

Awareness about Anganwadi : A case study of Anganwadies in Rajkot city

■ V.S. SAMANI AND D.J. JOTANGIYA

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■ **ABSTRACT :** The word Anganwadi means “courtyard shelter” in Hindi. They were started by the Indian government in 1975 as part of the Integrated Child Development Services programme to combat child hunger and malnutrition. The word Anganwadi is derived from the Hindi word “Angan” which refers to the courtyard of a house. In rural areas an Angan is where people get together to discuss, greet, and socialize. The Angan is also used occasionally to cook food or for household members to sleep in the open air. The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Programme is the world’s largest and comprehensive outreach programme dealing with child’s interrelated physical, intellectual and emotional needs. The present study on “Awareness about Anganwadi : A Case Study of Anganwadies in Rajkot City” For this purpose 30 Anganwadi - around the Rajkot city were selected. The study was carried out on Awareness about Anganwadi, The role of Anganwadi workers, age, education experience and training of Anganwadi worker, place, facilities and activities of Anganwadi, information about supplementary food and beneficiaries of (SC/ST/GEN) Anganwadi.

See end of the paper for authors’ affiliations

V.S. SAMANI

Department of Home Science, M.V.M.
Science and Home Science College,
RAJKOT (GUJARAT) INDIA
Email : vssamani@gmail.com

■ **KEY WORDS:** Anganwadi, Courtyard shelter, ICDS

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The word Anganwadi means “courtyard shelter” in Hindi. They were started by the Indian government in 1975 as part of the Integrated Child Development Services programme to combat child hunger and malnutrition. The word Anganwadi is derived from the Hindi word “Angan” which refers to the courtyard of a house. In rural areas an Angan is where people get together to discuss, greet, and socialize. The Angan is also used occasionally to cook food or for household members to sleep in the open air. The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Programme is the

world’s largest and comprehensive outreach programme dealing with child’s interrelated physical, intellectual and emotional needs.

■ RESEARCH METHODS

The present study on “Awareness about Anganwadi: A case study of Anganwadies in Rajkot City” For this purpose 30 Anganwadi-around the Rajkot city were selected.

■ RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

- 73.33 per cent Anganwadi workers were 31 to 40 years old whereas 6.66 per cent were 51 to 60 years old (Table 1).
- 40 per cent Anganwadi workers had studied till 12th standard where as 3.33.per cent had studied till post graduate level.
- 66 per cent Anganwadi workers had 1 to 5 years experience where as 20 per cent were having 15 years of experience. Researcher believe that more experienced Anganwadi workers plays an important role to improve nutrition and health status of children.
- 50 per cent Anganwadi workers were having 1 time training, 23.33 per cent had taken two times training and 16.66 per cent Anganwadi workers had taken training for three times. 10 per cent Anganwadi workers had not taken training. Researcher believe that repeated training improves work efficiency of Anganwadi workers.
- 80 per cent Anganwadi building were solid constructed 20 per cent Anganwadi building were weak constructed and it affected to health status of children.
- 80 per cent Anganwadi was on rent where 20 per cent surrounding area was own .
- 40 per cent Anganwadi surrounding area was dirty where 60 per cent surrounding area neat and clean and it also affected to health status of children.
- 20 per cent Anganwadi were having play ground.
- 44.66 per cent Anganwadi were having bathroom, 26.66 per cent Anganwadi were having toilets
- 43.33 per cent Anganwadi were having ventilation and 36.66 per cent Anganwadi were having light and fan facilities.
- 60 per cent were having clean (pure) water system.
- All these facilities were important for the betterment of health of children.
- In 86. 66 per cent Anganwadi enough amount of supplementary food was given
- In 16.66 per cent Anganwadi rotten supplementary food was given
- In 40 per cent Anganwadi insects were found in supplementary foods.

