

**ADDENDUM TO EARLY
CHILDHOOD CARE**

future.

iii. Neonatal

1. The criticality of the first day/ first week and first month after birth was singled out as requiring a focused strategy. It was recommended that Health Workers be instructed to monitor this period carefully. Community and volunteer youths groups could also be encouraged to track this period.

LBW babies being especially at risk, the antecedent causes of LBW going back to adolescence of the mother should be addressed and management of ARI as part of strategy to reduce infant mortality be taken up in training and communication.

iv. Maternity Entitlements

1. It was recommended that :

The issue of support to women for the period delivery to 6 months through Maternity Entitlements should be considered as a critical strategy in tandem with other medical and nutrition related interventions to reduce mortality, morbidity and malnutrition.

Maternity Entitlements need to cover expenses incurred during delivery/post delivery and leave or wage support to stay out of work for the critical period of six months to enable breast feeding and provide the care essential for the infant.

The current Maternity Benefit Scheme (Rs. 500/- for two deliveries) is totally inadequate to meet the above challenges. Development of the ME Scheme (especially for the vast unorganized sector), its mechanisms and the resources required for it as a social security measure be taken up along with Amendment to the Maternity Benefits Act and signing of

the ILO Convention 183 on Maternity.

v. Breast-feeding

To bring about behavioural change regarding ritual discarding of colostrum, it was recommended that skilled assistance was required in addition to information. The Health workers list of responsibilities should include providing this assistance and breast feeding practices should be used as an indicator to measure change.

vi. Breast feeding and transmission of AIDS
Counseling regarding the implications of the above needs to be provided at pre-natal stage to enable considered choice.

vii. Complementary feeding

This is a behaviour change issue and requires skilled assistance. Provision of the same must form part of the training and work of the Health workers.

viii. Creches and childcare support services

Creches at working places, community based child care support services on an extensive scale are necessary. developed. Such services provide the back-up support to women to continue breast-feeding and complementary feeding and ensure care and safety of infants.

Labour Legislation providing creches needs implementation and new legislation to provide creches for the unorganized sector put in place.

Schemes for Creches require to be revised with attention to increased coverage and improved norms.

5. The group recommended that the NPAC document consider replacing the term ECC with Early Childhood as the latter was a more comprehensive umbrella under which the elements of care, development, protection, nutrition and related issues could be viewed together. In current practice, protection needs of young children had not entered the conceptual/operational frame of ECC or ECCD and the NPAC provided an opportunity to correct this limitation.

6. Disaggregated Data

It is recommended that priority be given in the NPAC to the collection of disaggregated data on the 0-6 age group, its analysis and use for targeted planning.

Involvement of local self government bodies, community and youth in collection of such data should be encouraged to develop ownership of the issues.

Mapping of who are the most needy is essential so that resources can be directed to reach the most vulnerable.

7. Directive from the National Policy for Children 1974 regarding the right to Early Childhood Care to be incorporated as a policy directive in NPAC 2003.

8. All poverty alleviation programmes, particularly those for SC/STs should be scrutinized to ascertain how child friendly they are.

9. Safety and Protection issues for 0-6 age group have not been addressed. Centre based care when mothers are at work as well awareness of issues of child sex abuse require attention. Panchayat training has to provide orientation to the existence of abuse within families and how it can be tracked.

10. NPAC 2003 needs to put in place a strong Monitoring Mechanism and an empowered structure to ensure Inter-Sectoral Co-ordination as current inter- departmental

meting from time to time do not serve the purpose of ensuring the required synergistic action for children.

11. NPAC vision must stretch beyond the 10th Plan and set progressive targets that will cover 11th and 12th Plans.

12. Specific recommendations disaggregated by age

0-3 Age group

i. Pre-natal

The current status of the Health care system was a matter of concern. It was recommended that NPAC commits to a strong thrust for improving access to and the quality of PHC services and the development of a good public health infrastructure (water sanitation). This should be considered as essential for maintaining the health and care of the pregnant women. Specifically, reorganization of Health Care personnel, attention to infrastructure of the Primary Health Centres, availability of drugs, skilled personnel etc. needed to be prioritized.

Information and awareness amongst families on the needs and care of the pregnant woman and of the child was stressed.

Highlighting the declining sex ration was necessary and strict monitoring of the PNDT Act required.

ii. Birth

1.. Action towards Improved quality of service and accessibility to PHCS, availability of skilled personnel, transport for referrals in case of birth complications was considered essential.

It was recommended that the training and education of dais should be undertaken as provision for 100% institutional deliveries appears to be an unrealistic goal in the near

<p>5. EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE</p>	<p>National Policy Commitment Right to early childhood care</p> <p>a. The State shall in partnership with community provide early childhood care for all children and encourage programmes which will stimulate and develop their physical and cognitive capacities.</p> <p>b. . The State shall in partnership with community aim at providing a childcare centre in every village where infants and children of working mothers can be adequately cared for.</p> <p>c. The State will make special efforts to provide these facilities to children from SCs/STs and marginalised sections of society.</p>
<p>UNGASS GOAL :UN 36 (e): Development & implementation of national early childhood development policies and programmes to ensure the enhancement of children's physical, social, emotional, spiritual and cognitive development</p> <p>NATIONAL GOAL *Same as above.</p> <p>OBJECTIVES UN 37(10)</p> <p>STRATEGIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -* Universalise and improve quality of early childhood care in remote and socio-economically backward area with primary attention given to girls, through the ICDS. -* Provide day care services for the children (0-5 years) of mainly casual, migrant, agricultural and construction labourers. -* Improve the nutritional and health status of pre-school children in the age group of 0-6 years. -* Reduce the incidence of mortality, morbidity, malnutrition and school dropout. -* Enhance the capability of the mother to look after the normal health and nutritional needs of the child through proper nutrition and health education 	<p>*See below for working group recommendations made at the GOI Northern Regional Consultation held on 4th June on the National Plan of Action for Children.</p> <p>Concern:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Persistent stagnation of first day, first week and first month morbidity and mortality 2. Persistent proportion of children born with low birth rate. 1/3 of all births continue to be low birth weight. 3. Persistent short-fall of minimum basic preventive and protective services. 4. Persistent low quality of state childcare services and the persistent failure of targeting the 0-3 year age group. 5. Lack of services for the poorest, transient, "illegal" or "unauthorised" groups such as pavement dwellers and squatters. <p>TAKE UNGASS GOAL (40(a) ADD DEVELOPMENT GOALS: Target action to address: DIFFERENTIALS BETWEEN: 0-3, 3-6. Questions: WHAT SERVICES, WHAT INFORMATION DO PARENTS NEED FOR HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENT? PROVISION FOR CRECHES TO FACILITATE</p>

BREAST FEEDING

Policy:

1. To reaffirm the commitment of the 'Development of Children' with a special focus on the early childhood development, not only as the most desirable investment for the country's future but also as the right of every child to achieve his/her full development potential.
2. To adopt a rights based approach to the development of children, as being advocated by the Draft National Policy and Charter for Children.
3. Specific interventions to address the Tenth Plan observation that the early childhood years – especially the pre-natal to first three years – are the most crucial and vulnerable period in life for the achievement of full human development potential and cumulative life-long learning. This is the time when the foundations for physical, cognitive, emotional and social development are laid.

Investment

Set up necessary co-ordinating mechanism for converging services, pooling resources of related sectors utilising both manpower and infrastructure to address the 'holistic' and the 'whole child approach' towards better early childhood care and development (Tenth Plan).

***4th June Government of India Northern Region NGO Consultation:**

Working Group Recommendations:

1. Very young children also have mental health needs. These should be a key component in early childhood care.
2. Create an environment to promote better care practices for very young children.
3. Crèche facilities should be provided. The option of mobile crèches should be explored seriously, especially in areas where the woman has to travel long distances to work and older siblings adopt the role of caretakers, thereby missing out on education and on childhood.
4. Other strategies stated in the 'Citizen's Alternate Proposals'.

ix. FP counseling and services

Access to these services needs to be improved and the quantum of unmet needs reduced.

x. IMNCI

IMNCI as a medical strategy requires to be tried out and training for the same initiated.

1.. Learning needs of 0-3 years.

Learning needs of 0-3 have not been addressed in ICDS. NPAC 2003 must ensure correction of this focus through training directions and creation of opportunities through re-design of the programme.

3-6 Year Age Group

i. Learning needs/ rights of 3-6 age group have to brought to the fore and the entire issue addressed afresh especially in the light of the 86th Amendment. The Directive Principle regarding ECCD(Amended Art. 45) has to be given content and flesh. Pre-school component of ICDS has to be strengthened and the state also has to accept responsibility for initiating new programmes to create opportunities for pre-school education. Status of the childcare worker , training and certification of nursery teachers, development of norms for quality for pre-school education and regulating the private sector are urgent related issues.

NATIONAL SECRETARIAT

REPORT AT THE 9TH PCM
Ootacamund 13 – 15 June '03

NATIONAL PLAN OF ACTION FOR CHILDREN

World Summit for Children (WSC) held on 1990
 &
 1st National Plan of Action for Children (NPAC) formulated in 1992

NPAC identified 27 survival & development goals
7 quantifiable goals
 IMR, Child mortality, MMR, malnutrition, safe drinking water, education, literacy

NATIONAL PLAN OF ACTION (Cont.)

FORCES is engaged in a concurrent process of consultation, identification of priority areas and alternate planning with regard to NPA

with

India Alliance for Child Rights
 Voluntary Health Association of India
 Department of Women & Child Development – GOI

The Government of India is finalising the Plan; FORCES has given its recommendations & co-produced a Citizen's Alternate Report (May 2003)

PRENATAL DIAGNOSTIC TECHNIQUE ACT

The PNDT Act 1994 passed by the Parliament in May '03

The National Secretariat gave evidence before the Parliamentary Standing Committee in 2002 on

- Declining sex ratio among 0-6 years (Census 2001)
- Insufficient advertising of PNDT
- Compulsory registration & certification of ultrasound machines

At 8th PCM, members decided that they would work at both State and National level to ensure effective implementation of the Act.

Maternity Entitlements for Women

4 Regional Consultations organised - 8th PCM
 Action Plan
 Gujarat FORCES
 Delhi FORCES
 Tamil Nadu & Karnataka FORCES
 Raj., UP, Orissa & Bihar FORCES + Nat. Secretariat +
 Other groups

Emerging Plans

- To sharpen the recommendations submitted and endorsed by the 2nd Labour Commission
- To prepare an information kit for wider circulation and awareness;
- To continue dialogue with the Government of India.

93rd Amendment Bill

The 93rd Amendment Bill on fundamental right of education for children between the ages 6-14 passed as the 86th Amendment Act 2002.

The background of campaigning for inclusion of 0-6 years is known to all of us BUT needs to be pursued for ensuring early learning rights for all children, particularly for underprivileged children.

A critical view of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) presented at the 8th PCM.

A Bill entitled 'Compulsory education for children living below the poverty line - 2002' is being tabled in the Parliament.

Asian Social Forum Hyderabad, January 2-7, 2003

National Secretariat organised a workshop on 'Globalisation and its impact on the young child' which was attended by 45 participants from around the country and a group from Australia.

A questionnaire was circulated at the ASF for creating awareness on the issue of Early Child Care and Development.

The National Secretariat collaborated with TN FORCES for a workshop at which children from Tamilnadu presented a skit depicting hardships on children in terms of care, nutrition and education.

BUDGET ANALYSIS*

Sector-wise breakdown of the share of children in the Union Budget (2003-2004)

(In percentage)

Source: * Min. of HRD, Min. of SJE & Min. of Tribal Affairs
 ** Min. of HRD, Min. of Youth Affairs & Sports
 *** Min. of Social Justice & Empowerment & Min. of Labour

Year	Education*	Health	Child Dev.**	Child in difficult circumstances ***	Total
2003 to 2004	1.46	0.34	0.50	0.025	2.33

Forces Participation in Meetings, etc

1. Coordination meeting with BPNI for organising its Asia Pacific Conference on Breastfeeding (Nov 30 – Dec 3, 2003)
2. NGO Network Meetings at Action India, Delhi – Education Policy & Primary Education
3. India Alliance for Child Rights – monthly meetings to formulate the alternate planning
4. Voluntary Health Association of India – Consultation for NPA Formulation of recommendations
5. International Women's Day Celebration – This year FORCES coordinated the Day and called preparatory meetings. Placed the issue of displaced children, child care and food security.
6. World Social Forum 2004 – meetings being attended (separate presentation)

7. Protest *Dharma* against killings of children in Jammu & Kashmir with women's groups and others – March 25, 2003

8. SACCS meetings for planning for the forthcoming World Education Forum in Aug 2004.

9. Campaign against child labour – launch of the Girl Child Year, April 30 at Delhi

10. Met the UP Labour Commissioner at Kanpur regarding release of funds for child care services/creches and to suggest names for the welfare board being set up.

11. Met with Ms. Hamida Habibullah, National Member of FORCES at Lucknow regarding extension support and collaboration on issues.

12. Met Ms. Uma Ratra, Secretary of Punjab Council for Child Welfare regarding expansion of issue in Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh.

13. Coordination meeting with Delhi FORCES.

Extension of the Network & Issues

Uttar Pradesh – Following the 8th PCM, the National team visited Lucknow for a coordination meeting with an 11 member team. It was decided to hold a capacity + issue building workshop for Uttar Pradesh groups.

The National Secretariat organised this workshop in collaboration with Gujarat FORCES from 27 – 29 January at Lucknow in which 35 groups participated.

The group decided to launch the UP FORCES, with Vigyan Foundation as its Convenor. Since then UP FORCES is active in consonance with their action plan

Other Possible Extensions: Uttaranchal & Assam

Visitors at the Secretariat

1. Orissa FORCES network members in March 2003

2. Uttar Pradesh FORCES – Shri. Nisar Ahmed Khan from Jaunpur UP in April 2003

3. Bihar FORCES – Shri. Arbind Singh in March 2003

4. Gujarat FORCES – Ms. Ila Vakharia in January 2003

5. Rajasthan FORCES – Ms. Rajkumari Dogra in February / April 2003

6. Visitors from Jamkhed – Project on Health in March 2003

7. Manju from World Vision – Rajasthan

Activity Report Of Gujarat FORCES - SHISHU SANGH

December 2002 to May 2003

Note Prepared by Chetna Kotecha ,Coordinator Gujarat FORCES

IMR AND NEONATAL CARE PROJECT

Under this project two follow-up and consultancy meetings with Ngo,s were conducted. For awareness on IMR & Neonatal Care several Gramsabhas and meetings with PHC doctors and Health workers. Panchyat members & community people were organized.

Under the project a survey of 300 lactating mothers has been done and the survey of pregnant women is on going. The data collection and awareness programme is been carried out with the help of 12 NGO's in 50 villages.

- **Plan Of Action:-** Data analysis will be undertaken and documentation will be prepared.

STUDY ON CHILD AND MATERNAL PROTECTION.

With reference to the discussion held during the last PCM IN Gujarat, a plan of action was made. On the basis of this, Gujarat FORCES had a dialogue with the Labour Minister of Gujarat , Mr.Ramanlal Vora on Feb 2003 and a memorandum was also submitted to him. Gujarati & English copy is awalabe. The conclusions from the meeting were that since needs differ from district to district depending on the kind of work women are involved in. Hence an indepth study is necessary to understand these differing needs and problem faced by women and children.

Gujarat FORCES had prepared a questionnaire to women's needs and will now do the study and data analysis.

Plan of Action:-

- Analysis of information will be undertaken and a in this regard will be submitted to the Labour Minister of Gujarat.
- The local MP's and MLA's will be involved in above prosisor
- Media will also involved .
- A poster on Maternal & Child Rights will be developed.
- We will preper for a special card (Regitration) for Migrant Labour & Mobile checkup van and Creche facility should be at work place awalabe.
- We will push flexibility in timing of ICDS & Creches.

BUDGET ANALYSIS

As per the last PCM's plan of action Gujarat FORCES conducted a workshop on budget analysis on March-2003 for making recommendation on budget allocation for the young children of Gujarat.

THE MAIN DISCUSSION PONTIS WERE:-

- ❖ How much is allocated for children in the state budget ?
- ❖ Is the budget allocation for children sufficient? If not how much is needed?
- ❖ How much is unutilized and why?
- ❖ How much is allocated under the different heads mentioned below :-
 - Nutrition
 - health
 - Materials and literature for children.
 - Teacher's salary.
 - Administrative expenses.

EMERGING ISSUES:-

- In The 5.06 crore population of Gujarat the percentage of Childrenis 14% ie 68,67,958 lakhs our children of 0 to 6 years.
- Budget allocation for children is 417,79,75 thousand ie 1.32% of the total Gujarat budget of Rs 31,732,6051.
- In the state Government only 9 Departments have provisions for children out of 27 Department.

Year	Total Budget of State	Allocation for children (0 to 6)	Percent of the Total State Budget allocation for Children
1999-00	23007,54,93	287,72,69	1.25
2000-01	31568,14,61	302,23,38	0.96
2001-02	43686,62,58	208,85,35	0.48
2002-03	30420,05,58	351,54,77	1.16
2002-03	49947,45,46	333,59,71	0.67
2003-04	31732,60,51	417,79,75	1.32

ACTION PLAN:-

- To collect information as to which other Departments can make provisions for children..
- The required Provision for children will made be made by the Government in the next Budget.
- Make appropriate suggestions & recommendation to this end.
- We will work towards preper use of the unutiliged budget.

- During discussion it was felt that the focus should be more on Nutrition, Education, Health and Development.
 - To implement the above plan and for followup Gujarat FORCES has contributed a *Task Force*.

CHILD RIGHT CONVENTION –CRC

On March 2003 a workshop on CRC was held by Gujarat FORCES. During this workshop the National Plan of Action for Children-CRC was discussed with is 38 NGOs and recommendation were formulated. The recommendations were sent to the National Secretariat and India Alliance for Children .

Other topic taken under discussed were:

- What is Child Right Convention (CRC)
- Condition and Right of Children in India.
- Contribution & Role of NGO's on Child Right.

MATERIAL DEVELOPMENT

- On diffrient issues 3 bimonthly news letter were published and distributed to 60 NGO.
- Made a Report , Posters and Handbills on Neonatal Care and IMR
- Made a Report on Budget Analysis and CRC Workshop.
 - *Above all Reports shared with 60 NGO.*

NET WORKING:-

Nearly 45 NGO are actively working and participated with Gujarat FORCES. Many new NGO's are corresponding with Gujarat FORCES

PROPOSAL:-

Gujarat FORCES need funding support urgently to keep up with its growth.

We have prepared proposal and submitted it to the following organizations

BvLF

UNICEF

UNFPA

CRY

ICICI

NATIONAL SECRETARIAL

Any suggestions and support for Fund-Raising are welcome.

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- ❖ Is the budget allocation for children sufficient? If not how much is needed?
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 - Nutrition
 - health
 - Materials and literature for children.
 - Teacher's salary.
 - Administrative expenses.

EMERGING ISSUES:-

- In The 5.06 crore population of Gujarat the percentage of Children is 14% ie 68,67,958 lakhs our children of 0 to 6 years.
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Budgeting for Children

*Development of Children is the first priority on the country's development agenda not because they are the most vulnerable, but because they are our supreme assets and also the future human resources of the country.
(Tenth Five Year Plan (2002-2007))*

After gender, the next logical step for the Department of Women and Child Development, as a nodal Department for women and children, is analysis of public expenditure on children. Even though the approach of extracting expenditure/budgetary provisions specific to a section of the population or dedicated to a specific cause, from Public Expenditure/Budget documents, is not a unique exercise, analysis of public expenditure from a child perspective has been undertaken on a very limited scale in the country and represents a comparatively new territory for research and analysis. A pioneering effort was made by HAQ: Centre for Child Rights, in their publication "India's Children and the Union Budget".

2 Taking a cue from existing works and gender budgeting initiatives, for the very first time, the DWCD has undertaken to draw up a statement of funds provisioning in the Union Budget and the State Budgets, for children. The study has limitations associated with a first time effort but it is expected that it will serve as subject of further research, and critiques will help to refine methodologies and techniques in this area.

3 The Department proposes to analyse budgetary allocations and expenditure on children, in both Union and State budgets over a period of ten years. Interim results are at present available for 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04.

4 Methodology

- Schemes implemented by various Ministries of Government of India, for children, have been listed for trend analysis. Ministries covered:

<u>Ministries Covered for analysis of Expenditure on Children</u>	
<i>Human Resource Development- Departments of Elementary education Secondary and Higher Education Women and Child Development</i>	<i>Social Justice and Empowerment</i>
	<i>Health and Family Welfare</i>
	<i>Labour</i>
	<i>Rural development</i>
<i>Tribal Affairs</i>	<i>I&3</i>

- For purpose of analysis, the schemes for children have been clubbed into four broad categories.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| A) Child Development and Nutrition | B) Education |
| C) Health | D) Child Protection & Others |



GUJARAT FORCES
(SHISHU SANGH)
Forum for creche
&
Child Care Services

5 Interim Results

5.1 Union Budget

Public Expenditure/Allocations for children on the afore mentioned sectors, in the Union Budget, are tabulated in Table I below

TABLE I

SECTORAL SHARE OF CHILD RELATED PROGRAMMES OF GOI						
(Rs in lakhs)						
SECTORS	ACTUAL 2000-01	B.E. 2001-02	R.E. 2001-02	B.E. 2002-03	R.E. 2002-03	B.E. 2003-04
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Health	6164.78 (1.06)	7693.00 (1.08)	3424.50 (0.50)	62178.00 (7.03)	48398.00 (6.34)	72746.00 (7.65)
Child Development & Nutrition	125338.88 (21.49)	151403.00 (21.24)	154537.00 (22.58)	185059.00 (20.93)	173431.00 (22.73)	212861.00 (22.39)
Education	445330.33 (76.36)	545052.00 (76.47)	516713.00 (75.50)	624053.00 (70.58)	526901.00 (69.07)	648977.00 (68.27)
Child Protection & Others	6345.50 (1.09)	8635.00 (1.21)	9728.55 (1.42)	12945.00 (1.46)	14156.00 (1.86)	15965.00 (1.68)
Grand Total	583180.55	712783.00	684403.05	884235.00	762886.00	950549.00

Note:- a) The Education sector includes elementary and secondary education schemes and special schemes for children with disabilities

b) Under Health, the RCH programme has not been included as a child scheme

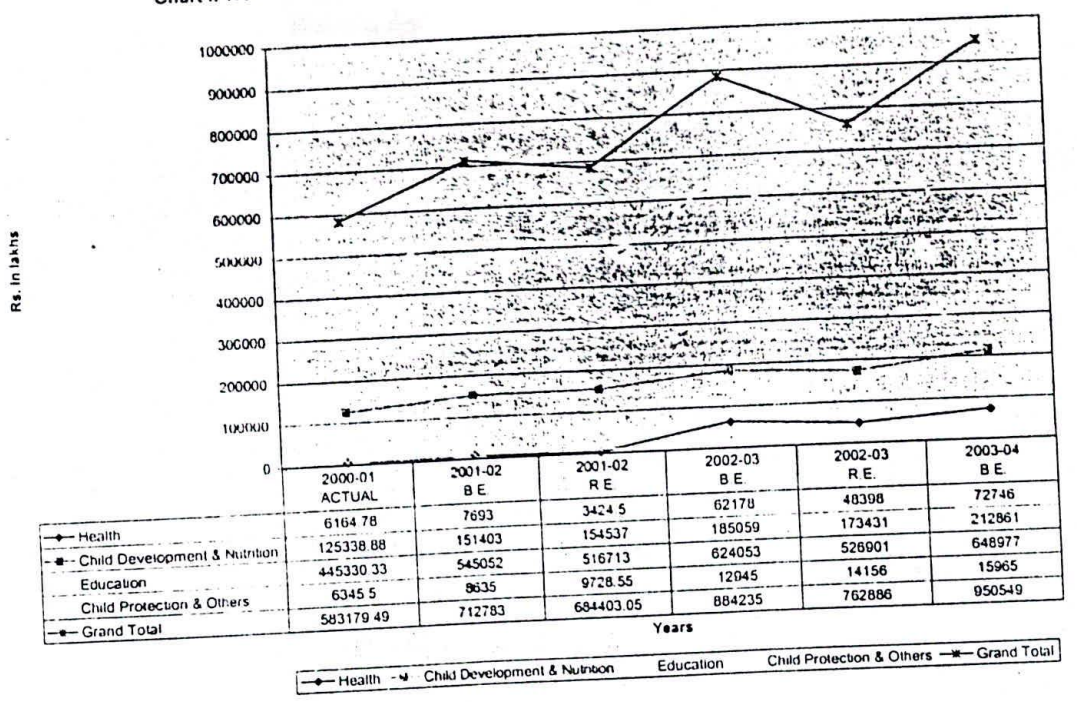
c) Expenditure incurred by Department of Youth and Sports Affairs has not been included.

Percentage variation across the selected years is tabulated in Table II:

TABLE II

SECTORS	%variation Act.2000-01 & B.E.2001-02	%variation Act.2000-01 & R.E.2001-02	%variation B.E.2001-02 & R.E.2001-02	%variation B.E.2001-02 & B.E.2002-03	%variation R.E.2002-03 & B.E.2002-03	% variation BE 2003-4 & B.E.2002-03
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Health	20	-44	-55	708	-22	17
Child Development & Nutrition	17	23	2	22	-6	15
Education	18	16	-5	14	-16	4
Child Protection & Others	27	53	13	50	9	23
Grand Total	18	17	-4	24	-14	7

Chart I: Trend of Sectoral Expenditure on Child Related Programmes in Union Budget



- It is seen that there is a progressive trend of increase in public expenditure for children in all sectors.
- The allocation for child related schemes in the Union Budget, 2003-04 reflects an increase of 7%, as compared with the B.E. 2002-03, with a substantial increase in provision for Health and Child Development and Nutrition.
- Education accounts for the largest share in public expenditure on children in the Union Budget, though the relative share of education is declining.
- Approximately one-fifth of expenditure on children is devoted to child development and nutrition.
- The relative share of Health sector has increased from 1% in 2000-01 to nearly 8% in 2003-04. The steep increase in Health sector in B.E. 2002-03 is primarily on account of increase in provision for the programme on Immunization against Polio, which now includes a component earlier included in the Reproductive Child Health Programme.
- We may conclude that the commitment to children is reflected in the budgeting exercise. Actual expenditure may however fall short of budgets for reasons like lack of capacity to spend/absorb funds, procedural delays, slackness in implementation etc.

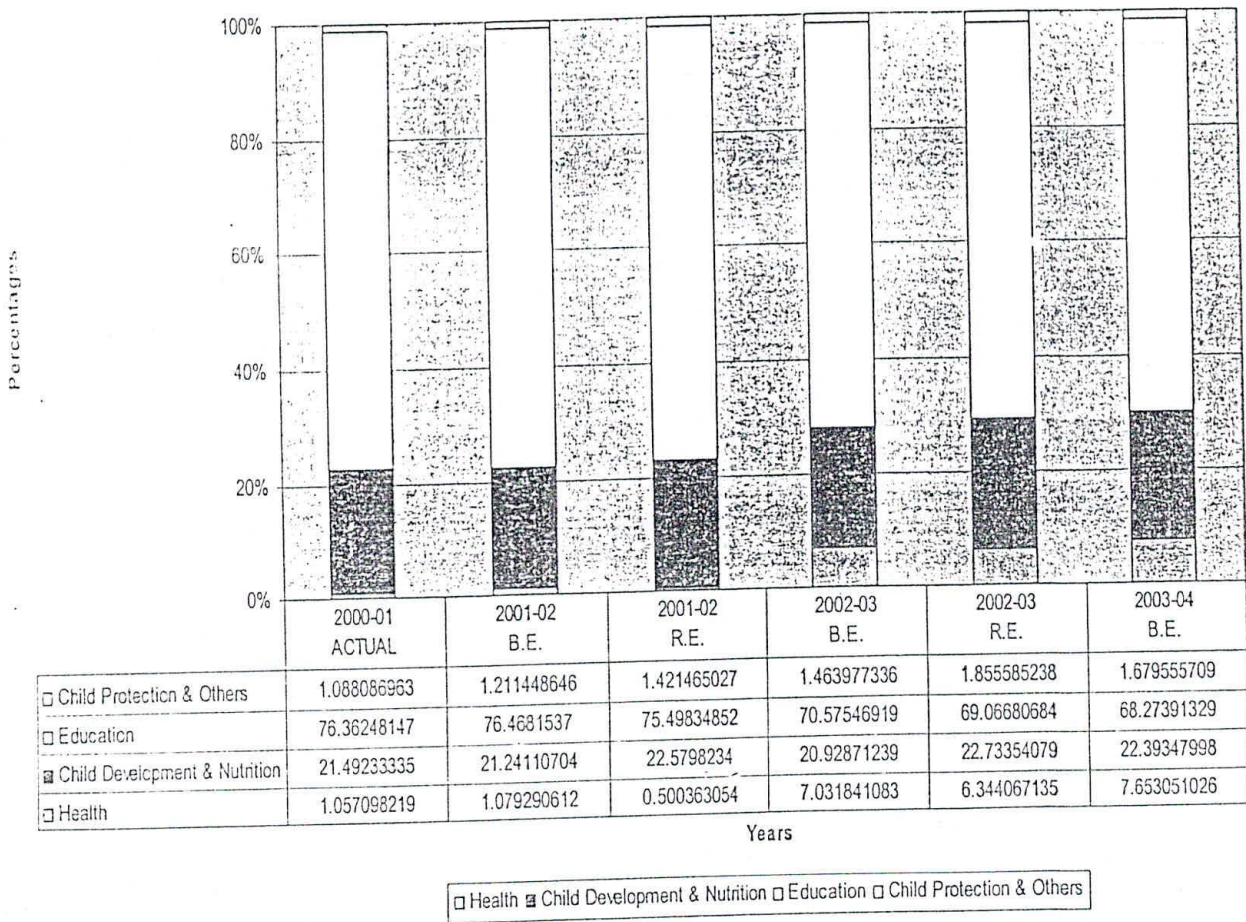
Major child related schemes are given in Table III. Sectoral shares in allocation of public funds for children are shown in Chart II.

(4)

TABLE III		Major Schemes For Children	
EDUCATION		CHILD DEVELOPMENT & NUTRITION	
S.No.	SCHEMES	S.No.	SCHEMES
	ELEMENTARY EDUCATION		DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN & CHILD
1	OPERATION BLACK BOARD	1	Integrated Child Development Services
2	TEACHERS TRAINING PROGRAMME	2	World Bank Assisted ICDS Programme
3	NON-FORMAL EDUCATION	3	World Bank Assisted ICDS Programme - Training Programme
4	SHIKSHA KARMI PROJECT	4	National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development
5	MAHILA SAMAKHYA	5	National Fund for Child Care Services (Gen Component) G.I.A.
6	NATIONAL BAL BHAWAN	6	National Children's Board Lumpsum Provision
7	LOK JUMBISH RAJASTHAN PROJECT	7	Universal Children Day Lumpsum Provision
8	DISTRICT PRIMARY EDUCATION PROGRAMME	8	Institution of Awards to Individuals and Institutions
9	MID-DAY MEAL (NPNSPE)	9	National Commission for Children
10	SARVA SHIKSHA ABHIYAN	10	Creches/Day Care Centres
11	TEACHER EDUCATION	11	National Nutritional Mission
12	NATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR WOMEN EDUCATION	12	Nutrition Education and Extention
13	JOINT INDO-UN EDUCATION PROGRAMME	13	Fortification of Milk
14	KASTURBA GANDHI SWATANTRA VIDYALAYA	14	Food and Nutritional Board and its Regional office
	SECONDARY EDUCATION	15	Implementation of National Nutrition Policy
1	NATIONAL COUNCIL OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING (NCERT)		
2	VOCATIONALISATION OF EDUCATION		CHILD PROTECTION
3	INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES IN SCHOOLS (ICT)		MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT
4	EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMME (INSAT CELL)	1	CENTRAL ADOPTION RESOURCE AGENCY
5	QUALITY IMPROVEMENT IN SCHOOLS	2	HOMES FOR INFANT AND YOUNG CHILDREN FOR IN COUNTRY ADOPTION
6	NATIONAL OPEN SCHOOL	3	SCHEMES FOR STREET CHILDREN
7	ENVIRONMENTAL ORIENTATION PROGRAMME	4	PREVENTION & CONTROL OF JUVENILE MAL ADJUSTMENT
8	POPULATION EDUCATION PROJECT	5	CORRECTIONAL SERVICES
9	ACCESS & EQUITY		MINISTRY OF LABOUR
10	INTEGRATED EDUCATION FOR DISABLED CHILDREN	1	CHILD LABOUR CELL - IMPROVEMENT IN WORKING CONDITIONS OF CHILDREN
11	CENTRAL TIBETAN SCHOOL SOCIETY		HEALTH

12 UNDP ASSISTANCE TO CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES		MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE
	MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT	1 KALAWATI SARAN CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, NEW DELHI
1 PRE-MATRIC SCHOLARSHIPS FOR SC, ST & OBC		2 MANUFACTURE OF VACCINE - BCG VACCINE LAB GUINDY, CHEENAI
2 POST-MATRIC SCHOLARSHIPS FOR SC, ST & OBC		3 CHILD CARE TRAINING CENTRE, SINGUR
3 GIRLS HOSTELS		4 STRENGTHENING OF NATIONAL IMMUNISATION PROGRAMME & POLIO ERADICATION
4 BOYS HOSTELS		OTHERS
5 ASHRAM SCHOOLS		MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING
6 GENERAL WELFARE OF SC, ST & OBC		1 CHILDREN FILM SOCIETY OF INDIA

Chart II: Sectoral Share of Child Related Programmes in Union Budget



16

6. State Budgets

6.1 Data has been obtained on public expenditure on children for 16 states for the years 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03. This data has been analysed in the same sectors as for the Union Budget- Health, Child Development & Nutrition, Education and Child Protection & Others. Results are tabulated in Table IV.

