SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS
SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS:

The basic purpose of the present study was to undertake an objective based evaluation of adult education programme in the six districts of the valley. The three components of the programme analysed for the purpose of the present study included literacy, Awareness and functionality.

At the out-set, a preliminary survey of the adult education beneficiaries (male and female) enrolled in the adult education centres in Kashmir valley was conducted. The survey showed the enrolment of 79527 learners in 1240 adult education centres located throughout the valley. The sample for the present study was thus fixed as 10 percent of the centres and accordingly 1198 adult education beneficiaries were selected on the basis of a combination of random and quota sampling technique. Only those beneficiaries were selected for the present study who had attended adult education centres for about 8-9 months.

The tools for the present study were prepared by the investigator. A Self-Constructed and Standardized Achievement Test was used for the measurement of literacy skills. Two separate interview schedules prepared
for the purpose of the present study were also employed for determining the levels of awareness and functionality of the adult education beneficiaries.

The learners were contacted personally. The literacy achievement test was administered in groups in each adult education centre. The interviews, however, were conducted individually in a cordial and conducive atmosphere. The data collected was subjected to several statistical techniques including percentage and t test. Sex-wise and district-wise comparisons of the adult beneficiaries was made on the components of literacy skills, Awareness and Functionality.

The study has revealed several interesting findings. Some of these are reported as under:-

1. The two groups of subjects i.e. male and female adult education beneficiaries of the valley were found not to differ significantly on literacy component. However, the mean difference favoured the female beneficiaries. This indicated that female beneficiaries comparatively, achieve better on the literacy skills.

2. While comparing male and female adult beneficiaries within district, it was found that out of six comparisons made for this purpose only in two districts, the mean difference has been found to be significant. In the districts of Baramulla and
Kupwara the two groups of adult education beneficiaries i.e. male and female have been found to be significantly different from each other. In case of Baramulla District, male beneficiaries have been found to be higher on literacy skills whereas in case of Kupwara district female beneficiaries have been found to excel in literacy skills. In rest of the cases, the mean difference with respect to literacy skills has failed to arrive at any level of significance.

On the basis of mean scores it has been found that the adult education beneficiaries in general in the district of Badgam are higher on learning skills and the beneficiaries in the district of Kupwara are the lowest on these skills. Out of the fifteen comparisons made between beneficiaries belonging to various districts, only in six cases, the mean difference has been found to be significant. These comparisons are Anantnag v/s Kupwara, Anantnag v/s Badgam, Kupwara v/s Badgam, Kupwara v/s Baramulla, Kupwara v/s Pulwama and Kupwara v/s Srinagar. In rest of the cases the mean difference has failed to reach any level of significance. This implies that learners in the district of Anantnag are significantly different on their literacy skills as compared to the beneficiaries of Kupwara and Badgam. In the same way beneficiary-
ies belonging to the district Kuowara have been found to lag behind significantly in the area of literacy skills.

4. Applying sub-group analysis to compare the male beneficiaries from one district with the male beneficiaries of other district and also female beneficiaries of one district with female beneficiaries of other six districts on the literacy component. This type of analysis based on six comparisons, has revealed the same trend as has been shown in the district-wise comparison of adult education beneficiaries taken together.

5. The study has also revealed that the majority of the learners had acquired skills of Reading simple two to three lettered combination of words and small sentences. They were able to read and write their names and in some cases their addresses also. The learners were able to identify numbers and to comprehend additions and subtractions of small numbers. The majority of learners were able to read even bus number, simple posters and charts also.

The achievement of adult learners varied from district to district. The performance of learners of Srinagar district in Reading, Writing and Numeracy was satisfactory. The learners of Anant-
nag and Baramulla also fared well in Reading, writing and basic computation. However, learners attendance was not so high. The performance of the learners of district Badgam and Pulwama was found to be below average. The achievement of Kupwara district was extremely poor as compared to other five districts.

