

Study of Profile and Problems of Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) in ICDS Blocks: A Cross Sectional Study

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Abstract—In pursuance to the national policy for children, the Government of India launched the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme, which was introduced on experimental basis on 2nd October 1975. ICDS today represents one of the world's largest programmes for early childhood development. ICDS Scheme is the most comprehensive scheme of the Government of India for early childhood care and development. It aims at enhancing survival and development of children from the vulnerable sections of the society. While performing various different types of functions it is obvious that she might have to face variety of problems. Though only educated till matriculation as per the criteria of educational qualification for recruitments an AWW in an urban project, she is expected to perform all these job responsibilities. Also community participation, co ordination with the superiors, beneficiaries and helper are important parts of her daily work. Taking into consideration all above factors this study was conducted in ICDS Block of Imphal East, Manipur. The objective of the study is to study the profile of AAW workers and to study the constraints encountered by them while working.

The present study was conducted in Imphal East district of Manipur. Anganwadi centres were selected by stratified sampling technique. For each sector 10 % of AWWs were enrolled into the study. The profile of the AWWs was assessed by interviewing the Anganwadi workers for their literacy status, years of experience and the constraints encountered by them while working. Result: Most of AWWs were from the age group of between 41-50 years, more than half of them were matriculate and 82.14% workers had an experience of more than 10 yrs. Majority of the problems faced by them were honorarium related and infrastructure related, excessive workload followed by logistic supply related, record maintenance , inadequate supervision and others.

Keywords: Anganwadi workers; Profile; Problems