TABLE IV
State Profiles of Allocations for Children

		(Rs in th.)			
States	Sectors	ACTUAL 2000-01	B.E. 2001-02	R.E. 2001-02	B.E. 2002-03
1	2	3	4	5	6
Bihar	Health				
	Child Development & Nutrition	267337	1300271	872537	1215913
	Education	2531263	26321618	26298267	26891190
	Child Protection & others		6521	6521	5194
	GTOTAL	2798600	27628410	27177325	28112297
Mizoram	Health				
	Child Development & Nutrition	96692	66270	146117	67580
	Education	464052	381183	477809	429255
	Child Protection & others	7321	6455	7344	5870
	GTOTAL	568065	453908	631270	502705
J&K	Health				
	Child Development & Nutrition	5332	225701	295480	302852
	Education	5291718	870795	1631890	1931954
	Child Protection & others	12831	16631	14518	14988
	GTOTAL	5309881	1113127	1941888	2249794
Manipur	Health		15770	17025	16746
	Child Development & Nutrition	110136	168512	197739	209910
	Education	1896691	2208726	2060491	1886855
	Child Protection & others	275	1445	3216	2051
	GTOTAL	2007102	2394453	2278471	2115562
Nagaland	Health		30622	36432	35951
	Child Development & Nutrition		223980	268265	252617
	Education		1778867	1694817	1705209
	Child Protection & others		5001	6638	7780
	GTOTAL		2038470	2006152	2001557
Kerala	Health	31029	38822	32598	36215
	Child Development & Nutrition	708733	969929	689618	1124088
	Education	21158299	24125164	21583627	24183785
	Child Protection & others	40922	43448	37405	49084
	GTOTAL	21938983	25177363	22343248	25393172
Orissa	Health	18689	17587	24136	20007
	Child Development & Nutrition	1087917	1330304	1478941	1784855
	Education	12567890	12388565	13022142	16899276
	Child Protection & others	10456	14010	14010	13635
	GTOTAL	13684952	13750466	14539229	18717773

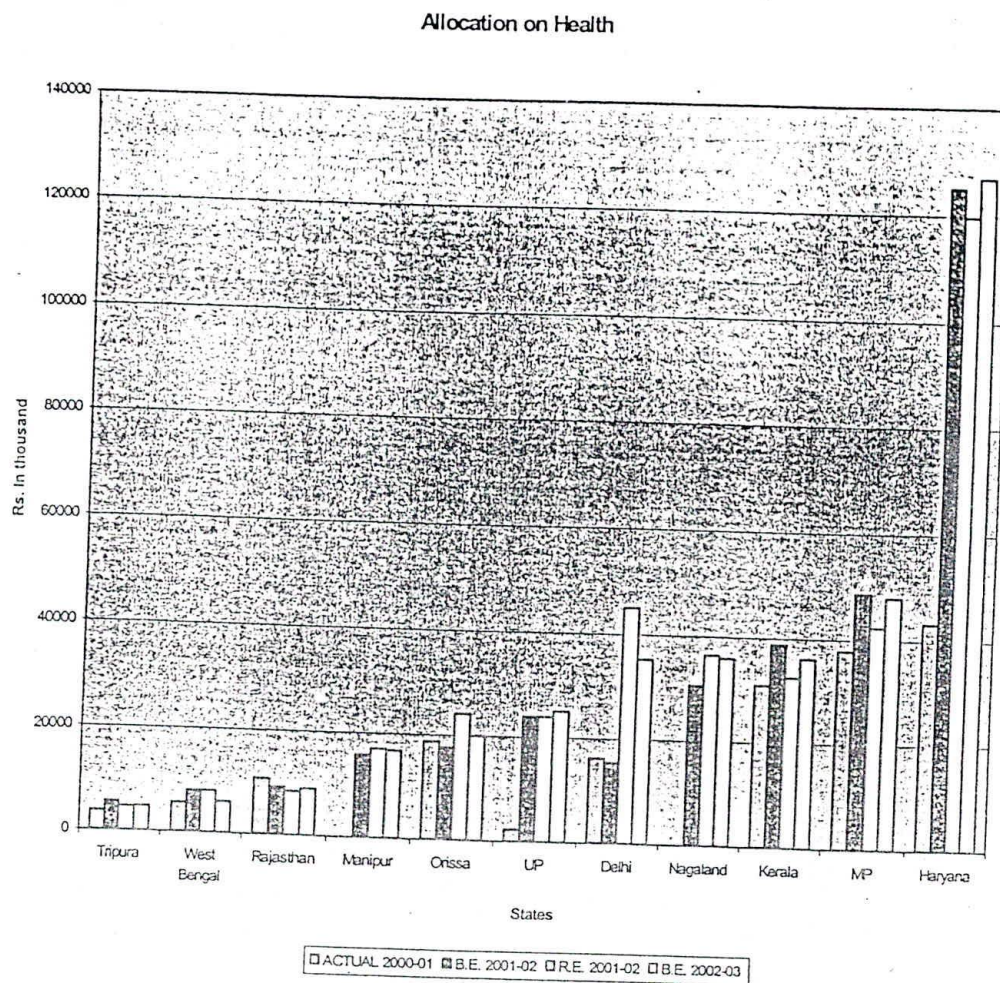
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States	Sectors	ACTUAL	B.E.	R.E.	B.E.
		2000-01	2001-02	2001-02	2002-03
	1	2	3	5	8
Uttar Pradesh	Health	2276	23886	23886	25000
	Child Development & Nutrition	2103011	4031299	2888163	3239016
	Education	54038764	55488169	65328339	55357041
	Child Protection & others	140632	153247	153960	154864
	GTOTAL	56284683	59696601	68394348	58775921
Haryana	Health	43288	125147	119651	127054
	Child Development & Nutrition	632183	649720	715771	770007
	Education	10439726	11872353	11897185	13626927
	Child Protection & others	20318	24985	25247	30357
	GTOTAL	11135515	12672205	12757854	14554345
Madhya Pradesh	Health	37912	48745	42427	47953
	Child Development & Nutrition	2410143	2225030	2523712	2806888
	Education	20772387	18360463	22942340	26580206
	Child Protection & others	48306	64724	63622	65757
	GTOTAL	23268748	20698962	25572101	29500804
Tripura	Health	3832	5600	4640	4790
	Child Development & Nutrition	136715	250006	234224	265218
	Education	3295509	4150304	3512224	3666756
	Child Protection & others	8109	9770	10801	10364
	GTOTAL	3444165	4415680	3761889	3947128
West Bengal	Health	5612	8000	8000	6000
	Child Development & Nutrition	1771621	2179837	2165625	2100612
	Education	23472272	34963626	39167407	39192776
	Child Protection & others	94813	115747	115308	118027
	GTOTAL	25344318	37267210	41456340	41417415
Delhi	Health	16248	15500	45000	35300
	Child Development & Nutrition	410723	553500	518258	618736
	Education	9133892	11294006	10123278	10995884
	Child Protection & others	48786	62253	50674	53623
	GTOTAL	9609649	11925259	10737210	11703543
Rajasthan	Health	10770	9230	8390	9020
	Child Development & Nutrition	759310	1236620	1678280	2367470
	Education	29430216	32458146	30912418	34096945
	Child Protection & others	38550	46000	49330	42590
	GTOTAL	30238846	33749996	32648418	36516025

6.2 Meaningful inter-state analysis would require comparison of public expenditure with child population, nutritional and health status of children etc. However, trend of resource allocation within a state is fairly indicative of incorporation of child concerns in the State Budget.

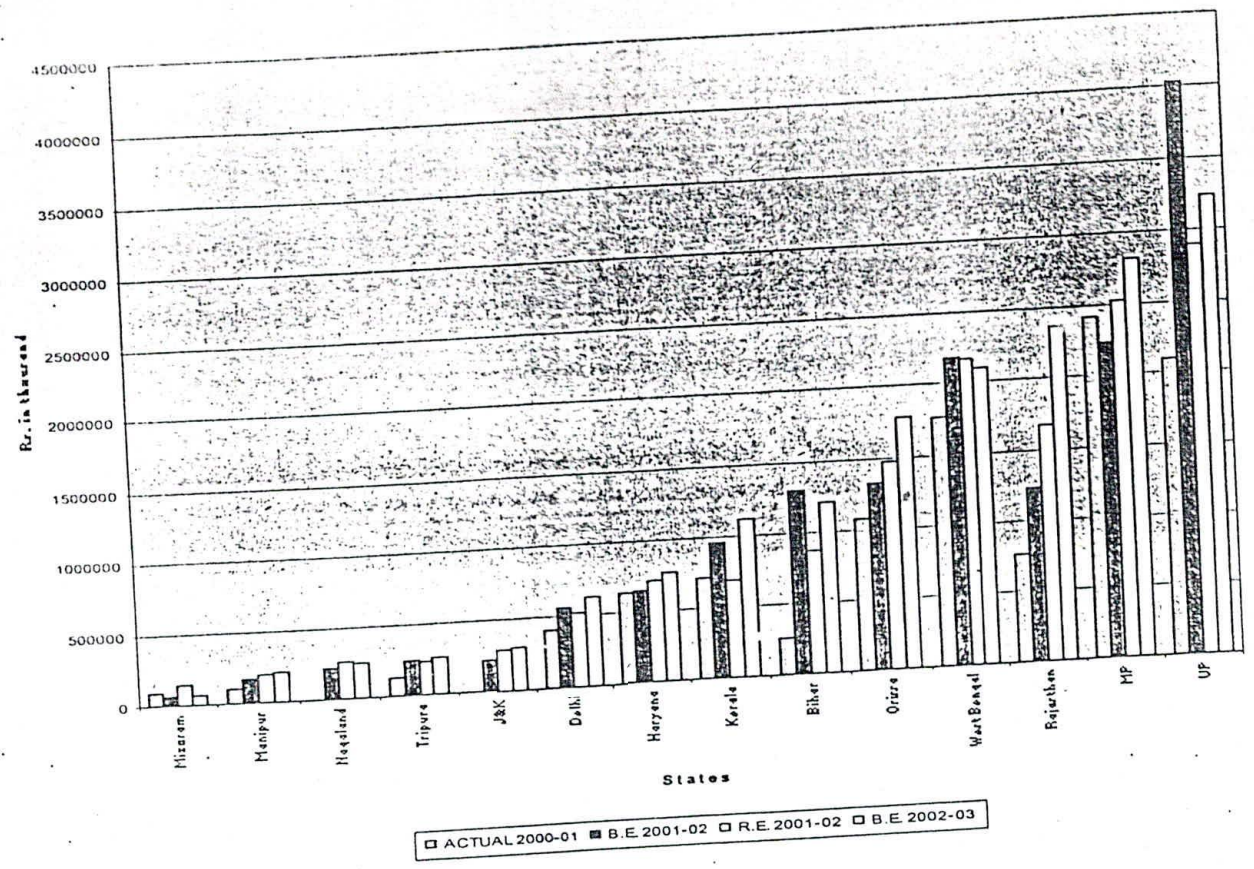
6.3 Sectoral Trends in the four sectors- Health, Child Development & Nutrition, Education and Child Protection & Others are depicted graphically in Chart III

Chart III: Pattern of Sectoral Allocation of Public Expenditure on Children in State Budgets

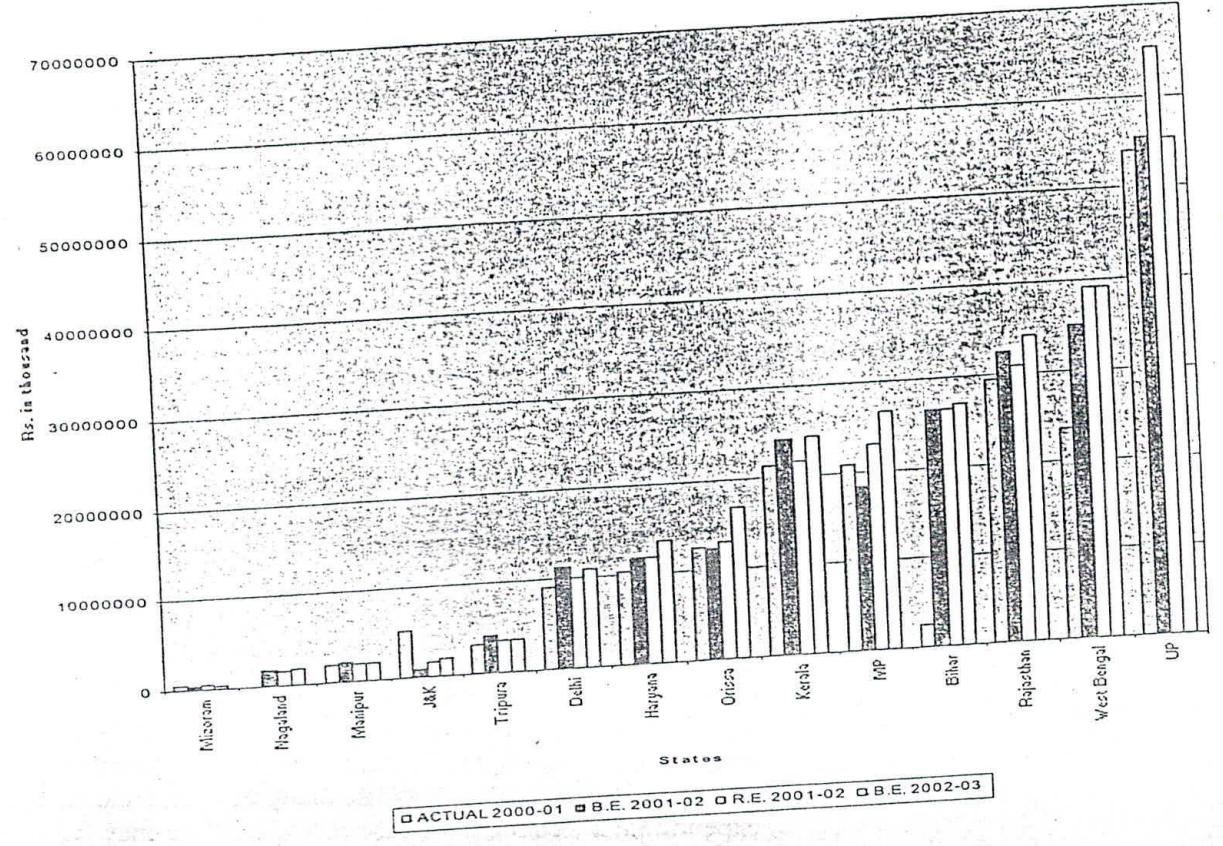


Note: Data on Allocation on Health is not available for Bihar, Mizoram and J&K

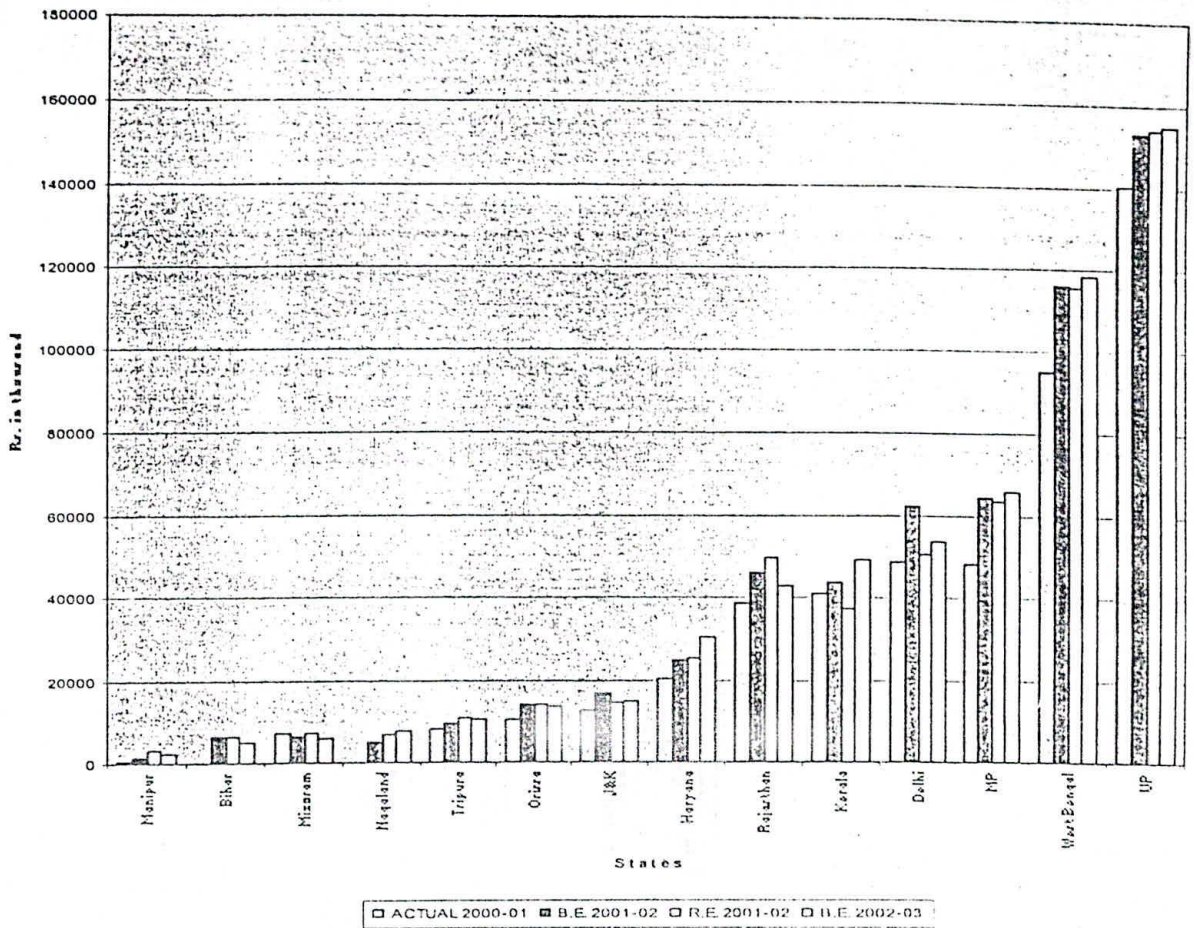
Allocation on Child Development and Nutrition



Allocation on Education



Allocation on Child Protection and Others



6.4 It is seen that, as in the case of the Union Budget, Education sector dominates allocation of funds in child related public expenditure, followed by Child Development and Nutrition.

6.5 Limitations of analysis

(i) While identification of expenditure does not pose the problems faced in obtaining gender dis-aggregated data for gender budgeting, nevertheless, there are certain schemes with a strong woman and child component like the Reproductive Child Health Programme, ICDS etc. Apportioning of expenditure amongst women and children would require reliable data on benefit accruing to these two sections.

(ii) The analysis indicates increase/decrease in expenditure or budgetary provisions. However, for meaningful interpretation of these trends, it is necessary to also analyse, nature and objects of expenditure/allocations. Increase in expenditure may be due to increase in delivery costs (on salary, transport etc.) with no enhanced benefits for targeted children or could reflect increase

(11)

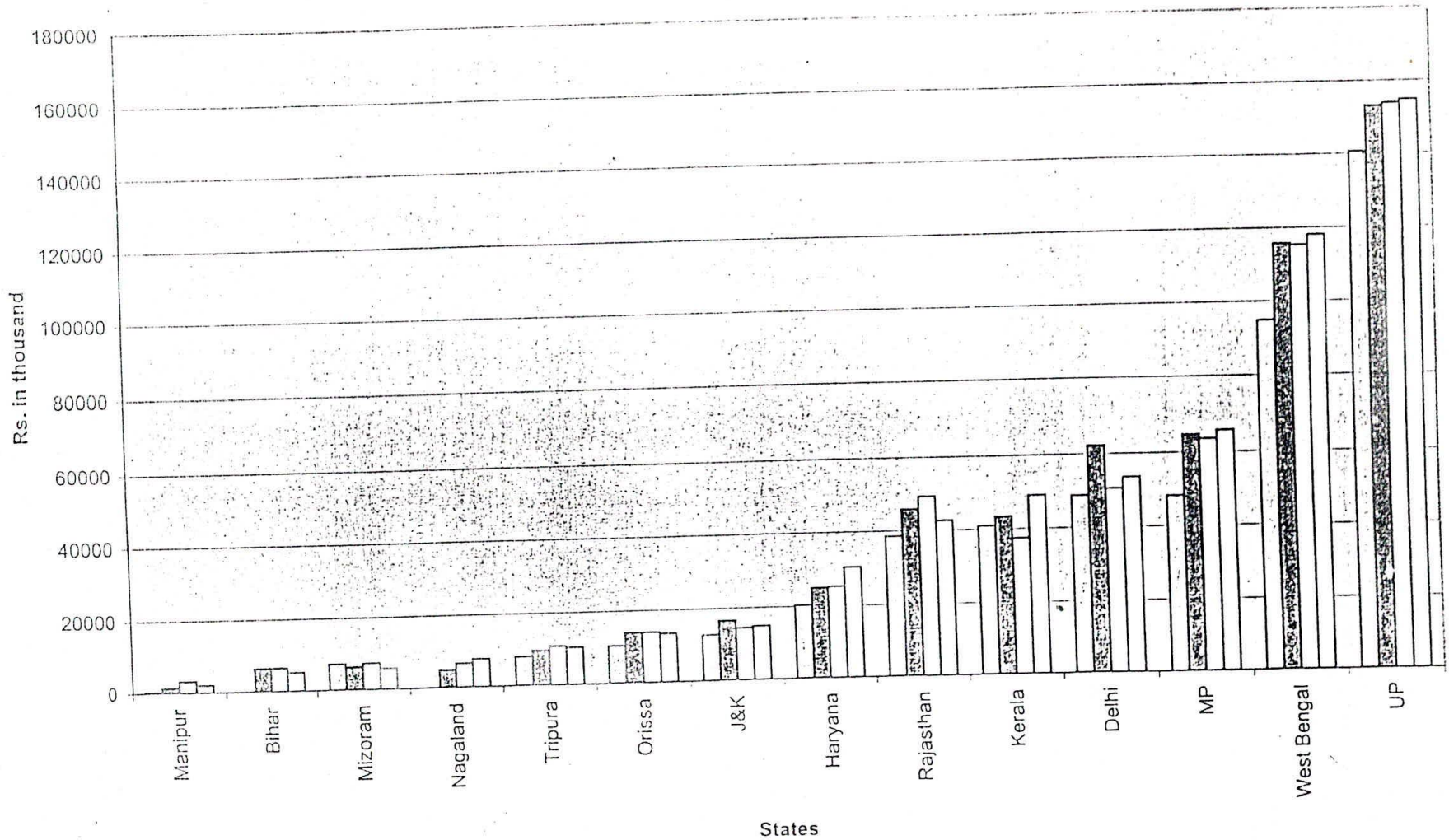
in coverage (geographically or in numbers) of scheme under consideration.

7. Tasks Ahead

The future action identified in the chapter on Gender Budget Initiative, would apply equally to analysis of public expenditure for children. In addition, the following measures are suggested.

- a) The process of analysis of public expenditure from a child perspective is still to gain momentum in the country. However, the stage is just right to standardize techniques, sectoral definitions, nomenclature of various schemes etc. so that future research is facilitated.
- b) Stress has to be laid upon regular collection and dissemination of physical achievements under various schemes for a meaningful analysis. This should be built in to the implementation process, without imposing undue pressure on functionaries, for which appropriate models of Management Information System (MIS) would have to be created, in consultation with researchers and experts.
- c) As in the case of gender studies, there is a need to institutionalize the process of child budgeting. This would also require capacity building within the Government and amongst research organizations.
- d) It is widely accepted that the family has the primary responsibility for child care and the well being of children cannot be judged by public expenditure alone. Thus, along with impact analysis of public expenditure, it is necessary to determine household expenditure on children for a true picture of their well being. This would warrant Household Surveys by organizations like NSSO and NCAER to determine resources of the household allocated for children.
- e) While evaluating expenditure on children one cannot ignore inter-linkages that exist in public expenditure, which by definition, funds public goods. If the intention of child budgeting exercise is to compare the need for investment in children with actual expenditure being incurred to serve this need, then certain enabling expenditure must also be examined. For example, expenditure on health alone should not be viewed in isolation, it should be seen that there are certain important infrastructures that accompany delivery of services to make them effective. These would include rail/road access, electrification, water resources, etc. Expenditure incurred for example, on curbing pollution would also contribute to the health and well being of children. This raises the question, that, to what extent are these isolated exercises valid, in drawing conclusions about the commitment to the well being of children, as reflected in allocations made in Government budgets.

Allocation on Child Protection and Others



ACTUAL 2000-01
 B.E. 2001-02
 R.E. 2001-02
 B.E. 2002-03

12

RIGHTS OF WOMEN

The Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act 2002 - A Bold Step

*Dr.K.Shanmugavelayutham**

Introduction:

Census Report 2001 shows that the sex ratio of 0-6 years fell from 945 females per 1,000 males in 1991 to 927 per 1000 males in 2001. The new figure gives India one of the world's lowest ratios for women to men. The statistical norm is 1,050 females for every 1,000 males. An alarming drop in the number of girls born in India is being blamed on a strong cultural preference for sons. Impoverished parents' reluctance to raise large amounts of money for a girl's dowry is often cited as the reason for a male child. The drop is largely due to the widespread but illegal practice of using ultrasound scans to identify female foetuses and then aborting them. Abortion is legal as per Medical Termination Act, 1971 when a woman's life or health is at risk, or in cases of foetal impairment, rape and contraceptive failure. The prenatal diagnostic techniques like amniocentesis and sonography are useful for the detection of genetic or chromosomal disorders or congenital malformations or sex-linked disorders etc. However, they are being misused on a large scale to detect the sex of the foetus and to terminate the pregnancy of the unborn child if found to be a female child. Techniques are also being developed to pre-select the sex of child before conception. These practices are wholly discriminatory to the female sex and affect the dignity and status of women. The proliferation of these technologies may, in the future, precipitate a catastrophe, in the form of severe imbalance in male-female ratio. It is therefore necessary to bring an amendment in the PNDT Act, 1994.

Reasons for the failure of the PNDT Act, 1994:

The machinery required to enforce the

PNDT Act, 1994 at the State and District levels was not put into place. The required allocation of resources needed was not provided. There was general disinterest on the part of various governance bodies to take this Act seriously. Not a single pre-natal diagnostic Centre had been registered until 2001 in Punjab even though it was the first State to provide sex selection facilities as early as in the 1970's and the sex ratios in the 0-6 age group have been on the decline. Due to the non-maintenance of adequate records by the Clinics it is difficult to identify the purpose for which an ultra-sound test has been conducted. The absence of such records affects the enquiry. Further the Family Planning program's insistence on the small family norm coupled with the son-preference bias in India added pressure on families to look at sex-selection as a via media for their desired family composition. And also the Medical Profession and its associations like Indian Medical Association (IMA), Radiologist Association and Forum for Obstetricians and Gynaecologist (FOGSI) remained silent over such malpractice by their members. So the State's complacency coupled with socio-cultural "demands of son's preference" and the unconcern of the Medical Profession led to the failure of the PNDT Act, 1994. Although the Act has been on the statute books since 1994, it remained largely ineffective in checking the proliferation of ultrasound machines and Mobile Clinics clandestinely offering sex-selection services throughout the country.

PIL petition:

A PIL petition was filed in the Supreme Court by the Centre for Enquiry into Health and Allied Themes (CEHAT), Mahila Sarvangeen

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Utkarsh Mandal (MASUM) and Dr. Sabu M. George urging effective implementation of the Act. The Supreme Court passed an order on 4th May 2001 (Supreme Court of India Civil Original Jurisdiction Writ Petition (Civil) No. 301 of 2000) which aims at ensuring the implementation of the Act, plugging the various loopholes and launching a wide media campaign on the issue. The second goal of filing the PIL is the amendment of the Act to include pre- and during conception techniques, like X and Y chromosome separation, Pre-implantational Genetic Diagnosis (PGD). The order largely concerns only the implementation of the Act and putting the required infrastructure in place. However, the order entrusts the responsibility of examining the necessity to amend the Act to the Central Supervisory Boards, keeping in mind emerging technologies and the difficulties encountered in the implementation of the Act and to make recommendations to the Central Government.

Parliament approval of the Act, 2002

Based on the SC order and Central Supervisory Board recommendations the Parliament on December 20 passed the Pre-conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act, 2002.

Objectives of the Act, 2002:

The following are the objectives of the Act:

- * to ban the pre-conception sex selection techniques.
- * to prohibit the misuse of pre-natal diagnostic techniques for sex-selective abortions.
- * to regulate the pre-natal diagnostic techniques for the appropriate scientific use for which they are intended.
- * to ensure the effective implementation of the Act at all levels.

Important Features of the Act, 2002

Pre-conception sex selection: Recently developed techniques of sex selection at the time

of conception like Ericsson method (X and Y chromosome separation) and Pre-implantational Genetic Diagnosis (PGD) are also brought under the ambit of the Law.

Compulsory Registration: The Act mandates compulsory Registration of all Diagnostic Laboratories. The manufacturers of ultra-sound equipment would now be required to sell their products only to those clinics that are Registered.

Need to register ultra sound machines for use in prenatal diagnostic techniques to the Appropriate Authority .

Maintenance of records: All Genetic Counseling Centres, Genetic Laboratories, Genetic Clinics and Ultrasound clinics, irrespective of whatever they are involved as regards diagnosis for gynaecological or other purposes, would now have to maintain records of all the tests conducted by them. Any person conducting ultra-sound scan/test/procedure on any pregnant woman shall keep complete record of such scan/test/procedure indicating her complete name, address, husband's name as well as name and address of the referring Medical Practitioner/Doctor, the reasons requiring such scan/test/procedure, etc.

Prohibition of communicating the sex of foetus: No person can communicate to the pregnant woman concerned or her relatives or any other person the sex of the foetus by words, signs, or in any other manner while conducting prenatal diagnostic procedures.

Only qualified persons can use Prenatal diagnostic techniques. The reasons for testing should be recorded in writing. The Prenatal diagnostic techniques can be used in the following conditions:

- i) age of the pregnant women is above 35 years;
- ii) the pregnant women has undergone two or more spontaneous, abortions or foetal loss;
- iii) the pregnant woman had been exposed to potentially teratogenic agents such as drugs, radiation, infection or chemicals;

- iv) the pregnant woman has a family history of mental retardation or physical deformities such as spasticity or any other genetic disease;
- v) the Central Supervisory Board may specify any other condition as required.

No encouragement to do Pre-natal Diagnostic test: No person including a relative or husband of the pregnant woman shall seek or encourage the conduct of any pre-natal diagnostic techniques on her except in certain conditions.

State Level Supervisory Body (SLSB):

The Law provides for the setting up of State Level supervisory Bodies to monitor the implementation of the Act. The Board shall meet at least once in six months. Already there is the Central Supervisory Board in operation at the Central Level.

Structure of SLSB:

The State Supervisory Board will consist of: -

- (a) The Minister in-charge of Family Welfare in the State who shall be the Chairman, ex-officio
- (b) Secretary In-charge of Department of Family Welfare who shall be the Vice-Chairman, ex-officio
- (c) Representatives of Department's of Women and Child Development and Law
- (d) Director of Health and Family Welfare of the State Government, ex-officio
- (e) Three women members of Legislative Assembly
- (f) Ten members to be appointed by the State Government two each from amongst:-
 - (i) Eminent Social Scientists
 - (ii) Eminent Women Activists
 - (iii) Eminent Gynaecologists & Obstetricians
 - (iv) Eminent Pediatricians
 - (v) Eminent Radiologists

- (g) An Officer not below the rank of Joint Director in-charge of Family Welfare will be Member Secretary, ex-officio

Functions of SLSB:

The following are the functions of the Supervisory Body:

- (i) to create public awareness against the practice of pre-conception sex selection and prenatal determination of sex of foetus leading to female foeticide in the concerned State;
- (ii) to review the activities of the Appropriate Authorities functioning in the State and take appropriate action against the Appropriate Authorities, as provided in their Conduct Rules, in case of dereliction of duty;
- (iii) to monitor and review implementation of the provision of the Act and Rules in the State and;
- (iv) to send consolidated reports as may be required under the Rules, in respect of the various activities under this Act to the Central Supervisory Board and the Central Government.

Appropriate Authority:

To make the Appropriate Authority more efficient Women Member and a Legal Expert included. The following officers to be appointed for the Appropriate Authority:

- (i) Joint Director of Health and Family Welfare - Chairperson;
- (ii) An Eminent Woman representing women's organization; and
- (iii) An Eminent Legal Expert.

The following functions are added to the Appropriate Authority:

- (1) to create public awareness against the practice of pre conception sex selection or pre-natal determination of sex
- (2) to supervise the implementation of the provision of the Act and Rules,

- (3) to recommend to the Central Supervisory Board modifications required in the Act or Rules in accordance with changes in technology or social condition.

Punishment:

Any violation, including unlicensed labs, of the Act leads to seizure of equipments. The fine for those who indulge in sex selection procedure has been doubled from Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 1 lakh, with additional provisions for the suspension and cancellation of the Registration of those as a Medical Practitioner by the concerned Medical Council/ any other Registering Authority.

Recommendation:

- * The Act should be backed by stringent implementation machinery by the State,

- * The Act should be complemented by people based advocacy,

- * All stakeholders, the State, the Medical Profession, NGOs, activists, women and health groups, journalists and media etc. come together to see that the provisions of the PNMT Act are implemented to its fullest extent.

- * The roots of the female foeticide can be traced to deep-rooted patriarchy and anti-women attitudes in the country. The Government should carry out women empowerment programmes vigorously.

- * The Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 and The Medical Council's Code of Ethics, 1970 should amend the Act and Code in harmonise with PCPNDT Act, 2002.

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Background on Maternity Benefits Entitlements

International Conventions with provisions on Maternity Benefits –

- 1) Convention 103 of the ILO: According to this, in no case should the employer be individually liable for the cost of the benefits. It is, therefore, very essential that the scheme of the law on maternity benefits in India should be converted into social insurance.
- 2) ILO Convention No.183 and Recommendation No.191: The Government of India should ratify these provisions concerning maternity protection.

Indian laws which confer maternity benefits entitlements –

- 1) The **Constitution of India**, in which—
 - a) Article 42 requires that the States should make provision, inter alia, for maternity relief. Titled 'Provision for just and humane conditions of work and maternity relief', it specifically says: "*The State shall make provision for securing just and humane conditions of work and for maternity relief.*"
 - b) Article 45, titled 'Provision for early childhood care and education, to children below the age of six years', says: "*The State shall endeavour to provide early childhood care and education for all children until they complete the age of six years.*"
 - c) Article 243G, titled 'Powers, authority and responsibilities of Panchayat', specifies the powers of the Panchayats, including... "matters listed in the Eleventh Schedule", which includes the subjects 'family welfare' and 'women and child development'.
- 2) The **Maternity Benefits Act, 1961**, which applies to all factories, establishments, plantations, mines, and shops where 10 or more persons are employed. State governments have the discretionary powers to also extend this Act to any establishments, industrial, commercial, agricultural or otherwise. However, it does not apply to any factory or establishment where the provisions of the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948, is applicable. Under this Act—
 - a) Every woman shall be entitled to, and her employer shall be liable for, the payment of maternity benefit at the rate of the average daily wage for the period of her actual absence. This includes the period immediately preceding the day of her delivery, the actual day of her delivery and any period immediately following that day.
 - b) The maximum period for which any woman shall be entitled to maternity benefit shall be twelve weeks, of which not more than six weeks shall precede the date of her expected delivery. Where a woman dies during this period, the maternity benefit shall be payable only for the days up to and including the day of her death. Where the woman dies post-delivery, the benefit will be available for the full 12 weeks. But where the child also dies, the benefit will be available till the date of whoever dies last. In case

of miscarriage or medical termination of pregnancy, a woman shall, on production of such proof as may be prescribed, be entitled to leave with wages at the rate of maternity benefit. This shall be for a period of six weeks immediately following the day of the miscarriage or the medical termination of pregnancy.

- c) A woman suffering from illness arising out of pregnancy, delivery, premature birth of child, miscarriage, medical termination of pregnancy or tubectomy operation, shall be entitled to additional leave of maximum one month, with wages at the rate of maternity benefit. This shall require production of such proof as may be prescribed.
- d) A woman shall be entitled to maternity benefit if she has worked in the establishment for a period of not less than eighty days (including holidays and days on which she was laid off or given a 'break') in the twelve months immediately preceding the date of her expected delivery. However, this does not apply a woman who has immigrated to Assam and was pregnant at the time of the immigration.
- e) The 'average daily wage' means the average of the woman's wages payable to her for the days on which she has worked for the period of three calendar months immediately preceding the date from which she absents herself on account of maternity. Or it could mean the minimum wage under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, or Rs 10 per day, whichever is highest.
- f) Every woman entitled to maternity benefit under this Act shall also be entitled to receive from her employer a medical bonus of Rs 250 (rupees two hundred and fifty only), if no pre-natal confinement and post-natal care is provided for by the employer free of charge.
- g) Every woman who returns to duty after delivery shall, in addition to the interval for rest allowed to her, be allowed in the course of her daily work, two breaks of the prescribed duration for nursing the child until the child attains the age of fifteen months.
- h) The discharge or dismissal of a woman at any time during her pregnancy—where the woman, but for such discharge or dismissal, would have been entitled to maternity benefit or medical bonus—shall not have the effect of depriving her of the maternity benefit or medical bonus. Any woman deprived of maternity benefit or medical bonus, or dismissed during or on account of her absence from work in accordance with the provisions of this Act, may seek legal redress within sixty days from the date of the order.
- i) There are many classes of establishments where women are being employed increasingly, to which the Maternity Benefit Act is not applicable. These include:
 - Aviation
 - Building and construction industry
 - Transport and communications
 - Trade and commerce

- The Services Sector, namely
 - Educational and scientific services
 - Medical and health services
 - Religious and welfare services
 - Legal services
 - Business services
 - Community services and trade and labour associations
 - Recreation services
 - Personnel and other services
- 3) **Application of the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946, and the Maternity Benefit Act, 1961.** This stipulates that—
- a) Notwithstanding anything contained in the Industrial Employment (Standing Order) Act, 1946 regarding any industrial premises wherein less than fifty employees are employed or anything contained in the Maternity Benefit Act, 1961, maternity benefits shall apply. The application shall be extended to home workers.
- 4) **The Employees State Insurance Act, 1948 and 1950,** under which an insured woman is entitled to maternity benefit in the form of periodical payments in case of confinement, miscarriage or sickness arising out of pregnancy. She is entitled to—
- a) Medical care under the ESI Scheme for maternity.
 - b) Where medical facilities are not available, she is entitled to a sum of Rs 250 ??per month?? for the purpose.
 - c) Maternity benefit, provided the confinement/delivery falls within the benefit period. This is calculated on the basis of contributions paid for not less than 70 days in two immediately preceding consecutive contribution periods. Provided also that the insured woman qualifies to claim maternity benefit, under the conditions, which are prescribed by the Central Government from time to time. Provided also that she does not work elsewhere for remuneration during the confinement period. Provided also that she agrees to submit herself to medical examination when so required by the ESI Corporation, failing which she will be disqualified from being eligible for the benefits.
 - d) Maternity benefits, provided she gives notice of pregnancy before confinement, in Forms 19 and 20, to the appropriate Local Office by post or otherwise, on a date not earlier than seven days before the date on which such notice is given. And also submits Forms 21 and 22 at least 15 days in advance and Form 23 at least a month in advance. Claims for sickness related to pregnancy or claims after death of a woman in confinement require submission of various other forms.
 - e) Maternity benefits at rates and for periods (currently, 12 weeks, of which not more than six may precede the confinement) as prescribed by the

Central Government from time to time. If the woman dies during this period, the maternity benefit shall be payable only for the days up to and including the day of her death. But where the child also dies, the benefit will be available till the date of whoever dies last.