6. The two groups of adult education beneficiaries i.e. male and female learners of the valley were found not to differ significantly on awareness component. However the mean difference favoured male beneficiaries. This implies that male beneficiaries are comparatively more aware than their female counter-part.

7. While comparing male and female adult education beneficiaries within the district, it was found that out of six comparisons only in one case, i.e. district Srinagar, the mean difference has been found significantly different. In the four district i.e. Anantnag, Baramulla, Kupwara and Pulwama, male beneficiaries were found higher on the awareness component, whereas in district Badgam on the basis of mean difference female beneficiaries were found higher on the awareness component. However, the mean difference in the five district excepting Srinagar failed to arrive at any level of significance.
On the basis of mean scores, it has been found that the adult education beneficiaries in general in the district of Pulwama are higher on awareness component and the beneficiaries of district Kupwara were lower. Out of fifteen comparisons made for the purpose between beneficiaries belonging to various districts, only in five cases, the mean difference has been found to be significant. These comparisons are Anantnag v/s Kupwara, and Kupwara v/s Badgam, Kupwara v/s Baramulla, Kupwara v/s Pulwama and Kupwara v/s Srinagar. In rest of the cases, the mean difference has failed to arrive at any level of significance. This reveals that the beneficiaries of districts Kupwara are lagging behind significantly and are less informed on awareness programmes.

On the basis of sub-group analysis, a comparison was made by way of comparing male beneficiaries from one district with the male beneficiaries of other district and also female beneficiaries of one district with those of the other district. This type of analysis resulting in twelve comparisons has revealed that the male beneficiaries of Badgam are significantly different from male beneficiaries of two other districts viz., Anantnag and Baramulla on the awareness component. In the same way, the beneficiaries of Kupwara dis-
strict were found to lag behind significantly on awareness programmes.

10. A district-wise comparison of beneficiaries was made on various dimensions of awareness component with regard to pre and post-natal care of a child, social evils, formal schooling, adult literacy, rights and duties of a citizen, food and nutrition, small family norm, income generating schemes, co-ordination with the developmental departments. Regarding pre and post natal care of a child, rights and duties of a citizen it was found that the adult education beneficiaries of district Baramulla and Pulwama were found higher followed by other four districts. On the dimension of Food and Nutrition, beneficiaries of district Anantnag were found to be on higher side followed by district Srinagar and Badgam. In rest of the districts i.e. Pulwama and Baramulla and Kupwara, the beneficiaries were not found to score so high. Regarding the remaining dimensions i.e. small family norm, social evils, formal schooling, adoption of income generating schemes and linkages with developmental departments the beneficiaries of all the six districts were found to possess a low level of awareness alike.

11. A majority of adult education beneficiaries were
found to be aware about curative and preventive measures of health of children, importance of balanced food, need for arranging pure drinking water etc. With regard to rights and duties of a citizen it was found that the beneficiaries were not possessing rich information. Majority of beneficiaries were not a member of any social political or religious organization namely status of women, social evils, linkages with developmental departments, formal schooling and adult literacy, the beneficiaries were found to possess very low information. This necessitates that these dimensions should be given proper emphasis among masses through various adult education programs, through teaching learning material i.e., posters, maps, charts, pamphlets etc., This will not only improve their awareness building but will also be responsible for better motivation.

12. The sex wise comparison has revealed that the female beneficiaries of district Badgam, Baramulla, Pulwama and Srinagar were found more informed than their male counterpart on pre and post-natal care of a child. Regarding the dimension viz., drinking water, food and nutrition, the male beneficiaries of district Anantnag and Srinagar were found more informed than the female beneficiaries in the remaining four districts of Badgam.
Baramulla, Pulwama and Kupwara. In these four districts male beneficiaries were found to have more information than the female beneficiaries. This indicated that proper attention has not been given to the Awareness Component by the adult education programme functioning. Regarding the dimension "Right and Duties" organizational membership, male beneficiaries of district Baramulla and Pulwama were found higher than their female counterparts, while as the female beneficiaries of district Anantnag, Kupwara, Pulwama and Srinagar were found to possess information to an equal extent. With regard to other aspects of Awareness viz., "Social Evils" both male and female learners of five districts viz., Anantnag, Badgam, Srinagar, Baramulla, Pulwama were found lower and the beneficiaries of district Kupwara were found below average.

