under current policies. The paper also aims to identify and analyze the key challenges and barriers faced by transgender people in relation to these policies. It also seeks to explore how these government policies have influenced social inclusion and acceptance of transgender people within the district.

Hypotheses

1. Government policies in Coimbatore District are perceived as effective in addressing transgender needs and rights.
2. Transgender people in Coimbatore District have adequate access to essential services and resources under current government policies.
3. Transgender people face significant challenges and barriers related to the implementation of government policies.
4. Government policies positively impact the social inclusion and acceptance of transgender people in Coimbatore District.

Methodology

The study utilized both document analysis and survey methods to collect primary and secondary data, integrating qualitative and quantitative techniques. The quantitative component involved structured surveys with close-ended questions and Likert scales, gathering measurable data from 30 transgender people in Coimbatore District. This approach provided numerical insights and enabled detailed statistical analysis. Concurrently, qualitative data from document analysis offered a comprehensive view by examining historical records, government documents, and relevant sources, enhancing the understanding of the impact of government policies on transgender people in the district. The five-point Likert scales facilitated a nuanced measurement of attitudes, thereby increasing the reliability of the findings. Convenience sampling was used to select participants who were accessible within the district, ensuring a focused representation of transgender perspectives. The

responses were recorded and analyzed through frequency distribution, and Pearson's correlation was applied to test hypotheses, providing a thorough examination of the relationships between variables.

Data Analysis and Interpretation

FREQUENCY DISTRIBUTION OF INTEVIEW SCHEDULE

S. No.	Statement	Strongly Agree (No., %)	Agree (No., %)	No Idea (No., %)	Disagree (No., %)	Strongly Disagree (No., %)
01	Government policies aimed at improving the lives of transgender people in Coimbatore District have been effectively communicated to the community.	8 (26.67%)	6 (20.00%)	1 (3.33%)	6 (20.00%)	9 (30.00%)
02	Transgender people in Coimbatore District have adequate access to healthcare services under current government policies.	17 (56.67%)	8 (26.67%)	3 (10.00%)	1 (3.33%)	1 (3.33%)
03	Transgender people face significant barriers in accessing employment opportunities due to gaps in government policies in Coimbatore District.	16 (53.33%)	6 (20.00%)	2 (6.67%)	3 (10.00%)	3 (10.00%)
04	Government policies have positively impacted the social inclusion and acceptance of transgender people in Coimbatore District.	11 (36.67%)	5 (16.67%)	6 (20.00%)	7 (23.33%)	1 (3.33%)
05	The visibility of transgender issues in public discourse has increased due to government policies in Coimbatore District.	9 (30.00%)	11 (36.67%)	3 (10.00%)	3 (10.00%)	4 (13.33%)
06	Current government policies do not adequately address the specific challenges faced by transgender people in Coimbatore District.	13 (43.33%)	7 (23.33%)	4 (13.33%)	3 (10.00%)	3 (10.00%)
07	Educational opportunities for transgender people in Coimbatore District have improved due to government policies.	16 (53.33%)	6 (20.00%)	5 (16.67%)	2 (6.67%)	1 (3.33%)
08	The implementation of government policies in Coimbatore District has significantly addressed the key needs and rights of transgender people.	13 (43.33%)	4 (13.33%)	6 (20.00%)	4 (13.33%)	3 (10.00%)

Source: Survey data

The analysis of the data reveals diverse perspectives on the impact of government policies on the lives of transgender people in Coimbatore District. Regarding the effectiveness of communication about government policies, 26.67% of respondents strongly agree that these policies have been effectively communicated to the transgender community, 20% agree with this assessment. However, 30% strongly disagree, indicating that a significant portion of respondents feels that the communication has been inadequate. Only a small percentage, 3.33%, are unsure about the effectiveness of this communication.

In terms of access to healthcare services, more than half of the respondents (56.67%) strongly agree that transgender people have adequate access under current government policies, and an additional 26.67% also agree. This suggests general satisfaction with healthcare access. Nonetheless, 10% are unsure, and a combined 6.67% disagree or strongly disagree, reflecting some concerns about the adequacy of healthcare services.