- f) Current maternity benefit rates, which shall be equal to twice the 'standard benefit rate', which corresponds to the average daily wages (Rule 54) of the insured woman during the corresponding contribution period or Rs 20 (rupees twenty only), whichever is higher.
- g) In case of miscarriage or medical termination of pregnancy, she will be entitled, on production of required proof, to maternity benefits at the same rates as above. Claims for maternity benefits following miscarriage or medical termination of pregnancy must be made within 30 days of the miscarriage or MTP, via Forms 22 and 23.
- h) Maternity benefits, provided the factories or the establishments to which the provisions of the ESI schemes apply are excluded from the purview of the Maternity Benefit Act.

The qualification of an insured woman to claim maternity benefit, the conditions subject to which such benefit may be given, the rates and period thereof shall be such as may be prescribed by the Central Government.

- i) Women drawing wages above the wage ceiling under the ESI Act are entitled to benefits under the Maternity Benefit Act, 1961. There is no wage limit for coverage under the Maternity Benefit Act. Payments are made for actual absence upto 12 weeks on average daily wages, minimum wage or Rs.10 per day.
 - j) The Act ?? WHICH ACT? ESI OR MBA?? is administered by the state governments. There are comprehensive regulatory provisions in the Act??WHICH ACT??. Women employees who complete 80 days of work prior to delivery are entitled to maternity benefits. The provisions in the ESI Act for medical benefit are more comprehensive than those under the Maternity Benefit Act, in so far as they include medical care, and pre and post-natal care.
- 5) The **Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1961**, and the **Beedi And Cigar Workers Welfare Fund Rules, 1978**, which together stipulate that—
- a) In every industrial premises wherein more than thirty female employees are ordinarily employed, there shall be provided and maintained a suitable room or rooms for the use of children under the age of six years of such female employees. These rooms shall be adequately large, lighted and ventilated, clean and sanitary, and be under the charge of women trained in the care of children and infants.

- b) The State Government may make rules regarding the above. It shall also make rules requiring the provision in any industrial premises of free milk or refreshment or both for such children.
 - c) Alternately, several establishments or factories engaged in the manufacture of beedis may maintain an independent maternity center jointly, provided these centres maintain the same standards described above.
 - d) The above centres (independent as well as within an industrial establishment) shall be inspected periodically by a licensed health official.
- 6) The **Building and other Construction Workers' (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996**, stipulates that—
- a) Where more than fifty female building workers are ordinarily employed, there shall be provided and maintained a suitable room or rooms for the use of children under the age of six years of such female workers.
 - b) Such rooms shall be adequately large, lighted and ventilated, clean and sanitary, and be under the charge of women trained in the care of children and infants.
- 7) The **Factories Act, 1948**, stipulates that—
- a) In every factory wherein more than thirty women workers are ordinarily employed there shall be provided and maintained a suitable room for the use of children under the age of six years of such women.
- 8) The **Inter-state Migrant Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1980**, stipulates that—
- a) In every establishment where 20 or more women are ordinarily employed as migrant workers and in which employment is likely to continue for three months or more, the contractor shall provide and maintain two rooms of reasonable dimensions for the use of their children under the age of six years.
 - b) The rooms shall be provided within fifteen days of the commencement of the employment. One of the rooms shall be used as a playroom for the children and the other as bedroom for the children. These should be a pucca construction and be adequately furnished with toys and beds and beddings, and provide protection against the elements. These should be properly ventilated and have adequate water supply and sanitation facilities.
 - c) The rooms should be situated at a convenient distance from the establishment.
 - d) If the contractor fails to provide the crèche within the timeframe stipulated, the same shall be provided by the principal employer within fifteen days of the expiry of the time allowed to the contractor.
 - e) The contractor or the principal employer as the case may be, shall supply adequate number of toys and games in the play room and sufficient number of cots and beddings in the sleeping room.

- 9) The **Mines Act, 1952**, and **Maternity Benefits (Mines and Circus) Rules, 1963**, and the **Iron Ore Mines (Manganese Ore Mines and Chrome Ore Mines) Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1976**, stipulate that—
- a) A woman employed in a mine or a circus is entitled to maternity benefits, including paid leave for 12 weeks.
 - b) A nursing mother is entitled to two breaks to nurse the child, in addition to breaks for her own rest.
 - c) The **Iron Ore Mines (Manganese Ore Mines and Chrome Ore Mines) Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1976**, also stipulates that education services / schools as well as health services (including contraception) should be provided.
- 10) The **Plantations Labour Act, 1951**, stipulates that—
- a) In every plantation where fifty or more women workers (including women workers employed by any contractor) are employed, or where children (aged below six) of woman workers (including women workers employed by any contractor) are twenty or more, the employer shall provide suitable rooms for their use. The rooms must be adequately protective, ventilated, comfortable and with water and sanitation.
 - b) Women are entitled to maternity leave with pay and maternity allowance.

Other laws include—

- 11) The **Workers Working Journalists and other Newspaper Employees (Conditions of Service), Act, 1957**.
- 12) The **Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1955**.
- 13) The **National Maternity Benefit Scheme (1995)**.
- 14) The **National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP)**, which stipulates financial assistance to pregnant women, who are below the poverty line.
- 15) The **Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995**, which stipulates measures for pre-natal, pre-natal and post-natal care of mother and child.
- 16) Many state governments too have their own maternity assistance schemes. These include—
 - a) The **Employment Guarantee Scheme, Maharashtra, 1974**.
 - b) The **Tamil Nadu Integrated Nutrition Project**.
 - c) The **Tamil Nadu Muthulakshar Reddy Scheme, 1988**.
 - d) The **Maternity Protection Scheme, Gujarat, 1986**.

SIBLING CARE: A STATUS REPORT FROM THE SLUMS OF DELHI

Prepared By Delhi Basti Bal Vikas Samooh (NEEV) Delhi FORCES

SIBLING CARE: A STATUS REPORT FROM THE SLUMS OF DELHI

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With the hope we'll continue to pitch in and advocate for the rights of the young child and her/his mother

Yours truly

Neev, Delhi FORCES

7th May 2002

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INTRODUCTION.

For quite some time many organisations and groups working in the Jhuggi Basties of Delhi have been raising issues relating to the health and education of the poor children. Their perseverance has paid in terms of progress made in greater enrolment rates of children at the primary level but there are still big gaps on issues of equity and quality. Lakhs of children (school going as well as young children in the age group of 0-6 years) residing in the Basties of Delhi still have problems accessing government services. These problems have been compounded by the recent spate of demolition and displacement drive to uproot millions of Delhi slum dwellers.

BOX

Demolition and Displacement in the Basties of Delhi	
Total Jhuggi Basties	1200
Total Jhuggies	6,00,000
Population living in these Jhuggi Basties	35,00,000
Children in the age group (0-6years)	5,25,000
Jhuggies demolished during the year 2000	15,000
Displaced people during 2000	75,000

(Guess how many children dropped out of the school ??)

Thoughtless demolition of the old & new Jhuggi Basties and resettling them in far flung areas without any planning has long term repercussions for children especially the young child in age group of 0-6 years. It had its impact by debilitating the already poor and inadequate government health and education services, by increasing unemployment rates among the menfolk, greater number of women workers doing unskilled and poorly paid labour work, decreasing social security cover for the poor families and deepening the divide between the rich and the urban poor.

Unmet needs of children in the 0-6 years age group brings into focus a crucial issue which has been neglected so far which is the burden of sibling care on the older children especially the girl child and its impact on the young child.

BOX

Critical situation of young children in the state of Delhi	
IMR (Mortality rate per thousand children under one year of age)	65.4
USMR (Mortality rate per thousand of children under 5 years)	83
Children on mother's feed (of less than 3 months of age)	20%
Malnourished children	42%
Sex ratio of 0-6 years	865 girls per thousand boys

How would it effect development of children?

BOX

Status of women in Delhi

94% of the workingwomen are employed in the unorganized sector

On an average the women are working outside the home for 7 hours and 14 hours in the home

Very often women have to come back to work within a month's time of childbirth

No maternity entitlements and funds provided by the employer

40% are suffering from anemia

Engaged in the daily struggle of working outside and bearing household and childcare responsibility these women are constantly looking for assistance and support in fulfilling their multiple roles. Poor working women can ill afford the luxury of complete breast-feeding of their young children and provide them a stimulating environment for growing up. Despite recognizing the problems faced by the poor working women the government and other civil society agencies provide very little support for early childcare services to the working mothers.

BOX

Child care services provided by Delhi Government

Total number of children in the age group of 0-6 years	19,23,995
Those enrolled in Anganwadis	94,000
Crèches (Child Care Centres)	239
Nurseries /K.G pre schools	833

As the figures above clearly indicate the paucity of early childcare services the burden of child care comes on the older children of the families. More often than not it's the elder daughter who shoulders the responsibility of sibling care. Our field experience tells that these girls themselves are of young age, which has an impaired impact on the development of both younger and older children. Malnutrition from a very early age and other socio-economic hindrances in their development push these children from the birth onwards in the vicious circle of deprivation and poverty. While performing the duties of an adult from a young age, the sibling carers loose out on her childhood and many a times miss out schooling and educational opportunities.

Probable number of sibling carers in Delhi

1) Total No. of children of school going age	22 lakhs.
2) No. of children out of school	6.7 lakhs.
3) No. of girls out of schools	More than 4 lakhs

"How can children get school education when they are pulled into doing the house-hold work including the task of looking after their younger brothers and sisters?"

To study such related issues and problems, Delhi chapter of FORCES called NEENV decided to undertake a participatory research study in 17 Basties of Delhi.

Main objectives of this study were "To highlight the denial of child rights of both the sibling carers and the young child and to present the picture of neglect by the government and civil society for non-existent support and services for early child care and development."

Four steps were followed during the course of the study-

- a) Gathering general information from the Basties covered in the study
- b) Mapping existing civic and child care services in each of the basties
- c) Conducting Group discussions with women and children
- d) Doing Case Studies of the sibling carers and their mothers

-5-

While doing this study emphasis was laid more on the qualitative aspects of the issue involved and less on the quantitative and enumerative aspects of the research study. However a set of quantitative indicators related to the issue have also been presented. More than merely being a survey the study was designed in a manner to encourage collective thinking and group work in a participatory manner. Views expressed in this study are subjective and try to remain true to what children and mothers expressed during the group discussions and individual interviews. Intensive and long term working experience of the voluntary organizations working in the basties under the study helped in consolidating and verifying the emerging trends and analysis of the under study factors and processes by their firm grip on the ground realities. Their experience not only helped in validating the picture of deficient and inadequate early child care services and ill effects of sibling care on both the older and younger children.

It's now over a year that the participatory study was undertaken. Now we are placing the final report before you. This booklet is the culmination of the process by putting together the analysis and conclusion arrived out of multiple discussions, mapping of childcare services and individual case studies. Publication of the report was accompanied by putting together of a Photo Exhibition which presents a visual picture of the sibling carers most poignantly.

By sharing with you the report and the photo exhibition we hope to have a wider audience and a stronger public opinion and advocacy to demand for improvement in the provision of the early child care services in the poor and deprived in Delhi and elsewhere.

We shall consider this to be a successful endeavor if it facilitates reflection and questioning among its readers.

Poem

.....
Information about the 17 Basties

In the first phase of the study information from 17 Basties & resettlement colonies was collected where non-government organisations represented in NEENV were working. Information on various aspects such as population- its male, female and children percentage (in different age groups), work profile of the population, socio-economic status, civic amenities, educational and health facilities services, enrollment and drop out percentages of girls and boys, status of early child care services and other

related aspects was collected. Based on the information, maps were drawn of existing facilities in each of the basties.

Various Aspects Of A Basti.....(SHOWN IN A SKETCH)

Table

Information on 17 basties and their location in Delhi

S.NO	Name of the Basti	Zone of Delhi	Name of the Non-Governmental Organisation
1			
2			
3			
upto			
17			

PICTURISATION OF THE 17 BASTIES IN THE MAP OF DELHI

An example of a basti map

Key Points from the Maps of Basties

Following points were covered: Facilities available for children for e.g. primary schools, Balwadis, Angan wadis (ICDS), Crèches etc; Health and drinking water facilities; physical and social stratification of the basti(gullies, roads, planned & unplanned etc); profile of the working women; school enrolment and drop out etc.

Picture emerging from the basti maps

- It is clear from these maps that Government facilities especially for children and women are grossly inadequate and in most areas these run very unsatisfactorily.
- In most basties basic facilities (e.g. Dispensaries, Schools, Anganwadis etc) were seen only in the pucca settlements of the basti where a room or two was available for housing the service. Out of the 15 maps only in Nazimuldin (E) basti, 7 Anganwadis were found working whereas in re-settlement colonies like Nagloi A Block, Sunder Nagri (Extn.), Mangol Puri (F/G Blocks) and Neb Sarai had these services weren't available in the kuccha settlements such as jhuggis and temporary structures. There is no legal provision to provide basic civic amenities and childcare services for these settlements howsoever large these settlements may be.
- It was also clear from the maps that within the resettlement colonies that the economic, social and educational status of people living in the clusters of kuccha jhuggi settlements was much lower in comparison to those living in pucca houses in the basti.
- Facility of Government run crèches was not available even in one basti. In three basties the non-government organisations were providing the of crèche services for the working mothers.

- Even the primary schools were located at a distance of one & a half to two kilometers from the kuccha jhuggi cluster. Number of primary schools was inadequate to cater to the number of school going children in these Jhuggi basties.
- It was noted that many children from the poor families had dropped out from the school at primary and middle school level. These children were either working for lowly or ill paid jobs in the casual labour sector or took care of their younger siblings at home and helped in domestic chores. Some of these children were going to the non-formal education centres run by non-government organisations.
- In all the basti maps the profile of working women was either scattered or concentrated in some clusters of the basti. It was noticeable that the concentration of working women was largely seen in the poorer parts of the basti settlements.
- Women were working in the unorganized labour sector and/or in cottage and home based industry where children were also involved in some parts of production.
- In all these maps there was a clear lack of government health services. Quack doctors or "Bengali Doctor" who didn't have required qualifications mainly covered the service gap.

Physical and Educational Status of the Basties

S.No	Name of the Basti	Population	No. of children		Literacy Rate(%)			
			0-6	6-14	Male	Female	Boy	Girl
1								
2								
3								
upto								
17								

*These figures were not available age-wise but were distributed gender wise. ** Age graded break up wasn't available – Here the figures weren't available

What do these figures tell?

- Jhuggi settlements could be seen in all parts/zones of Delhi.
- there is very dense population in ratio to the area occupied by these families. The construction of all the J.J. clusters is of temporary (Kucha) Jhuggies, but the floor is pucca one but the roof is kuccha one. There is only one roomed accommodation which is all purpose room for sleeping, eating cooking ,bathing etc. There are no lanes,roads, sewer etc.
- In comparison to educational statistics of Delhi the position of these Basties is very weak & in so far as adult literacy ratio & position of registration of children of school going age is concerned. Literacy rate of parents was seen between 25 to 35 %. In the age group of 6 to 11 years of both girls & boys the

educational position was found to be quite opposite to Govt. figures. On an average only 60 to 70 % of the boys & 40 to 50 % of the girls are continuing primary education.

It is essential to clarify here that for this study the sample was essentially drawn from poorer parts of the basti settlements for gathering information and group discussions. The figures and estimates given here weren't exclusively collected for the study, these were mainly provided by the non-government organizations from multiple sources during the course of their work in the basti.

Nature of work and income levels in the basties

S.No	Name of the basti	% of houses dependent on the earning of the woman	Income (Rupees)		
			Male	Female	Children
1					
2					
3					
upto					
17					
S.No	Name of the basti	Nature of work			
		Male	Female	Children	
1					
2					
3					
upto					
17					

Key: (A) Unorganised Sector 1. Tea Shop 2.Dhaba 3. Self-employed 4. Construction worker 5. House-hold help/worker 6. Rag picking 7. Factory worker 8. Technical work 9. Work relating to Sibling care 10. Cottage Industry work 11. Begging

- Population of these Basties is almost entirely engaged in unorganized work sector.
- Residents of these Basties provide services to the neighborhood middle class colonies at low wages. They are engaged in works like cleaning, washing and other house hold chores, as servants in the shops, tea shops and dhabas, as cart pullers, sweepers and in small scale industries etc.
- 25 to 35% (approximately) houses were mainly dependent on the income of the female members wherein were men either away from home and weren't sending money or they didn't have regular work.
- Income levels in most of the households under study didn't exceed Rupees 3,000-3500/P.M (combined income of male and female members of the family) forcing them to live an impoverished existence.
- Difference in the daily wages of men & women was also a commonly observed pattern. Difference was sharper in the construction work sector.

- About 35 to 40% children were found to be working to contribute to the family income. 10 to 15% children were involved in the home-based work along with their mothers. In most cases parents for supplementing the family income took their earnings.
- In the unorganized sector difference could be seen in the type of work done by men, women & children. For instance, rag picking and cleaning in other people's houses was mostly the work of children and women. Whereas sorting out the rag pickings and its sale was mainly handled by men. In our study we didn't come across a single instance of woman working in the skilled work category. They were essentially working in the unskilled and semi skilled trades such as Agarbatties rolling, bindi pasting, making bindi and chappal moulds etc.

Status of women's and children's health

- Barring 2-3 resettlement colonies where Government run Primary Health Centres were running there was no provision of health service under the government aegis in other Basties.
- Diseases associated with unclean living environment, unsafe drinking water and dense population per square meter of land were commonly reported from all the basties.
- Borrowing money for treatment of illness in the family was the commonly recounted story in most of the families.
- Due to lack of access to qualified doctors in these Basties they have little option but to avail the services of quacks that are easily accessible.

Maternity Entitlements and Services

- More than 85% of women had home based childbirth with the help of traditional dais.
- Most working women had recounted that they went back to work after 7 to 25 days of child birth.
- None of the women working in the unorganized sector reported of having any maternity leave and any other maternity entitlements. Whatever provisions exist under the Construction Workers Act s is only on paper. Maternity leave, maternity allowance and breast-feeding breaks, all these are tall talks for them. Whatever respite and monetary benefits these women get were entirely up to the good will of the employer and their predisposition to be charitable. Mostly domestic helpers were shown such benevolence by the home mistress.

Delhi – Full of Inconsistencies

Delhi has the highest per capita income of Rupees 17068 in the country

Even then

More than 40% of the population of Delhi lives below the poverty line.

Drinking water is available for 96% of Delhi's population

But

In kucchi Basties and Jhuggi settlements these is one water source per 200 households.

About 50% of Delhi's population doesn't have access to toilets in their houses. This causes very much inconvenience to women and children.

Caption under the cartoon strip-

"I am not hiding here. This is my house." Quoted from The Times Of India

More than 50% of urban population of Delhi lives on footpaths, Kuccha Basties & Jhuggi colonies.

Group Discussions with Women

In the 2nd phase of the Study group discussions were carried out to consolidate & deepen the information collected from 17 Basties in the first phase. Group discussions aimed to bring forth various aspects from the life experiences of working women and older children who were involved in sibling care.

An important aspect of the study was to recount and reflect on one's experiences from childhood through adolescence, youth and adulthood. It could be the bitter sweet memories of childhood, pangs of desires and frustration of unmet wishes, experiences of marriage, pain and joy of child birth, umpteen house hold responsibilities and kind of familial and social support systems available or the lack of it. These points were discussed while sitting in small groups with women and older children. This exercise was crucial to get the understanding of the issue of early childcare from their perspective. What were their worries, aspirations and demands for their young and older children? How and What were children expressing about their role as sibling carers? Understanding their world view was a central issue in the study.

15 group discussions were held in which 324 women took part

Table

Status of some of the indicators emerging from group discussions with women

S.No	Name of the organization	No. of women in each group discussion	Responsibility of child care in the childhood		Child Labour	
			Age wise	Number (%)	Age(when began)	% of children
1	Nirmaana	15	7	all	6-8	50
2	Nirmaana	8	6-7	all	8-10	60
3	A.V.B.M.T	18	5-7	all	8-10	60
4	A.V.B.M.T	22	5-7	all	8-10	50-60
5	Vidyajyoti	18	5-6	all	7-9	40
6	N.D.S	15	10	all	9-10	75
7	N.D.S	17	10	all	8-10	60
8	Navsrishiti	50	7-8	all	10-12	60
9	Navsrishiti	22	8-9	all	10-12	60-70
10	Navsrishiti	30	7-8	all	10-12	50
11	Kisley	12	5-7	all	10-12	80
12	Aalamb	25	5-7	all	-	-
13	Rainbow	25	5-7	all	8-10	75
14	Mobile crèches	15	5-8	all	11-13	75
15	Hope project	32	7-8	all	11-13	5-10
		324				

Key points from group discussions

- Average age of women who took part in group discussions was between the ages of 25 to 35 years. However in some groups few women of 40 to 45 years also participated. But this was not a common pattern.
- The educational level of most of the women was up to 5th class or even less. There was couple of instances where women reported to have educational qualifications up to an 8th or 12th standard.

- In all the group discussions it became clear that the age at marriage of women fell between 13 to 18 years. In some cases where age at the time of marriage was between 13 - 14 years their 'Gauna' (i.e. the social custom allowing sexual cohabitation as husband and wife) was performed after the girl had attained puberty and was physiologically and socially more mature. Age of women at first childbirth was between 15 to 17 years.
- In these group discussions women told that on an average they were pregnant for 5 to 8 times. There were 3 to 7 child birth/woman. Almost all reported poor health after successive childbirths.
- Miscarriages were reported however actual estimates couldn't be ascertained from the group discussions. Very few women talked of their decision for undertaking medical termination of pregnancy. For understandable socio cultural inhibitions discussion on sex selective abortion was not forthcoming.

Childhood memories of Women

What stood out were their experiences of- Poverty and financial difficulties; Under fed; Dropping out from school; Low status of the girl child in the family; doing household chores from early age; looking after their siblings; working in others' and own field; marriage at an early age; having no information to their body & sexuality But also playing with the dolls and chatting with friends to. in their tender

Dialogues 1 "MORE OF DOMESTIC CHORES – LESS OF PLAY"

Dialogue 2 "USED TO GO TO SCHOOL IN THE MORNING AND HELP IN THE DOMESTIC CHORES AFTER SCHOOL"

Dialogue3 "PLAYED FREELY UP TO THE AGE OF 4-5 YEARS BUT BY 9-10 YEARS I HAD A WHOLE LOT OF HOUSEHOLD RESPONSIBILITIES ON MY SHOULDERS"

Dialogue4 "MARRIAGE CHANGED THE WAY OF LIFE. Whatever fun and freedom we had enjoyed during early childhood was over as soon as I stepped into my husband's house. Fun was replaced with burden of work and more work."

Key points from the group discussions on Maternity and Child care services

- Becoming mothers at an early age and child births with very little spacing was the most common experience of most women in the group discussion across basties.
- More than 90% women had home based child births. Accessing government health services was only used as an option in difficult pregnancies or in an emergency at or before child birth when the mid wife refused to handle the case or suggested the woman to be taken to a nursing home or a government hospital. Mid-wives from the Basti helped in home based child births who were experienced but non-licensed and with no formal training.
- Post natal support to mothers was exclusively provided from the immediate family. It came mainly from the mother, sister in law or mother in law and it came by way of help in taking care of the new born and doing the household chores of cooking, cleaning etc. Other kind of support mainly consisted of providing supplementary diet replenishment in the form of ghee, fruits, ladoos, cash and clothes etc. for the mother and new born. Most women recounted that they received support from their parents and

in laws during the first 2-3 of child births and in the later births they had to manage on their own. In the later child births help from the eldest daughter was taken to provide support to the mother in taking care of the new born and doing the household work.

- In all the households where women's earning was crucial to run the family affairs the women returned to work after child birth as early as 5-7 days or took leave for 20 - 25 days at the most.
- Talk of paid Maternity leave, breast feeding breaks or any other kind of maternity entitlements from the employer sounded like fantasies to women. All of them were more concerned and anxious of loosing their work and living with this uncertainty they were too insecure to even think let alone demand the maternity benefits as their right from the employers.
- Usually an expenditure of Rupees 300 to 500 was reported to be incurred in a home based child birth. In the case of difficult child births expenditure on consultation fee, medicines, and nursing home expenses was reported to be etc. between Rs. 1000/- to Rs. 5000/-
- Because of their working status most of the women reported during group discussions that they couldn't keep their infant children on exclusive breast feeding for more than a month or two. Leaving behind their infants in the care of its older siblings and early bottle feeding was a commonly observed pattern.
- Negligible facilities for Early Child Care in all the basties was the focal point of all group discussions. Services of Crèches, Balwadis, Primary Health Care Centre if available were provided by non governmental and other voluntary organisations or were run by some individuals as a private service venture.

During all the group discussions women expressed a strong need for the early child care services to be provided by the government agencies to ease their burden of child care while working in the unorganized sector.

They spelt out in the following order of priorities the list of services which they considered essential for their children's welfare: More primary schools (in easily reachable distance), Balwadis (pre-school centres), Supplementary nutrition for young children, Health care facilities, Free medicines, Recreational space for children in the basti and Crèches. Need to improve the accessibility, efficiency and quality of services of ICDS, government schools and primary health centres was very strongly articulated by women.

Lives of overburdened working women- Their aspirations and anxieties for their homes, children and themselves

- About 50% women who took part in the group discussions said that they had started wage work from the age of 10 years and had to drop out from the school as a result. They continued to work till they were married.
- More than 95% women reported to be working in the unorganized sector on very low wages. Most of these women were employed in small scale industry, home based work, selling vegetables, working as domestic help or in rag picking work.

- Most of these women discontinued working after marriage because of holding household and child bearing and rearing responsibilities. It was after the birth of 2-3 children that the economic necessity brought them back into the wage work sector. They worked mainly as domestic helpers and as construction workers
- It was abundantly clear that complete responsibility of running the house and taking care of children was on women's shoulders. It was shared and partly transferred on to the elder daughter once she grew to be 6-7 years of age. Despite being out of work and sitting idle at home men didn't share household and child care responsibilities. This was true of most households barring one or two exceptions.
- In bearing the triple burden of house-hold work, child care and wage work women reported that they were to a large extent dependent on the help provided by their daughters. In some instances help came from women living in the neighbourhood but that was mainly a temporary relief and offered in emergency situations such as sickness or family conflict and/or destitution.
- All the women recounted that sharing the household work and child care responsibilities from an early age was clearly imprinted in their own childhood memories. It was worth noting that only 25 to 30% of these women were literate. Most of them had to leave school even before completing primary school education.

Above mentioned key points from the group discussions with women clearly point out to the unequal and unfavourable attitude shown by society towards women and girls which more often than not has led to the denial of their fundamental human rights to non discrimination, equality, freedom of choice, right to education and good health and well being and economic opportunities. Denial of their rights began in their own childhood and continued in their adult lives and subsequently pushed their children especially the daughters in a similar vicious cycle of denial and deprivation.

Attitude of women towards their children - A mixed bag of prejudices, ambitions and aspirations

- For all their children (both boys and girls, young and old) women articulated what they desired for them and what they like and don't like in their children. At the same time they also disclosed unwittingly differential attitude, different set of desires & dual set of expectations towards their sons and daughters. For instance about 80% women desired that their daughters should receive education up to 8th class but for their sons all of them felt that they should study up to 10th class or 12th class.
- They wanted their sons to learn vocational and/or technical skills in addition to the school education so that they could become economically self-sufficient. For their daughters they felt that education should be so designed so as to help them in their married and family lives. However few women wanted their daughters to be self-sufficient and self-reliant.
- Women clearly differentiated the needs for early child care from that of the older children. They stated that young children mainly needed love and affection of their parents,, food, play and good health care and.....

- Older children required education, earning opportunities, good clothes, healthy entertainment, friends and windows for information.
- Women were conscious about the fact that pushing older children in household and sibling care responsibilities was not a healthy option for both the older children and the young child. They felt that although the older children looked after the younger siblings to the best of their ability but being children themselves they were not mature enough to handle the responsibility of child care. It also had an adverse effect on their education. They felt that younger children were sick more often. Their food and nutritional needs couldn't be looked after with same care and regularity as an adult carer would be able to do.
- There was a common endorsement among women on marrying the daughters earlier than the sons. Despite agreeing to the fact that early marriage was not good for their daughters they expressed their helplessness in not being able to prevent. Ideally they felt that girls should be married at the age of 17-18 years or more and sons should be married only when they are able to bear the economic burden of the family.

Group discussions with children

14 group discussions with 249 children most of whom were involved in sibling care contributed most crucially to understand the dynamics of the issue of sibling care. Group discussions vividly brought out the point of views of children on the issue and its relevant aspects. These discussions were mirrors reflecting their pain, frustrations, helplessness, innocence and their dreams. Children's voices represented a chimera of contradicting images and perceptions- some painful, others realistic, some joyous and full of hope and fantasy and at other times a life situation pushing them to fit into adult shoes too soon-

Key points from Children's group discussions

- Most children stated that they were shouldering the household responsibility to a large extent including the task of looking after the younger siblings when their mother goes out for work. Besides going to school (for those who were attending schools) and their play time, children listed chores like cleaning, cooking, marketing, giving bath, feeding them, and keeping a watchful eye over their younger siblings and in some families going out for wage work as part of their daily activities. which is otherwise the responsibility of elders.
- About 50% of the children spoken to could not finish primary schooling and most of them were girls. In 90% of the families girls were looking after their younger siblings either along with their studies or after dropping out from the school. However boys were also not completely free from sharing the burden of household and child care responsibilities.
- Main reason cited by children for dropping out from the school was poor economic conditions of their parents. Looking after their younger siblings was another important reason for leaving school. Individual family case studies also brought out this as an important reason for girls to drop out from the school especially when the mother had to seek wage work outside the home to bolster the economic conditions of the family.

- All through the group discussions children seemed conscious of their multifold responsibilities, restricted opportunities and yawning gap between their lives and the lives of rich children. A very strong desire for a better and bright future for their younger siblings reverberated through children's discussions.
- Most children said, "We would like our mothers to be able to look after our siblings with all the care and attention and we would like to only play and study. We wish that our siblings get the complete love and attention of our parents."
- Children articulated the need for support and services to lessen their burden of child care responsibilities. Many children talked about the need for crèches and balwadis. Being able to think and articulate the need for the provision of early child care services from government and voluntary agencies could be due to the presence of non government organizations in their basties and running these services.

While talking about the circumstances leading to denial of their fundamental rights children seemed to be extremely aware and connected to the realities in which their families were struggling to eke out an existence. They didn't seem to complain too much about the adult chores they had to perform as part of their every day routine. They were aware that the household and sibling care responsibilities on them were largely due to economic impoverishment of their parents. Wherever government and non government organizations were providing child care and pre school services older children were trying to utilize these services and trying to fulfill some of their childhood aspirations.

Reasons given by children for dropping out from the school

- # Poverty
- # Wage work
- # House hold responsibility
- # Sibling care
- # Illiteracy of parents
- # Preference to religious education over formal school education
- # Lack of enabling environment in their Basti

Daily routine of children consisted of:

- # Cleaning, washing, fetching water, cooking etc.
- # Attend school in the morning and do the household chores in the after-noon.
- # Attend non-formal education programmes
- # Taking care of younger siblings
- # Rag picking
- # Playing and T.V watching
- # Wandering in search of work

Differences of life styles pointed out by children between the rich and poor children

Children living in big houses

have access to costly and big toys, fancy cycles etc. They have easy and ready access to open spaces for playing.

have fixed hours and adequate time for eating, sleeping, studying and playing

are free from household worries and responsibilities

have all their desires fulfilled

can access facilities for creative activities such as drama, dance and painting etc.

can study up to whatever level they desire

go to good schools for education

move about in cars

can think and plan about their future

get full attention, affection and care of their parents

Children living in Jhuggi basties

don't have suitable environment and facilities to pursue their studies

have to take care of their siblings and do house hold work

fall sick ore often

don't get clean air and water

do wage work

combine schooling with wage work and/or household responsibilities

Dialogue box: "We can only dream of the kind of life rich children live."

Games which children liked playing

Gulli-Danda, carom board, hot chase,

Glass pebbles, skipping rope, bat-ball, playing cards,

Hide and seek, make believe and simulation games (teacher-teacher, doll's wedding etc.)

Kho-Kho, maran-pitti, hop scotch, chasing the ball, top spinning,

Swimming in river Jamuna,

Playing with the friends in the play ground

Favourite activities of children

Playing, eating good food, watching television, tree climbing,

Eat out in a restaurant,

Loitering and visiting places,

Dancing,

Leg pulling of friends while sitting in groups,

Learning new skills and going to work,

Reading stories

Sentiments of older children on the responsibility of sibling care

Dialogue 1: "I love my siblings but there are many things I can't do because of my responsibility. I can't go anywhere. I beat her many times when she cries incessantly."

Dialogue 2: "When I am angry then I don't like to take care of them."

Aspirations of older children for their younger siblings

Good food and good home environment

There should be crèches in the basti where infants should get food and care

"Our siblings should get opportunities for good education."

"There should not be unhappiness in their lives"

"They should have a life of satisfaction and fulfillment"

"We will make them a successful person."

"We wish our brothers and sisters to get good employment opportunities"

"We want our parents to look after them and give them all the time and love they need."

"There should be a support system such that we aren't deprived of our schooling and we aren't forced to suppress our wishes which are very close to our heart."

Sibling care- Some Case Studies

Last leg of the research was designed to get a detailed and nuanced understanding of various factors which impact the issue of sibling care by looking at the life situations of the members of some chosen families. In each of the families sibling care was an issue which impacted the lives of all the family members in many different ways. A detailed study was undertaken to know and understand what their daily routines were especially of women and children, their memories and experiences of childhood, their education, their work, their roles and responsibilities, their desires and expectations. It was hoped that the story from each family case study would give a qualitative, sociological as well as human picture surrounding the issue of sibling care.

The process of case study was helped to bring in the personal and emotional perspective to the bigger picture of larger socio-cultural and economic factors influencing the issue. This point of view tends to get lost or minimized in the effort to get the big picture which may present a body of research embellished with quantitative assessment but the representative voice and gritty spirit of those under study goes unheard and unseen.

