CHAPTER NINE

MAJOR FINDINGS, SUMMARY OF CONCLUSION

AND RECOMMENDATION
9.0. **Findings and Conclusion**

The major findings and conclusion of the present study are presented below:

- Of the 323 block level supervisors, there were 100 community Nutrition Instructresses (CNIs) and 223 Community Nutrition Supervisors (CNSs).

- Most of the block level supervisors belonged to the age group of 40-50, while about 45 per cent of the CNIs were found to be in the age group of 35-40, most of the CNSs (34 per cent) were found to be in the age group of 45-50.

- The educational level of the block level supervisors shows that while most of the CNIs were either post-graduates (44 per cent) and graduates (32 per cent), most of the CNSs (55.15 per cent) have studied up to SSLC level.

- Most of the CNIs (98 per cent) and the CNSs (94.11 per cent) were found to be married.

  Mean family size of the CNIs (3.94) is found to be more than the mean family size of the CNSs (3.66)

  Most of the CNIs (85 per cent) and the CNSs (78.92 per cent) were found to belong to nuclear family.
Most of the block level supervisors (58.20 per cent) were found to have work experience of 6-10 years and about 23.21 per cent have work experience of 16-20 years. The same trend prevails among both CNIs and CNSs.

Most of the CNIs and CNSs found the training methods (short lecture, group interaction, brainstorming session, case discussion, field trip and demonstrations) and the training materials (videos, slides, handouts, charts/posters) that were used during the training programme as very useful.

9.1. Knowledge of the Block Level Supervisors on PLM Techniques

The block level supervisors found to have sound and high level knowledge on PLM techniques like social mapping (91 per cent of the CNIs and 95 per cent of the CNSs), wealth ranking (81 per cent of the CNIs and 84.75 per cent of the CNSs), Venn diagram (80 per cent of the CNIs and the CNSs), preference ranking and time line. Their knowledge level was found to be medium in the case of problem prioritization technique and below average in the case of seasonal calendar and trend change techniques.

9.2. Factors affecting the Block Level Supervisors' knowledge on PLM Techniques

The following table (Table 9.1) shows, in brief, the factors that affect the knowledge of both the CNIs and the CNSs on the selected nine PLM techniques and the percentage of variance explained by these variables using multiple regression analysis technique.
Table 9.1

FACTORS AFFECTING THE KNOWLEDGE OF BLOCK LEVEL SUPERVISORS ON PLM TECHNIQUES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLM Technique</th>
<th>CNI Factors</th>
<th>Percentage of variance explained</th>
<th>CNS Factors</th>
<th>Percentage of variance explained</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social Mapping</td>
<td>Age, training and marital status</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>Age, training and marital status</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wealth Ranking</td>
<td>Age, family size, training</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Age, Education</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seasonal calendar</td>
<td>Age, education, family size, training</td>
<td>16.4</td>
<td>Training, Work experience</td>
<td>24.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timeline</td>
<td>Age, Family Size</td>
<td>17.3</td>
<td>Training, age Family Size</td>
<td>57.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venn Diagram</td>
<td>Age, Education, Family Size</td>
<td>18.7</td>
<td>Age, Education, Marital status</td>
<td>14.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preference ranking</td>
<td>Age, family size, training</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Training, family size, family type'</td>
<td>32.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trend Change</td>
<td>Marital status, family type</td>
<td>11.2</td>
<td>Family size</td>
<td>18.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Problem. prioritization</td>
<td>Education</td>
<td>8.6</td>
<td>Education, family type</td>
<td>23.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decision matrix</td>
<td>Education</td>
<td>37.4</td>
<td>Age, marital status, family size, family type, work experience</td>
<td>35.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9.3. Effect of Exogenous variables on the knowledge on PLM techniques through path analysis

Considering both direct and indirect effects training, family type and family size seem to be the vital variables in explaining the variation in the knowledge of block level supervisors on social mapping.
Age, education, marital status and family type seem to be the vital exogenous variables in explaining the variation both directly and indirectly in the knowledge of block level supervisors on wealth ranking.

Age is the crucial variable that has both direct as well as indirect effect on the knowledge of block level supervisors on Venn diagram.

Considering both direct and substantial indirect effects of the exogenous variables, family size, age and education are the crucial variables in explaining the variance on knowledge on timeline.

Training is the vital variable that explains both the direct and indirect effect of exogenous variables on the block level supervisors knowledge on seasonal calendar.