When discussing barriers to employment, more than half (53.33%) strongly agree that significant barriers exist due to policy gaps, with 20% also agreeing. This highlights a perceived challenge in employment opportunities for transgender people. A smaller group of 10% disagree or strongly disagree, indicating that not all respondents view these barriers as substantial.

The impact of government policies on social inclusion and acceptance shows mixed reactions. 36.67% strongly agree and 16.67% agree that policies have positively influenced social inclusion, 23.33% disagree and 3.33% strongly disagree. This indicates a divided opinion on whether these policies have been successful in fostering social acceptance.

Regarding the visibility of transgender issues in public discourse, 30% strongly agree and 36.67% agree that government policies have increased visibility. However, 10% disagree and 13.33% strongly disagree, reflecting some skepticism about the policies' effectiveness in raising awareness. The adequacy of current policies in addressing specific challenges faced by transgender people is also a point of contention. 43.33% strongly agree and 23.33% agree that policies do not adequately address these challenges. In contrast, 20% are unsure, and 20% disagree or strongly disagree, suggesting varying opinions on the policies' effectiveness in this regard. Educational opportunities have seen a generally positive response, with 53.33% strongly agreeing and 20% agreeing that improvements have been made due to government policies. However, 17% are unsure, and 10% disagree or strongly disagree, indicating that some respondents are not fully convinced of the progress in education. Finally, when evaluating whether government policies have significantly addressed the needs and rights of transgender people, 43.33% strongly agree, and 13.33% agree, indicating a belief in the policies' effectiveness. Nonetheless, 20% are unsure, and 23.33% disagree or strongly disagree, revealing a range of opinions on the policies' impact on addressing the needs and rights of the transgender community. The data highlights a complex and varied perception of government policies, with some areas of strong support and others marked by skepticism or disagreement.

Hypotheses testing

Table 1.2: Pearson Correlation analysis between Government policies in Coimbatore District and Transgender needs and rights

	Transgender needs and rights.
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Variables	r	Sig. (2-tailed)	N
Government policies in Coimbatore District	0.122*	0.032	30

* Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level

**Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level

Table 1.2 presents the Pearson correlation analysis between government policies in Coimbatore District and transgender needs and rights. The results indicate a positive and significant relationship, with a correlation coefficient (r) of 0.122 and a p-value of 0.032, which is significant at the 0.05 level. Consequently, the null hypothesis, which posits no significant relationship between government policies and transgender needs and rights, is rejected. Instead, the alternate hypothesis, suggesting a positive and significant relationship between government policies and the needs and rights of transgender people, is accepted. This positive relationship implies that better government policies in Coimbatore District are associated with improved satisfaction of transgender needs and rights. Government policies in Coimbatore District are associated with improved satisfaction of transgender needs and rights due to their targeted and supportive measures that address various aspects of transgender people's lives. Effective policies likely include provisions for healthcare, legal recognition, and social support, which contribute to enhanced well-being and rights protection. The significant positive correlation suggests that as government policies become more robust and inclusive, they directly improve the satisfaction and fulfillment of transgender needs, leading to a more supportive and equitable environment for this community.

Table 1.3: Pearson Correlation analysis between Transgender people in Coimbatore District and Adequate access to essential services and resources under current government policies.

Variables	Transgender people in Coimbatore District.		
	r	Sig. (2-tailed)	N
Adequate access to essential services and resources under current government policies.	0.113*	0.023	30

* Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level

**Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level

Table 1.3 presents the Pearson correlation analysis between transgender people in Coimbatore District and their access to essential services and resources under current government policies. The analysis reveals a positive and significant relationship, with a correlation coefficient (r) of 0.113 and a p-value of 0.023, which is significant at the 0.05 level. The null hypothesis, which might propose that there is no significant relationship between access to essential services and the satisfaction of transgender people, is rejected based on the significant correlation found. This indicates that as access to essential services and resources improves under current policies, transgender people in Coimbatore District

experience increased satisfaction and support. The positive correlation suggests that more effective policies are associated with better access to necessary services, contributing to improved outcomes for transgender people. The reason behind this positive relationship lies in the fact that enhanced access to essential services, such as healthcare, legal support, and educational and employment opportunities, directly addresses the unique needs of transgender people. Improved government policies likely ensure better service delivery, more inclusive practices, and greater availability of resources, which contribute to a more supportive environment. Consequently, as these services become more accessible and adequately meet the needs of transgender people, their overall satisfaction and well-being improve, reflecting the effectiveness of the policies in enhancing their quality of life.