Effort was made to remain true to what and how children and their mothers had expressed themselves.

Following section presents key words, happenings and experiences of the family members to bring to the fore their feelings of helplessness, hope, expectations, innocence and cynicism and other social-economic factors which they perceive to be influencing their choices or the lack of it.

Nine NEEV partners undertook 14 case studies in their field areas. In addition 2 case studies were undertaken to highlight the benefit from providing early child care services such as crèche and pre school centres in the basti neighbourhood.

In all the case studies those families were selected where both mother and father were working and were living in impoverished conditions and finally all these families had one or more children involved in sibling care.

Key points from the case studies

Household aspects

- Almost all families had migrated to Delhi from their villages in different parts of northern India in search of livelihood. With the exception of two families who owned a small piece of land in a settlement colony, rest were living either as tenants or as squatters with permission from the labour contractor in kuchhi jhuggi basties settlements.
- Socio-Economic status of all the families was very weak. None of the families crossed the income threshold of Rs. 3000/-per month which was the combined income of the husband and wife. On an average a family's income was between Rs. 2000-2500/month. In the social structure these families were either from Dalit or OBC category.
- One third of the sample families of the case studies were Muslims, indicating that there is a very significant proportion of Muslim migrants who are also living an impoverished existence.
- Living space per person was very cramped. Usually each family had between 6-9 members living in a small one room jhuggi.
- None of the families had adequate physical amenities. Household utility items such as cots, utensils, clothes or in some case even food were in short supply.
- A new pair of clothes came mostly on festivals on occasions like Diwali and Eid. Sometimes even that was not possible.

A pucca and spacious house was one of the most cherished wish of most children.

Aspects related to marriage and children

- Age at marriage of women was between 13 to 18 years. Child birth followed immediately after marriage. A common comment from all women was that the control and decisions over reproductive matters were completely governed either by their husbands or complied under the prescribed religious and cultural mores or by their mother in laws. These decisions were related to use or not to use contraceptives or sterilization.
- All the women stated that their deliveries were home based and assisted by the traditional mid-wife of the Basti.
- Cases of miscarriages and infant mortality were reported from 3-4 families. There was a general reluctance to talk about such matters. However in one family a case of female feticide was also found

but not told directly to the researcher. The researcher had information about this case from her earlier field work in the community where she was working as a community mobiliser.

- There was no mention of maternity entitlements from any one of the women who were working in the unorganized sector. All of them returned to work between 8 to 25 days of child birth.
- Most infants weren't breast fed for 6 months. After the birth of first 2 children they discontinued working for a longer spell than a month but subsequently they returned to work leaving behind their one month old infants.
- **All the case studies were strong portrayals of the denial of children's right to safety, protection and health. Women had been equally denied their rights to equality, non discrimination and maternity entitlements. Leaving behind an infant without adult care and protection and compulsion of giving her/him a bottle feed are clear cases of violation of child rights.**

For all these women, "rest for our weary bodies and a rich, nutritious diet for ourselves is wishful thinking."

Aspects related to health and nutrition

- Tale of all women's health was almost the same in all the families. Successive child bearing years had left them anaemic and weak. Situation of increasing weakness, falling nutritional and health status was compounded by increasing work load of the women. Health problems of low blood pressure, T.B, anaemia, fatigue and regular sickness were common of the women. Children were also in the grip of seasonal & generic diseases. In at least 5-6 families there were instances of men folk suffering from long term illnesses such as T.B, Asthma and heart ailments. In their field notes the researchers had reported that most family members looked undernourished and weak.
- In a large family which was the case for most under study families children in the lower end of the birth order and girls seemed to suffer from inadequate and non-enriching diet. Women didn't report to eat a more nutritious diet during pregnancy and lactation. Gender based discrimination on diet distribution was another painful fact found from the case study notes. Half litre milk was generally purchased for preparing morning tea and for bottle feed of young children and tinned milk for the infant was also a common dietary fact reported in the stories of the families.
- Another familiar aspect of gender based disparity in food distribution was confirmed by the case studies which was- Women and their daughters ate after serving the men of the family. Interestingly when the women went out to work men children and elders would do self service.
- In most of the families eating meant two simple meals a day consisting of a dal and/or seasonal vegetables with a staple of potatoes added to the menu. Many families said that consuming rotis with green chilly paste when there was no dal or vegetable preparation was also part of their dietary pattern. Seasonal fruits were consumed once or twice a week and meat- fish curry was prepared once or twice a month.

- Although they may be eating rotis with green chilli paste but consuming alcohol by the men folk was a rampant story of many households. This fact was disliked by all children especially girls. For one child eating a cauliflower vegetable dish was part of her wish list.
- Another repeated story of many households was taking loan for medical treatment. In one family a loan of rupees 15000/- had to be taken when four children and the father fell sick at the same time.

Educational and work status of the families

- There was a big difference in the educational status of and expectations from the boys and girls. In some cases economic obstacles came in the way, in others it was lack of interest of the parents for children's education which particularly affected the girls because they were the first ones to be pulled out of school for during difficult times of the family. Despite impoverished conditions and lack of interest shown by one or both the parents boys were sent to schools.
- In all the family case studies men had educational qualifications of 5-8 standards. Some Women were illiterate and others had education up to 3-5 standards. In the present generation only 40-50 % girls and 65 % boys were going to primary or middle school. In some basties where non-formal educational centres were being run by non government organizations drop out and pre school age children were going there. 2 girls had passed their 5th standard from one of the NFE centres. In another family one girl was preparing for 10th standard with support from the non government organization by enrolling through the national open school.
- Mothers were seen to be more eager to send their daughters to school. Fathers either resisted in sending them to school when they considered it unimportant or weren't concerned and involved busy as they were in their own world of work and alcoholism. Tales of unemployment, drinking, and domestic violence by men folk in these families was repeated time and again.
- In 7 families girls had to drop out of the school when women in the families had to go out on work. Primary reason for such an action was the responsibility of child care which these girls had to take up in the absence of their mother. In 3 families girls were also looking after their siblings while continuing their schooling. In such instances frequent absence from the school was a common practice. In 4 families children who were involved in sibling care were going to the NFE centre of the Non government organization and they brought their younger siblings along with them.
- 95% families were working in unorganised sector. All women were in un-skilled/semi-skilled work. With the exception of a couple of men, rest of the men folk were also working in un-skilled/semi-skilled jobs.
- Their work is neither permanent nor regular this is especially true of men's work in sectors such as construction work, paint work, factory job, rickshaw pulling or cottage industry. Women usually worked as construction workers or as domestic helpers, some of them sold vegetables, or ran a tea shop from home. Women worked on lower income and were more regular in their work.
- Under the circumstances in which women were working it didn't seem odd to hear them saying, "if the husband's income was sufficient to run the house they wouldn't have worked." "Who wants to do such

work when there is neither respect nor proper remuneration for our work?" If they had a choice and the economic condition of their family was satisfactory then most women said that they would not like to go out for work. In their view responsibility to run the house lies on men. But "when he (man) can't or won't work then we have to do it for the sake of our children".....This was the heart felt opinion of most women from family case studies.

-Women could see the linked impact of work, education, economic and social status on their and children's lives. Women expressed the desire that, "our children should be educated enough so as not to live an impoverished existence as being lived by us and we want our children to have better lives than what we have for ourselves."

What did children say?

- None of the children had aversion to what most children liked doing i.e. to play, to be with friends, to go out, eat good food and going to school. But most of these children could not do these things to their heart's content. Bearing the burden of household and child care responsibilities which aren't normally associated with childhood came in the way of their enjoyment. Only very young children, working children and school going boys had escaped from the drudgery of house work.
- Getting a beating from their father, their drinking habit, regular brawls and wife beating were the commonly disliked behaviour by children of their fathers. They were afraid of getting punished by their father. They didn't seem to mind their mother's spanking them as much because they knew that she also loved them as much. For seeking favors mother was the favourite choice of all children. She would also plead in their favour whether it was for sending their daughter to the non-formal education centre or allowing her to go out and play with friends.
- There was very little time in the daily routine of older girls in the family which she could devote for herself. All responsibilities related to child care and household work (cleaning, washing, cooking, feeding and serving, laying beds etc) were laid on her shoulders in the mother's absence. Even if she were playing she would carry the young one in her lap. Under such conditions regular school going for 6 hours every day didn't seem possible. But the other side of the same family story showed that sons from this family were being sent to school and extra coaching was also arranged for them. It was the girls who were paying the penalty due to the difficult situation of their families. The threshold for boy's schooling was also not aimed to be higher than 8th or 10th standard. Both the mother and sons felt that learning some trade and vocational skills would be more useful.
- Unmindful of the flies, dirt and squalor around them young children were mostly found playing, eating or sleeping. Images of semi clad children running around, playing with broken toys or household articles, their feeder bottles lying on the ground or holding a piece of chappati in their hand were constant like a photocopy in all the families. These children looked younger than their actual age. Many a times estimation given by the researcher of children's age proved incorrect when cross checked with the family member.

- Some children considered the task of looking after their younger siblings a responsibility from which they couldn't escape but for many children, this responsibility was accepted as if it was a natural extension of their childhood roles without questioning. All of them freely expressed their emotions of getting angry, abusing and beating them, especially getting irritated with their young siblings during their playtime. Alongside they were liberal in showing love and affection to their younger siblings, which was amplified in their wishing for "all the comforts of the world and the best of life". All of them echoed the desire that "our brothers and sisters should study and progress in life."
- Do the older children have dreams for themselves – Answer was yes and no. Teasingly and with some hesitation they came out with their desires –studying to their heart's content, visiting places, aspiring to join police /teacher. These free flowing wishes for themselves were tempered with expressions of helplessness and fear of unfulfilled dreams

Harshness of their life situations seemed to have shaken the self-image and confidence of these children. They were conscious of the fact that they were poor and it affected their lives. But thank heavens that their childhood kept surfacing when they played with their marbles or when they(boys) took a dip in Jamuna or when they were happily lost chatting and playing with their dear friends.

Case Study (1) – The Story of Gita and her daughters

Gita age 40 years lives in Kakrolla basti of west Delhi. There are 9 members in her family- 3 daughters, 4 sons, Gita and her husband. Her husband runs a tea shop while Gita and her elder daughter work as domestic help in the neighbourhood middle class colony. Husband's earnings from the tea shop are low.

Gita was married when she was 13 years old. First child was born to her at the age of 18 years. Economic status of the family worsened progressively with each new addition in the family. Earlier every one in the family could get fruits and vegetables, now milk and fruit comes only for the youngest child who is 8 months old. Earlier they were eating three meals a day which now has been reduced to two times a day – diet in the morning consists of dal and rice and in the evening it is roti eaten with a vegetable. Food is served first to Gita's husband and then the rest follow. Mother or the eldest daughter whoso ever serves the food is the last one to eat.

Gita's husband was the only son of his parents. Therefore she was not allowed by her mother in law to use contraceptives because she expected more than one grandson from her son and daughter in law. When asked whether she had taken a sex detection test Gita replied in the negative.

She and her husband migrated from their village to Delhi when it became difficult to sustain their livelihood from agriculture. After living in a rented jhuggi for sometime, they purchased their own jhuggi. Their jhuggi is a one room structure with a kuccha rooftop. This room is used for sleeping, eating, cooking and playing for the younger children. Very few household articles were there in the

house such as one wooden bed, few steel utensils and worn clothes. Pair of new clothes on Diwali or some other festive occasion was stitched for the family members.

When children fell ill services of the government hospital were used. To treat generic illnesses using home remedies such as drinking ginger tea or using tulsi leaves was the norm. Gita wanted to get her children educated but she couldn't afford the expenses of buying school uniform, stationery etc for all children. She has been sending her younger children to the non-formal education centre run by a non government organization. She would like to get her daughters married as soon as she would find a suitable match and saved some money to buy the dowry items. For her sons she wishes that they would take up some work for their livelihood.

12 year old *Khushboo* looks after her younger siblings. She dropped out from the school when third child was born in the family. Gita didn't let her continue in the third class although *Khushboo* was very keen to continue her studies. This decision was primarily taken because Gita needed a helping hand to look after the young child when she and her elder daughter had to go out for work. *Khushboo* gets up at 6 A.M and has the full responsibility of managing the household chores once her parents and sisters leave for work. She bathes her younger brother and sister, washes clothes, cleans the utensils and feeds them. Some times doing all this work becomes a burden for her. At that moment she feels that her parents do not love her and that is why she has been left behind by them at home rather than sending her to the school. Some times she feels that that is why they always leave her at home.

Khushboo says that she wants to study; she wants to become a teacher and wants to go on outings.

“Prepared by Aalamb Organisation”

Case study (2) – The story of Tauhida and her family

Tauhida aged 35 years lives in Nangloi resettlement colony in West Delhi. She has five children- Naajia (16 years), Rajia (15 years), Mijun Rehman (10 years), Aajim (7 years) and Shamir (2years). Tauhida works as a domestic help in the neighbourhood colony and earns 1200/ rupees per month. Her husband is a mason and he earns about rupees 1500/- per month. His work is irregular and seasonal. He doesn't help in the household work. He has a drinking habit and is perpetually in debt. Nazia, the eldest daughter also accompanies her mother for work. Tauhida was married at the age of 15 years. Soon she became the mother of 5 children. A couple of infants died soon after birth. Their family migrated from a village in Manglore in search of work. They live in a rented jhuggi. Tauhida doesn't like the basti environment in she lives. There is only one small room, where all the family activities are performed.

There are few family possessions. They own a small black and white T.V set and one fan but both are out of order. She had to sell many of her household articles which she had brought in dowry during two child births. Meals usually consist of daal and roti and are cooked twice a day. Razia & Shamir stay behind t home when others leave for work.

Razia has liking for carrot halwa; Nazia likes milk burfi, Azams likes sweet potatoes and Mijun Rehman's favourite is Karrhi and rice. They don't get to eat their favourite food often enough.

This family has been constantly under the cloud of illness. Tauhida had a heart attack two years ago. She was prescribed a long term treatment for which she often has to take small loans. Azim & Shamir are susceptible to attacks of pneumonia. For their running nose and rheumy chest rubbing oil on their chest is the only remedy which they can afford.

Tauhida sometimes wonders, "If some thing happens to me, what will happen to the children?"

Tauhida had wished and hoped for a bright future for her children. She wished her sons to become doctors and girls to become teachers. But in the existential struggle she is struggling to manage for two meals a day for them. Under such circumstances she feels that providing them good schooling is impossible. However, she is sending Razia & Azim to a government school.

This year i.e. in 2002 Razia (15 years) would give her 10th class exams through National Open School with tutorial and financial support from a non government organisation. Razia looks weak and undernourished. Her study suffers because she is not able to concentrate because of the camped living conditions. She also shares household responsibilities with her mother. Azim (7 years) has dropped out of formal school and at present is attending a non formal education programme.

Since the time Azim was 5 years old he has been looking after his younger brother Shaamir who is 2 years old. Shaamir's daily diet consists of dal and roti and no milk. Mijun Rehman (10 years) is working as an apprentice at a car repair workshop where he's not paid because he is under training.

Nobody speaks aloud when both the parents are at home. Nobody plays or laughs aloud because father has a bad temper and he often abuses them and picks up fights. Children feel happy and safe when their mother is at home. They look after her when she falls ill.

'Prepared by Navshristi organisation.'

Case study (3) – Situation analysis of children in Kirby Place, Dhhhi Ghat Basti

In 2001 Mobile Crèches began its initial work of doing a situation analysis for a 1500 household strong basti in Kirby place in west Delhi. The basti is inhabited mainly by the families of the construction workers who don't have regular work and are very poor. A baseline survey to find out the about the basic services available in the basti was undertaken by Mobile Crèches. The picture that emerged from the survey results and its analysis was an eye opener. The Basti is surrounded by an excellent network of educational and transport facilities because this settlement is situated in the cantonment area. There are a number of Government and private schools – at Primary, Middle and Secondary level. In spite of their presence more than 55% children from the basti were not going to any school. Reasons for not going to the school are given below:-

Total no. of houses	Total no. of females and males	No. of working women	No. of children Age Group	No. of children accompanying	No. of children involved in sibling care	Working children
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								their mother to work				
	Females	Males		0-3	3-6	6-14	14-18		Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
1494	697	1994	254	408	294	560	159	83	14	27	53	16

Out of 55% non-enrolled children, 7% had left school to look after their younger siblings. 24% children were either never enrolled or they had dropped out before completing their primary schooling 12% were accompanying their mothers to the work place and remaining 12% children were working as labourers or as domestic helps.

There are no Crèche services in this Basti. Few NGOs are running NFE centres and balwadi programme for young children of pre school age group. Unless there is commitment from the government and the contractors to provide basic child care services as their entitlements position of these children is unlikely to improve

Poem

“When they work to earn their bread
No body looks after their children
There is no end to their work
But just wages are not due to them”

Conclusions and Recommendations from the Study

When this study was taken up with NEENV partner organizations we knew that sibling care is a case of violation of child rights. We also knew that this was a wide spread phenomenon in the poor households. Yet this issue hasn't been seriously discussed and highlighted at platforms for Children rights or Child labour.

This research study has confirmed that it's a multifaceted problem and its magnitude is significant enough to merit a serious effort for advocacy of provision of early childcare services for the children of the poor. A very strong case has also emerged to enforce the legal maternity entitlements for women working in the unorganized sector. It also made us come face to face with the emotional and humanistic aspects (or the lack of it), intrinsically woven around the issue of sibling care.

Entire process of the study made us realize that this is a real issue affecting the flesh and soul of children and their families.

Impoverished socio-economic conditions, unequal, exploitative and prejudicial social, cultural and religious norms and practices and totally inadequate commitment and indifferent government response to provide early childcare services lie at the root of the problem of sibling care.

In the current scenario of shrinking social commitment of the government to the poor situation of young children and poor working women seems quite dismal. Issues of early childcare haven't caught the attention of the planners, policy makers and child right activists. The study clearly establishes the need for all the individuals, groups and institutions working on child rights and women's issues to be

more pro active in demanding better services and entitlements for young children and working women in the unorganized sector.

Steps which Government institutions and agencies and civil society groups could take in this regard

- Ensure equal & quality education for all children
- Provide crèches and pre school services for all young children
- Create mechanisms for community partnership and ownership for providing early child care services
- Ensure good health and nutrition for all and
- Dignity of life for all and opportunities for growth
- Enforce Maternity entitlements such as paid maternity leave, breast feeding breaks and other maternity benefits

Does it read like a wish list?

Situational analysis from the Sibling care study clearly demands a response from all concerned with young children and women's status to work towards making the wish list a reality.

Strategies to demand/build/advocate for early childcare services and maternity entitlements need to be embedded in the larger complexity of economic and socio cultural factors impinging on the young child and women.

Few questions from the study which need to be answered:

- Is there a ray of hope for young girls to lead a life, which would be different from their mothers' - free from deprivation and living as an empowered person in control of their destinies !!!!!??
- Would small wishes of young children such as eating to their heart and stomach's content, pressure free and fun filled playing time (*read as* no baggage of adult responsibility), wear clean clothes, going to the school everyday, going out with friends, have fulfilling love and affection from both parents be granted?
- Would a child of a poor mother get her/his right to be breast fed, have undivided mother's love and attention and be cared and protected in the best of her/his interests?
- Why does a poor woman have no choice but to leave behind her breast-feeding child in the care of another child for existential survival? Whether she would be relieved from sitting on the horns of emotional dilemma to choose between love and care for the child and economic necessity?
- Why can't poor children aspire to study beyond primary or middle level? Why there is such a huge rate of prematurely drop out?
- Why is childcare considered an almost exclusive responsibility of the mother or the girl child? Where and what is the responsibility of the government towards young children?

THINK, BE ANSWERABLE AND DEMAND ANSWERS FROM OTHERS

BACK PAGE

Know about NEENV

Introduction

FORCES has been working as an advocacy network to build the demand for early child care services and entitlements of the women in the unorganised sector for the last 10 years. It has been networking with professional organizations, women's groups and trade unions, community based organizations to mobilize support for the issue. Developing a policy critique, pushing for integrating the issues concerning the young child across different programmes, partners and social campaigns has been its constant endeavour.

While building the space for policy level advocacy with the state institutions it was also considered important to build the ground level opinion for demanding early child care services and maternity entitlements. Therefore the need was felt to partner with and build capacities of community based NGOs on this issue. To serve this end Delhi chapter of FORCES came in existence in 1999. The chapter has its local name called NEENV, Delhi Basti Bal Vikas Samooh

WHAT IS NEENV GROUP?

Neenv is a representative forum consisting of Delhi based voluntary organizations working in the slums and resettlement colonies of Delhi. It also has few individual members who are working in the related areas of child rights and development.

Neenv is also working with other like-minded networks such as Delhi chapter of Jan Swasthya Abhiyan, Sanjha Manch and Delhi Bal Adhikar Manch

Objectives of NEENV

- To build a demand for childcare services through multiple channels and processes
- To advocate for maternity entitlements for women in the unorganised sector
- To mobilize and generate awareness on the issue at the field level

Names of the partner organizations of NEENV

RAIN BOW, HOPE PROJECT, MOBILE CRECHES, NAVSARISHTI, ANKUR, A.V.B.M.T.
NAVJOYTI DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY, CHETANA WELFARE SOCIETY, SURAKSHT, S.B.T.
SAYA, KISLAY, VIDHYA JYOTI, NIRMAN, AALAMB.

Report Release for ASF documentation

The **Forum for Crèches and Child care services (FORCES)** is participating in the Asian Social Forum at Hyderabad where more than fifteen thousand delegates from all over India and Asian countries are hectically participating / attending conferences, seminars and workshops from January 2 to 7, 2003.

FORCES held a workshop on **Globalisation and its impact on the young child – some concerns and criticality** on January 3, 2003 at the hall No- 11, Methodist High School, Hyderabad. The workshop attracted 46 participants from India and Australia and was conducted by Ms. Bullu Sarin (National Coordinator of FORCES), Ms. Amarjeet Kaur (General Secretary of AITUC and Executive member of FORCES) and Dr. K. Shanmugam Velayutham (Convenor of Tamil Nadu FORCES).

The panel highlighted on the **Early Childhood Care and Development** as a fundamental responsibility of the government of India and linked the wide gap and neglect of ECCD to the current policies, programmes and budget that are influenced by the globalisation. Globalisation in its worst form has impinged on common people and inequalities have engorged a vast section of people by marginalizing them from accessing basic benefits and facilities leave apart the financial allocation that have given rise to already rising poverty levels in the country. In the midst of this the ECCD of the young child in the age group of 0-6 is completely lost. The direct impact of globalisation on the young child as viewed by FORCES is:

- Non-coverage of mothers and children under a comprehensive maternal care and benefits.
- Lack and declining provisions of crèches, nutrition, immunization and healthcare.
- Insufficient and neglected pre-school education, excessive engagements of girl children in sibling care rendering them out of education cycle.

FORCES viewed ASF as a platform for participatory formulation of alternative and an opportunity to intensify its advocacy on concerns and issues of globalisation and its impact on ECCD together with other likeminded networks in the country and outside.

The workshop sought strategies to gain a clearer understanding of the impact of globalisation and its impact on ECCD.

It recommended:

1- to ensure universalisation of ECCD and to reach out and work with like-minded organs of other countries across Asia and elsewhere.

2- to disseminate the results of the study of globalisation and its impact on ECCD to all levels of child rights and welfare groups, among grassroots levels and all stakeholders.

3- to intensify advocacy and long range lobbying at different levels for universalisation of childcare services to be provided by the state and local bodies. FORCES demands that the management and monitoring of these services should be carried out through a setting of a tripartite board with parents, teachers and employers.

.....

**Ms. Bullu Sarin
National Co-ordinator
FORCES Secretariat**

National Commission for Children Bill, 2001

Draft bill on The National Commission for Children, 2001 contained in 41 clauses.

Recommendations :

- At least half the members in the commission should be women.
- A Supreme Court Judge or eminent person involved in issues related to children may be appointed as the chair person.
- In 6(1), Not to have an age limit.
- It was felt that 6(4) should be removed.
- 10(2), with different interpretations being offered based on both understanding of the process as well as semantics. Finally having gone through the process in reference to clauses 11, 31 and 40 it was agreed to retain the clause as it is.
- Clause 16 too necessitated an elaborate discussion and it was agreed to rephrase the clause to accommodate the following: "When the matter happens to be sub judice the commission should have the space to assist the court on request".
- Under clause 19: change from "Primary Evidence" to "Admissible Evidence" (in recommendation).
- Under clause 39: Change from "Central Government" to "National Commission" (In recommendation).
- India Report on Progress against CRC to UN by the Government should be subject to perusal by the commission. This should be made mandatory.
- There should be a time frame for filling vacancies

Source: TN-FORCES

SIBLING CARE: A STATUS REPORT FROM THE SLUMS OF DELHI

Prepared By Delhi Basti Bal Vikas Samooh (NEEV) Delhi FORCES

SIBLING CARE: A STATUS REPORT FROM THE SLUMS OF DELHI

Contents

- Background
- Information about the Basties
- Group discussions with women
- Group discussions with children
- Case Studies
- Conclusions and Recommendations from the Study

Acknowledgements

We received full co-operation from FORCES National secretariat to conduct the Sibling Care study and its publication. We acknowledge and appreciate the support extended by the secretariat for its financial backing and conceptual inputs to the study. The secretariat staff did a very good job of hand holding and capacity building of its partner organizations at all stages of the study. A special word of thanks goes to BVL, the donor organisation for agreeing to finance the study and its publication. Thanks from the core of our heart to all those Basti wallahs, families living there and children who shared their honest and soul stirring moments from their lives with us in the research team. We wish to acknowledge that many of the illustrations in this Booklet have been taken from VHAI's Indian publication "Helping Health Workers Learn" and from brochures and publications of different non-government organisations. Few photographs have been reproduced from the photo shoot done by Mr. Kavi Singh from different slum areas during the study.

Being the co-coordinating organization of NEEV, Mobile Crèches provided full cooperation in the publication of the study report. Last but not the least, our most sincere thanks and heartfelt regards go to all the member organizations of NEEV because without their full co-operation this study would not have been possible nor it would have come out so alive.

With the hope we'll continue to pitch in and advocate for the rights of the young child and her/his mother

Yours truly

Neev, Delhi FORCES

7th May 2002

Written, compiled and presented by

Publication of

P.G.A. The Media Planners

Vandana Mahajan

Neev, Delhi FORCES Composed and printed at

INTRODUCTION.

For quite some time many organisations and groups working in the Jhuggi Basties of Delhi have been raising issues relating to the health and education of the poor children. Their perseverance has paid in terms of progress made in greater enrolment rates of children at the primary level but there are still big gaps on issues of equity and quality. Lakhs of children (school going as well as young children in the age group of 0-6 years) residing in the Basties of Delhi still have problems accessing government services. These problems have been compounded by the recent spate of demolition and displacement drive to uproot millions of Delhi slum dwellers.

BOX

Demolition and Displacement in the Basties of Delhi	
Total Jhuggi Basties	1200
Total Jhuggies	6,00,000
Population living in these Jhuggi Basties	35,00,000
Children in the age group (0-6years)	5,25,000
Jhuggies demolished during the year 2000	15,000
Displaced people during 2000	75,000

(Guess how many children dropped out of the school ??)

Thoughtless demolition of the old & new Jhuggi Basties and resettling them in far flung areas without any planning has long term repercussions for children especially the young child in age group of 0-6 years. It had its impact by debilitating the already poor and inadequate government health and education services, by increasing unemployment rates among the menfolk, greater number of women workers doing unskilled and poorly paid labour work, decreasing social security cover for the poor families and deepening the divide between the rich and the urban poor.

Unmet needs of children in the 0-6 years age group brings into focus a crucial issue which has been neglected so far which is the burden of sibling care on the older children especially the girl child and its impact on the young child.

BOX

Critical situation of young children in the state of Delhi	
IMR (Mortality rate per thousand children under one year of age)	65.4
USMR (Mortality rate per thousand of children under 5 years)	83
Children on mother's feed (of less than 3 months of age)	20%
Malnourished children	42%
Sex ratio of 0-6 years	865 girls per thousand boys

How would it effect development of children?

BOX

Status of women in Delhi

94% of the workingwomen are employed in the unorganized sector

On an average the women are working outside the home for 7 hours and 14 hours in the home

Very often women have to come back to work within a month's time of childbirth

No maternity entitlements and funds provided by the employer

40% are suffering from anemia

Engaged in the daily struggle of working outside and bearing household and childcare responsibility these women are constantly looking for assistance and support in fulfilling their multiple roles. Poor working women can ill afford the luxury of complete breast-feeding of their young children and provide them a stimulating environment for growing up. Despite recognizing the problems faced by the poor working women the government and other civil society agencies provide very little support for early childcare services to the working mothers.

BOX

Child care services provided by Delhi Government

Total number of children in the age group of 0-6 years	19,23,995
Those enrolled in Anganwadis	94,000
Crèches (Child Care Centres)	239
Nurseries /K.G pre schools	833

As the figures above clearly indicate the paucity of early childcare services the burden of child care comes on the older children of the families. More often than not it's the elder daughter who shoulders the responsibility of sibling care. Our field experience tells that these girls themselves are of young age, which has an impaired impact on the development of both younger and older children. Malnutrition from a very early age and other socio-economic hindrances in their development push these children from the birth onwards in the vicious circle of deprivation and poverty. While performing the duties of an adult from a young age, the sibling carers loose out on her childhood and many a times miss out schooling and educational opportunities.

Probable number of sibling carers in Delhi

1) Total No. of children of school going age	22 lakhs.
2) No. of children out of school	6.7 lakhs.
3) No. of girls out of schools	More than 4 lakhs

“How can children get school education when they are pulled into doing the house-hold work including the task of looking after their younger brothers and sisters?”

To study such related issues and problems, Delhi chapter of FORCES called NEENV decided to undertake a participatory research study in 17 Basties of Delhi.

Main objectives of this study were "To highlight the denial of child rights of both the sibling carers and the young child and to present the picture of neglect by the government and civil society for non-existent support and services for early child care and development."

Four steps were followed during the course of the study-

- a) Gathering general information from the Basties covered in the study
- b) Mapping existing civic and child care services in each of the basties
- c) Conducting Group discussions with women and children
- d) Doing Case Studies of the sibling carers and their mothers

-5-

While doing this study emphasis was laid more on the qualitative aspects of the issue involved and less on the quantitative and enumerative aspects of the research study. However a set of quantitative indicators related to the issue have also been presented. More than merely being a survey the study was designed in a manner to encourage collective thinking and group work in a participatory manner. Views expressed in this study are subjective and try to remain true to what children and mothers expressed during the group discussions and individual interviews. Intensive and long term working experience of the voluntary organizations working in the basties under the study helped in consolidating and verifying the emerging trends and analysis of the under study factors and processes by their firm grip on the ground realities. Their experience not only helped in validating the picture of deficient and inadequate early child care services and ill effects of sibling care on both the older and younger children.

It's now over a year that the participatory study was undertaken. Now we are placing the final report before you. This booklet is the culmination of the process by putting together the analysis and conclusion arrived out of multiple discussions, mapping of childcare services and individual case studies. Publication of the report was accompanied by putting together of a Photo Exhibition which presents a visual picture of the sibling carers most poignantly.

By sharing with you the report and the photo exhibition we hope to have a wider audience and a stronger public opinion and advocacy to demand for improvement in the provision of the early child care services in the poor and deprived in Delhi and elsewhere.

We shall consider this to be a successful endeavor if it facilitates reflection and questioning among its readers.

Poem

.....
Information about the 17 Basties

In the first phase of the study information from 17 Basties & resettlement colonies was collected where non-government organisations represented in NEENV were working. Information on various aspects such as population- its male, female and children percentage (in different age groups), work profile of the population, socio-economic status, civic amenities, educational and health facilities services, enrollment and drop out percentages of girls and boys, status of early child care services and other

related aspects was collected. Based on the information, maps were drawn of existing facilities in each of the basties.

Various Aspects Of A Basti.....(SHOWN IN A SKETCH)

Table

Information on 17 basties and their location in Delhi

S.NO	Name of the Basti	Zone of Delhi	Name of the Non-Governmental Organisation
1			
2			
3			
upto			
17			

PICTURISATION OF THE 17 BASTIES IN THE MAP OF DELHI

An example of a basti map

Key Points from the Maps of Basties

Following points were covered: Facilities available for children for e.g. primary schools, Balwadis, Angan wadis (ICDS), Crèches etc; Health and drinking water facilities; physical and social stratification of the basti(gullies, roads, planned & unplanned etc); profile of the working women; school enrolment and drop out etc.

Picture emerging from the basti maps

- It is clear from these maps that Government facilities especially for children and women are grossly inadequate and in most areas these run very unsatisfactorily.
- In most basties basic facilities (e.g. Dispensaries, Schools, Anganwadis etc) were seen only in the pucca settlements of the basti where a room or two was available for housing the service. Out of the 15 maps only in Nazimuldin (E) basti, 7 Anganwadis were found working whereas in re-settlement colonies like Nagloi A Block, Sunder Nagri (Extn.), Mangol Puri (F/G Blocks) and Neb Sarai had these services weren't available in the kuccha settlements such as jhuggis and temporary structures. There is no legal provision to provide basic civic amenities and childcare services for these settlements howsoever large these settlements may be.
- It was also clear from the maps that within the resettlement colonies that the economic, social and educational status of people living in the clusters of kuccha jhuggi settlements was much lower in comparison to those living in pucca houses in the basti.
- Facility of Government run crèches was not available even in one basti. In three basties the non-government organisations were providing the of crèche services for the working mothers.

- Even the primary schools were located at a distance of one & a half to two kilometers from the kuccha jhuggi cluster. Number of primary schools was inadequate to cater to the number of school going children in these Jhuggi basties.
- It was noted that many children from the poor families had dropped out from the school at primary and middle school level. These children were either working for lowly or ill paid jobs in the casual labour sector or took care of their younger siblings at home and helped in domestic chores. Some of these children were going to the non-formal education centres run by non-government organisations.
- In all the basti maps the profile of working women was either scattered or concentrated in some clusters of the basti. It was noticeable that the concentration of working women was largely seen in the poorer parts of the basti settlements.
- Women were working in the unorganized labour sector and/or in cottage and home based industry where children were also involved in some parts of production.
- In all these maps there was a clear lack of government health services. Quack doctors or “Bengali Doctor” who didn’t have required qualifications mainly covered the service gap.

Physical and Educational Status of the Basties

S.No	Name of the Basti	Population	No. of children 0-6 6-14 (years)	Literacy Rate(%)			
				Male	Female	Boy	Girl
1							
2							
3							
upto 17							

*These figures were not available age-wise but were distributed gender wise. ** Age graded break up wasn’t available – Here the figures weren’t available

What do these figures tell?

- Jhuggi settlements could be seen in all parts/zones of Delhi.
- there is very dense population in ratio to the area occupied by these families. The construction of all the J.J. clusters is of temporary (Kucha) Jhuggies, but the floor is pucca one but the roof is kuccha one. There is only one roomed accommodation which is all purpose room for sleeping, eating cooking ,bathing etc. There are no lanes,roads, seaver etc.
- In comparison to educational statistics of Delhi the position of these Basties is very weak & in so far as adult literacy ratio & position of registration of children of school going age is concerned.Litracy rate of parents was seen between 25 to 35 %. In the age group of 6 to 11 years of both girls & boys the

educational position was found to be quite opposite to Govt. figures. On an average only 60 to 70 % of the boys & 40 to 50 % of the girls are continuing primary education.

It is essential to clarify here that for this study the sample was essentially drawn from poorer parts of the basti settlements for gathering information and group discussions. The figures and estimates given here weren't exclusively collected for the study, these were mainly provided by the non-government organizations from multiple sources during the course of their work in the basti.

