TOPIC 2:

RESEARCH DESIGN

2.1 Introduction

Research is a careful / critical enquiry or examination in seeking facts or principles, delight investigation in order to ascertain something.

1. Technically research is a manipulation of things, concepts or symbols for the purpose of generalizing to extend, correct or verify knowledge with that knowledge aids in the construction of theory or in the practice of art.

2. The term research design is defined as the logical strategy of the study and rests on the way in which the research problem has been formulated.

3. The present research work attempts to contribute to the knowledge about the delivery of welfare of services under the ICDS scheme, through the medium of Anganwadi’s social welfare program under public auspices.

2.2 Sociological research

1. The profession of social work has evolved from the social welfare institution’s need of an agents carry out welfare programs to deliver welfare services. Professional social work practices are both science and art. Sociological research works thus search out answers to questions raised in social practices.

2. More precisely, research in social services is a critical enquiry into sociologically organization, function and method in order to verify, generalize and extend sociological knowledge; skills concepts and theory.
3. Sociological research also fulfills the function in cooperating social sciences concepts and theory into sociological knowledge base.

4. Moreover, sociology profession recognize sociological research as one of its auxiliary(secondary) methods, whose function is to contribute to the development of dependable body of knowledge for professionals, like other professionals, engaged in research in regards to problems which are of special interests to them.

5. Sociological research is divisible into basic research and operational (applied) research but the point at which basic sociological research ends and operational sociology research begins is indistinct.

6. Because of the continuous growth in social welfare services organized under public auspices increase in the number of service beneficiaries and also the corresponding rise in the number of workers employed for service delivery, questions naturally arise about the cost and the efficiency of the methods adopted in delivering these services. Sociological research can provide answers to the questions concerning to social services.

2.3 Selection of topic and auspices

In modern welfare state of India social welfare addresses itself to the development of individuals, community and society, (social work), sociological profession is viewed as a facilitative activity that enables individuals, community and society to utilize the available welfare services, the profession itself operates within an institutional framework. Anganwadis being one such institution established under public auspices to meet the welfare needs of urban, new born and 0-6 year’s age groups children, hence it was felt appropriate to investigate the Anganwadis under the auspices of sociological research.

2.4 Sociological research and Anganwadis
Sociological research in secondary (auxiliary) method of sociological profession in social welfare content, it aims to determine needs for welfare services in relation to needs to obtain estimates of unmet needs for services and to establish priorities for fulfillment of needs. One of the newer methods in sociological research is evaluation research. It is an approach as assess the effectiveness of social welfare programs and services. In evolution research the tools of research are pressed into service to make the judging process more accurate and objective. In its research guide, evaluation established clear and specific criteria for success. It collects evidence systematically from a representation sample of the units of concern. It usually translates the evidence into quantitative terms and compares it with the criteria that were set. It then draws conclusion about the effective the merit and the success of the phenomenon.

The present investigation had aimed to study the efficiency of Anganwadis in delivering the child welfare services under the ICDS scheme, to measure the quality of these services as perceived by the Anganwadi beneficiaries and to gauge their satisfaction level with respect to these services.

2.5 Conceptual basis of research design
The research design of the present investigation is based an authoritative treatise sociological research (eg. Norman A Polansky, Chicago: University of Chicago press-1976)

2.6 Statement of problem
Out of Sangli City’s (study area’s) population of 4, 05,118 (2011 census), 25%(1, 06,409) population lives in 57 notified slums dotting to city scope all over. The physical and emotional problem as also resource and facilities impediments encountered by these socially disadvantages slum dwellers in Sangli city are hot significantly different than those faced by their equally unfortunate brethren in metro and mega policies in order to at least partly alleviate these slum dwellers anxiety about securing the most elementary welfare needs for their children. The ICDS scheme was introduced in Sangli city for the first time in 1982 and 100 Anganwadis ware established at a time.

The period of 16 years ought to be a reasonable time span in the life of Anganwadis in Sangli to taken an appraisal look at them to evaluate their functioning and to
plan for future course within the constraints impressed and the opportunity offered by the environment learning from the experience of earlier child welfare programs many of which failed in the absence of monitoring and supportive research. It is felt that in the case of Anganwadi, it is all the more important to regularly evaluate their functioning through impartial external research. Accordingly Sangli city was chosen as the local for the investigation and the present work is titled “A sociological study of Anganwadis in Sangli city of Maharashtra state”.