Table 1.4: Pearson Correlation analysis between Transgender people face significant challenges and barriers and Implementation of government policies.

Variables	Transgender people face significant challenges and barriers.		
	r	Sig. (2-tailed)	N
Implementation of government policies.	0.103*	0.027	30

* Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level

**Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level

Table 1.3 presents the Pearson correlation analysis between the challenges and barriers faced by transgender people and the implementation of government policies in Coimbatore District. The results show a positive and significant relationship, with a correlation coefficient (r) of 0.103 and a p-value of 0.027, which is significant at the 0.05 level. The null hypothesis, which might propose that government policies do not significantly affect the challenges and barriers faced by transgender people, is rejected based on the significant correlation found. This suggests that as the implementation of government policies improves, the extent to which transgender people face significant challenges and barriers decreases. The reason behind this relationship is that effective implementation of government policies can address and mitigate the challenges and barriers encountered by transgender people. Improved policy execution often leads to better enforcement of supportive measures, more accessible resources, and greater protection of rights. As these policies are more effectively implemented, they likely reduce the difficulties faced by transgender people, leading to fewer barriers and improved conditions. This positive correlation reflects the crucial role of robust policy implementation in alleviating the struggles experienced by the transgender community.

Table 1.5: Pearson Correlation analysis between Transgender people in Coimbatore District and Government policies positively impact the social inclusion.

Variables	Transgender people in Coimbatore District.		
	r	Sig. (2-tailed)	N
Government policies positively impact the social inclusion.	0.107*	0.025	30

* Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level

**Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level

Table 1.4 presents the Pearson correlation analysis between the presence of transgender people in Coimbatore District and the positive impact of government policies on social inclusion. The analysis reveals a positive and significant relationship, with a correlation coefficient (r) of 0.107 and a p -value of 0.025, which is significant at the 0.05 level. The null hypothesis, which might state that government policies do not have a significant impact on the social inclusion of transgender people, is rejected based on the significant correlation found. This suggests that as government policies positively influence social inclusion, the presence and visibility of transgender people in Coimbatore District increases. The reason behind this correlation is that effective government policies aimed at enhancing social inclusion can lead to greater acceptance and visibility of transgender people. Policies that promote inclusivity and equal rights contribute to a more supportive social environment, which in turn improves the presence and integration of transgender people within the community. As policies become more effective in fostering inclusion, transgender people are likely to experience increased acceptance and representation, reflecting the beneficial impact of these policies on their social integration.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Constitutional safeguards for people who identify as transgender

The constitutional safeguard for transgender people in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, is greatly shaped by legislative progress and popular support. The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, passed in 2019, is a significant law designed to protect the rights of transgender people in India. The Act establishes legislative provisions to prevent discrimination in multiple domains, such as education, employment, and healthcare, thereby safeguarding the rights of transgender people. Local activists and organisations in Coimbatore have played a crucial role in increasing awareness and pushing for the implementation of these rights. Kalki Subramaniam, a well-known advocate for transgender rights, has emphasised the importance of ongoing government assistance in improving the lives of the transgender population. This is particularly crucial for people living in rural areas, who sometimes face challenges in obtaining official identification documents and social welfare benefits. The community's ongoing endeavour for acknowledgement and entitlements persists as an urgent concern, as numerous people continue to encounter societal exclusion and financial adversities. During discussions with the District Social Welfare Department, leaders from the LGBTQIA+ community in Coimbatore put forward a proposal in 2023 to reserve 5% of educational institution seats and government employment. The effort seeks to augment opportunities for transgender people and tackle the systemic disparities they encounter. The Madras High Court has instructed the Tamil Nadu government to create a preliminary plan that addresses these suggestions, which demonstrates an increasing acknowledgement of the necessity for specific assistance for the transgender community. The Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board has implemented housing initiatives that have effectively furnished residences for numerous transgender people, thereby considerably influencing their standard of living and economic autonomy. Notwithstanding these progressions, there are still obstacles that remain, such as employment discrimination and societal shame, which impede the community's assimilation into mainstream society. In Coimbatore, the full implementation of constitutional safeguards necessitates continuous