Nature of work and income levels in the basties

S.No	Name of the basti	% of houses dependent on the earning of the woman	Income (Rupees)		
			Male	Female	Children
1					
2					
3					
upto					
17					
S.No	Name of the basti	Nature of work			
		Male	Female	Children	
1					
2					
3					
upto					
17					

Key: (A) Unorganised Sector 1. Tea Shop 2.Dhaba 3. Self-employed 4. Construction worker 5. Household help/worker 6. Rag picking 7.Factory worker 8.Technical work 9.Work relating to Sibling care 10. Cottage Industry work 11.Begging

- Population of these Basties is almost entirely engaged in unorganized work sector.
- Residents of these Basties provide services to the neighborhood middle class colonies at low wages. They are engaged in works like cleaning, washing and other house hold chores, as servants in the shops, tea shops and dhabas, as cart pullers, sweepers and in small scale industries etc.
- 25 to 35% (approximately) houses were mainly dependent on the income of the female members wherein were men either away from home and weren't sending money or they didn't have regular work.
- Income levels in most of the households under study didn't exceed Rupees 3,000-3500/P.M (combined income of male and female members of the family) forcing them to live an impoverished existence.
- Difference in the daily wages of men & women was also a commonly observed pattern. Difference was sharper in the construction work sector.

- About 35 to 40% children were found to be working to contribute to the family income. 10 to 15% children were involved in the home-based work along with their mothers. In most cases parents for supplementing the family income took their earnings.
- In the unorganized sector difference could be seen in the type of work done by men, women & children. For instance, rag picking and cleaning in other people's houses was mostly the work of children and women. Whereas sorting out the rag pickings and its sale was mainly handled by men. In our study we didn't come across a single instance of woman working in the skilled work category. They were essentially working in the unskilled and semi skilled trades such as Agarbatties rolling, bindi pasting, making bindi and chappal moulds etc.

Status of women's and children's health

- Barring 2-3 resettlement colonies where Government run Primary Health Centres were running there was no provision of health service under the government aegis in other Basties.
- Diseases associated with unclean living environment, unsafe drinking water and dense population per square meter of land were commonly reported from all the basties.
- Borrowing money for treatment of illness in the family was the commonly recounted story in most of the families.
- Due to lack of access to qualified doctors in these Basties they have little option but to avail the services of quacks that are easily accessible.

Maternity Entitlements and Services

- More than 85% of women had home based childbirth with the help of traditional dais.
- Most working women had recounted that they went back to work after 7 to 25 days of child birth.
- None of the women working in the unorganized sector reported of having any maternity leave and any other maternity entitlements. Whatever provisions exist under the Construction Workers Act s is only on paper. Maternity leave, maternity allowance and breast-feeding breaks, all these are tall talks for them. Whatever respite and monetary benefits these women get were entirely up to the good will of the employer and their predisposition to be charitable. Mostly domestic helpers were shown such benevolence by the home mistress.

Delhi – Full of Inconsistencies

Delhi has the highest per capita income of Rupees 17068 in the country

Even then

More than 40% of the population of Delhi lives below the poverty line.

Drinking water is available for 96% of Delhi's population

But

In kucchi Basties and Jhuggi settlements there is one water source per 200 households.

About 50% of Delhi's population doesn't have access to toilets in their houses. This causes very much inconvenience to women and children.

Caption under the cartoon strip-

"I am not hiding here. This is my house." Quoted from The Times Of India

More than 50% of urban population of Delhi lives on footpaths, Kuccha Basties & Jhuggi colonies.

Group Discussions with Women

In the 2nd phase of the Study group discussions were carried out to consolidate & deepen the information collected from 17 Basties in the first phase. Group discussions aimed to bring forth various aspects from the life experiences of working women and older children who were involved in sibling care.

An important aspect of the study was to recount and reflect on one's experiences from childhood through adolescence, youth and adulthood. It could be the bitter sweet memories of childhood, pangs of desires and frustration of unmet wishes, experiences of marriage, pain and joy of child birth, umpteen house hold responsibilities and kind of familial and social support systems available or the lack of it. These points were discussed while sitting in small groups with women and older children. This exercise was crucial to get the understanding of the issue of early childcare from their perspective. What were their worries, aspirations and demands for their young and older children? How and What were children expressing about their role as sibling carers? Understanding their world view was a central issue in the study.

15 group discussions were held in which 324 women took part

Table

Status of some of the indicators emerging from group discussions with women

S.No	Name of the organization	No. of women in each group discussion	Responsibility of child care in the childhood		Child Labour	
			Age wise	Number (%)	Age(when began)	% of children
1	Nirmaana	15	7	all	6-8	50
2	Nirmaana	8	6-7	all	8-10	60
3	A.V.B.M.T	18	5-7	all	8-10	60
4	A.V.B.M.T	22	5-7	all	8-10	50-60
5	Vidyajyoti	18	5-6	all	7-9	40
6	N.D.S	15	10	all	9-10	75
7	N.D.S	17	10	all	8-10	60
8	Navsrishti	50	7-8	all	10-12	60
9	Navsrishti	22	8-9	all	10-12	60-70
10	Navsrishti	30	7-8	all	10-12	50
11	Kisley	12	5-7	all	10-12	80
12	Aalamb	25	5-7	all	-	-
13	Rainbow	25	5-7	all	8-10	75
14	Mobile crèches	15	5-8	all	11-13	75
15	Hope project	32	7-8	all	11-13	5-10
		324				

Key points from group discussions

- Average age of women who took part in group discussions was between the ages of 25 to 35 years. However in some groups few women of 40 to 45 years also participated. But this was not a common pattern.
- The educational level of most of the women was up to 5th class or even less. There was couple of instances where women reported to have educational qualifications up to an 8th or 12th standard.

- In all the group discussions it became clear that the age at marriage of women fell between 13 to 18 years. In some cases where age at the time of marriage was between 13 - 14 years their 'Gauna' (i.e. the social custom allowing sexual cohabitation as husband and wife) was performed after the girl had attained puberty and was physiologically and socially more mature. Age of women at first childbirth was between 15 to 17 years.
- In these group discussions women told that on an average they were pregnant for 5 to 8 times. There were 3 to 7 child birth/woman. Almost all reported poor health after successive childbirths.
- Miscarriages were reported however actual estimates couldn't be ascertained from the group discussions. Very few women talked of their decision for undertaking medical termination of pregnancy. For understandable socio cultural inhibitions discussion on sex selective abortion was not forthcoming.

Childhood memories of Women

What stood out were their experiences of- Poverty and financial difficulties; Under fed; Dropping out from school; Low status of the girl child in the family; doing household chores from early age; looking after their siblings; working in others' and own field; marriage at an early age; having no information to their body & sexuality But also playing with the dolls and chatting with friends to, in their tender

Dialogue 1 "MORE OF DOMESTIC CHORES - LESS OF PLAY"

Dialogue 2 "USED TO GO TO SCHOOL IN THE MORNING AND HELP IN THE DOMESTIC CHORES AFTER SCHOOL"

Dialogue 3 "PLAYED FREELY UP TO THE AGE OF 4-5 YEARS BUT BY 9-10 YEARS I HAD A WHOLE LOT OF HOUSEHOLD RESPONSIBILITIES ON MY SHOULDERS"

Dialogue 4 "MARRIAGE CHANGED THE WAY OF LIFE. Whatever fun and freedom we had enjoyed during early childhood was over as soon as I stepped into my husband's house. Fun was replaced with burden of work and more work."

Key points from the group discussions on Maternity and Child care services

- Becoming mothers at an early age and child births with very little spacing was the most common experience of most women in the group discussion across basties.
- More than 90% women had home based child births. Accessing government health services was only used as an option in difficult pregnancies or in an emergency at or before child birth when the mid wife refused to handle the case or suggested the woman to be taken to a nursing home or a government hospital. Mid-wives from the Basti helped in home based child births who were experienced but non-licensed and with no formal training.
- Post natal support to mothers was exclusively provided from the immediate family. It came mainly from the mother, sister in law or mother in law and it came by way of help in taking care of the new born and doing the household chores of cooking, cleaning etc. Other kind of support mainly consisted of providing supplementary diet replenishment in the form of ghee, fruits, ladoos, cash and clothes etc. for the mother and new born. Most women recounted that they received support from their parents and

in laws during the first 2-3 of child births and in the later births they had to manage on their own. In the later child births help from the eldest daughter was taken to provide support to the mother in taking care of the new born and doing the household work.

- In all the households where women's earning was crucial to run the family affairs the women returned to work after child birth as early as 5-7 days or took leave for 20-25 days at the most.
- Talk of paid Maternity leave, breast feeding breaks or any other kind of maternity entitlements from the employer sounded like fantasies to women. All of them were more concerned and anxious of losing their work and living with this uncertainty they were too insecure to even think let alone demand the maternity benefits as their right from the employers.
- Usually an expenditure of Rupees 300 to 500 was reported to be incurred in a home based child birth. In the case of difficult child births expenditure on consultation fee, medicines, and nursing home expenses was reported to be etc. between Rs.1000/- to Rs. 5000/-
- Because of their working status most of the women reported during group discussions that they couldn't keep their infant children on exclusive breast feeding for more than a month or two. Leaving behind their infants in the care of its older siblings and early bottle feeding was a commonly observed pattern.
- Negligible facilities for Early Child Care in all the basties was the focal point of all group discussions. Services of Crèches, Balwadis, Primary Health Care Centre if available were provided by non governmental and other voluntary organisations or were run by some individuals as a private service venture.

During all the group discussions women expressed a strong need for the early child care services to be provided by the government agencies to ease their burden of child care while working in the unorganized sector.

They spelt out in the following order of priorities the list of services which they considered essential for their children's welfare: More primary schools (in easily reachable distance), Balwadis (pre-school centres), Supplementary nutrition for young children, Health care facilities, Free medicines, Recreational space for children in the basti and Crèches. Need to improve the accessibility, efficiency and quality of services of ICDS, government schools and primary health centres was very strongly articulated by women.

Lives of overburdened working women- Their aspirations and anxieties for their homes, children and themselves

- About 50% women who took part in the group discussions said that they had started wage work from the age of 10 years and had to drop out from the school as a result. They continued to work till they were married.
- More than 95% women reported to be working in the unorganized sector on very low wages. Most of these women were employed in small scale industry, home based work, selling vegetables, working as domestic help or in rag picking work.

- Most of these women discontinued working after marriage because of holding household and child bearing and rearing responsibilities. It was after the birth of 2-3 children that the economic necessity brought them back into the wage work sector. They worked mainly as domestic helpers and as construction workers
- It was abundantly clear that complete responsibility of running the house and taking care of children was on women's shoulders. It was shared and partly transferred on to the elder daughter once she grew to be 6-7 years of age. Despite being out of work and sitting idle at home men didn't share household and child care responsibilities. This was true of most households barring one or two exceptions.
- In bearing the triple burden of house-hold work, child care and wage work women reported that they were to a large extent dependent on the help provided by their daughters. In some instances help came from women living in the neighbourhood but that was mainly a temporary relief and offered in emergency situations such as sickness or family conflict and/or destitution.
- All the women recounted that sharing the household work and child care responsibilities from an early age was clearly imprinted in their own childhood memories. It was worth noting that only 25 to 30% of these women were literate. Most of them had to leave school even before completing primary school education.

Above mentioned key points from the group discussions with women clearly point out to the unequal and unfavourable attitude shown by society towards women and girls which more often than not has led to the denial of their fundamental human rights to non discrimination, equality, freedom of choice, right to education and good health and well being and economic opportunities. Denial of their rights began in their own childhood and continued in their adult lives and subsequently pushed their children especially the daughters in a similar vicious cycle of denial and deprivation.

Attitude of women towards their children - A mixed bag of prejudices, ambitions and aspirations

- For all their children (both boys and girls, young and old) women articulated what they desired for them and what they like and don't like in their children. At the same time they also disclosed unwittingly differential attitude, different set of desires & dual set of expectations towards their sons and daughters. For instance about 80% women desired that their daughters should receive education up to 8th class but for their sons all of them felt that they should study up to 10th class or 12th class.
- They wanted their sons to learn vocational and/or technical skills in addition to the school education so that they could become economically self-sufficient. For their daughters they felt that education should be so designed so as to help them in their married and family lives. However few women wanted their daughters to be self-sufficient and self-reliant.
- Women clearly differentiated the needs for early child care from that of the older children. They stated that young children mainly needed love and affection of their parents, food, play and good health care and.....

- Older children required education, earning opportunities, good clothes, healthy entertainment, friends and windows for information.
- Women were conscious about the fact that pushing older children in household and sibling care responsibilities was not a healthy option for both the older children and the young child. They felt that although the older children looked after the younger siblings to the best of their ability but being children themselves they were not mature enough to handle the responsibility of child care. It also had an adverse effect on their education. They felt that younger children were sick more often. Their food and nutritional needs couldn't be looked after with same care and regularity as an adult carer would be able to do.
- There was a common endorsement among women on marrying the daughters earlier than the sons. Despite agreeing to the fact that early marriage was not good for their daughters they expressed their helplessness in not being able to prevent. Ideally they felt that girls should be married at the age of 17-18 years or more and sons should be married only when they are able to bear the economic burden of the family.

Group discussions with children

14 group discussions with 249 children most of whom were involved in sibling care contributed most crucially to understand the dynamics of the issue of sibling care. Group discussions vividly brought out the point of views of children on the issue and its relevant aspects. These discussions were mirrors reflecting their pain, frustrations, helplessness, innocence and their dreams. Children's voices represented a chimera of contradicting images and perceptions- some painful, others realistic, some joyous and full of hope and fantasy and at other times a life situation pushing them to fit into adult shoes too soon-

Key points from Children's group discussions

- Most children stated that they were shouldering the household responsibility to a large extent including the task of looking after the younger siblings when their mother goes out for work. Besides going to school (for those who were attending schools) and their play time, children listed chores like cleaning, cooking, marketing, giving bath, feeding them, and keeping a watchful eye over their younger siblings and in some families going out for wage work as part of their daily activities. which is otherwise the responsibility of elders.
- About 50% of the children spoken to could not finish primary schooling and most of them were girls. In 90% of the families girls were looking after their younger siblings either along with their studies or after dropping out from the school. However boys were also not completely free from sharing the burden of household and child care responsibilities.
- Main reason cited by children for dropping out from the school was poor economic conditions of their parents. Looking after their younger siblings was another important reason for leaving school. Individual family case studies also brought out this as an important reason for girls to drop out from the school especially when the mother had to seek wage work outside the home to bolster the economic conditions of the family.

- All through the group discussions children seemed conscious of their multifold responsibilities, restricted opportunities and yawning gap between their lives and the lives of rich children. A very strong desire for a better and bright future for their younger siblings reverberated through children's discussions.
- Most children said, "We would like our mothers to be able to look after our siblings with all the care and attention and we would like to only play and study. We wish that our siblings get the complete love and attention of our parents."
- Children articulated the need for support and services to lessen their burden of child care responsibilities. Many children talked about the need for crèches and balwadis. Being able to think and articulate the need for the provision of early child care services from government and voluntary agencies could be due to the presence of non government organizations in their basties and running these services.

While talking about the circumstances leading to denial of their fundamental rights children seemed to be extremely aware and connected to the realities in which their families were struggling to eke out an existence. They didn't seem to complain too much about the adult chores they had to perform as part of their every day routine. They were aware that the household and sibling care responsibilities on them were largely due to economic impoverishment of their parents. Wherever government and non government organizations were providing child care and pre school services older children were trying to utilize these services and trying to fulfill some of their childhood aspirations.

Reasons given by children for dropping out from the school

- # Poverty
- # Wage work
- # House hold responsibility
- # Sibling care
- # Illiteracy of parents
- # Preference to religious education over formal school education
- # Lack of enabling environment in their Basti

Daily routine of children consisted of:

- # Cleaning, washing, fetching water, cooking etc.
- # Attend school in the morning and do the household chores in the after-noon.
- # Attend non-formal education programmes
- # Taking care of younger siblings
- # Rag picking
- # Playing and T.V watching
- # Wandering in search of work

Differences of life styles pointed out by children between the rich and poor children

Children living in big houses

- # have access to costly and big toys, fancy cycles etc. They have easy and ready access to open spaces for playing.
- # have fixed hours and adequate time for eating, sleeping, studying and playing
- # are free from household worries and responsibilities
- # have all their desires fulfilled
- # can access facilities for creative activities such as drama, dance and painting etc.
- # can study up to whatever level they desire
- # go to good schools for education
- # move about in cars
- # can think and plan about their future
- # get full attention, affection and care of their parents

Children living in Jhuggi basties

- # don't have suitable environment and facilities to pursue their studies
 - # have to take care of their siblings and do house hold work
 - # fall sick ore often
 - # don't get clean air and water
 - # do wage work
 - # combine schooling with wage work and/or household responsibilities
- Dialogue box: "We can only dream of the kind of life rich children live."

Games which children liked playing

- # Gulli-Danda, carom board, hot chase,
- # Glass pebbles, skipping rope, bat-ball, playing cards,
- # Hide and seek, make believe and simulation games (teacher-teacher, doll's wedding etc.)
- # Kho-Kho, maran-pitti, hop scotch, chasing the ball, top spinning,
- # Swimming in river Jamuna,
- # Playing with the friends in the play ground

Favourite activities of children

- # Playing, eating good food, watching television, tree climbing,
- # Eat out in a restaurant,
- # Loitering and visiting places,
- # Dancing,
- # Leg pulling of friends while sitting in groups,

Learning new skills and going to work,

Reading stories

Sentiments of older children on the responsibility of sibling care

Dialogue 1: "I love my siblings but there are many things I can't do because of my responsibility. I can't go anywhere. I beat her many times when she cries incessantly."

Dialogue 2: "When I am angry then I don't like to take care of them."

Aspirations of older children for their younger siblings

Good food and good home environment

There should be crèches in the basti where infants should get food and care

"Our siblings should get opportunities for good education."

"There should not be unhappiness in their lives"

"They should have a life of satisfaction and fulfillment"

"We will make them a successful person."

"We wish our brothers and sisters to get good employment opportunities"

"We want our parents to look after them and give them all the time and love they need."

"There should be a support system such that we aren't deprived of our schooling and we aren't forced to suppress our wishes which are very close to our heart."

Sibling care- Some Case Studies

Last leg of the research was designed to get a detailed and nuanced understanding of various factors which impact the issue of sibling care by looking at the life situations of the members of some chosen families. In each of the families sibling care was an issue which impacted the lives of all the family members in many different ways. A detailed study was undertaken to know and understand what their daily routines were especially of women and children, their memories and experiences of childhood, their education, their work, their roles and responsibilities, their desires and expectations. It was hoped that the story from each family case study would give a qualitative, sociological as well as human picture surrounding the issue of sibling care.

The process of case study was helped to bring in the personal and emotional perspective to the bigger picture of larger socio-cultural and economic factors influencing the issue. This point of view tends to get lost or minimized in the effort to get the big picture which may present a body of research embellished with quantitative assessment but the representative voice and gritty spirit of those under study goes unheard and unseen.

Effort was made to remain true to what and how children and their mothers had expressed themselves. Following section presents key words, happenings and experiences of the family members to bring to the fore their feelings of helplessness, hope, expectations, innocence and cynicism and other social-economic factors which they perceive to be influencing their choices or the lack of it.

Nine NEEV partners undertook 14 case studies in their field areas. In addition 2 case studies were undertaken to highlight the benefit from providing early child care services such as crèche and pre school centres in the basti neighbourhood.

In all the case studies those families were selected where both mother and father were working and were living in impoverished conditions and finally all these families had one or more children involved in sibling care.

Key points from the case studies

Household aspects

- Almost all families had migrated to Delhi from their villages in different parts of northern India in search of livelihood. With the exception of two families who owned a small piece of land in a settlement colony, rest were living either as tenants or as squatters with permission from the labour contractor in kuchhi jhuggi basties settlements.
- Socio-Economic status of all the families was very weak. None of the families crossed the income threshold of Rs. 3000/-per month which was the combined income of the husband and wife. On an average a family's income was between Rs. 2000-2500/month. In the social structure these families were either from Dalit or OBC category.
- One third of the sample families of the case studies were Muslims, indicating that there is a very significant proportion of Muslim migrants who are also living an impoverished existence.
- Living space per person was very cramped. Usually each family had between 6-9 members living in a small one room jhuggi.
- None of the families had adequate physical amenities. Household utility items such as cots, utensils, clothes or in some case even food were in short supply.
- A new pair of clothes came mostly on festivals on occasions like Diwali and Eid. Sometimes even that was not possible.

A pucca and spacious house was one of the most cherished wish of most children.

Aspects related to marriage and children

- Age at marriage of women was between 13 to 18 years. Child birth followed immediately after marriage. A common comment from all women was that the control and decisions over reproductive matters were completely governed either by their husbands or complied under the prescribed religious and cultural mores or by their mother in laws. These decisions were related to use or not to use contraceptives or sterilization.
- All the women stated that their deliveries were home based and assisted by the traditional mid-wife of the Basti.
- Cases of miscarriages and infant mortality were reported from 3-4 families. There was a general reluctance to talk about such matters. However in one family a case of female feticide was also found

but not told directly to the researcher. The researcher had information about this case from her earlier field work in the community where she was working as a community mobiliser.

- There was no mention of maternity entitlements from any one of the women who were working in the unorganized sector. All of them returned to work between 8 to 25 days of child birth.
- Most infants weren't breast fed for 6 months. After the birth of first 2 children they discontinued working for a longer spell than a month but subsequently they returned to work leaving behind their one month old infants.
- **All the case studies were strong portrayals of the denial of children's right to safety, protection and health. Women had been equally denied their rights to equality, non discrimination and maternity entitlements. Leaving behind an infant without adult care and protection and compulsion of giving her/him a bottle feed are clear cases of violation of child rights.**

For all these women, "rest for our weary bodies and a rich, nutritious diet for ourselves is wishful thinking."

Aspects related to health and nutrition

- Tale of all women's health was almost the same in all the families. Successive child bearing years had left them anaemic and weak. Situation of increasing weakness, falling nutritional and health status was compounded by increasing work load of the women. Health problems of low blood pressure, T.B. anaemia, fatigue and regular sickness were common of the women. Children were also in the grip of seasonal & generic diseases. In at least 5-6 families there were instances of men folk suffering from long term illnesses such as T.B, Asthma and heart ailments. In their field notes the researchers had reported that most family members looked undernourished and weak.
- In a large family which was the case for most under study families children in the lower end of the birth order and girls seemed to suffer from inadequate and non-enriching diet. Women didn't report to eat a more nutritious diet during pregnancy and lactation. Gender based discrimination on diet distribution was another painful fact found from the case study notes. Half litre milk was generally purchased for preparing morning tea and for bottle feed of young children and tinned milk for the infant was also a common dietary fact reported in the stories of the families.
- Another familiar aspect of gender based disparity in food distribution was confirmed by the case studies which was- Women and their daughters ate after serving the men of the family. Interestingly when the women went out to work men children and elders would do self service.
- In most of the families eating meant two simple meals a day consisting of a dal and/or seasonal vegetables with a staple of potatoes added to the menu. Many families said that consuming rotis with green chilly paste when there was no dal or vegetable preparation was also part of their dietary pattern. Seasonal fruits were consumed once or twice a week and meat- fish curry was prepared once or twice a month.

- Although they may be eating rotis with green chilli paste but consuming alcohol by the men folk was a rampant story of many households. This fact was disliked by all children especially girls. For one child eating a cauliflower vegetable dish was part of her wish list.
- Another repeated story of many households was taking loan for medical treatment. In one family a loan of rupees 15000/- had to be taken when four children and the father fell sick at the same time.

Educational and work status of the families

- There was a big difference in the educational status of and expectations from the boys and girls. In some cases economic obstacles came in the way, in others it was lack of interest of the parents for children's education which particularly affected the girls because they were the first ones to be pulled out of school for during difficult times of the family. Despite impoverished conditions and lack of interest shown by one or both the parents boys were sent to schools.
- In all the family case studies men had educational qualifications of 5-8 standards. Some Women were illiterate and others had education up to 3-5 standards. In the present generation only 40-50 % girls and 65 % boys were going to primary or middle school. In some basties where non-formal educational centres were being run by non government organizations drop out and pre school age children were going there. 2 girls had passed their 5th standard from one of the NFE centres. In another family one girl was preparing for 10th standard with support from the non government organization by enrolling through the national open school.
- Mothers were seen to be more eager to send their daughters to school. Fathers either resisted in sending them to school when they considered it unimportant or weren't concerned and involved busy as they were in their own world of work and alcoholism. Tales of unemployment, drinking, and domestic violence by men folk in these families was repeated time and again.
- In 7 families girls had to drop out of the school when women in the families had to go out on work. Primary reason for such an action was the responsibility of child care which these girls had to take up in the absence of their mother. In 3 families girls were also looking after their siblings while continuing their schooling. In such instances frequent absence from the school was a common practice. In 4 families children who were involved in sibling care were going to the NFE centre of the Non government organization and they brought their younger siblings along with them.
- 95% families were working in unorganised sector. All women were in un-skilled/semi-skilled work. With the exception of a couple of men, rest of the men folk were also working in un-skilled/semi-skilled jobs.
- Their work is neither permanent nor regular this is especially true of men's work in sectors such as construction work, paint work, factory job, rickshaw pulling or cottage industry. Women usually worked as construction workers or as domestic helpers, some of them sold vegetables, or ran a tea shop from home. Women worked on lower income and were more regular in their work.
- Under the circumstances in which women were working it didn't seem odd to hear them saying, "if the husband's income was sufficient to run the house they wouldn't have worked." "Who wants to do such

work when there is neither respect nor proper remuneration for our work?" If they had a choice and the economic condition of their family was satisfactory then most women said that they would not like to go out for work. In their view responsibility to run the house lies on men. But "when he (man) can't or won't work then we have to do it for the sake of our children".....This was the heart felt opinion of most women from family case studies.

-Women could see the linked impact of work, education, economic and social status on their and children's lives. Women expressed the desire that, "our children should be educated enough so as not to live an impoverished existence as being lived by us and we want our children to have better lives than what we have for ourselves."

What did children say?

- None of the children had aversion to what most children liked doing i.e. to play, to be with friends, to go out, eat good food and going to school. But most of these children could not do these things to their heart's content. Bearing the burden of household and child care responsibilities which aren't normally associated with childhood came in the way of their enjoyment. Only very young children, working children and school going boys had escaped from the drudgery of house work.
- Getting a beating from their father, their drinking habit, regular brawls and wife beating were the commonly disliked behaviour by children of their fathers. They were afraid of getting punished by their father. They didn't seem to mind their mother's spanking them as much because they knew that she also loved them as much. For seeking favors mother was the favourite choice of all children. She would also plead in their favour whether it was for sending their daughter to the non-formal education centre or allowing her to go out and play with friends.
- There was very little time in the daily routine of older girls in the family which she could devote for herself. All responsibilities related to child care and household work (cleaning, washing, cooking, feeding and serving, laying beds etc) were laid on her shoulders in the mother's absence. Even if she were playing she would carry the young one in her lap. Under such conditions regular school going for 6 hours every day didn't seem possible. But the other side of the same family story showed that sons from this family were being sent to school and extra coaching was also arranged for them. It was the girls who were paying the penalty due to the difficult situation of their families. The threshold for boy's schooling was also not aimed to be higher than 8th or 10th standard. Both the mother and sons felt that learning some trade and vocational skills would be more useful.
- Unmindful of the flies, dirt and squalor around them young children were mostly found playing, eating or sleeping. Images of semi clad children running around, playing with broken toys or household articles, their feeder bottles lying on the ground or holding a piece of chappati in their hand were constant like a photocopy in all the families. These children looked younger than their actual age. Many a times estimation given by the researcher of children's age proved incorrect when cross checked with the family member.

- Some children considered the task of looking after their younger siblings a responsibility from which they couldn't escape but for many children, this responsibility was accepted as if it was a natural extension of their childhood roles without questioning. All of them freely expressed their emotions of getting angry, abusing and beating them, especially getting irritated with their young siblings during their playtime. Alongside they were liberal in showing love and affection to their younger siblings, which was amplified in their wishing for "all the comforts of the world and the best of life". All of them echoed the desire that "our brothers and sisters should study and progress in life."
- Do the older children have dreams for themselves – Answer was yes and no. Teasingly and with some hesitation they came out with their desires –studying to their heart's content, visiting places, aspiring to join police /teacher. These free flowing wishes for themselves were tempered with expressions of helplessness and fear of unfulfilled dreams

Harshness of their life situations seemed to have shaken the self-image and confidence of these children. They were conscious of the fact that they were poor and it affected their lives. But thank heavens that their childhood kept surfacing when they played with their marbles or when they(boys) took a dip in Jamuna or when they were happily lost chatting and playing with their dear friends.

Case Study (1) – The Story of Gita and her daughters

Gita age 40 years lives in Kakrolla basti of west Delhi. There are 9 members in her family- 3 daughters, 4 sons, Gita and her husband. Her husband runs a tea shop while Gita and her elder daughter work as domestic help in the neighbourhood middle class colony. Husband's earnings from the tea shop are low.

Gita was married when she was 13 years old. First child was born to her at the age of 18 years. Economic status of the family worsened progressively with each new addition in the family. Earlier every one in the family could get fruits and vegetables, now milk and fruit comes only for the youngest child who is 8 months old. Earlier they were eating three meals a day which now has been reduced to two times a day – diet in the morning consists of dal and rice and in the evening it is roti eaten with a vegetable. Food is served first to Gita's husband and then the rest follow. Mother or the eldest daughter whoso ever serves the food is the last one to eat.

Gita's husband was the only son of his parents. Therefore she was not allowed by her mother in law to use contraceptives because she expected more than one grandson from her son and daughter in law. When asked whether she had taken a sex detection test Gita replied in the negative.

She and her husband migrated from their village to Delhi when it became difficult to sustain their livelihood from agriculture. After living in a rented jhuggi for sometime, they purchased their own jhuggi. Their jhuggi is a one room structure with a kuccha rooftop. This room is used for sleeping, eating, cooking and playing for the younger children. Very few household articles were there in the

house such as one wooden bed, few steel utensils and worn clothes. Pair of new clothes on Diwali or some other festive occasion was stitched for the family members.

When children fell ill services of the government hospital were used. To treat generic illnesses using home remedies such as drinking ginger tea or using tulsi leaves was the norm. Gita wanted to get her children educated but she couldn't afford the expenses of buying school uniform, stationery etc for all children. She has been sending her younger children to the non-formal education centre run by a non government organization. She would like to get her daughters married as soon as she would find a suitable match and saved some money to buy the dowry items. For her sons she wishes that they would take up some work for their livelihood.

12 year old *Khushboo* looks after her younger siblings. She dropped out from the school when third child was born in the family. Gita didn't let her continue in the third class although *Khushboo* was very keen to continue her studies. This decision was primarily taken because Gita needed a helping hand to look after the young child when she and her elder daughter had to go out for work. *Khushboo* gets up at 6 A.M and has the full responsibility of managing the household chores once her parents and sisters leave for work. She bathes her younger brother and sister, washes clothes, cleans the utensils and feeds them. Some times doing all this work becomes a burden for her. At that moment she feels that her parents do not love her and that is why she has been left behind by them at home rather than sending her to the school. Some times she feels that that is why they always leave her at home.

Khushboo says that she wants to study; she wants to become a teacher and wants to go on outings.

“Prepared by Aalamb Organisation”

Case study (2) – The story of Tauhida and her family

Tauhida aged 35 years lives in Nangloi resettlement colony in West Delhi. She has five children- Naajia (16 years), Rajia (15 years), Mijun Rehman (10 years), Aajim (7 years) and Shamir (2years). Tauhida works as a domestic help in the neighbourhood colony and earns 1200/ rupees per month. Her husband is a mason and he earns about rupees 1500/- per month. His work is irregular and seasonal. He doesn't help in the household work. He has a drinking habit and is perpetually in debt. Nazia, the eldest daughter also accompanies her mother for work. Tauhida was married at the age of 15 years. Soon she became the mother of 5 children. A couple of infants died soon after birth. Their family migrated from a village in Manglore in search of work. They live in a rented jhuggi. Tauhida doesn't like the basti environment in she lives. There is only one small room, where all the family activities are performed.

There are few family possessions. They own a small black and white T.V set and one fan but both are out of order. She had to sell many of her household articles which she had brought in dowry during two child births. Meals usually consist of daal and roti and are cooked twice a day. Razia & Shamir stay behind t home when others leave for work.

Razia has liking for carrot halwa; Nazia likes milk burfi. Azams likes sweet potatoes and Mijun Rehman's favourite is Karrhi and rice. They don't get to eat their favourite food often enough.

This family has been constantly under the cloud of illness. Tauhida had a heart attack two years ago. She was prescribed a long term treatment for which she often has to take small loans. Azim & Shamir are susceptible to attacks of pneumonia. For their running nose and rheumy chest rubbing oil on their chest is the only remedy which they can afford.

Tauhida sometimes wonders, "If some thing happens to me, what will happen to the children?"

Tauhida had wished and hoped for a bright future for her children. She wished her sons to become doctors and girls to become teachers. But in the existential struggle she is struggling to manage for two meals a day for them. Under such circumstances she feels that providing them good schooling is impossible. However, she is sending Razia & Azim to a government school.

This year i.e. in 2002 Razia (15 years) would give her 10th class exams through National Open School with tutorial and financial support from a non government organisation. Razia looks weak and undernourished. Her study suffers because she is not able to concentrate because of the camped living conditions. She also shares household responsibilities with her mother. Azim (7 years) has dropped out of formal school and at present is attending a non formal education programme.

Since the time Azim was 5 years old he has been looking after his younger brother Shaamir who is 2 years old. Shaamir's daily diet consists of dal and roti and no milk. Mijun Rehman (10 years) is working as an apprentice at a car repair workshop where he's not paid because he is under training.

Nobody speaks aloud when both the parents are at home. Nobody plays or laughs aloud because father has a bad temper and he often abuses them and picks up fights. Children feel happy and safe when their mother is at home. They look after her when she falls ill.

'Prepared by Navshristi organisation.'

Case study (3) – Situation analysis of children in Kirby Place, Dhhhi Ghat Basti

In 2001 Mobile Crèches began its initial work of doing a situation analysis for a 1500 household strong basti in Kirby place in west Delhi. The basti is inhabited mainly by the families of the construction workers who don't have regular work and are very poor. A baseline survey to find out the about the basic services available in the basti was undertaken by Mobile Crèches. The picture that emerged from the survey results and its analysis was an eye opener. The Basti is surrounded by an excellent network of educational and transport facilities because this settlement is situated in the cantonment area. There are a number of Government and private schools – at Primary, Middle and Secondary level. In spite of their presence more than 55% children from the basti were not going to any school. Reasons for not going to the school are given below:-

Total no. of houses	Total no. of females and males	No. of working women	No. of children Age Group	No. of children accompanying	No. of children involved in sibling care	Working children

					their mother to work							
	Females	Males		0-3	3-6	6-14	14-18	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	
1494	697	1994	254	408	294	560	159	83	14	27	53	16

Out of 55% non- enrolled children, 7% had left school to look after their younger siblings. 24% children were either never enrolled or they had dropped out before completing their primary schooling 12% were accompanying their mothers to the work place and remaining 12% children were working as labourers or as domestic helps.

There are no Crèche services in this Basti. Few NGOs are running NFE centres and balwadi programme for young children of pre school age group. Unless there is commitment from the government and the contractors to provide basic child care services as their entitlements position of these children is unlikely to improve

Poem

“When they work to earn their bread
No body looks after their children
There is no end to their work
But just wages are not due to them”

Conclusions and Recommendations from the Study

When this study was taken up with NEENV partner organizations we knew that sibling care is a case of violation of child rights. We also knew that this was a wide spread phenomenon in the poor households. Yet this issue hasn't been seriously discussed and highlighted at platforms for Children rights or Child labour.

