CHAPTER 1

IMPLICATIONS
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Present study is systematic attempt to ascertain the level of knowledge and extent of adoption of recommended weaning practices by the rural and urban mother respondents, besides assessing nutritional and health status of infant respondents under study. Although the study has thrown up some useful information, it also has proposed far reaching implications which subsequent investigators might find useful to explore. The study also has implications to propose for the administrators, policy makers and social reformers. Implications proposed for the sake of convenience in its presentation have been divided into following two sections.

1. Research Implications and,
2. Action Implications.

1. Research Implications:

i. Present study needs to be replicated with an enlarged sample which should include more communities from rural and urban area.
ii. Systematic and comprehensive study needs to be planned and directed to quantify precisely technological gap between recommended status and status of actual adoption with the measuring instruments available if not, to be developed separately.

2. Action Implications:

i. Findings emerged out of the present investigation have clearly brought out need for providing encouragement through advertisement or literature for creating awareness about concept and techniques of weaning process on the part of mothers, besides launching educational programmes through social organisations. In view of this it is proposed that suitable advertisement strategy and implementation strategy for introduction of educational programmes be worked out by the concern.

ii. Weaning is such an aspect, information about which needs to be passed on to future mothers. This only would be possible when the aspect of weaning is
included in the school and college curriculum. Authorities in the field of education should therefore, look into the matter for needful.

iii. It has been a practice of using definite type of weaning foods, which has in turn resulted in non-acceptability on the part of infants. In order to break monotony and arrange to supply different types of home-made mixes not only with the quality, nutritive value but also provides an opportunity to make use of staple available in the locality. This may therefore, be tackled appropriately.

iv. In view of increasing cost resulting in expressing inability to purchase weaning food items by poor ruralite, it is very much necessary to organise and introduce programme through which arrangement for supplying weaning food items on subsidised rates should be made.

v. One of the suggestions offered by most of the mother respondents from rural area was that weaning food items be supplied on subsidised rates. If this suggestion is
taken in its real perspective, it would mean that it is not possible for them to go in for different types of weaning foods in view of high cost for the same. It would, therefore, be appropriate if weaning food items are supplied on subsidised rates through proper agencies particularly in rural area.