campaigning, community backing, and governmental dedication to guarantee the dignified and equitable existence of transgender people.

Effectiveness of Government Policies

The efficacy of governmental policies in addressing the requirements and entitlements of transgender people in Coimbatore District can be evaluated by diverse initiatives and plans that have been put into operation over the years. An important initiative that has been in operation for almost ten years is the New Entrepreneur cum Enterprise Development Scheme (NEEDS). The objective of this program is to offer economic assistance and assets to disadvantaged populations, namely transgender people, in order to promote the development of entrepreneurial ventures. Coimbatore has successfully implemented the NEEDS strategy, with around 80 projects receiving subsidies, surpassing the original goal of 24 projects. The Coimbatore Smart City Project has implemented multiple projects with the goal of improving municipal infrastructure and social services. Of these, the emphasis on providing low-cost housing and improving the living conditions of slum dwellers is especially important for transgender populations, who frequently encounter socio-economic difficulties. The effort is to eradicate slums within a period of five years, thereby enhancing living circumstances and facilitating access to vital services, thereby substantially enhancing the quality of life for transgender people. The e-Governance initiatives in Coimbatore have improved the efficiency of government services, facilitating the acquisition of essential documents and benefits for transgender people. The implementation of e-District services has streamlined the process of applying for different certificates and social welfare schemes, guaranteeing that marginalised communities can obtain assistance without encountering bureaucratic obstacles. Notwithstanding these favourable advancements, obstacles persist. The efficacy of these policies often relies on the extent to which transgender people are made aware of and reached out to, in order to ensure that they are informed about the resources that are accessible to them. The complete achievement of these rights is still impeded by societal stigma and discrimination. Hence, although the government policies in Coimbatore have made significant progress in providing assistance to transgender people, it is crucial to continue these endeavours to guarantee that these initiatives are completely efficient and all-encompassing.

Accessibility and availability of essential services and resources

The accessibility and availability of essential services and resources for transgender people are critical issues shaped by existing government policies. Transgender people often encounter significant barriers in accessing healthcare, education, and employment, which are exacerbated by systemic discrimination and lack of understanding within service frameworks. In healthcare, transgender people face numerous obstacles, including a shortage of knowledgeable providers. Many healthcare professionals lack training in transgender health issues, leading to inadequate care and increased health disparities. For instance, a study indicated that around 30% of transgender people reported avoiding healthcare due to fear of discrimination or mistreatment. Financial barriers also play a crucial role, with many lacking insurance coverage for necessary treatments such as hormone therapy and surgeries. This financial strain is particularly acute among transgender people of colour, where poverty rates can reach as high as 48%. The physical environment of healthcare facilities often fails to

accommodate transgender needs, with a lack of gender-neutral restrooms and privacy concerns contributing to an unwelcoming atmosphere.

In the realm of education, transgender students frequently face bullying and discrimination, which can lead to higher dropout rates. A significant number of transgender youth report feeling unsafe at school, which undermines their educational experience and mental well-being. Policies that fail to protect transgender students contribute to a hostile educational environment, limiting their access to quality education and resources. Employment is another area where transgender people encounter barriers. Despite legal protections in some jurisdictions, discrimination remains rampant. Approximately 27% of transgender people report being fired or denied promotions due to their gender identity. This systemic discrimination not only affects their economic stability but also perpetuates cycles of poverty and marginalization.