This research study has confirmed that it's a multifaceted problem and its magnitude is significant enough to merit a serious effort for advocacy of provision of early childcare services for the children of the poor. A very strong case has also emerged to enforce the legal maternity entitlements for women working in the unorganized sector. It also made us come face to face with the emotional and humanistic aspects (or the lack of it), intrinsically woven around the issue of sibling care.

Entire process of the study made us realize that this is a real issue affecting the flesh and soul of children and their families.

Impoverished socio-economic conditions, unequal, exploitative and prejudicial social, cultural and religious norms and practices and totally inadequate commitment and indifferent government response to provide early childcare services lie at the root of the problem of sibling care.

In the current scenario of shrinking social commitment of the government to the poor situation of young children and poor working women seems quite dismal. Issues of early childcare haven't caught the attention of the planners, policy makers and child right activists. The study clearly establishes the need for all the individuals, groups and institutions working on child rights and women's issues to be

more pro active in demanding better services and entitlements for young children and working women in the unorganized sector.

Steps which Government institutions and agencies and civil society groups could take in this regard

- Ensure equal & quality education for all children
- Provide crèches and pre school services for all young children
- Create mechanisms for community partnership and ownership for providing early child care services
- Ensure good health and nutrition for all and
- Dignity of life for all and opportunities for growth
- Enforce Maternity entitlements such as paid maternity leave, breast feeding breaks and other maternity benefits

Does it read like a wish list?

Situational analysis from the Sibling care study clearly demands a response from all concerned with young children and women's status to work towards making the wish list a reality.

Strategies to demand/build/advocate for early childcare services and maternity entitlements need to be embedded in the larger complexity of economic and socio cultural factors impinging on the young child and women.

Few questions from the study which need to be answered:

- Is there a ray of hope for young girls to lead a life, which would be different from their mothers' - free from deprivation and living as an empowered person in control of their destinies !!!!!??
- Would small wishes of young children such as eating to their heart and stomach's content, pressure free and fun filled playing time (*read as* no baggage of adult responsibility), wear clean clothes, going to the school everyday, going out with friends, have fulfilling love and affection from both parents be granted?
- Would a child of a poor mother get her/his right to be breast fed, have undivided mother's love and attention and be cared and protected in the best of her/his interests?
- Why does a poor woman have no choice but to leave behind her breast-feeding child in the care of another child for existential survival? Whether she would be relieved from sitting on the horns of emotional dilemma to choose between love and care for the child and economic necessity?
- Why can't poor children aspire to study beyond primary or middle level? Why there is such a huge rate of prematurely drop out?
- Why is childcare considered an almost exclusive responsibility of the mother or the girl child? Where and what is the responsibility of the government towards young children?

THINK, BE ANSWERABLE AND DEMAND ANSWERS FROM OTHERS

BACK PAGE

Know about NEENV

Introduction

FORCES has been working as an advocacy network to build the demand for early child care services and entitlements of the women in the unorganised sector for the last 10 years. It has been networking with professional organizations, women's groups and trade unions, community based organizations to mobilize support for the issue. Developing a policy critique, pushing for integrating the issues concerning the young child across different programmes, partners and social campaigns has been its constant endeavour.

While building the space for policy level advocacy with the state institutions it was also considered important to build the ground level opinion for demanding early child care services and maternity entitlements. Therefore the need was felt to partner with and build capacities of community based NGOs on this issue. To serve this end Delhi chapter of FORCES came in existence in 1999. The chapter has its local name called NEENV, Delhi Basti Bal Vikas Samooh

WHAT IS NEENV GROUP?

Neenv is a representative forum consisting of Delhi based voluntary organizations working in the slums and resettlement colonies of Delhi. It also has few individual members who are working in the related areas of child rights and development.

Neenv is also working with other like-minded networks such as Delhi chapter of Jan Swasthya Abhiyan, Sanjha Manch and Delhi Bal Adhikar Manch

Objectives of NEENV

To build a demand for childcare services through multiple channels and processes

To advocate for maternity entitlements for women in the unorganised sector

To mobilize and generate awareness on the issue at the field level

Names of the partner organizations of NEENV

RAIN BOW, HOPE PROJECT, MOBILE CRECHES, NAVSARISHTI, ANKUR, A.V.B.M.T.

NAVJOYTI DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY, CHETANA WELFARE SOCIETY, SURAKSHT, S.B.T.

SAYA, KISLAY, VIDHYA JYOTI, NIRMAN, AALAMB.

FORCES MEMBERSHIP CONVENTION

S. J. Chandey

NSO-16.10

In exercise of the Policy making power of PCM, the following Conventions in respect of Membership with FORCES are hereby framed, the some having been previously drawn up on 22nd February, 2002 and referred in the 7th PCM held on 17-19 May, 2002.

1. **Title:** This Convention may be called as FORCES Membership Convention.
2. **Applicability:** These FORCES Membership Convention shall apply to all types of members.
3. **Nature of Membership:** The following types of members shall constitute the FORCES.
 - a. Founder Members.
 - b. National Members
 - c. Executive Members/National Executive.
 - d. Regional Chapters.
 - e. National ConvenorIndividual Members

1. **Definition:** In these Convention, unless the context otherwise require:

A. **Founder Members:** Founder Members means those individuals and organisations who took active role in the process of foundation of FORCES in the initial Stages and who by virtue of their contribution recognised as such and properly found a place on the membership roll of FORCES, whether continue to be a member or not.

B. **National Members:** National Members are those organisation who have been conferred with such Status, duly proposed by the National Secretariat/National Executive and ratified subsequently by the PCM in the immediate next meeting of the PCM.

- Save as otherwise included as such prior to formulation of such Convention.

- Provided further that the National Member must satisfy the norms to be laid down from time to time by PCM.

- Provided further that no such National Membership status shall be conferred on any organisation where there exists a regional chapter, as all such organisational membership must be rooted through Regional Chapter of FORCES. However, in case of non-existence of Regional Chapter an organisation can be considered as National Member until such growth of Regional Chapter.
- For the time being in force, for purposes of National Members the organisation must qualify the criterion mentioned in Article 5 of the present Convention.

A. National Executive: National Executive means the representative of the Convenor organisation, National Convenor, Convenor of all regional chapter or their representations duly authorised. All National Members) Provided further that in no case it should be more than(**to be decided by all**)

B. Regional Chapter: Regional Chapter means the provincial units where more than (**to be decided by all**) Nos. of organisation decided to form a Regional Unit under the banner of FORCES in accordance with the standards prescribed under Article 6 of the present Convention and assigned with such status by the FORCES after due approval by PCM, provided further that the process of constitution of Regional Chapters may be started from either side e.g. either at the initiative of National FORCES, or by a proposal placed by a group of organisations of a particular region or an organisation who of their own makes initiatives for formation of such groups.

A. C. **National Convenor:** National Convenor means a member organisation of FORCES enjoying the status of National Members, having a seat at New Delhi approved by PCM to perform all or any of the functioning of National Convenor prescribed under Article 7 of the present Convention as the National Secretariat.

B. **Individual Member:** Individual Member means an individual member who is assigned with such status by the FORCES duly approved by the PCM or Executive or National Secretariat and qualifies the criterion prescribed in Article 10 of the present Convention, provided further that in no case the number of individual member exceeds 33% of the total National Members of a given period.

1. **Membership Qualification/Criterion:** Subject to relaxation as may be considered necessary by the National Secretariat/PCM. All types of members shall conform to the following criterions/qualifications.

A. *(to be decided by all)*

B.

C.

2. **Provision regarding Regional Chapters:** A Regional Chapter of FORCES can be formed in the following manner:

A. A proposal initiated by National Secretariat directly or through any of the existing member of FORCES who is willing to do so.

B. A proposal placed by any of the existing members of FORCES and approved by National Secretariat/PCM.

C. A proposal initiated by any registered Organisation having a base in the State where such regional chapter is being proposed to be started.

A. Or being felt by the FORCES members at the PCM that considering the exigency of the situation, such chapter becomes inevitable because the mandate of FORCES can be realised by such formation of the group.

Provided that such States of Regional Chapter can only be assigned if the provincial groups conforms the regulations prescribed by the present Convention:

- The name of the Chapter must be first the name of the State and second FORCES.

Explanation: For example: for Orissa ***OrissaFORCES*** and for Tamilnadu ***TNFORCES***.

- The mandate of FORCES must be conformed.

1. **National Convenor:** There shall be a National Convenor at a point of time to be appointed by PCM to conduct such business and functions as may be prescribed from time to time.

In order to be qualified for National Convenor:

A. It must be a National Member for at least 3-years at the time of appointment.

- A. It must have a seat in New Delhi.
- B. Should have enough infrastructures to House National Secretariat.

1. **Fees:** There shall be no membership fees unless otherwise a resolution is passed to that effect at a PCM after a consensus is arrived.

2. **Qualification for Membership:** The above categories of members can be assigned with such status, provided, the minimum qualification are conformed by an individual or organisation such as follows:

- A. Must be a registered organisation.
 - B. A willingness to work directly in the field of ECCD.
- Must conform to the mission, vision and attitude of FORCES

1.

Selection of Individual Members: Individual Members of FORCES shall be appointed after undergoing the following process:

A. Proposal for inclusion of individual member can be moved only by the Executive Committee Members and National Secretariat.

B. Once such proposal is placed it is to be verified by the National Secretariat to ascertain the actual contribution of such person and his/her attitude to work with a Network.

C. On being completion of such verification the National Secretariat shall place the proposal for ratification by the next PCM, if the recommendation confirms the proposal. In case of negative outcome, the matter will be heard by PCM.

D. The PCM after due consideration of it may or may not approve the proposal, provided further that if such consideration leads to non-acceptance the reason for such non-acceptance should be clearly mentioned in the PCM minutes. Provided further that in order to be an individual member the person must possess the following:

i. He/She must have working experience/Knowledge on ECCD.

ii. He/She believes/interested in Networking approach and Advocacy method.

iii. He/She subscribes/respects the Vision, Mission, Goal, Approach and objectives of FORCES.

World Social Forum

India

January 16- 21, 2004

Mumbai

S. J. Chaudhary

WGO-16-11

Why WSF2004 in India?
Asianising of the WSF is a
fundamental step towards
recognising the struggle and
aspirations of the world's largest
population

The overarching themes of third world debt, water, globalisation, alternative media, the anti-war protest, women's struggles, food sovereignty etc which give momentum to the social and development movements in the country are the very reasons that the WSF is being organised in India.

The structure of the WSF 2004 is three tiered and 8 pronged:

Tiers : India General Council(IGC) –is composed of mass organisations, social movements and other civil society formations representing workers, dalits, peasants, women, minorities, children , youth and others. About 150 organisations are IGC members.

India Working Committee (IWC) – has 65 organisations including FORCES representing all major sectors. The IWS will be the functional policy making body till WSF 2004.

The India Organising Committee (IOC)– has 37 persons drawn from the IWC organisations and few eminent individuals. This will be the main implementation unit and its members are expected to devote time for actual work related to WSF 2004.

The 8 Functional groups that work under the IOC are :

Programme*

Mobilisation*

Venue & Logistics

Media & Communication

Culture

Liasion*

Youth and

Finances*

The Mumbai Organising Committee

FORCES represented*

The themes : The suggested main focus are :

Imperialist globalisation

Patriarchy

Casteism/Racism/Ethnicity

Communalism/Identity politics and Fundamentalism

Militarism and peace

The panel discussion themes are:

- U.S. Militarist agenda and resistance (regional, feminist, antinuclear etc)
- Labour and work in production and social reproduction
- Racism, migration and trafficking
- Nation, state, citizenship, exclusion (caste, religion etc)
- Autonomy, separation, reconciliation (eg: Srilanka, Korea, Palestine, East Timor etc)
- Land, trade and food sovereignty
- Dialogue, Debate (socialism, feminism)
- Reproduction, Health and sexual health
- Debt, privatisation and Basic services
- Governance, accountability and peoples resources
- Casteism, work and descent based discrimination, exclusion and related injustices
- Education, culture, knowledge

FORCES must discuss and decide on the proposed themes in what way it would like to bring the children below 6 years of age into focus.

The possible participation in various regional and state level processes :

June 12 & 13 respectively in Delhi & Mumbai -
Programme Committee

July 18 -19, 2004 IOC Meetings at Ranchi

August 22, 23, 24 – IOC meeting in Chennai

PUBLIC SPENDING ON CHILD DEVELOPMENT

DEVENDRA B GUPTA

April 15th, 2003

PUBLIC SPENDING ON CHILD DEVELOPMENT

- Integrated Child Development Services
- Mid-Day Meals Scheme



GUJARAT FORCES
(SRESHTH SANGH)
Forum for creche
&
Child Care Services

FOCUS OF ANALYSIS
MAGNITUDES & TRENDS
OF
GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE
NOT ON
DESIREABLE SPENDING LEVEL

STRUCTURE

- OVERALL SPENDING ON CHILDREN RELATED PROGRAMS/SCHEMES
- GOVERNMENT SPENDING TRENDS ON SELECT CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

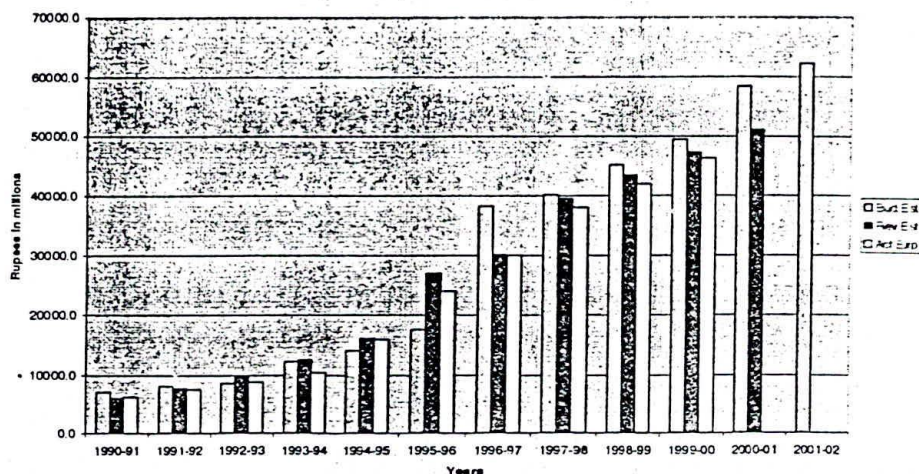
Areas/Programs Covered

AREAS: CHILD DEVELOPMENT
 EDUCATION
 CHILD HEALTH
 CHILD PROTECTION

PROGRAMS: ICDS
 MID DAY MEALS
 ELEMENTARY EDUCATION
 MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH

Expenditure on Children

Budget Estimates, Revised Estimates and Actual Expenditure on Children



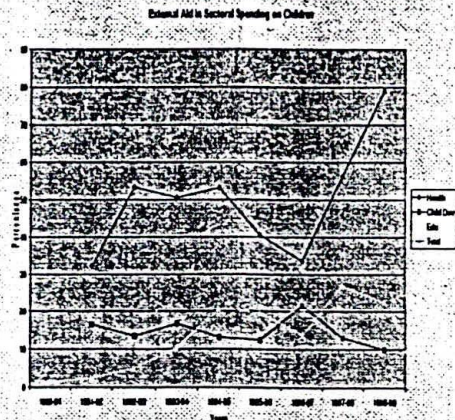
Sector-wise Spending on Children (in percentage)

Year	Health	Child Development	Education	Children in difficult circumstances	Total
1990-91	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.01	0.6
1991-92	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.01	0.7
1992-93	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.01	0.7
1993-94	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.00	0.7
1994-95	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.01	1.0
1995-96	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.02	1.3
1996-97	0.3	0.4	0.8	0.02	1.6
1997-98	0.3	0.4	1.0	0.02	1.8
1998-99	0.2	0.4	1.0	0.01	1.6
1999-00	0.2	0.4	1.0	0.02	1.5

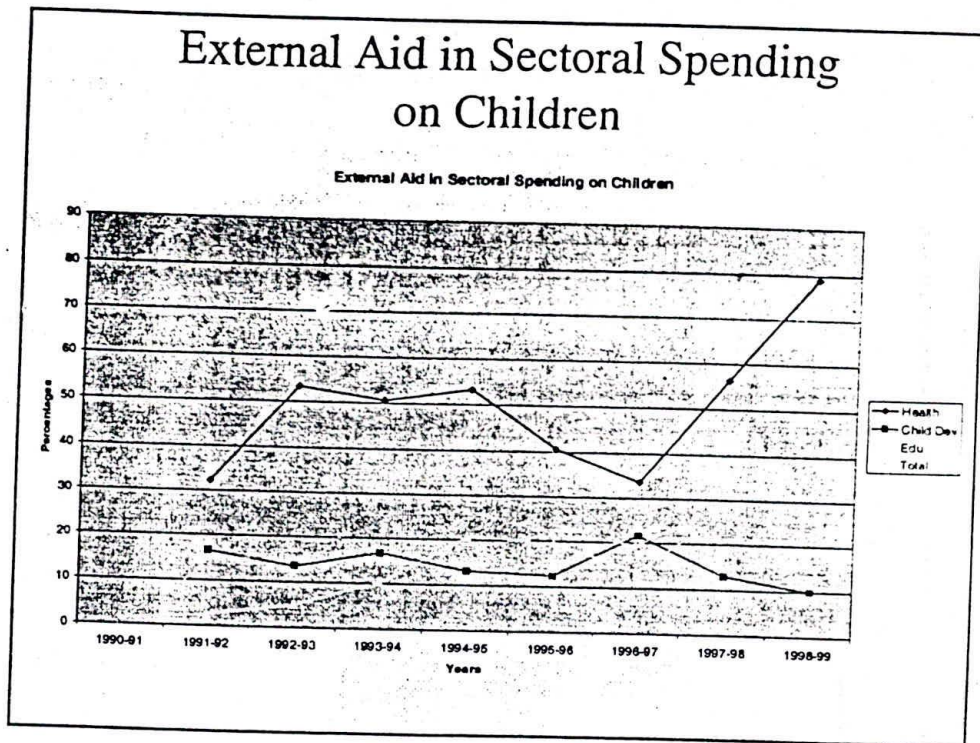
Source: India's Children and the Union Budget, Vol I (haq: Centre for Child Rights)

Sectoral Spending of Children in Social Sector Expenditure (in percentage)

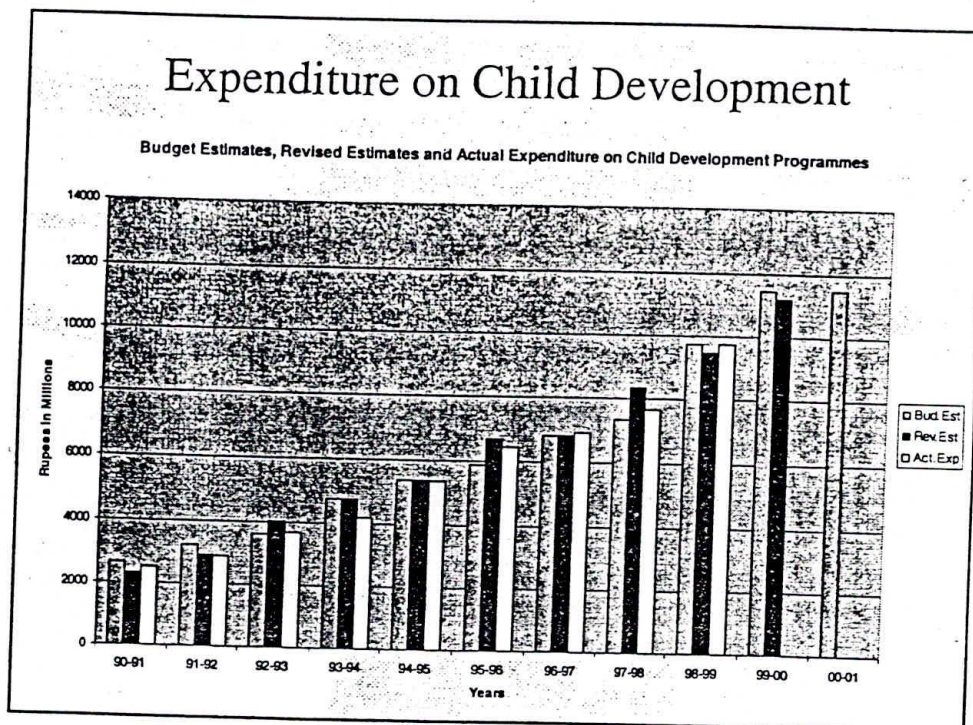
Year	Health	Child Development	Education	Children in difficult circumstances	Spending on Children's Social Sector
1991-92	19	53	46	02	120
1992-93	22	54	52	02	130
1993-94	24	62	50	02	139
1994-95	30	58	39	00	128
1995-96	45	63	64	01	172
1996-97	44	59	10	03	206
1997-98	45	53	118	03	220
1998-99	41	54	142	03	240
1999-00	23	53	134	02	213
Average	33	57	83	02	174



External Aid in Sectoral Spending on Children

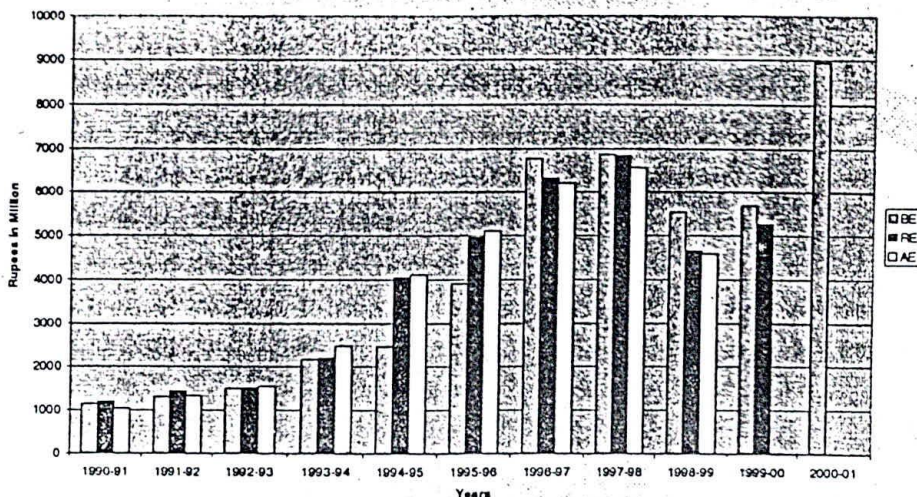


Expenditure on Child Development



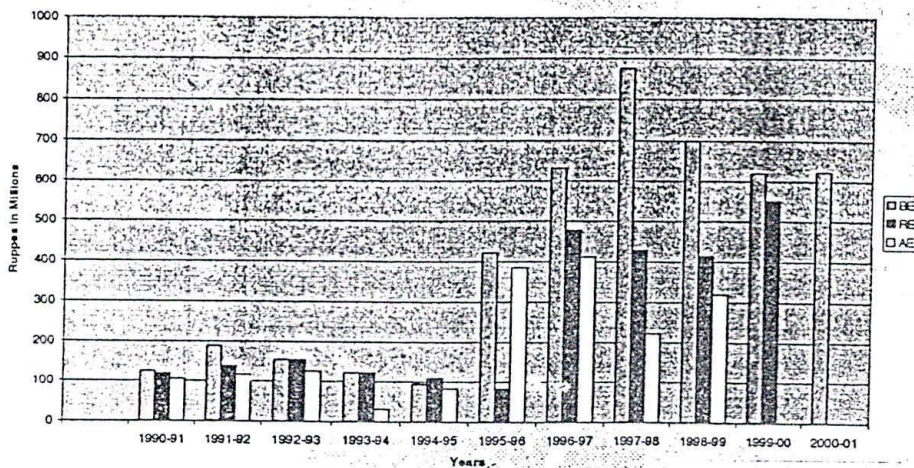
Expenditure on Child Health Programs

Budget Estimates, Revised Estimates and Actual Expenditure on Child Health Programme



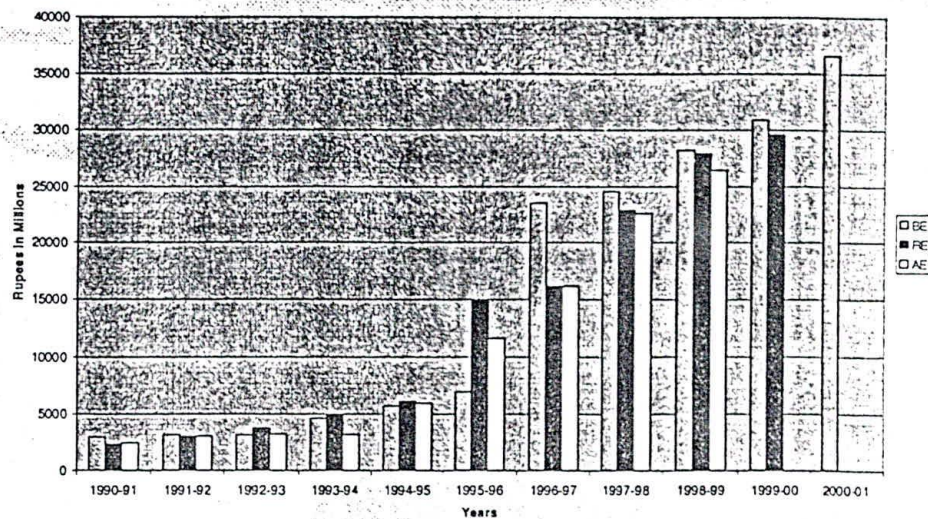
Expenditure on Programs for Children in Difficult Circumstances

Budget Estimates, Revised Estimates and Actual Expenditure on Programmes for Children in Difficult Circumstances



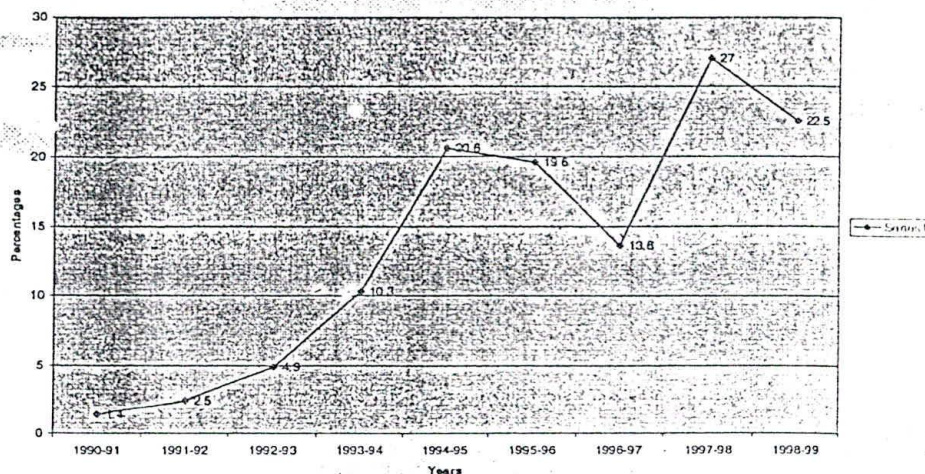
Expenditure on Elementary Education

Budget Estimates, Revised Estimates and Actual Expenditure on Elementary Education



External Aid on Elementary Education

Share of External Aid in Expenditure on Elementary Education



Select Nutrition Programs in India

Program/Scheme	Implementing Agency	Program Objectives
A. Mid-Day Meals Scheme	Dept of Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encouragement enrolment and attendance in primary school. Improve the nutritional status of school children.
B. Nutrition Schemes 1. Integrated Child Development Services Scheme/Tamil Nadu Integrated Nutrition Program	Dept. of Women and Child Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve the health and nutritional status of children (0-6 years) of age, pregnant and nursing mothers. Promote psychological and social development of pre-school children through early stimulation and education. Enhance child care behaviour among mothers through health and nutrition education. Promote coordination of policy and implementation among various departments.
2. Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana	Dept of Women and Child Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eliminate malnutrition among children 6 months to 3 years old through supplementary feeding.
3. Day Care Centres	Dept of Women and Child Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide day care services to weaker/poor sections of society. Improve health and nutritional status of children below 5 years.
4. Balwadi Nutrition Program	Dept of Women and Child Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve nutritional status of children 3-5 years. Promote social and emotional development of children.
5. National Nutritional Anemia Control Program	Department of Family Welfare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevent, detect and address nutritional anemia among women of reproductive age and pre-school children.
6. Vitamin A Prophylaxis	Department of Family Welfare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevent, detect and correct Vitamin A deficiencies in children 6 months to 5 years.

Financing Arrangements and Coverage

Program/Scheme	Volume of Food-Base Transfer	Program Intervention	Coverage
Mid-Day Meals Scheme	3 kg rice or wheat/child/month for 10 mos. Or cooked meal (100 gm) for 200 days	Cooked meal or distribution of foodgrains to primary schools	All India
Nutrition Schemes 1. Integrated Child Development Services Scheme/Tamil Nadu Integrated Nutrition Program	0 to 6 yrs: 300 calories (ready to eat food) + 8-10 gm protein for 300 days Malnourished Children: 800 calories + 20 gm protein for 300 days Adolescent girls: 500 calories + 20-25 gm protein for 300 days Pregnant & nursing mothers: 500 calories + 20-25 gm protein for 300 days	Supplementary feeding, growth monitoring and promotion, nutrition and health education for adult women and adolescent girls, pre-school education to 3-6 years old, immunisation, health check-ups and referrals, income generating programs	All India
2. Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana	300 calories and 8-10 gms of protein for Grade I and II children, double the amount for Grade III and IV children	Supplementary feeding	All India
3. Day Care Centres	300 calories + 12-15 gm protein for 270 days	Day care services to children below 5 yrs to low income families, supplementary nutrition, health care, medical check up and immunisation	Selected areas
4. Balwadi Nutrition Program	300 calories + 12-15 gm protein for 270 days	Supplementary feeding to children 3-5 yrs, promote child's social and emotional development	Non-ICDS areas
5. National Nutritional Anemia Control Program	Iron folate tablets for 100 days	Integrated with ICDS, iron and folic acid given to expectant mothers and children	All India
6. Vitamin A Prophylaxis	6-11 mos: 0.1 million IU per 6 mos 1-5 yrs: 0.2 million IU per 6 mos	Integrated with ICDS, Vitamin A provided to infants at 9 mos to 5 years, with immunization against measles	All India

Food Based Transfer Programs: Source of Financing

Program/Scheme	Centre/State Shares in Financing	FCI Foodgrain supplied at
Mid Day Meals Scheme	Central: 100%	Economic Cost
Integrated Child Development Services	Central: Operational costs State/Donors: Supplementary nutrition components	Economic Cost
Day care Centres	Central: 100%	Economic Cost
Balwadi Nutrition Program	Central: 100%	Economic Cost
Iron and Vitamin A supplementation	Central: 100%	Economic Cost

National program of Nutritional Support for Primary Education (NPNSPE)

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- To give a boost to universalisation of Primary Education by increasing enrollment and improving retention and attendance, and
- To enhance the nutritional status of school children

ELIGIBILITY

- Minimum Class attendance rate of 80%

National program of Nutritional Support for Primary Education (NPNSPE)

STRATEGY

- NPNSPE Continuation of the ICDS efforts at the PSE stage
- Part of the Package of poverty alleviation program
- An intervention into the existing midday scheme of states to provide commodity support to the scheme

National Program for Nutritional Support for Primary Education/mid Day Meal (1995-96)

CENTRAL SUPPORT

- Provision of Foodgains free of cost to implementing agencies
- Reimbursement of Transportation costs for foodgains from FCI godowns to schools/villages (actual cost or Rs 50/- per quintal as applicable under PDS)

STATE RESPONSIBILITIES

- Cost of cooking (fuels,pulses and oils and other materials. States have option to provide uncooked food to parents)
- Cost of conversion charges for arrangement of a Cooked Meal program through panachayats and Nagerpalikas

Mid day Meals Scheme: Type and mode of Food Transfer in different states

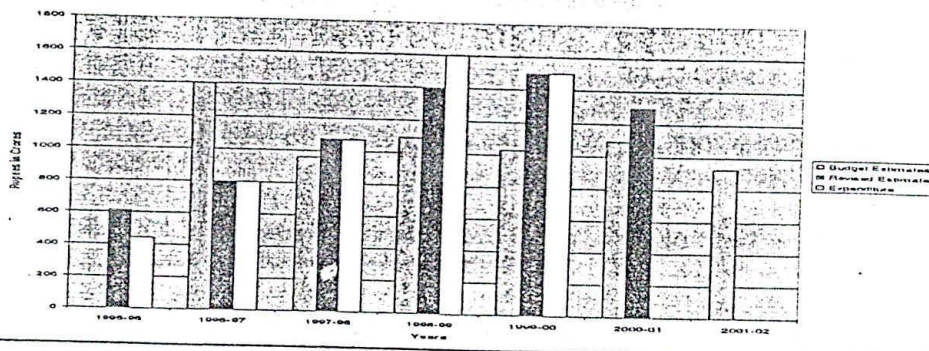
State	Type of Food	Quality	Period	Eligibility Criteria	Delivery Pt
Andhra Pradesh	Cooked meal		10 months	Classes I-V	School
Assam	Rice	3kg/child/month	10 months	80% attendance in previous month, Classes I-IV	School
Gujarat	Cooked meal	100 gm foodgrains, dal 20gm, oil 10gm, veg and spices 50gms	10 months	All students present, Classes I-V, state program for Classes VI and VII	School
Haryana	Rice and wheat	1.5kg of each grain/child/month	10 months	80% attendance in previous month, Classes I-IV	School
Jammu	Rice	3kg/child/month	10 months	All students present, Classes I-V	School
Karnataka	Wheat or rice	3kg/child/month	10 months	80% attendance in previous month, Classes I-IV	Coupons thr Fair price shop
Madhya Pradesh	Wheat or rice	3kg/child/month	10 months	80% attendance in previous month, Classes I-IV	Coupons thr Fair price shop
Maharashtra	Cooked meal	100gm "pauhanik ahar" or 150ml boiled milk or one boiled egg	10 months	Class I-IV	School
Orissa	Cooked meal	Rice 125 gm, dal 15gm, veg condiments and salt for 10 paise, 1 egg and oil 1gm	all working days	All students present, Classes I-IV	School
Rajasthan	Wheat	3kg/child/month	10 months	All students present, Classes I-IV	School
Tamil Nadu	Cooked meal	rice, lentils and vegetables	10 months	Class I-IV	School
Uttar Pradesh	Wheat and rice	1.5kg of each grain/child/month	10 months	80% attendance in previous month, Classes I-IV	Coupons thr Fair price shop
West Bengal	Rice	3kg/child/month	10 months	80% attendance in previous month, Classes I-IV	School

Source: O.R.G., 1999 World bank (2001) June, India: Improving Households Food and Nutrition Security Vol II Pg 25

Outlay and Expenditure*(MDM)

Year	Budget Estimates	Revised Estimates	Expenditure
1995-96	0.00	611.79	441.21
1996-97	1400.00	800.00	799.98
1997-98	960.00	1070.38	1069.97
1998-99	1092.15	1400.15	1600.15
1999-00	1031.10	1500.00	1500.00
2000-01	1090.00	1300.00	0.00
2001-02	930.00	0.00	0.00
Total	6503.25	6682.32	5411.31

* All funds are plan funds



Mid-day meals Program and Total primary Education Expenditures of the Department of Education, GOI

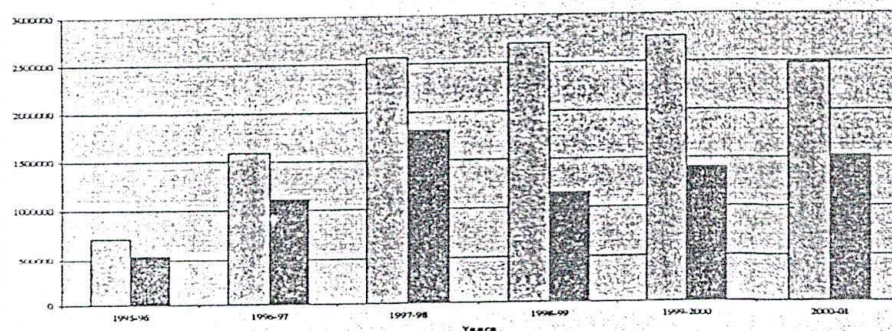
Category	Dept. of Edu. Expenditures, Rs crores, current prices						
	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99 RE	99/00 BE	Growth Rate	
Mid-day meals	610	800	1070	1400	1030	0.17	17.44
Total Elementary Education	1440	1570	2270	1740	3030	0.17	17.24
% MDM/Total Primary Education	42%	51%	47%	51%	34%		
Category	Dept. of Edu. Expenditures, Rs billion, 1997/98 prices						
	95/96	96/97	97/98	98/99 RE	99/00 BE	Growth Rate	
Mid-day meals	700	850	1070	1280		0.23	22.64
Total Elementary Education	1650	1660	2270	2500		0.17	16.88

Source: GOI, Expenditure Budget, Volume 2, and various issues; World Bank (2001) June, India, Improving Households Food and Nutrition Security Vol II Pg 25

Allocation and Lifting of Food grains

Year	Allocation (MTs)	Lifting (MTs)	% Food grains lifted
1995-96	713223	536016	75.15
1996-97	1585388	1112489	70.17
1997-98	2567372	1810164	70.51
1998-99	2706274	1147917	42.42
1999-2000	2767251	1401765	50.66
2000-01	2480692	1517816	61.19
Total	12820200	6526167	

Allocation and Lifting of Foodgrains (MTs)

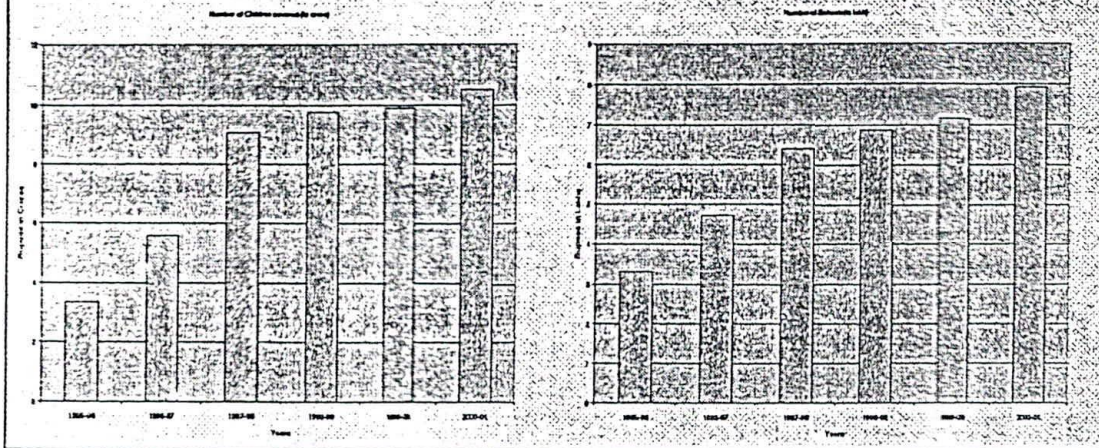


Coverage: Mid day Meals in Schools*

	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01
Number of Districts #	378	474	506	544	544	576
Number of Blocks #	2495	4417	5565	5764	5764	5912
Number of Children covered (in crore)	3.34	5.57	9.1	9.79	9.9	10.51
Number of Schools (in lakh)	3.32	4.74	6.41	6.88	7.15	7.92

* On the basis of information furnished by the States/UTs each year.