13. The two groups of subjects i.e. male and female beneficiaries of the valley were found not to be significantly different from each other on the functionality component. However, the mean difference favours the female beneficiaries. This indicates that female beneficiaries comparatively are making better use of adult education programmes.

14. While comparing male and female adult education
beneficiaries in each district it was found that in four districts the mean differences have been found to be significant. In the districts of Anantnag, Badgam, Pulwama and Srinagar, the two groups of subjects have been found to be significantly different from each other. In case of Anantnag, Badgam and Pulwama, female beneficiaries have been found higher on application of literacy skills. In case of district Srinagar male beneficiaries in comparison to female beneficiaries were found to be on the higher side so far as the utility and benefits of literacy programmes are concerned. In district Baramulla and Kupwara the mean difference failed to arrive at any level of significance.

15. On the basis of mean scores, it has been found that the adult education beneficiaries in general in the district of Anantnag are higher on Functionality component and the beneficiaries in the district Kupwara were lowest. Out of the fifteen comparisons made between beneficiaries of six districts of the valley, only in eight cases, the mean differences were found to be significant. These comparisons are Anantnag v/s Kupwara, Anantnag v/s Badgam, Kupwara v/s Badgam, Kupwara v/s Baramulla, Kupwara v/s Pulwama, Kupwara v/s Srinagar, Badgam v/s Baramulla, Badgam v/s Srinagar. In
rest of the cases the mean difference has failed to arrive at any level of significance. This further implies that the beneficiaries of districts of Baramulla, Srinagar and district Anantnag are significantly different on their applicability and functionality component of adult education programme, as compared to the beneficiaries of Badgam and Kupwara. This implies that the beneficiaries of district Kupwara and Badgam have been found lagging behind significantly in the area of application, participation and utilization of benefits of adult education programme.

16. Applying the sub-group analysis a comparison was made by controlling sex by way of comparing male beneficiaries from one district with male beneficiaries of other district and female beneficiaries of one district with female beneficiaries of the other six districts. Out of twelve comparisons, only in five cases the mean difference has been found to be significant. This has revealed the same trend as has been shown in the district-wise comparison of beneficiaries taken together.

17. A district-wise comparison of the two groups of beneficiaries was made on various dimensions of functionality component viz., application of knowledge, metric system, currency, unit of time, adult education centres and its benefits. Basic

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principles of health and hygiene, use of agricultural manures, schemes etc. Regarding metric system, currency, unit of time and basic principles of health and hygiene it was found that the beneficiaries of six districts possessed information to an equal extent. Regarding adult education centres, use of new agricultural schemes, manures and equipment, the beneficiaries of district Badgam and Srinagar were found to possess little information, whereas in case of District Baramulla and Pulwama, the beneficiaries were higher only on the dimension of use of new agricultural schemes and were found to be less informed about adult education centres and its benefits. Regarding the application of knowledge, the beneficiaries of district Anantnag and Pulwama were found to be on higher side followed by beneficiaries of district Srinagar, Baramulla, Badgam and Kupwara.

18. The study has revealed that the adult education programme has succeeded to a large extent in educating the learners in banking facilities and saving. It has also been found that 40-50 percent of learners were well versed in the metric system, currency, unit of time etc. as different aspects of functional knowledge. However, it was found that with regard to Government implemented
schemes, agricultural facilities and their use, only a small section of the beneficiaries derived benefit.