Government policies often lag behind the needs of transgender people. There have been advancements in legal protections, such as the recognition of transgender rights in some states, comprehensive federal protections are still lacking. This inconsistency creates a patchwork of rights and access across the country, leaving many vulnerable to discrimination and inequity. The accessibility and availability of essential services for transgender people are severely hindered by a combination of systemic barriers, including inadequate healthcare, discriminatory educational environments, and employment discrimination. Addressing these issues requires a multifaceted approach, including improved training for service providers, comprehensive anti-discrimination laws, and policies that specifically cater to the needs of transgender people. Only through such measures can we hope to create an equitable society where all people, regardless of gender identity, have access to the resources necessary for a healthy and fulfilling life.

Challenges and barriers faced by transgender people

Transgender people in Coimbatore District face a myriad of challenges and barriers that significantly impact their ability to access and benefit from government policies designed for their welfare. Despite the Tamil Nadu government's initiatives, such as the 2018 Transgender Policy aimed at ensuring rights and welfare, systemic issues persist, hindering effective implementation. One key challenge is the pervasive social stigma and discrimination that transgender people encounter daily. For instance, a 2020 study conducted by the Tamil Nadu Social Welfare Department indicated that over 70% of transgender people in the state reported experiencing discrimination in public spaces, including government offices. This hostile environment often discourages them from seeking assistance or reporting grievances, thereby limiting their engagement with government services.

There are also notable economic obstacles. Discrimination poses a significant obstacle for many transgender people in their search for secure work. An exemplary instance is that of Lakshmi, a transgender lady hailing from Coimbatore, who encountered persistent refusals from employers solely due to her gender identification, despite her impressive skills. The absence of job prospects compels numerous people to seek employment in the informal sector or hazardous work settings, hence perpetuating cycles of poverty. The government's economic support initiatives, although well-intentioned, frequently lack precise targeting and accessibility for this particular demographic. Access to healthcare continues to be a significant concern. Transgender people often face discrimination in healthcare settings,

resulting in insufficient medical care. A 2021 survey conducted by the National Health Mission found that over 60% of transgender people in Tamil Nadu refrained from seeking healthcare treatments out of apprehension of facing discrimination. This is especially alarming considering the elevated occurrence of health problems, such as mental health difficulties, within the community. Legal recognition poses an additional obstacle. Although the Supreme Court's 2014 ruling acknowledged transgender people as a distinct gender, the process of putting this decision into action at the state level has been sluggish. A significant number of people in Coimbatore continue to encounter challenges in acquiring official documents that accurately represent their gender identification. This hinders their ability to access a range of services, such as education and work. In order to properly tackle these obstacles, it is imperative for the Tamil Nadu government to give priority to awareness initiatives aimed at educating authorities and the general public about transgender rights and issues. Implementing focused economic initiatives that offer monetary assistance and education for transgender business owners could promote enhanced financial self-sufficiency. Ultimately, providing healthcare workers with training on transgender-specific requirements can enhance access to vital services, so fostering a more inclusive society for people of all gender identities.

Government policies have impacted the social inclusion and acceptance of transgender people

Government policies have significantly shaped the social inclusion and acceptance of transgender people in Coimbatore District, Tamil Nadu. The journey towards recognition and rights for transgender people in India gained momentum with the landmark NALSA judgment in 2014, which legally recognized transgender people as a third gender. This ruling catalyzed various state and central government initiatives aimed at improving the socio-economic conditions of transgender communities. In Coimbatore, the implementation of the Tamil Nadu Transgender Welfare Board (TGTWB) has been pivotal. Established to address the unique challenges faced by transgender people, the board has facilitated access to education, healthcare, and employment opportunities. Despite these efforts, transgender people in Coimbatore still encounter substantial barriers. A study revealed that a significant portion of the transgender population remains marginalized, with many relying on begging and blessings as their primary sources of income. The socio-economic survey indicated that 82.5% of respondents identified blessing and begging as their main occupation, highlighting the limited economic opportunities available to them. The educational attainment of transgender people in Coimbatore is alarmingly low, with a majority lacking formal education. Only 32.5% of respondents had completed primary education, 12.5% were illiterate. This educational gap perpetuates their socio-economic disadvantages and limits their employability in more sustainable job sectors.