The exogenous variables namely, family size, age, education and family type play a vital role in explaining the variance on knowledge on preference ranking.

Considering both indirect and direct effects of the exogenous variables, training and family size are the crucial variables that explain the variance in knowledge on trend change.

Age, family type, attitude and training are the crucial exogenous variables that had both direct and indirect effect on the knowledge of block level supervisors on problem prioritization.
Considering both direct and indirect effects of the exogenous variables, family size, education and marital status are the crucial variables in explaining the variance on the knowledge of CNIs and CNSs on decision matrix.

9.4. **Attitude of the block level supervisors towards PLM Techniques**

- More than 80 per cent of the block level supervisors had positive and favourable attitude towards PLM Techniques in terms of establishing rapport with people, entry point to the community, requires less cost, enhance people’s participation and so on.

- Their attitude was found to be negative and unfavourable in terms of time consumption, i.e., they thought that PLM Techniques are time consuming due to the fact that they failed to compare the time taken for the same task by the conventional methods.

9.5. **Factors affecting the block level supervisors’ attitude towards PLM Techniques**

- The attitude of the CNIs towards PLM Techniques was explained by their family size and the PLM Training that they have undergone, and these two factors explained a variance of 37.4 per cent.

- Similarly, the CNSs’ attitude towards PLM Techniques was predicted by the training factor, age, family size and family type. Together, these factors explained about 49.1 per cent of variance.
9.6. Practice of the PLM techniques in the field by the block level supervisors

> Social mapping technique was the most practiced PLM Technique both among the CNIs (88 per cent) and the CNss (95.6 per cent), followed by problem prioritization (69 per cent of the CNIs and 70.85 per cent of the CNSs) and wealth ranking (53 per cent of the CNIs and 54.70 per cent of the CNSs).

> Some of the least practised PLM Techniques in the field were decision matrix (24 per cent of the CNIs and 33.28 per cent of the CNSs), preference ranking (32 per cent of the CNIs and 36.77 per cent of the CNSs) and trend change technique (33 per cent of the CNIs and 32.5 per cent of the CNSs).

> Similarly, social mapping technique has been practised in maximum number of villages and maximum number of times than any other technique among both the CNIs and the CNSs and was followed by wealth ranking technique.

9.7. Factors affecting the practice of PLM techniques in the field among the block level supervisors

Table 9.2 shows a summary of the factors that affect the practice of the selected seven PLM Techniques each among both the CNIs and the CNSs using logistic analysis.
### Table 9.2

**FACTORS AFFECTING THE PRACTICE OF PLM TECHNIQUES IN THE FIELD AMONG THE BLOCK LEVEL SUPERVISORS.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>PLM Techniques</th>
<th>Factors affecting the CNIs</th>
<th>Factors affecting the CNSs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Social Mapping</td>
<td>Marital Status, work experience, promotion methods</td>
<td>Marital Status, promotion methods, training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Wealth Ranking</td>
<td>Marital Status, promotion methods, annual income</td>
<td>Family size, training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Venn Diagram</td>
<td>Education, attitude Towards PLM Techniques</td>
<td>Education, training, attitude Towards PLM Techniques</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Seasonal calendar</td>
<td>Family Type, training, attitude towards PLM Techniques</td>
<td>Education, Training</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Timeline</td>
<td>Family type, training</td>
<td>Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Preference Ranking</td>
<td>Education, Promotion methods, training</td>
<td>Education, family type, attitude towards PLM techniques</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Trend change</td>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Education</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 9.8. Other Findings

- Most of the CNIs (58 per cent) and the CNSs (70.40 per cent) were able to collect the required information using PLM Techniques.

- The information that were collected using PLM Techniques were mainly used for reporting purposes, project work, field work and for documentation purposes both by the CNIs and the CNSs.

- The major problems encountered by the CNIs and the CNSs in the practice of PLM Techniques in the field were inadequate time, administrative problems, lack of participation by both the people as well as the staff and lack of infrastructure facilities.
9.9. **Suggestions for Further Research**

The Thirst area identified for further research are:

- Job satisfaction among ICDSs functionaries,
- Evaluation of the workload of the ICDSs staff and to monitor their daily routines,
- To study the participation of rural youth and SHGs in the ICDSs scheme.
- Cast benefits analysis of ICDSs programmes,
- Impact of ICDSs programme on village panchayat.
- Various initiatives taken by ICDSs functionaries for involving community in the scheme.
- Achievements of ICDSs for the removal of hunger in the rural areas.