Table 1 : Information about Anganwadi worker				
Age of Anganwadi worker				Total
20 to 30 Years 02 (6.66%)	31 to 40 Years 22 (73.33%)	41 to 50 Years 04(13.33)%	51 to 60 Years 02 (6.66%)	30
Education of Anganwadi worker				
Up to 10 Std. 11(36.66%)	Up to 12 Std. 12 (40%)	Graduate 06 (20%)	Post Graduate 01(3.33%)	30
Experience of Anganwadi worker				
1 to 5 Years 14 (46.66%)	6 to10 Years 06 (20%)	11 to 15 Years 04 (13.33)%	Above 15Years 06 (20%)	30
Training of Anganwadi worker				
Not at all 03 (10%)	One time 15 (50%)	Two times 07 (23.33%)	Three times 05 (16.66%)	30

Table 2 : Information about place of Anganwadi		
Anganwadi's House		Total
Kachcha 06(20%)	Pakka (Build with bricks and cement) 24 (80%)	30
On rent 24(80%)	Own 06 (20%)	30
Surrounding area of Anganwadi		
Clean 18 (60%)	Dirty 12 (40%)	30

- Researcher found that Anganwadi workers were complained that food supplied by government is not of good quality and enough quantity.
- Regular prayer, medical check up, all immunization were given in 100 per cent anganwad 100 per cent.
- In 40 per cent Anganwadi beneficiaries were given regular exercise.
- Among total beneficiaries of Anganwadi 44.22 per cent were girls and 55.78 per cent were boys.
- Among total beneficiaries of Anganwadi 8.30 per cent were SC/ST girls and 7.77 per cent were SC/ST boys
- Among total beneficiaries of Anganwadi in general category, 91.70 per cent were girls and 92.23 per cent were boys

Conclusion :

Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), Government of India sponsored programme, is India's primary social welfare scheme to tackle malnutrition and health problems in children below 6 years of age and their mothers. The main beneficiaries of the programme were aimed to be the girl child upto her adolescence, all children below 6 years of age, pregnant and lactating mothers. The gender promotion of the girl child by trying to bring her at par with the male child is a key component of the scheme. In reference to our research, we have concluded some results which are under:

- 80 per cent Anganwadi building were solid constructed 20 per cent Anganwadi building were weak constructed.
- 80 per cent Anganwadi was on rent where only

Table 3 : Other facilities in Anganwadi

Facilities	Yes	No	Total
Playground	06 (20%)	24 (80%)	30
Bathroom	14 (46.66%)	16(53.33%)	30
Toilet	08 (26.66%)	22 (73.33%)	30
Ventilation	13 (43.33%)	17 (56.66%)	30
Light and Fan	11 (36.66%)	19 (63.33%)	30
Pure water	18 (60%)	12(40%)	30

Table 4 : Information about supplementary food

Details supplementary food	Yes	No	Total
Quantity is given in enough amounts	26(86.66%)	04(13.33%)	30
Rotten food	05(16.66%)	25(83.33%)	30
Insects in food	12(40%)	18 (60%)	30

Table 5 : General information about activities of Anganwadi

Details of activities	Yes	No	Total
Regular prayer	30	00	30
Regular exercise	12	18	30
Regular medical check up	30	00	30
Regular all immunization	30	00	30
Pre school education	30	00	30

Table 6 : Beneficiaries of Anganwadi

Details of children	Girl			Boy		
	SC/ST	Gen.	Total	SC/ST	Gen.	Total
0 months to 1 year	13	140	153	15	169	184
1 year to 3 years	09	113	122	10	131	141
3 years to 6 years	11	112	123	14	163	177
Total	33 (8.30%)	365(91.70%)	398 (44.22%)	39 (7.77%)	463 (92.23%)	502 (55.78%)
Total		398 (44.22%)			502 (55.78%)	
Grand -total			900 (100%)			

- 20 per cent surrounding area was own.
- 40 per cent Anganwadi surrounding areas were dirty. Regarding to health problems those areas can make neat and clean save the children from communicable diseases.
- 73.33 per cent Anganwadi were not having toilets so government and ICDS Authority can take some steps to get this facilities to all Anganwadi.
- 40 per cent children were not getting pure water. It is very harmful for children's health. So government and ICDS Authority can take some measures to get pure water .
- 40 per cent food was serving by Anganwadi in midday meal and it was spoiled and rotten. For this problem ICDS high authority should visit and check the food storage and vassals periodically.
- Regular prayer, medical check up, all immunization were given in 100 per cent Anganwadi.
- In 40 per cent Anganwadi beneficiaries were given regular exercise.
- Among total beneficiaries of Anganwadi 44.22 per cent were girls and 55.78 per cent were boys.
- Among total beneficiaries of Anganwadi 8.30

- per cent were SC/ST girls and 7.77 per cent were SC/ST boys
- Among total beneficiaries of Anganwadi in general category, 91.70 per cent were girls and 92.23 per cent were boys

Authors' affiliations:

D.J. JOTANGIYA, Department of Home Science, M.V.M. Science and Home Science College, RAJKOT (GUJARAT) INDIA

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