ABSTRACT

This study explores the A Sociological Study of Anganwadis in Sangli City of Maharashtra State with special reference to the ICDS objectives, services and coverage with Anganwadis. Here we examine the Anganwadi centers in Sangli city and brief study of Anganwadi workers and Anganwadi beneficiaries. In the modern Welfare State of India, 'Social Welfare' addresses itself to the development of individuals, community and society. Delivery of social welfare is a facilitative activity that enables individuals, community and society to utilize the available welfare services. The delivery mechanism itself operates within an institutional framework. Anganwadis is one such social welfare institution established under the public auspices to meet the welfare needs of unborn, newborn and 0-6 year’s age group children. Accordingly, it was felt appropriate to investigate the Anganwadis under the auspices of sociological research. Accordingly, the proposed work has been titled as "A SOCIOLOGICAL STUDY OF ANGANWADIS IN SANGLI CITY OF MAHARASHTRA STATE".

In order to investigate above, a large and representative sample of 100 Anganwadi workers and beneficiaries is to be taken. The sample taken for analysis comprised 100 subjects from Anganwadi centers and total six ICDS services. The subjects belong to supplement nutrition, health check up, primary health care/referral services, Immunization, Nutrition and Health education, Non formal Pre-school education. The ICDS scheme is administered through state Govt. together with elaborate arrangement for its funding through the state and the Union Govt. and support services through the UNISEF and certain International Development Agencies. ICDS projects informal land tribal area are located in Community Development Blocks and Tribal Development Clocks, Predominantly inhabited by backward tribes/ scheduled castes, backward area, drought-prone areas, nutritionally deficient regions and the regions poor in the development of social services. In urban area, priority is given to slums and areas predominantly inhabited by scheduled castes in cities.

Data were collected using two questionnaires- an Anganwadi worker and Anganwadi beneficiaries. Two statistical tests were used to measure the association between the workers/beneficiaries and ICDS: hypothetical analysis and quantitative analysis with the satisfaction survey and opinion survey. The questionnaires contain their personal information, family information and sociological issues. The opinion survey based on the Anganwadi
facilities and Anganwadi functionaries and questions relate to opinions about the facilities and workers in the Anganwadi. The satisfaction survey contains questions relate to satisfaction about the ICDS services available through the Anganwadi.

The finding shows difference in Anganwadi services provided by ICDS and actual benefit taken by their beneficiaries. The finding also indicates that variable effect on nursing mothers, child guardians and expectant mothers.

While this studies clearly demonstrate the present situation of Anganwadis in Sangli City of Maharashtra State with special reference to the ICDS objectives, services and coverage.

Based on these finding in current study, this thesis strongly argues that the Anganwadi workers and beneficiaries are less satisfied with the services provided by the ICDS Schemes.