2.7 The study area

Sangli city has a rich cultural heritage in recent past. In recent past, it swiftly changed from a vibrant garrison-transit town of yester dynastic to a seat of royalty (173/AD) to a fast urbanization center (mid 19th century onwards). The yester century princely state of Sangli today is the headquarters of district of same name in the state of Maharashtra. Geographically, Sangli city situates at – north latitude and – east longitude at mean sea level of – feet on the eastern slopes of the sahyadrian mountain ranges in the western Maharashtra. The town’s municipality was originally established in 1854 (Sangli) and was converted into a municipal corporation in 1972. The city’s sprawl covers an area of -66.82 K.m. and it is a home for 4 Lakh plus resident population.

2.8 The study universe

Initially the ICDS scheme was introduced in 1982. Today in 2011 the number of Anganwadi’s has rise to 111 and that of the Anganwadi’s beneficiaries to approximately 45,000 (10). In many a slum, the Anganwadi’s has a become integrated with the social scene as a future. The universe of the proposed study are 100 Anganwadi’s (the remaining 11 Anganwadi’s have been setup recently and yet are unstable) from which two sets of respondents, explained in sample design have been drawn. It is a census study.

2.9 Objective of the study

In view of the wholistic approach to be adopted for the proposed study, the following have been set out as its objective.
1. To critically evaluate the delivery mechanism for the integrated child development services (ICDS) of
   i. Supplementary nutrition
   ii. Health check up
   iii. Primary healthcare
   iv. Immunization
   v. Nutrition and health education
   vi. Non-formal preschool education at the Anganwadi’s in Sangli city

2. To critically examine the role of Anganwadi’s workers-workers and helpers in delivering
   the integrated child development services in Sangli city.

3. To ascertain the quality of these services in Sangli city perceived by the Anganwadi’s
   beneficiaries in Sangli city and to gauge their satisfaction levels about these services.

4. To put forward meaningful suggestion as many appropriate.

2.10 **Hypothesis of the study**

   Against the background of researcher’s prior observations finding of earlier , studies
   elsewhere and the objective of this study , the following two broad type hypothesis were
   taken up for testing.

1. Anganwadi’s workers in Sangli city efficiency deliver the integrated child development
   services to the service beneficiaries.

2. Anganwadi beneficiaries (nursing mothers, expectant mothers, child guardians, and 15-44
   age women’s) generally carry a ‘good’ opinion about the Anganwadi’s facilities and the
   Anganwadi’s workers.

3. Anganwadi beneficiaries are generally satisfied with the ICDS services available through
   the Anganwadi. For the purpose of precise testing this broad hypothesis has been divided
   into six sub hypothesis as
a. Anganwadi’s beneficiaries are generally satisfied with the service of supplementary nutrition.

b. Anganwadi beneficiary are generally satisfied with the service of immunization.

c. Anganwadi beneficiary are generally satisfied with the service of health check up.

d. Anganwadi beneficiary are generally satisfied with the service of health referral.

e. Anganwadi beneficiary are generally satisfied with the service of non formal preschool education.

f. Anganwadi beneficiary are generally satisfied with the service of health and nutritional education.

2.11 Sample design

For fulfilling the objectives set out and for testing the above hypothesis two distinct sets of sample respondents were used.

Set 1: respondents were Anganwadi workers and,

Set 2: respondents were Anganwadi beneficiaries.

The detailed sampling plan was as follows
1. Anganwadi workers (convenience quota sample)
   Anganwadi workers-100
   Each Anganwadi is run by one Anganwadi worker that is in the 100 established Anganwadi; there were 100 Anganwadi workers to choose the sample from. Hence, in order to give equal representation to both these workers in the sampling plan 100 each worker were chosen for which list of the Anganwadi’s was obtained and the Anganwadi’s at the serial has 1,3,5,----165(99) were identified for interviewing the
workers. While the Anganwadi’s at serial has 2, 4, and 6-----165 were identified for interviewing the AWH.

2. Anganwadi beneficiaries (convenience quota sample)
   a. Expectant mothers : 100
   b. Nursing mothers : 100
   c. Guardians (male/female) child beneficiaries : 100
   d. Women beneficiaries :100

: 400

Despite earnest efforts, it was impossible to obtain a centralized categories list of the beneficiaries. These records being maintained at individual’s Anganwadi’s moreover the child beneficiaries for outnumber other beneficiaries like expectant and nursing mothers (refer table no.6.1.past). It was further observed that the drop-out and absenteeism rates among all categories of beneficiaries are substantially high. As such even if centralized categories beneficiaries lists were available the sampling plan would have become immensely complex and difficult to fulfill. Hence, it was decided before hand to take a quota sample of 100 respondents of each category. The researcher believes that despite in the respondent’s socio-economic and demographic background. They all are homogeneous groups on the basis of the nationwide uniform integrated child development services they receive. Hence a sample of 100 respondents in each of the four beneficiaries categorized presumed to be adequate. The actual respondents were randomly picked up different Anganwadi’s from all over the study universe according to their willingness and convenience to particular in the survey.