Includes 205 Urban/Municipal/Corporation/Notified etc.



Statement showing details of drop-out of students

States	1996-97			1997-98			1998-99		
	No. of students enrolled	No. of students drop-out	% of drop-out students	No. of students enrolled	No. of students drop-out	% of drop-out students	No. of students enrolled	No. of students drop-out	% of drop-out students
Andhra Pradesh	7898481		50.97	8370079	3808385	45.5	879762	NA	NA
Assam	4381568	4025855	17.27	4465203	769783	17.23	4540093	1784256	39.29
Bihar	9626855	1651908	17.16	10266989	1772050	17.26	NA	NA	NA
Gujarat	5908752	2140741	36.23	6003862	2137374	35.6	6146281	1752919	28.52
Haryana	2416187	80625	3.3	2536646	86633	3.41	2476967	47909	1.93
Karnataka	6325318	96199	1.52	6460962	99662	1.54	6528979	103202	1.58
Kerala	507072	35305	6.96	475301	23228	4.89	464925	22640	4.87
Madhya Pradesh	9615000	3090261	32.14	10161000	2423398	23.85	10773000	2519000	23.36
Maharashtra	11662101	1296248	11	11827416	1196152	10	11913673	1066601	9.00
Mainpur	198007	28448	14.4	231668	33140	14.3	254585	22999	9.03
Orissa	4483000	1927690	43	4551000	2152623	47.3	4991000	2156112	43.20
Punjab	1736018	107803	6.2	1740580	105417	6.05	1727273	100249	5.80

Source: CAG Report All India

Ratio of GOI Mid-Day Meal Expenditure to Value of Foodgrain transferred

Category	95/96	99/97	97/98	98/99
GOI Expenditure, Rs billion (A)	6.1	8	10.7	14
Value of Foodgrains Transferred Rs billion (B)	4	7.5	16.1	13.1
Ratio (A/B)	1.53	1.07	0.66	1.07
Ratio (A/B), 1997/98 prices	1.75	1.13	0.66	0.87

Note: Foodgrains are valued at economic costs

Source: India Improving Household Food and Nutrition Security Vol 2

Integrated Child Development Services

OBJECTIVES

- to improve the nutritional and health status of children 0-6 years and pregnant and nursing mothers;
- To lay the foundation for the proper psychological, physical and social development of the child;
- To reduce the incidence of mortality, morbidity, malnutrition and school drop-outs;
- To achieve effective co-ordination of policy and implementation amongst various departments to promote child development; and
- To enhance the capability of mothers to look after the normal health and nutritional needs of their child through proper nutrition and health education. The philosophy and approach behind the scheme is that the overall impact would be greater if different services are delivered in an integrated manner, as the efficacy of one service depends on the complementary support it receives from the other services. ICDS was developed to take a holistic view of the development of the child.

ICDS Package of Services and Target Population

Target Group	Services	Rural/Urban Project (Population: 100,00/Villages:100)			Tribal Project (Population: 35,000/Villages:550)		
		Total Pop.	Target Pop.	% Coverage	Total Pop.	Target Pop.	% Coverage
Children below 6 years	Supplementary Nutrition	17,000	6,800	40%	5,950	4,462	75%
	Immunisation		17,000	100%		5,950	100%
	Health Check-Up		17,000	100%		5,950	100%
Expectant & Nursing Mothers	Non-formal pre-school education (3-6 yrs)	8,000	4,000	50%	2,800	2,100	75%
	Supplementary Nutrition	4,000	1,600	40%	1,400	1,050	75%
	Health Check-Up	4,000	4,000	100%	1,400	1,400	100%
Women 15-45 years	Tetanus Immunisation	2,400	2,000	100%	910	910	100%
	Health & Nutrition Education	20,000	20,000	100%	7,000	5,250	75%

Source: Department of Women & Child Development, 1999. ICDS, GOI, New Delhi India: Improving Households Food and Nutrition Security Vol II Pg 26

RESOURCES FOR THE ICDS

CENTRE

- Administrative Expenses (non-nutrition including salaries of the staff/equipment)
- PMGY (Additional Central Assistance for nutrition of Children 6month-3years)

STATE

- Cost of nutrition Supplementation

DONORS

- Provide food free of cost to select states but states meet the cost of transportation from Ports to feeding Centres

Status of ICDS As on 31 March

Indicators	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
No. of Fully Operational Projects	2429	2300	2766	3342	3695	4200	4178	4200	4348	4344	4608
No. of Project Reports	2259	2472	2450	2818	3070	3311	3095	3387	4160	3540	4557
ICDS/AWSP											
Sanctioned	3466	3903	3000	4517	4513	4932	4932	5467	6059	5478	6253
In position	2503	2872	2688	2995	3012	3300	3351	4116	4358	4358	4635
Supervisors											
Sanctioned	15430	17610	17555	18850	21038	22114	22113	24244	27710	25833	28465
In position	11306	12130	12158	12262	13216	14380	14648	17174	19004	18254	19911
AWWs											
Sanctioned	293047	339114	333802	395865	421378	562091	562091	591921	578645	529428	601206
In position	259185	273714	283829	288215	321529	349227	356435	471128	511045	432225	550051
Services											
Supplementary Nutrition											
1) No. of AWWs providing Supplementary Nutrition	223287	257378	260210	267768	293896	309087	311922	351884	401234	403341	427862
2) Children Receiving SN (0-3 Years)	6263060	7057725	7421161	7930915	8639286	8943521	9240471	10630787	12405398	11066243	14548123
3) Children Receiving SN (3-6 Years)	7630830	8470641	8835792	9861839	9589469	9993915	10538882	10819229	15671075	13045459	16955641
4) Children Receiving SN (Total)	13893890	15528366	16256953	17792754	18228755	18937436	20222929	21450016	28076473	24111702	31503764
5) Mother Receiving Supplementary Nutrition	3685980	3062657	3235832	3841182	3807038	3779931	3826120	4036687	5703191	4922717	6006101
Total Beneficiaries	16645930	18591023	19492785	21633936	22035792	22711367	24023049	25486703	33779664	29037429	37509865
Pre-School Education											
No. of AWWs providing PSE	234468	232628	242663	245252	290395	329469	337230	34437	504079	481160	516781
Children Attending PSE (3-6 Years)	3566220	3271226	930591	10114982	10513982	11278576	11486662	11759774	15139551	15869964	16655333

Source: From Progress Reports of CWCD (GOI)

Status Report of the ICDS as on 31st march 2001

Name of the State/UTs	ICDS Projects/AWSP Operational	No. of Anganwadis		No. of SNP Beneficiaries				No. of PSE Beneficiaries							
		Reporting	Providing Service	0-3 years	3-6 years	Total Children	Average per AW	Mother total	Average per AW	Boys	Average per AW	Girls	Average per AW	Total	Average per AW
Andhra Pradesh	251	32215	32215	1028966	522294	1984472	81.6	473154	14.69	480303	14.57	467115	14.5	936488	29.07
Arunchal Pradesh	481	1214	1180	38298	36298	64494	54.66	10035	8.5	11733	9.94	10924	9.26	22657	19.23
Assam	1071	14846	14855	309560	308593	708850	46.37	98610	6.73	843335	43.9	253724	17.31	897059	81.21
Bihar	1711	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Chhattisgarh	152	19473	19068	824013	596556	1220619	84.02	300103	15.74	305345	16.02	312454	16.39	617839	32.41
Goa	111	1017	1017	19819	16265	36084	35.48	8582	6.44	8094	7.56	8174	8.04	16268	16.03
Gujarat	303	30614	30360	53711	81051	114802	37.31	181321	5.97	586037	19.33	562924	18.54	1149911	37.87
Haryana	116	13543	13543	436506	497481	933987	88.96	224003	16.61	261041	19.27	243386	17.95	504277	37.22
Jharkhand	72	7123	7118	148486	129034	278320	39.11	86917	8.28	57374	8.00	56758	7.97	114132	16.03
Jammu & Kashmir	13	6261	3663	84948	74920	158869	43.64	37900	10.37	40058	10.95	38558	9.98	76544	20.93
Karnataka	185	40093	39278	1205103	1247258	2452361	82.44	388408	9.89	648588	16.52	842028	16.37	1291914	32.84
Kerala	137	18895	11400	164594	264203	428977	37.81	70488	6.18	177636	15.54	176814	15.48	354250	31.07
Madhya Pradesh	250	35052	19718	457178	48657	953243	48.34	209410	10.57	394808	20.02	373449	18.94	768257	38.96
Madhprashtra	298	44940	38066	1431181	1708548	3220708	84.84	533713	14.02	936003	25.18	929592	24.34	1865196	49.52
Manipur	34	4129	360	590	581	1121	3.11	1034	2.87	48170	133.81	47731	132.59	9601	286.4
Mejhprashtra	32	2155	2155	87723	64484	132187	61.34	282111	13.09	39656	18.4	35192	16.33	74448	34.72
Mizoram	21	1273	702	50950	41141	92131	131.24	21179	30.17	22291	31.75	21990	31.32	44281	63.07
Nagaland	53	2556	1496	134979	93441	228420	153.71	37323	25.12	47214	34.77	45423	30.57	82647	62.38
Orissa	281	28357	15845	129937	268586	397523	25.00	47934	3.03	351219	22.18	351821	22.2	703040	44.36
Punjab	142	12785	12796	24478	385961	410437	32.11	107046	3.37	208959	16.35	188632	14.75	397627	31.1
Rajasthan	191	26477	21219	58510	640406	1126016	53.07	286947	13.48	400286	18.89	378134	17.73	77620	38.53
Sikkim	5	472	392	16882	15266	32178	84.24	4708	12.32	9477	24.81	9826	25.72	19003	50.53
Tamil Nadu	431	31618	31618	474198	809869	1284007	40.81	418500	13.24	533501	18.77	408359	12.95	998500	31.63
Tripura	31	3493	1884	45597	61532	107129	56.86	13839	7.35	43668	23.18	41858	22.22	85527	45.4
Uttar Pradesh	510	53141	51146	150983	1973705	3482628	68.11	767238	15	1E+08	20.54	907011	18.01	2077355	39.48
Uttaranchal	54	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
West Bengal	302	40543	31957	1288176	1486089	2764244	66.51	493338	15.44	849104	28.57	854089	27.05	1713473	53.62
And N Island	5	425	425	13552	8506	22158	52.14	5493	12.92	5884	13.37	5139	12.09	10823	29.46
Chandigarh	3	300	300	10829	12317	22946	76.49	5085	18.93	6139	20.46	6178	20.59	12317	41.03
Chhpr	29	3842	3842	181924	173785	355710	92.58	75075	19.54	89697	23.34	82979	21.57	172548	44.91
Central Adminstrative Region	1	125	125	8968	487	11755	94.04	3186	25.35	2354	18.33	2415	19.32	4789	38.18
Daman & Diu	2	77	77	2771	2729	5491	21.31	1238	19.01	1397	16.43	1433	18.87	2729	35.33
Lakshadweep	1	74	74	1953	1493	3446	48.57	1032	13.95	1981	26.77	2043	27.88	4044	54.63
Pondicherry	5	677	677	27873	7455	35358	52.22	10548	15.58	3881	5.73	3901	5.78	7782	11.43
All India	4384	475844	408341	11068243	15048495	24114712	59.06	5E+06	12.08	8E+06	20.42	8E+06	18.44	15869664	38.62

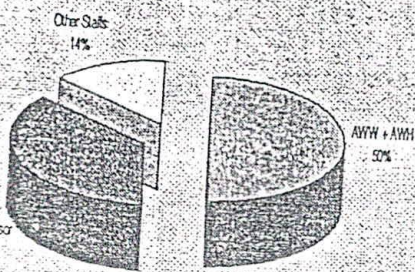
Bihar, Jharkhand and Uttaranchal have not reported during the Quarter ending March 31, 2001

Source: From Progress Reports of CWCD (GOI)

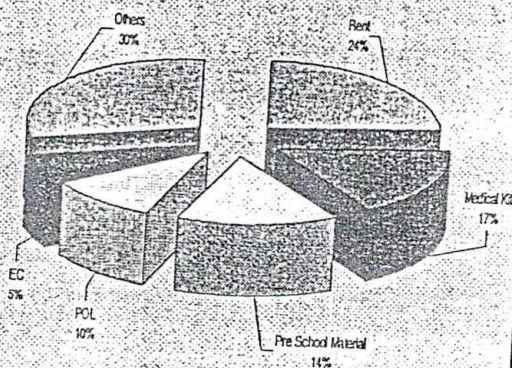
Per unit Cost of An ICDS Project Annually*

Project Staff, As per revised Norms	Rates (1.1.99-31.3.2002)						Rates (1992-31.3.99)					
	Rural		Tribal		Urban		Rural		Tribal		Urban	
	Rs	%	Rs	%	Rs	%	Rs	%	Rs	%	Rs	%
Project Staff (At the Current Rates)	Project = 140 AWCs						11 Projects = 130 AWCs					
ACDPO (1) @ Rs. 10,000-Pm	1.44	5.6	1.44	5.6	1.44	5.9	0.38	2.48	0.38	2.44	3.8	2.4
Asstt (1) @ Rs. 3,000-Pm	1.2	4.66	1.2	4.66	0	0	0.15	0.98	0.15	0.96	0	0
Statistical Assistant (1) @ Rs. 3,000-Pm	0.96	3.73	0.96	3.73	0.96	3.9	0.26	1.7	0.26	1.67	0.26	1.64
Supervisory (1) @ Rs. 5,000-Pm	6.72	26.12	6.72	26.12	6.72	27.4	1.75	11.42	1.7	10.85	1.75	10.64
Driver (1) @ Rs. 5,000-Pm	0.6	2.33	0.6	2.33	0.6	2.4	0.28	1.83	0.28	1.8	0.28	1.79
Front (1) @ Rs. 4,000-Pm	0.48	1.87	0.48	1.87	0.48	2	0.18	1.17	0.18	1.16	0.18	1.15
Doctor	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ANM	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
HONORARY Worker												
A.W.Ws (140) @ Rs. 300-Pm**	4.2	16.15	4.2	16.15	4.2	17.3	7.8	59.91	7.8	59.1	7.8	59.21
A.W.Hs (140) @ Rs. 250-Pm**	4.37	16.98	4.37	16.98	4.37	17.3	4.06	26.5	4.06	26.08	4.06	25.62
TOTAL (A)	25.73	94.1996	25.73	94.1996	24.53	72.93254	15.32	91.02793	15.37	91.42689	15.35	94.04
Other Expenses (Recurring)												
Contingencies for A.W.Ws @ Rs. 50-Pm	0.84	17.3	0.84	17.3	0.84	9.18	0.18	11.92	0.18	12.31	0.18	12.6
Rent for A.W.S @ Rs. 50-Pm for 1/4, Rs. 300/H	0.84	17.3	0.84	17.3	5.04	55.98	0.3	19.87	0.3	20.55	1.44	47.84
Medical Kits @ Rs. 200 per A.W. / year	0.84	17.3	0.84	17.3	0.84	9.18	0.45	29.8	0.45	30.82	0.45	14.95
Pre-School material @ Rs. 500 per A.W. per year	0.7	14.4	0.7	14.4	0.7	7.65	0	0	0	0	0	0
POL Maintenance	0.5	10.3	0.5	10.3	0.5	5.46	0.3	19.87	0.25	17.12	0.3	9.97
Contingencies - Project level	0.3	6.2	0.3	6.2	0.3	3.28	0.05	3.31	0.05	3.42	0.05	1.66
Block level Office rent	0.25	5.2	0.25	5.2	0.25	2.73	0.05	3.31	0.05	3.42	0.05	1.66
Stationary Cost @ Rs. 200-A.W. per year	0.28	5.8	0.28	5.8	0.28	4.37	0.18	11.92	0.18	12.33	0.3	9.97
Rent for Medical Staff	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total (B)	4.35	15.9604	4.35	15.9604	9.15	27.17	1.31	8.97	1.46	8.57	3.01	15.9397
Total Recurring (A+B)	30.58		30.58		33.68		16.63		17.03		18.26	
Average Project Cost Per year	$((4571 * 30.58) + (733 * 30.58) + (310 * 33.68)) / 5614$						$((1586 * 16.63) + (701 * 17.03) + (219 * 18.26)) / 2506$					
	Or say Rs. 30.75 lakhs per project						Or say Rs. 17.06 lakhs per project					
	* Funds are released as to operational projects						* Funds are released as to operational projects					
	** Honorarium for A.W.Ws & A.W.Hs have been revised onwards at Rs. 1,000-Pm & 500-Pm respectively w.e.f. 1.4.2002						** Honorarium for A.W.Ws & A.W.Hs have been revised onwards at Rs. 1,000-Pm & 500-Pm respectively w.e.f. 1.4.2002					

Per unit annual cost norms for an ICDS Project: Staff Salary and Honorarium



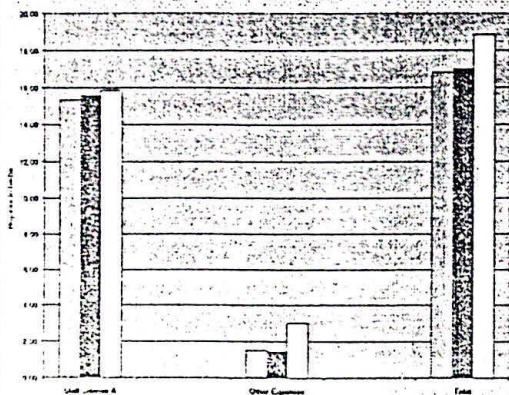
Per unit annual cost norms for an ICDS Project: Other Expenses (Recurring)



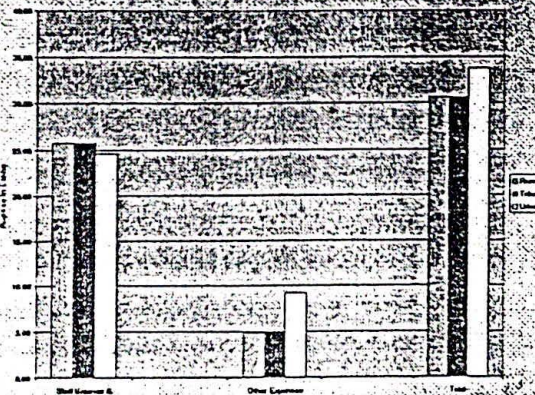
Source: DWCD, GOI

Per Unit Cost of An ICDS Project Annually for the Following Years

RATE (1992-31.03.1999)



RATE (1.04.99-31.03.2002)



Details of Components wise EFC provision made

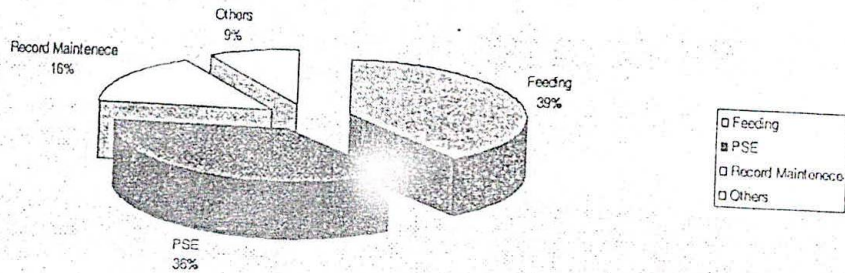
Component	Andhra Pradesh				Bihar				Madhya Pradesh			
	Total EFC Provision	%	Expenditure upto March 1997	%	Total EFC Provision	%	Expenditure upto March 1997	%	Total EFC Provision	%	Expenditure upto March 1997	%
Salaries Honoraria T.A/DA upto 1	6192.19	38.85	5546.09	43.90	9933.29	38.63	3942.71	34.53	1162.92	3.43	5029.34	21.27
Other expenses upto Block level	1226	7.69		0.00	4204.28	16.35	360.41	3.14	5642.86	16.64	1608.8	8.88
Civil Work	2194.5	13.77	2649.5	20.97	2999.64	11.67	6074.05	52.89	3888.46	11.47	7628.57	42.12
Vehicles		0.00		0.00	646.25	2.51	347.74	3.03	941.88	2.78	418.38	2.31
Hand Pump	336	2.11		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00
Furniture and equipment	526.67	3.30	472.09	3.74	1142.37	4.44	203.3	1.77	1465.57	4.32	1538.06	8.49
Training	651.52	4.09	657.04	5.20	1439.25	5.60	126.6	1.10	2594.84	7.63	392.02	2.16
Communication	610.03	3.83	461.41	3.65	903.43	3.51	34.7	0.30	1292.31	3.81	139.7	0.77
Health	1154.04	7.24	684.86	5.42	972.91	3.78	79.2	0.69	1288.37	3.80	454.26	2.40
Community Mobilisation	1906.3	11.96		0.00	1000	3.89	0.4	0.00	1000	2.95	359.89	1.99
Income generation		0.00	1143.31	9.05		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00
WTL		0.00	1303.27	10.32		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00
Adol Cris scheme		0.00	310.77	2.46		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00
Nutritional Rehabilitation Center	57.78	0.36	41.78	0.33	55.79	0.22		0.00	55.79	0.16		0.00
Early childhood Education	204.74	1.28	102.09	0.81	232.44	0.90	5.6	0.48	314.56	0.93	161.14	0.85
Therapeutic food	80	0.50	39.37	0.31	687.97	2.68		0.00	687.97	2.03		0.00
Project Management	691.04	4.34	353.38	2.80	1342.39	5.22	260.4	2.27	2870.41	8.46	323.91	1.79
Monitoring Research & Evaluation	59.63	0.37	19.43	0.15	70	0.27		0.00	70	0.21	39.11	0.22
Mobility of supervisors	49.5	0.31	22.02	0.17	83.16	0.32		0.00	109.92	0.32	38.24	0.21
Pilot projects for dispersed POP		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	23.84	0.07		0.00
Total	15940.31	100.00	12633.42	100.00	25712.87	100.00	11485.09	100.00	33909.69	100.00	18111.42	100.00

Average and Percent Time Spent Per Day on Various Activities

States	Av. Time(Minutes) on		Percent Time Spent on			
	AW Activities	Other Assigned Work	Feeding Related Activities	PSE	Record Maintenance	Others
Andhra Pradesh	258.9	56.2	32.2	34.2	15.5	18
Arunachal Pradesh	108.0	8.0	57.0	51.0	17.0	25
Assam	171.0	9.0	39.7	41.6	14.5	4
Bihar	22.8	4.0	39.3	45.7	13.4	1
Goa	246.0	11.0	32.3	43.8	19.5	4
Gujarat	263.4	25.2	35.9	39.0	16.3	8
Haryana	276.7	67.8	37.2	29.5	13.7	19
Himachal Pradesh	256.0	31.0	24.1	42.1	21.8	11
Jammu & Kashmir	221.0	10.0	40.0	36.2	19.6	4
Karnataka	209.0	10.0	50.6	31.1	14.0	4
Kerala	228.1	32.8	42.2	32.9	15.3	9
Madhya Pradesh	348.4	33.6	48.7	32.9	11.3	7
Maharashtra	308.7	32.9	45.5	29.6	15.3	9
Manipur	148.0	3.0	46.9	39.2	12.4	1
Meghalaya	152.0	13.0	41.8	36.9	16.0	5
Mizoram	168.0	4.0	40.8	43.3	13.4	2
Nagaland	212.0	27.0	43.1	31.9	14.6	10
Orissa	124.0	4.0	45.3	36.7	15.3	2
Punjab	236.0	20.0	42.2	37.2	14.0	6
Rajasthan	227.0	44.0	36.3	34.1	13.1	16
Sikkim	231.0	7.0	50.9	32.1	13.8	3
Tamil Nadu	133.0	14.0	31.9	47.2	12.3	8
Tirpura	374.3	31.5	44.7	30.9	16.6	7
Uttar Pradesh	178.0	22.0	39.0	39.0	12.3	9
West Bengal	228.0	33.0	23.3	42.8	19.9	14
All India	232	26.1	39.8	36.3	15.6	8

Source: NCAER: Nationwide Evaluation of ICDS

Time Spent on ICDS Activities by AWC functionaries



Source: NCAER

Andhra Pradesh and Orissa ICDS Project Costs, 1997/98

Projects	Project Costs in Rs million				Total Cost/ Food Cost (A/B)
	Salaries	Food Costs (A)	Others	Total (B)	
ANDHRA PRADESH					
Etoornagaram (rural)	1.94	5.17	0.2	7.31	1.41
Marpalle (rural)	1.59	3.57	0.15	5.31	1.49
ORISSA					
Bhubaneswar (urban)	1.55	4.95	0.18	6.68	1.35
Khurda (rural)	1.14	3.45	0.07	4.66	1.35

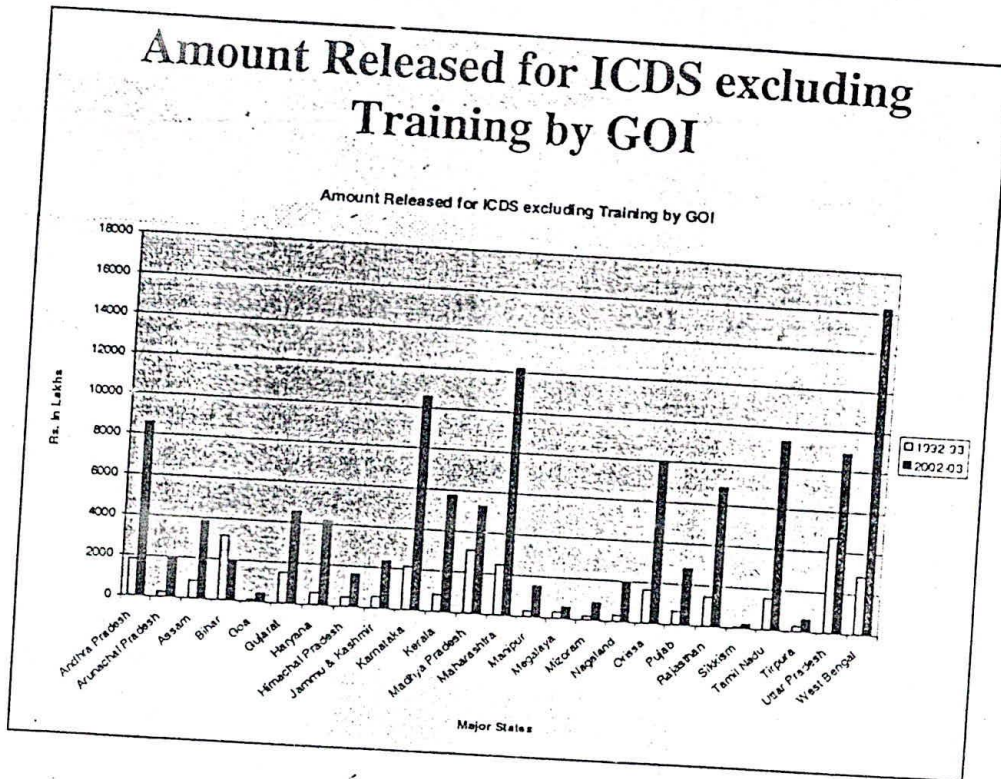
Source: Radhakrishnan, Indrakant Ravi, 1998, ICDS Program Assessment and Options

ICDS excluding Training*

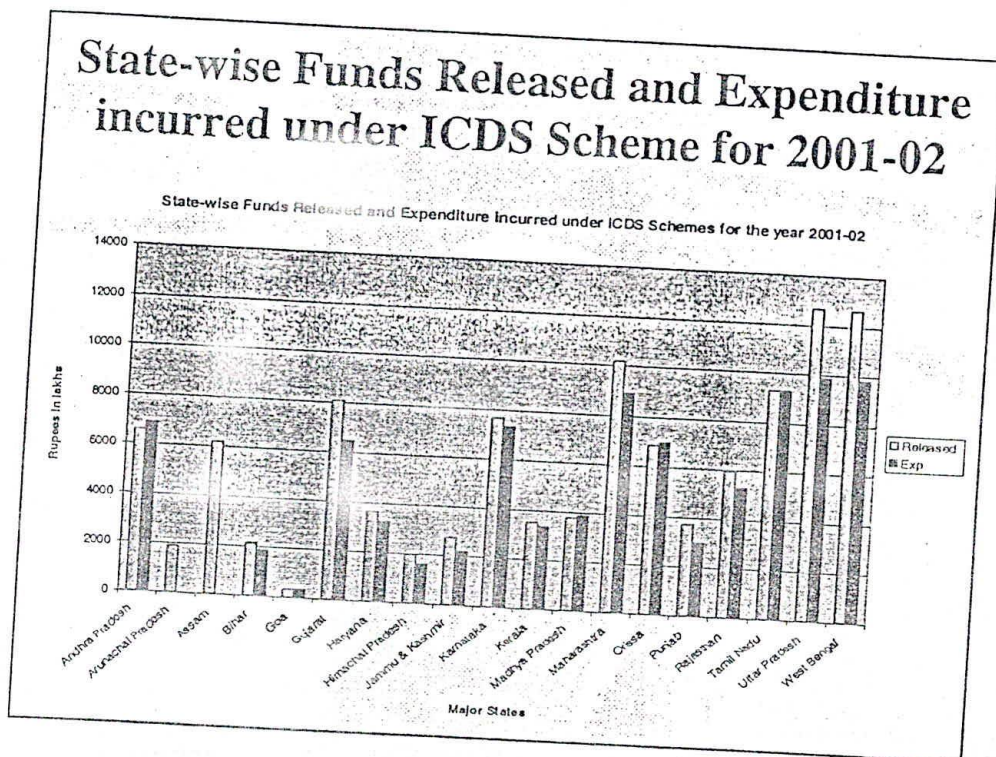
States	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	Growth rate 92- 93/02-03
	Rel	Rel	Rel	Rel	Rel	Rel	Rel	Rel	Rel	Rel	Rel	
Andhra Pradesh	1809.7	1819.28	1756.83	2944.16	2950.58	3135.53	3185.12	5402.87	6229	8580.81	8584.65	17.71
Assam	875.9	1129.93	2005.11	1859.19	1741.48	1634.35	1911.71	2211	5070.97	8188.81	3847.08	17.18
Bihar	3171.4	2867.11	4779.48	2955.19	2450.28	1469.02	3691.13	4918.84	3758	2145.11	1934.97	-2.62
Goa	102.2	180.26	144.57	189.63	186.45	188.76	326.48	284.13	284.13	339.35	430.75	12.78
Gujarat	1494.9	2270.17	1986.58	2477.95	4358.36	5312.4	4789.12	5370.21	3726.01	8070.09	4559.73	13.75
Haryana	597.3	829.86	703.74	1026.86	1473.45	2203.65	2633.07	2754.12	3593.81	3690.5	4183.15	23.38
Haryana & Kashmir	471.48	587.34	519.9	852.93	704.32	904.24	1045.4	1640.09	1784.28	1994.42	1819.51	16.09
Jammu & Kashmir	572.17	710.25	708.32	902.98	1531.59	511.86	1431.72	1963	2286	2739.18	2339.86	17.15
Karnataka	2123.3	3201.45	2874.87	4153.54	4132.23	5158.03	5709.83	5111.35	7468.18	7680.88	10541.29	14.72
Kerala	829.39	1259.01	1252.62	1788.95	2350.12	2380.62	3120.8	2641.82	3101.9	3518.3	5758.96	17.25
Madhya Pradesh	3091	2631.69	4088.09	3502.2	3898.18	4840.29	5131.48	4368	5590	3771.08	5303.1	5.29
Madhya Pradesh	2484.11	3484.91	3527.81	5409.35	5682.23	6925.69	6792.45	6584.73	6688.62	10193.48	12199.18	14.34
Madhya Pradesh	300.24	409.47	338.68	484.31	472.55	795.1	846.78	840.48	1254.75	901.07	1538.18	16.85
Mizoram	334.21	462.88	333.72	549.69	120.98	524.81	350.6	535	664.97	1060.15	583.34	8.70
Nagaland	304.75	316.38	280.41	308.16	352.53	413.11	542.12	535.68	888.85	572.95	876.66	14.05
Orissa	1652.5	722.28	1098.32	1737.01	1829.48	2159.13	6641.3	4042.97	6133.71	6881.86	8004.02	25.71
Punjab	672.5	1285.4	762.48	1093.17	1288.82	1525.9	3512.19	2413.14	3759.46	3730.77	2774.71	18.14
Rajasthan	1464	2258.56	1972.64	2565.63	3238.83	3373.72	4197.55	5894.43	5947.07	6872.27	8872.27	15.64
Sikkim	49.84	115.23	22.03	128.4	40.46	83.29	241.96	129.79	153.01	192.35	221.59	16.93
Tamil Nadu	1551.5	2104.08	1418.4	2981.45	1140.94	2513.24	7297.05	10704.77	10289.9	9289.8	9345.76	25.83
Tripura	274.12	245.96	237.84	359.9	382.71	447.67	463.68	648.08	930.98	1481.36	808.22	5.09
Uttar Pradesh	4721.81	6977.27	7287.72	11141.94	6798.34	7401.73	7265.52	11349	11518.3	12598.42	8879.08	6.75
West Bengal	2556	3598.93	3648.9	4833.85	4704.85	5151.29	6456.11	6088	8047.13	12650.02	16229.83	19.58
Chattisgarh									625.81	1800.79	2825.24	
Jharkhand									855.57	1961.66	4767.38	
Uttaranchal									462.78	1246.78	838.21	
Lts												
Delhi	486.01	436.41	603	516.47	601.24	565.98	1248.18		818.42	808.47	769.41	7.08
Pondicherry	74	115.33	105.82	117.78	50.76	105.55	151.82		181.58	154.85	154.85	9.62
Andaman & Nicobar	51.84	33.07	59.54	68.62	66.65	83.27	112.26		100.44	107.8	154.85	13.26
Chandigarh	29.8	42.84	36.91	38.82	56.92	95.77	77.71		78.29	88.04	121.51	14.05
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	15.82	17.24	16.39	27.81	16.72	21.88	28.8		29.83	28.83	31.85	42
Daman & Diu	24.81	32.83	21.43	36.32	30.85	28.79	28.17		42	52.56	37.45	8.77
Lakshadweep	14.9	14.7	18.19	15.65	14.58	8.82	25.2		25.89	25.43	31.82	5.80
PR Mission	12	17.24	17.85	18.74	15.64						30.83	8.78
Miscellaneous	13.41			37.83	99.36	14.64			0	0	0	
Exp. For prot. service					0	0			0	0	0	
Service charge					0	0			208	44	0	
Adv. charge					0	0			12	0	0	
Adv. charge					0	0			19.98	4.77	0	
TOTAL	32980	41062	43498.9	56838.03	52770.1	60885.5	79681.1	85146.36	104654	122338.2	131122.7	14.81