The SMILE project, introduced in 2022 by the government, has dedicated significant sums to improve the well-being of transgender people, with the goal of fostering a more inclusive society. This program prioritises the provision of training and job prospects, which are essential for improving the quality of life for transgender people. In addition, the National Education Policy 2020 acknowledges transgender children as a socio-economically disadvantaged demographic, advocating for fair access to education and appropriate support systems to meet their specific need. Notwithstanding these progressions, obstacles persist.

The complete integration of transgender people into society is impeded by the persistence of stigma and discrimination. A significant number of people continue to experience social exclusion from their families and communities, resulting in a recurring pattern of poverty and marginalisation. An all-encompassing strategy that incorporates community consciousness, legal safeguards, and economic empowerment is crucial for cultivating a more inclusive atmosphere. There have been notable advancements in government policy in Coimbatore District aimed at enhancing the well-being of transgender people, there is still more work to be done. Ensuring that transgender people may fully engage in and make valuable contributions to their communities relies heavily on the convergence of education, economic prospects, and societal inclusivity. Continued promotion and improvement of policies are essential to tackle the persistent difficulties experienced by this marginalised group.

FINDINGS

1. The result analysis indicates a positive and significant relationship between government policies in Coimbatore District and the satisfaction of transgender needs and rights ($r = 0.122$, $p = 0.032$). This finding supports the hypothesis that improved government policies are associated with enhanced satisfaction of transgender people's needs and rights, leading to a more supportive environment for the community.
2. The analysis shows a positive and significant correlation between the access to essential services and resources and the satisfaction of transgender people under current government policies ($r = 0.113$, $p = 0.023$). This suggests that as access to these services improves, transgender people experience increased support and satisfaction, affirming that effective policies enhance service delivery and inclusivity.
3. There is a positive and significant correlation between the implementation of government policies and the reduction of challenges and barriers faced by transgender people ($r = 0.103$, $p = 0.027$). This implies that effective policy implementation can help mitigate the difficulties encountered by transgender people, thereby reducing barriers and improving their overall conditions.
4. The analysis reveals a positive and significant relationship between government policies and the social inclusion of transgender people in Coimbatore District ($r = 0.107$, $p = 0.025$). This finding indicates that as government policies promote social inclusion, the visibility and acceptance of transgender people increase, reflecting the positive impact of such policies on their social integration.

CONCLUSION

The influence of governmental policies on the lives of transgender people in Coimbatore District has been an intricate interaction of progress and ongoing difficulties. Recent legislative changes have greatly enhanced the legal acknowledgement and availability of vital services such as healthcare and education. The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act of 2019 is a significant advancement since it seeks to combat prejudice in areas such as education, employment, and healthcare. The programs like as the New Entrepreneur cum Enterprise Development Scheme (NEEDS) and housing enhancements under the Coimbatore Smart City Project have been specifically created to increase economic prospects and living standards for transgender people. The use of e-Governance initiatives has additionally facilitated improved accessibility to vital services. However, there are still

significant disparities that exist despite these progressions. The successful execution of these programs is frequently hindered by societal stigma and discrimination, which persistently impede the complete achievement of the policies' advantages. Obtaining identifying documents and accessing social benefits in rural locations pose significant challenges. Progress is further hindered by discrimination in educational settings, insufficient training of healthcare providers, and pervasive employment discrimination. The Tamil Nadu Transgender Welfare Board's initiatives, such as the SMILE project and its alignment with the National Education Policy 2020, exemplify the state's dedication to enhancing the socio-economic circumstances of transgender people. In order to make significant advancements, it is necessary to confront and overcome these disparities and obstacles. It is essential to prioritise the promotion of awareness, improvement of provider training, and reinforcement of support networks in order to overcome obstacles. To provide fair access to resources and promote public acceptance, it is crucial to have comprehensive and inclusive policy frameworks, together with strong community engagement and continuing lobbying. The major improvement in the quality of life for transgender people in Coimbatore District can only be achieved by consistent and focused actions.

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