19. The sex-wise comparison has also revealed that the female beneficiaries of district Baramulla and Srinagar as against their female counterparts were found higher on the application of functionality viz., meteric system, currency, unit of time, both male and female beneficiaries of district Baramulla, Pulwama, Badgam and Srinagar were found to possess more information than the beneficiaries of remaining two districts i.e., district Anantnag and Kupwara.

6.2 SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

In the light of experience gained by the present investigator, the following suggestions are put forth for further research in this area.

i) Evaluation Studies

In depth evaluative studies of the adult education programme in the entire state of Jammu and Kashmir should be under-taken.

ii) Socio-economic and Cultural correlates

Intensive studies with regard to socio-economic, cultural and psychological correlates of adult literacy and functionality programmes are needed and, therefore, these should be undertaken on priority basis.

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III) **Teaching learning Materials**

In depth studies should be under-taken with regard to teaching learning materials, its needs and its relevance with the environment.

iv) **Linkage with Developmental departments**

A survey of the role of linkages with developmental departments should be under-taken to identify their contribution. This will help in facilitating the adult education programme.

v) **Comparison of State and University Centres**

A comparative study should be under-taken to compare the beneficiaries of University run and state run adult education centres.

vi) **Effectiveness of Adult Education programmes**

An in depth study of the effectiveness of the adult education programmes should be under-taken to analyze the benefits of such programmes for the common masses.

vii) **Cost benefit analysis**

A study on the cost-benefit analysis of adult education programme should be under-taken for the centres functioning in Rural and urban areas.
Determination of Disparity

An "Activity analysis study" should be under-taken for the purpose of determining the disparity between the roles assigned to Instructors, Supervisors, Assistant Project officers and Project Officers and roles they are actually playing.

6.3 SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT OF THE PROGRAMME

In view of the insight developed by the Investigator during the conduct of present study, the following suggestions are submitted for the over-all improvement of the Adult programmes.

1) Continuous Evaluation

There is no specific criteria for evaluating the performance of Instructors and beneficiaries, except going to the Centres and asking some questions to adult education learners. The frequency of Supervisors's visit to centres differed from district to district. Therefore, it is important that the evaluation should become a continuous process. Testing be done on monthly and quarterly basis. External agencies should be involved for this purpose. Tools for evaluating the various components of the programme should be standardized.

11) Involvement of the community members

Members of the community who yield influence and have better status in the society, should be involved
in the programme to the extent possible.

111) **Preliminary survey.**

Before opening the new adult education centre, a preliminary survey should be conducted in order to determine the actual need of opening a new adult education centre in a particular locality.

1v) **Relevant and sufficient reading material**

Adult education centres should be supplied with relevant and sufficient number of books, poster, pamphlets, charts, signboards, etc. The class room should be decorated properly so that it becomes attractive.

v) **Voluntary organizations**

Voluntary organizations and media should be involved to a greater extent for evaluation, publicity and awareness cum environment building programmes.

v1) **Fresh Orientation**

Volunteers, Managers, Representatives from development departments need a fresh orientation, so that a greater involvement on their part is ensured.

v11) **Awareness component**

The awareness component is the least emphasized component of adult education programme. It is, therefore, suggested that greater attention be paid towards the component in terms of time and teaching materials.

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Staff on permanent basis

The Staff including instructors should be appointed on a permanent basis, so that they develop sufficient motivation and work with greater amount of dedication and commitment in making the programme a success.

A separate Directorate

A separate directorate should be established, so that problems, emanating due to the dual control are resolved in making the programme a success.

Attractive incentives

Motivation of learners is a major problem of the programme. Learners should be provided with attractive incentives to join the programme, such as issuance of the certificates to successful learners which will be useful for their vocation or trade.

Need based activities

Need based development activities should be initiated through Adult Education Centres, so that the neo-literate can be provided with the facilities to start income generating activities like cutting, tailoring, vegetable cultivation, agricultural facilities, banking schemes, etc.