

Relationship between personal characteristics and impact of integrated child development scheme on beneficiaries

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ABSTRACT

The study was conducted in Parbhani district of Marathwada region. The total sample consisted of 120 respondents for study and they were interviewed, personally to collect the data with the help of structured and pre-tested interview schedule. The correlation coefficient (r) showed that the independent variables namely, education, social participation and use of source of information were positively and significantly related with the impact. Age, family size and family type were negatively related with the impact while occupation, land holding and annual income, were non-significantly related with impact.

INTRODUCTION

Children are the future of a nation. Recognizing the importance of children as a vital human resource, the constitution of India, Directive Principles of State Policy and the National Policy for children have addressed the need for ensuring holistic development of the child. Government of India proclaimed a national policy on children in August 1974 declaring children as, "Supremely Important Asset". The policy provided the required framework for assigning priority to different needs of the child. The programme of the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) was launched on 2nd October 1975 in 33 community development blocks seeking to provide an integrated package of services in a convergent manner on an experimental basis to commemorate the 106th birth anniversary of the father of the nation, Mahatma Gandhi seeking to provide an integrated package of services in a convergent manner for the holistic development of the child. So, the present study was conducted to know which personal

characteristics were having major contribution in impact factor. The present study was conducted with the objectives to study personal characteristics of beneficiaries of ICDS and to study the relationship between personal characteristics and impact of ICDS on beneficiaries.

METHODS

Present study was conducted in Parbhani district. The district consists of nine talukas namely, Parbhani, Jintur, Selu, Pathri, Manwat, Sonpeth, Gangakhed, Palam and Purna. Out of these, Manwat, Parbhani and Purna talukas were selected randomly by lottery method. Four villages from each Tahasil and ten respondents from each village were selected randomly on the basis of nth number method to comprise the total sample of 120 respondents for study. The data were collected by contacting the ICDS beneficiaries personally with the help of structured interview schedule. The qualitative data were quantified in view of the objectives. The beneficiaries were

categorized on the basis of Mean \pm Standard deviation formula. Correlation coefficient was worked out to describe the relationship of personal characteristics of the ICDS beneficiaries with the impact of ICDS on beneficiaries.

OBSERVATIONS AND ANALYSIS

The findings of the present study as well as relevant discussion have been summarized under following heads:

Personal characteristics of beneficiaries of ICDS:

It is revealed from Table 1 that majority (75.00 %) of the ICDS beneficiaries were from middle age group, 19.17 per cent beneficiaries were from young age group and 5.83 per cent of the beneficiaries were from old age group.

The data clearly show that 40.83 per cent of the ICDS beneficiaries were educated up to Secondary School level, 26.67 per cent of them were having Primary School level, 15.83 per cent of them were having Higher Secondary school level while, 10.00 per cent of them were illiterate, while 5.00 per cent were can read and write only, 1.67 per cent of the ICDS beneficiaries were graduate, whereas not a single ICDS beneficiaries was having post graduate degree.

About 45.00 per cent of the ICDS beneficiaries were from medium size family. While 29.17 per cent of them were from small size and 25.83 per cent were belonging to large family. The data showed that about 65.83 per cent of ICDS beneficiaries were from joint family, while 34.17 per cent were from nuclear family.

It is observed from Table 1 that 67.50 per cent of ICDS beneficiaries had medium annual income followed by 18.34 and 14.17 per cent had high and low annual income, respectively. As regards with the land holding, it is evident that higher percentage 28.34 per cent of ICDS beneficiaries were found in small land holding category, 27.50 per cent were from semi-medium land holding category, 17.50 per cent were from medium land holding 23.83 per cent of them were from marginal land holding and only 0.80 per cent of the ICDS beneficiaries were found in big land holding category.

Occupations of most of the ICDS beneficiaries were house work and agriculture (50.83 %), 27.5 per cent were engaged in house work, agriculture and business, 9.17 per cent in house work and labour, 4.17 per cent in house work, 3.33, per cent in house work, agriculture and labour, whereas 5.00 per cent were performing only house work and service

It is elucidated that majority (66.67 %) of the ICDS beneficiaries had low level of social participation while 19.16 per cent were having medium social participation and only 14.17 per cent of ICDS beneficiaries were having high level of social participation.

It is revealed that nearly two third (64.17 %) of the ICDS beneficiaries used medium source of information while, 25.83

Table 1 : Distribution of beneficiaries according to personal characteristics (n=120)

Sr. No.	Category	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Age		
	Young	23	19.17
	Middle	90	75.00
	Old	07	05.83
2.	Education		
	Illiterate	12	10.00
	Can read and write only	06	05.00
	Primary School (up to IV th)	32	26.67
	Secondary School (V th to X th)	49	40.83
	Higher Secondary School (XI th to XII th)	19	15.83
3.	Family size		
	Small	35	29.17
	Medium	54	45.00
	Large	31	25.83
4.	Family type		
	Nuclear	41	34.17
	Joint	79	65.83
5.	Annual income		
	Low	17	14.17
	Medium	81	67.50
	High	22	18.33
6.	Land holding		
	Marginal holding	31	23.83
	Small holding	34	28.34
	Semi-medium holding	33	27.50
	Medium holding	21	17.50
	Big holding	01	00.80
7.	Occupation		
	House work	05	04.17
	House work + Labour	11	09.17
	House work + Agriculture	61	50.83
	Houswork+Agriculture+ Labour	04	03.33
	House work +Agriculture + business	33	27.50
	House work + Service	06	05.00
8.	Social participation		
	Low	80	66.67
	Medium	23	19.16
	High	17	14.17
9.	Use of sources of information		
	Low	31	25.83
	Medium	77	64.17
	High	12	10.00

Impact	Frequency	Percentage
Low	12	10.00
Medium	93	77.50
High	15	12.50
Total	120	100.00

Sr. No.	Independent variables	Correlation co-efficient ('r') Impact
1.	Age	-0.058
2.	Education	0.663**
3.	Family size	-0.000
4.	Family type	-0.064
5.	Occupation	0.121
6.	Land holding	0.124
7.	Annual income	0.101
8.	Social participation	0.222*
9.	Use of sources of information	0.432**

* and ** indicate significance of values at P=0.05 and 0.01, respectively

per cent and 10.00 per cent of them were in low and high use of sources of information, respectively.

Overall impact level:

It is portrayed from Table 2 that majority (77.50%) of the ICDS beneficiaries had medium level of impact while, 12.50 per cent of them had high and only 10.00 per cent of the ICDS beneficiaries had low level of impact.

Relationship between personal characteristics of ICDS beneficiaries and impact:

It is conspicuous in Table 3 that the results of correlation coefficient (r) showed that the independent variables namely, education and use of source of information were positively and highly significantly related with the impact; social participation was positively and significantly related with the impact. Age, family size and family type were negatively related with the impact while occupation, land holding and annual income, were non significantly related with impact of ICDS. Agarwal *et al.* (2000) and Kavita *et al.* (2004) had also made some valuable information related to the present investigation.

Conclusions:

– The independent variables namely, education, social participation and use of source of information were positively and significantly related with the impact.

– Majority of the ICDS beneficiaries had medium level of impact.

– Age, family size and family type were negatively related with the impact while occupation, land holding and annual income were non-significantly related with impact.

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