2.12 Data collection – primary data

A. The primary data collected from the workers respondents focused on
   1. Personal information
   2. Family information
   3. Information about workplace atmosphere
4. Information about respondents’ personal, social, and work related problems, and
5. Information about Anganwadi services.

B. The primary data collected from the beneficiaries respondents besides drawing their socio-economic profile was used for
   1. Assuring service adequacy / quality
   2. Assessing beneficiation
   3. Ascertaining workers, beneficiaries, interaction recent literature suggest that perceived service quality is an attitude specific construct while satisfaction with a service is a transaction specific response and that the intensity of both could be quantified through precise inventories. This work has explored the relationship between these two variables (service quality / satisfaction) in a social welfare setting and used the finding to suggest improvements to the ICDS delivery setup. Both the sets of primary data were collected through comprehensive pretested structured interview schedulers administered to the sample respondents.

2.13 Data collection – secondary data

A. Library sources

The secondary data necessary for the successful for the completion of the investigation was collected from the archives of the ICDS offices.

For discussing the theoretical aspects of social welfare and social work published sources available in various libraries, archives and collection were used particularly.

Helpful were:

College name:
Additional secondary data collected from ICDS supervisory cadres and published sources wherever necessary, additional information was sought from the persons knowledge in clinical medicine, clinical pediatrics, child psychology, organizational behavior, social welfare administration with the help of interview guides.

B. Unstructured interview

Verbatim information through interview transcript and audio recording was also collected to provide the background material for analyzing the primary data from knowledge and experienced person in social welfare and social work.

2.14 Data analysis and interpretation

Both the sets of the primary data were computer processed and analyzed by using application specific software. The finding returned was interpreted by juxtaposing them with the available secondary data.

2.15 Scope of the study

The geographical scope of the study was limited to the municipal area of Sangli city. The topical scope covered, the functioning of the Anganwadi is in Sangli city. The analytical scope covered the fulfillment of study objective and the testing of hypothesis. The functional scope was confined to tendering a set of suggestion for improving the efficiency a set of Anganwadi’s of the service delivery set up of Anganwadi’s.

2.16 Significance of the study
The fundamental drive of sociological research is sustained by the sociology profession quest for the acquisition of new knowledge useful in the fulfillment of welfare objectives. Accordingly the present work has contributed to the knowledge base of the profession.

Demographers predict that by 2001 AD. India’s urban population will constitute 33 % (333 million) of the total population (up from 26 % In 1991) living in about 4000 towns (1991 AD 3768 towns). If other related trends continue, about 25 % of these 333 million that is about 83 million people will be slum-dwellers of which 40 % (33 million) will be children.(11)

A micro level investigation into the present state of affairs at the first step in this direction lastly in an industrial age of the state sponsored welfare efforts target on younger population is to meet the nation’s eventual needs of appropriate educated and healthy workforce.

The country’s human resource Anganwadi’s are contributing their meet to this stupendous task and the academic should extend its helping named through supportive research.

2.17 Limitations of the study

The following were encountered as the limitations of the present investigation.

1. The first set of respondent, Anganwadi workers, helpers, and workers work within the bureaucratic framework. The working atmosphere in such a set up usually gives rise to typical attitude to words one’s work. The interview schedule administered to them was not designed to gauge their work attitude.

2. The second sets of respondents comprise Anganwadi beneficiaries the recipients of services their opinions were found to be influenced by several socio-economic and demographic factors. The interview schedules were neither designed to ascertain the Anganwadi beneficiaries attitudes towards the service they had receive.

3. The study is conducted in a mixed urban-rural setting where spatial-temporal perception differs widely from these obtaining in both highly industrial and purely rural setting. The finding of the study therefore may have to be read against this backdrop wherever necessary.
2.18 Chapter scheme

The thesis is divided into – chapters as follows;

Chapter 1- Anganwadi’s – genesis and relevance

Chapter 2- ICDS and Anganwadi’s: A review of relevant literature.

Chapter 3- Research design

Chapter 4- Profile of Sangli city: - The study area.

Chapter 5- Data analysis and Interpretation: -Anganwadi’s workers

Chapter 6- Data analysis and Interpretation: - Anganwadi’s beneficiaries

Chapter 7- Conclusion and suggestion

The structured interview scheduled used for collecting the primary data from the respondents from the appendices. A select bibliography concludes the thesis.