Source: Collected from Department of Woman & Child, MOHRD, GOI

Amount Released for ICDS excluding Training by GOI

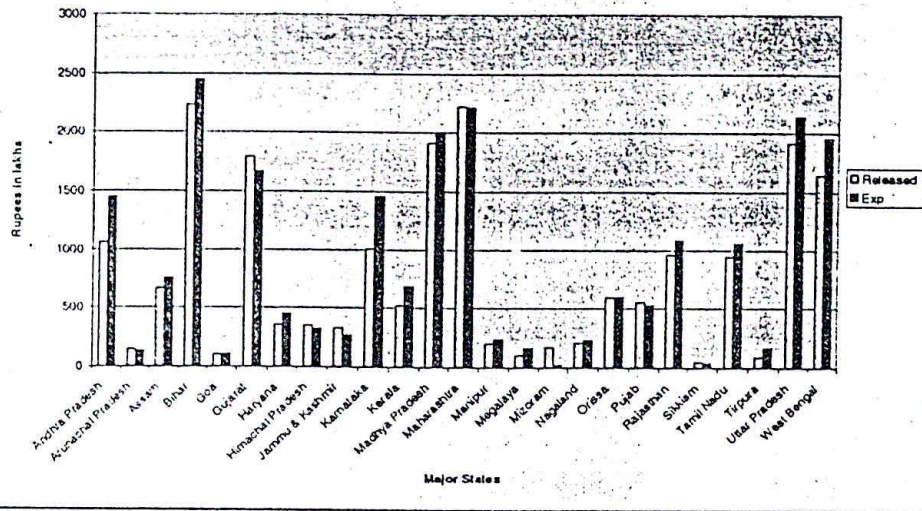


State-wise Funds Released and Expenditure incurred under ICDS Scheme for 2001-02



State-wise Funds Released and Expenditure incurred under ICDS Scheme for 1992-93

State-wise Funds Released and Expenditure incurred under ICDS for the year 1992-93



Outlay For Nutrition In the States & Union Territories

States	1992-93		1993-94		1994-95		1995-96		1996-97		1997-98		1998-99		1999-00	
	Outlay	Actuals	Outlays	Actuals	Outlays	Actuals	Outlays	Actuals	Outlays	Actuals	Outlays	Actuals	Outlays	Actuals	Outlays	Actuals
Andhra Pradesh	340.00	337.00	600.00	1581.00	1600.00	1500.00	3183.00	3290.00	3183.00	2090.46	4000.00	2515.00	7600.00	4544.00	4352.20	4112.50
Assam	375.00	36.00	115.00	110.00	120.00	118.00	270.00	261.28	284.00	260.85	331.00	281.00	241.00	218.21	228.00	220.00
Bihar	600.00	442.00	770.00	375.00	770.00	770.00	1645.00	748.00	845.00	667.00	845.00	768.00	913.00	856.00	920.00	920.00
Goa	1400.00	1420.00	3378.00	1162.00	3028.00	1200.00	3028.00	184.14	2048.00	3177.00	2530.00	1058.00	3560.00	1118.43	4443.94	1750.96
Gujarat	50.00	47.00	56.00	56.00	56.00	56.00	56.00	126.37	66.00	134.63	70.00	47.00	46.00	45.00	133.00	132.00
Karnataka	5100.00	740.00	10700.00	6319.00	10700.00	10700.00	11935.00	2943.00	107.00	10700.00	12560.00	11433.00	14000.00	12400.00	5078.42	3317.97
Kerala	300.00	449.00	542.00	379.00	637.00	768.00	1106.00	2194.00	1167.00	2095.43	400.00	400.00	660.00	2169.39	2531.84	2530.10
Madhya Pradesh	275.00	205.00	200.00	146.00	400.00	360.00	425.00	436.40	634.00	600.00	600.00	600.00	800.00	811.61	811.61	811.61
Madhya Pradesh	378.00	160.00	437.00	204.00	347.00	500.00	600.00	600.00	600.00	795.08	836.00	738.00	825.00	825.00	825.00	825.00
Maharashtra	900.00	866.00	1157.00	1244.00	1369.00	1362.00	3627.00	5861.00	3667.00	7275.00	3738.00	3741.00	3684.00	6612.41	8072.71	7754.83
Mizoram	175.00	162.00	380.00	318.00	408.00	400.00	450.00	750.00	948.00	963.49	76.00	65.00	75.00	223.00	226.46	226.46
Odisha	1293.00	1441.00	2640.00	1526.00	3000.00	2190.00	2500.00	3448.92	3660.00	3036.41	4138.00	3738.00	4700.00	4830.43	5669.00	5684.43
Punjab	518.00	560.00	620.00	511.00	1000.00	1000.00	1150.00	1029.48	6520.00	1301.64	4138.00	3671.00	7538.00	20417.43	17148.10	17148.10
Rajasthan	160.00	110.00	176.00	48.00	165.00	165.00	200.00	200.00	164.00	167.37	200.00	198.00	230.00	230.00	230.00	230.00
Tamil Nadu	161.00	127.00	215.00	167.00	238.00	233.60	238.00	248.49	238.00	180.44	200.00	179.00	250.00	225.38	348.00	286.50
Tamil Nadu	115.00	115.00	115.00	115.00	115.00	96.00	135.00	210.72	185.00	280.00	185.00	185.00	200.00	250.00	250.00	250.00
Uttar Pradesh	173.00	78.00	175.00	126.00	154.00	2.00	154.00	623.00	174.00	603.00	183.00	183.00	183.00	183.00	542.29	542.29
West Bengal	344.00	505.00	500.00	1692.00	2783.00	1385.00	4600.00	2469.41	11807.00	2764.00	8200.00	5790.00	7520.00	7320.00	4025.28	3120.00
West Bengal	300.00	356.30	514.00	100.00	200.00	170.00	200.00	150.00	250.00	270.13	300.00	264.00	300.00	228.00	600.00	184.14
West Bengal	344.00	291.00	400.00	371.00	600.00	350.00	1521.00	1791.98	1682.00	1241.66	1810.00	1697.00	1810.00	1262.00	1032.00	821.81
Chandigarh	110.00	91.00	120.00	120.00	120.00	120.00	207.00	158.00	246.00	155.00	228.00	156.00	186.00	193.58	196.00	166.00
Tamil Nadu	7010.00	7864.54	2257.00	6653.00	10443.00	9101.00	11643.00	1483.00	12151.00	1072.23	9096.00	10679.00	10720.00	8135.58	4587.98	4424.57
Tamil Nadu	658.00	266.30	643.00	643.00	730.00	730.00	715.00	275.36	645.00	478.26	665.00	662.00	578.00	412.16	460.00	470.00
Union Territories	754.00	90.00	2572.00	2279.00	2800.00	2707.00	2640.00	4403.97	60.00	4212.10	3658.00	536.00	4500.00	1968.00	8256.70	7975.15
West Bengal	2440.00	1301.50	1630.00	766.00	744.00	645.00	1154.00	1586.14	1290.00	2321.36	2622.00	1262.00	2614.00	2692.32	6029.74	4628.27
Total	24407.00	13994.00	34300.00	32290.00	42999.00	36526.00	57717.00	10516.54	88236.00	69236.00	81817.00	62960.00	73123.00	73123.00	63486.61	66866.30
Union Territories																
A & N Islands	43.00	28.00	34.74	32.00	34.74	35.00	36.00	41.46	53.00	38.26	54.00	45.43	61.00	50.00	50.00	51.91
Chandigarh	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
Delhi	19.00	24.50	43.00	38.00	37.34	38.00	4.00	1168.20	47.00	1225.68	47.23	47.23	47.23	1513.81	1545.17	1521.66
N. N. Ter. (Haveli)	13.00	17.00	15.00	840.00	25.00	10.00	15.00	55.97	21.88	66.81	34.00	27.00	30.00	54.80	46.00	48.00
Delhi & Chand.	630.00	697.50	834.00	15.00	1000.00	25.00	40.00	20.00	32.00	26.00	2075.00	2025.71	2920.00	25.00	27.00	27.00
Lakshadweep	8.00	13.48	8.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	17.00	17.00	8.00	0.00	16.80	16.78	19.00	19.00	30.00	39.50
Chandigarh	113.00	160.00	220.00	224.00	250.00	253.00	310.00	310.00	310.00	310.00	310.00	310.00	310.00	310.00	298.30	292.41
Total	1991.00	160.50	1257.74	1166.00	1395.61	1389.00	2340.00	1682.32	2652.00	2652.00	2645.00	2672.30	3003.25	1991.19	2128.12	2067.84
Grand Total	25468.00	25468.00	35565.74	35565.74	43614.69	37987.00	56097.00	56098.00	71865.00	71865.00	84382.00	62932.34	78723.23	49533.51	85545.72	77224.72

Number of Beneficiaries supported by CARE and WFP and the Estimated Share of Food Aid Contribution in GSDP, 1997/98

State	% Share of Beneficiaries in CARE & WFP in Total ICDS	CARE & WFP Value of Food Aid to ICDS 1997/98, Rs. Million			Average Food Aid Transfer per Beneficiary/month	% Share Food Aid Value in GSDP
		WFP	CARE	Total		
Andhra Pradesh	54%	0	421	421	42.3	0.05%
Assam	36%	44	0	44	21.4	
Bihar	48%	0	265	265	24.9	0.05%
Kerala	43%	87	0	87	21.5	0.02%
Madhya Pradesh	57%	85	404	489	32.3	0.07%
Orissa	72%	0	553	553	39.5	0.19%
Rajasthan		111	308	419	32.3	0.08%
Uttar Pradesh	55%	107	224	331	19.6	0.03%
West Bengal	73%	0	525	525	38.1	0.08%
Total: 9 states	60%	434	2,701	3,135	31.5	

Source: WFP New Delhi, Care New Delhi World Bank (2001) June, India: Improving Households Food and Nutrition Security Vol II Pg.30

ICDS and CARE/WFP beneficiaries for Supplementary Nutrition

States	2001-02			2002-03		
	ICDS beneficiaries	WFP/CARE beneficiaries	% WFP/Care beneficiaries	ICDS beneficiaries	WFP/CARE beneficiaries	% WFP/Care beneficiaries
Andhra Pradesh	2457628	787000	24.25	1834464	835000	24.71
Assam	807460	157000	16.27	355904	0	0
Chattisgarh	1520722	960000	39.89	1167427	645000	35.58
Jharkhand	255966	1085000	80.91	627935	860000	51.24
Kerala	499203	200000	28.6	905112	0	0
Madhya Pradesh	1181653	874000	45.6	3030525	995000	24.71
Orissa	445506	1563000	77.61	5024331	1234092	19.71
Rajasthan	1412063	1210000	48.14	1855746	1230000	37.88
Uttar Pradesh	4250924	1835000	30.15	4578111	2268885	33.13
West Bengal	3257583	1093000	25.12	4005576	975000	19.57
All India	29614811	9864000	24.98	38612762	9231610	19.29

Source: Department of Women and Child Development

Per Capita Assistance

Name of State	Population (1991 census) (0-6 years) in lakhs	Assistance released during 1992-99 (rs in lakh)	Per capita assistance Col 3 divided by Col.No 2
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	109.64	17640.96	160.9
Assam	44.21	11156.64	252.36
Bihar	177.54	21383.62	120.38
Gujarat	68.3	22687.45	332.17
Haryana	31.25	9467.93	302.97
Himachal Pradesh	8.4	5085.61	605.43
Karnataka	74.78	27582.1	365.78
Kerala	38.37	13031.51	339.63
Madhya Pradesh	130.91	27582.91	210.7
Maharashtra	135.05	34306.54	254.03
Orissa	53.47	15637	292.44
Punjab	33.06	9010.65	272.55
Rajasthan	88.59	18385.57	207.54
Tamil Nadu	74.48	18640.53	250.28
Uttar Pradesh	281.99	50260.39	178.23
West Bengal	115.62	31239.54	270.19
TOTAL	1465.76	334762.95	228.39

Per Day ICDS Expenditure for 2001-02

Name of the State/UTs	Exp. per child (0-6)		Expenditure per beneficiary child		Exp on ICDS per day	
	ICDS (Non-Nutrition)	Nutrition	4	5	Per child 0-6 yrs	Per beneficiaries
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	90.20	71.50	331.60	263.10	0.44	1.63
Arunchal Pradesh	1151.20	696.00	2938.90	1776.90	5.06	12.92
Assam	155.40	112.60	873.00	632.40	0.73	4.12
Bihar	14.40	39.60	0.00	0.00	0.15	0.00
Chhattisgarh	0.00	90.40	0.00	241.70	0.25	0.66
Goa	485.50	234.60	940.40	454.50	1.97	3.82
Gujarat	173.90	255.10	702.90	1031.30	1.18	4.75
Haryana	150.60	128.50	391.90	337.00	0.77	2.00
Himanchal Pradesh	280.20	158.40	713.00	352.10	1.15	2.92
Jammu & Kashmir	233.40	38.30	1713.40	281.50	0.74	5.47
Jharkhand	0.00	25.10	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.00
Karnataka	162.60	240.90	312.40	462.90	1.11	2.12
Kerala	127.70	0.00	820.20	0.00	0.35	2.25
Madhya Pradesh	45.50	92.50	395.60	606.20	0.39	3.29
Maharashtra	125.40	235.80	315.60	593.60	0.99	2.49
Manipur	372.60	366.00	80380.90	78947.40	2.02	436.52
Meghalaya	270.20	171.90	802.00	510.10	1.21	3.59
Mizoram	721.20	0.00	621.90	0.00	1.98	1.70
Nagaland	816.70	430.10	834.90	439.70	3.42	3.49
Orissa	151.20	74.70	1731.20	855.50	0.62	3.49
Punjab	177.80	4.80	909.00	24.40	0.50	2.56
Rajasthan	70.40	16.20	528.20	121.20	0.24	1.78
Sikkim	269.60	789.20	597.80	1749.60	2.90	6.43
Tamil Nadu	231.50	148.90	723.50	465.50	1.04	3.23
Tripura	394.00	295.50	1382.60	1037.40	1.89	6.63
Uttar Pradesh	50.00	5.20	364.50	38.10	0.15	1.10
Uttanchal	0.00	932.00	0.00	0.00	2.55	0.00
West Bengal	141.50	85.60	457.60	276.80	0.62	2.01
A&N Island	0.00	599.50	0.00	992.90	1.92	2.72
Chandigarh	0.00	600.10	0.00	366.30	1.64	1.00
Delhi	0.00	1481.10	0.00	647.60	4.00	1.77
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.00	152.30	0.00	408.30	0.42	1.12
Daman & Diu	0.00	210.90	0.00	491.70	0.58	1.35
Lakshadweep	0.00	791.30	0.00	1247.70	2.17	3.42
Pondicherry	0.00	936.00	0.00	1075.40	2.56	2.93
All India	94.90	91.60	481.30	464.30	0.91	2.59

ICDS Expenditures for 2001-02

Name of the State/UTs	Expenditure (Rs lakhs)		Children 0-6 years in	Expenditure per child	Total beneficiaries	Expenditure per beneficiary		
	ICDS	Nutrition						
Andhra Pradesh	6580.61	5221.00	7299257	90.20	71.50	1984472	331.60	263.10
Arunchal Pradesh	1895.39	1146.00	164650	1151.20	696.00	64494	2938.90	1776.90
Assam	6188.61	4482.47	3681910	155.40	112.60	708650	873.00	632.40
Bihar	2145.11	5897.79	14333794	14.40	39.60	0	0.00	0.00
Chhattisgrah	0.00	2620.54	2956296	0.00	90.40	1220619	0.00	241.70
Goa	339.35	164.00	69895	485.50	234.60	36084	940.40	454.60
Gujarat	8070.09	11839.55	4640932	173.90	255.10	1148052	702.90	1031.30
Haryana	3660.50	3147.55	2430318	150.60	129.50	933987	391.90	337.00
Himanchal Pradesh	1984.42	980.00	708193	280.20	138.40	278320	713.00	352.10
Jammu & Kashmir	2739.16	450.00	1173672	233.40	36.30	159069	1713.40	281.50
Jharkhand	0.00	1000.00	3981111	0.00	25.10	0	0.00	0.00
Karnataka	7660.66	11350.95	4712109	162.60	240.90	2452361	312.40	462.90
Kerala	3516.30	0.00	2732540	127.70	0.00	428707	820.20	0.00
Madhya Pradesh	3771.08	7685.00	8311446	45.50	92.50	953243	395.60	801.20
Maharashtra	10193.48	19170.96	8130258	125.40	235.80	3229709	315.60	593.60
Manipur	901.07	885.00	241815	372.60	366.00	1121	80380.90	78947.40
Meghalaya	1060.15	674.28	392305	270.20	171.90	132187	802.00	510.10
Mizoram	572.95	0.00	79440	721.20	0.00	92131	621.90	0.00
Nagaland	1907.00	1004.32	233511	816.70	430.10	228420	834.90	439.70
Orissa	6881.86	3400.76	4551134	151.20	74.70	397523	1731.20	855.50
Punjab	3730.77	100.00	2097892	177.80	4.80	410437	909.00	24.40
Rajasthan	5947.07	1395.22	8450272	70.40	16.20	1126016	528.20	121.20
Sikkim	182.35	563.00	71340	269.80	789.20	32178	597.80	1749.60
Tamil Nadu	9299.80	5976.85	4013112	231.50	148.90	1284007	723.50	465.50
Tripura	1481.36	1111.31	376018	394.00	295.50	107129	1382.80	1037.40
Uttar Pradesh	12696.42	1320.36	25401933	50.00	5.20	3483588	364.50	38.10
Uttaranchal	0.00	9756.82	1046825	0.00	932.00	0	0.00	0.00
West Bengal	12650.02	7652.42	8941942	141.50	85.80	2764244	457.60	270.80
A&N Island	0.00	220.00	31450	0.00	699.50	22158	0.00	992.90
Chandigarh	0.00	84.05	14007	0.00	600.10	22948	0.00	366.30
Delhi	0.00	2303.65	157666	0.00	1461.10	355710	0.00	647.60
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.00	41.00	31512	0.00	152.30	11755	0.00	401.30
Daman & Diu	0.00	27.00	12860	0.00	791.30	5491	0.00	491.70
Lakshadweep	0.00	43.00	5434	0.00	3448	0	0.00	1247.80
Pondicherry	0.00	360.10	406111	0.00	936.00	353591	0.00	1075.00
All India	116055.60	112078.15	122336360	94.90	91.60	24114712	481.30	464.80

Program Costs to Transfer Rs 1 of Food, 1997/98

Program	Cost to Transfer Rs 1 of Food
TPDS	Rs 1.11 (w/o leakage)
	Rs 1.59 (@30% leakage)
NPNSPE	Rs 0.66
	Rs 0.94 (@30% leakage)
ICDS *	Rs 1.35 to Rs 1.49

Note: * for AP & Orissa

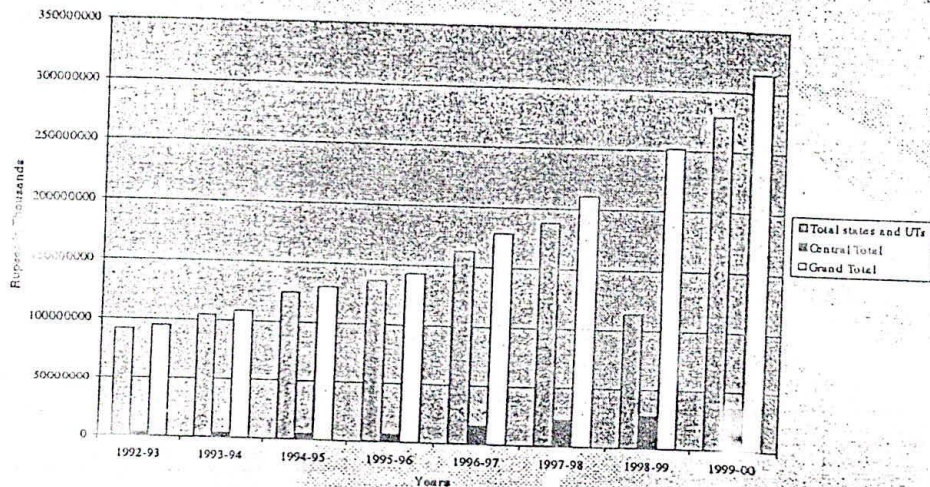
Source: India Improving Household Food and Nutritic

Trend in Budgeted Total Expenditure on Elementary Education

States	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	Growth Rate
Andhra Pradesh	5011278	6050370	8194172	7347354	8518778	7549833	12847883	17349758	14.93
Assam	3718129	4750279	380356	394273	505981	593541	844309	946960	15.4
Bihar	8471242	8994906	10106804	4297474	5110810	6151650	7682227	7847677	16.93
Chhattisgarh	224830	247095	268155	274217	352000	14751814	19368968	16581571	17.77
Goa	5684465	7317480	8452014	9818855	10884379	12182021	1478436	549750	18.39
Haryana	1003055	2353203	2260388	2373403	3558849	3643548	5427090	1926875	18.11
Jammu and Kashmir	617305	1499335	1824050	1634189	2285180	2147051	3981658	4960980	17.34
Karnataka	5293649	6516807	7513114	8852832	1788338	2019879	2377088	2085874	34.71380
Kerala	4555528	5247841	6401747	7527380	7484064	8770092	11076903	13037884	17.73122
Madhya Pradesh	1481797	7283723	9420878	8888837	11332038	12907943	14933088	12851372	14.97
Madhyanatra	1068981	11632288	12798480	12984883	16230885	18472573	21006358	20872848	18.08
Madhya Pradesh	410727	489202	603133	654822	712988	1186885	807151	1448181	18.01
Mizoram	329278	367045	383480	340310	545755	541080	892577	887207	13.6133
Nagaland	345208	561307	622183	508887	5263453	8015188	8878134	1043802	10351725
Nagaland	3545599	3882117	422183	2780448	3113259	3877929	5088422	14871735	8.051637
Odisha	1894735	2174186	2545186	2780448	3113259	3877929	5088422	14871735	18.95
Punjab	5348429	6481951	7788039	8808670	10848028	12344836	14871735	18764576	17.77
Rajasthan	174820	8007018	218520	242030	352160	323145	801039	603538	23.17
Tamil Nadu	7317480	8007018	10154539	11285212	14407783	18318104	19744188	19744188	15.199
Tamil Nadu	568825	535152	6370887	831147	807836	801230	1385487	1448147	1862885
Uttar Pradesh	10857611	11187625	14101157	16856528	21308518	25883288	31887504	38150812	20.71
West Bengal	4088888	5088888	6122505	7278622	7745028	16888887	18488885	12151010	18.43
Total (States)	59302903	10347026	123129921	134589885	181384748	186314727	220793906	275628686	16.77
Union Territories									
Andhra Pradesh	130844	149798	178141	192180	224740	307320	387783	358975	17.53
Chandigarh	97063	118222	158410	144515	180825	217242	280329	284079	17.39
D.N. Haveli	20773	31727	34903	36076	48160	63680	79306	83105	18.15
Daman & Diu	22086	24206	27810	28349	37581	43700	53437	64280	18.81
Delhi	833339	347058	948488	1170589	658828	835808	1353787	2214319	17.27
Lakshadweep	30471	33201	48602	44821	43880	58813	80739	112348	18.43
Pondicherry	387727	198916	214033	220610	303814	279857	421887	484892	15.38
Total (UTs)	1304303	903127	1582805	1842858	1802950	1808830	2837228	3581888	16.77
Total states and UTs	91610706	104321063	124712726	136438743	182867708	188121587	228831133	279112674	16.77
Central Total	3162532	3888088	5121100	6218000	15616700	22687600	27515700	36107500	48.64
Grand Total	94773238	108218021	129833826	142656743	178504408	210789157	251146833	315220174	16.55

Trends in Public Expenditure on Elementary Education

Trends in Public Expenditure on Elementary Education



Percentage Plan Expenditure to Total Expenditure on Elementary Education

States	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00
Andhra Pradesh	12.62	7.79	8.42	16.66	11.04	15.50	27.41	25.04
Assam	40.82	41.77	2.54	41.85	43.75	43.81	21.35	54.42
Bihar	24.98	25.90	27.19	32.76	27.92	25.01	27.27	29.42
Goa	5.72	4.81	9.78	11.13	3.11	5.41	7.33	4.15
Gujarat	14.89	14.97	12.60	13.27	10.83	3.29	3.19	2.50
Haryana	2.57	2.18	2.00	1.43	3.46	8.27	5.24	12.41
Himachal Pradesh	12.55	11.71	14.35	16.84	13.87	12.91	10.73	11.94
Jammu and Kashmir	20.67	18.38	18.76	19.92	30.25	24.52	31.02	37.70
Karnataka	13.16	15.08	13.65	17.41	18.20	27.15	15.10	29.32
Kerala	13.35	19.03	18.23	22.89	21.86	15.99	18.77	21.82
Madhya Pradesh	0.39	0.39	0.57	3.41	1.75	0.72	0.31	0.57
Maharashtra	10.12	8.38	9.02	8.84	13.58	14.94	10.72	11.89
Manipur	4.91	7.27	8.13	10.08	11.34	3.53	3.50	3.74
Meghalaya	14.80	6.89	8.44	7.73	42.30	37.77	13.45	7.24
Mizoram	27.54	40.47	40.38	44.36	12.48	10.87	27.73	36.42
Nagaland	15.70	18.35	18.27	15.45	17.05	17.18	19.03	13.53
Orissa	7.59	4.98	7.73	7.58	10.48	7.47	8.73	6.04
Punjab	7.37	7.34	18.48	18.57	10.53	15.63	11.71	9.51
Rajasthan	1.93	1.40	5.71	5.57	0.56	1.30	0.31	1.20
Sikkim	9.77	12.74	19.63	19.87	22.80	14.49	10.69	15.30
Tamil Nadu	34.32	30.30	34.45	38.78	42.17	35.84	35.93	21.81
Tripura	4.19	4.90	5.16	4.71	7.15	5.93	4.19	5.30
Uttar Pradesh	16.27	23.69	24.40	31.52	25.84	44.96	30.75	31.30
West Bengal	4.95	6.30	12.73	12.94	13.52	14.16	8.03	11.92
Total (States)	2.80	6.48	4.96	8.42	2.43	10.24	3.24	10.97
Total states and UTs	7.89	8.72	10.84	12.60	77.93	11.36	10.27	12.38
Central Total	8.20	8.89	11.11	12.96	11.92	11.38	10.54	12.68
Grand Total	99.68	99.78	119.36	99.87	99.93	99.91	99.94	99.94
	11.25	12.17	14.61	16.92	19.62	20.9	20.33	11.91

Percentage Share of Elementary Education in Education Expenditure

State	1991-92 Acc	1992-93 Acc	1993-94 Acc	1994-95 Acc	1995-96 Acc	1996-97 Acc	1997-98 Acc	1998-99 BE	1998-99 FE	1999-00 BE	1999-00 BE
Andhra Pradesh	45.98	44.50	44.70	42.37	43.61	43.03	44.10	43.60			
Assam	56.63	58.15	59.39	61.13	47.83	61.03	61.07	61.02	62.89	64.79	65.57
Bihar	62.69	62.76	64.01	64.70	64.96	67.64	63.15	65.97	69.62		71.03
Gujarat	52.52	52.07	51.16	53.95	54.48	51.56	52.67	54.00	53.84	54.27	55.00
Haryana	45.88	44.45	45.15	45.75	45.79	47.19	48.40	45.23	41.00	41.24	38.41
Himachal Pradesh	56.64	51.65	54.77	52.88	52.54	53.17	57.12	56.80	60.13	60.11	61.42
Karnataka	52.20	50.14	49.63	52.43	50.92	53.24	53.93	53.66	53.90	53.41	53.81
Kerala	52.40	49.89	47.44	46.60	49.19	47.78	47.35	46.88	48.71	48.45	51.34
Madhya Pradesh	59.38	60.43	59.60	60.73	61.09	61.45	62.62	63.83	65.87	64.39	64.53
Maharashtra	40.44	43.16	44.00	44.37	42.07	49.63	45.80	45.93	45.44	44.95	45.25
Orissa	54.97	58.16	58.05	57.25	55.38	55.00	55.23	57.25			
Rajasthan	54.38	52.28	51.43	53.32	55.12	53.02	55.82	55.03	57.19	55.87	55.63
Tamil Nadu	49.45	51.39	47.55	47.30	47.42	47.19	47.07	47.88	48.22	47.83	43.66
Uttar Pradesh	58.22	53.70	43.92	48.16	55.10	53.23	56.27				
West Bengal	35.83	36.97	36.32	34.79	33.76	34.16	32.52	33.93	35.35	33.14	24.88

Note: 1. For all states, data upto 194-95 are from M-FD, Analysis of Budgeted Expenditures on Education (various issues); for subsequent years, data are from Detailed Demand for Grants of Education Department of each state.

Per Pupil Nominal Expenditure in Elementary Education (Rs)

State	1990-91	1995-96	1997-98
Haryana	1,239	2,179	1,614
Kerala	1,230	2,281	2,875
Himachal Pradesh	1,218	2,067	3,284
Rajasthan			
Bihar	836	1,310	1,499
Tamil Nadu	758	1,259	1,375
Uttar Pradesh	739	1,111	1,830
Maharashtra	729	938	NA
Gujarat	670	1,273	1,650
West Bengal	664	1,170	1,532
Assam	635	662	924
	614	1,304	1,678
Karnataka			
Andhra Pradesh	591	1,016	1,269
Orissa	582	968	1,418
Madhya Pradesh	532	936	1,296
	522	806	886

Budget Estimates, Revised Estimates and Actual Expenditure (Rs in Million)

	90-91	91-92	92-93	93-94	94-95	95-96	96-97	97-98	98-99	99-00	00-01
Operation Blackboard											
Bud. Est.	1398.0	998.0	989.4	1787.0	2147.0	2787.0	2787.0	1822.0	3007.0	3967.0	3980.0
Rev. Est.	1391.0	1698.0	1746.7	1797.0	2147.0	2679.4	2787.0	2977.0	3037.0	2967.0	0.0
Act. Exp.	1495.3	1755.3	1533.7		2147.0	2679.4	2911.7	2741.2	2277.3	0.0	0.0
DPEP											
Bud. Est.	0	0	0	400	400	250	2377.5	6500	6640	7480	9670
Rev. Est.	0	0	0	400	939.9	2301.9	1832.5	5585.8	5483	5980	0
Act. Exp.	0	0	0	35	940	2009.4	1826.6	5585.8	5483.1	0	0
NFE											
Bud. Est.	547	1051.5	901	789	1321	1584.5	1582	3237	3087.1	3495	2900
Rev. Est.	172	484.2	801	1101.6	1312.7	1534.5	1582	1829	1595	1595	0
Act. Exp.	468	506.4	361.5	695.3	1311.7	1530.6	1577.3	1824.7	1599.9	0	0
Lok Jumbish											
Bud. Est.		10	20	93.3	93.3	221.4	222	326.6	375	502	561
Rev. Est.		1	40	93.3	93.3	221.4	222	326.6	400	400	0
Act. Exp.		1.6	40	62.6	93.3	150	222	326.6	375	0	0
Shiksha Karmi Project											
Bud. Est.	25	23	47	50	50	80	90	161.7	161.7	192.8	261.2
Rev. Est.	25	23	47	50	50	80	90	138.5	161.7	192.8	0
Act. Exp.	13.3	23	24.1	50	50	80	90	138.5	52	0	0

Budget Estimates, Revised Estimates and Actual Expenditure (Rs in Million)-Contd.

Mahila Samakhya Project												
Bud. Est	50	40	40	88	88	68	49	59	74	74	99	
Rev. Est	40	40	40	88	88	68	46	46.5	54	59		
Act. Exp	20.5	30	12.6	17.1	36.8	40.1	45.4	36.5	49.3			
UEE												
Bud. Est	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	100	100		
Rev. Est	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4412.1	0	0		
Act. Exp	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
IT Program												
Bud. Est	608	649.4	650	700.8	919.8	1199.8	1199.8	1649.8	1647.5	2255	2260	
Rev. Est	486	400.1	646	691.8	902.3	1099.8	1029.8	951.8	1617.5	2015		
Act. Exp	178.1	420.5	834.5	30.5	780	339.8	904.3	904.1	231.7	0		
National Bal Bhawan												
Bud. Est	13	13.6	16.6	16.6	21.1	23.6	27.3	70	75	78.2	80	
Rev. Est	6.3	13.6	10.7	18.6	21.1	24.9	27.3	39.4	47.5	79.6		
Act. Exp	12.9	8.7	14.1	18.6	22.5	25.9	30.8	38.7	43.4	0		

Budget Estimates, Revised Estimates and Actual Expenditure (Rs in Million)-Contd.

Special Assistance to States for implementing the proposals to make EC Fund. III												
Bud. Est	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	350	350	350	50	0
Rev. Est	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	10
Act. Exp	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Free Edu for Girls												
Bud. Est	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rev. Est	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Act. Exp	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NEEM												
Bud. Est	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rev. Est	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Act. Exp	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Edu Technology Proj												
Bud. Est	159.2	164.2	140	234.3	231.6	228.5	228.8	150	150	140	130	
Rev. Est	47	140	50	234.3	40	178.9	178.5	57.5	70	140		
Act. Exp	147	43.3	139.7	32.8	234.8	125.7	147.8	60.8	65.8	0		
Educational scheme for children of Armed Forces killed or disabled												
Bud. Est	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	
Rev. Est	0.05	0.05	0.16	0.08	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	
Act. Exp	0.05	0.05	0.16	0.08	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	
Edu facilities to Tribal/Rajya Children												
Bud. Est	34.7	42.1	43.1	51.4	56.5	51.9	78.2	60	90	145	171.4	
Rev. Est	37.5	42.1	48.3	56.5	87.8	70.9	96.5	92.8	114	145		
Act. Exp	37.5	46.1	46.3	56.5	84.3	70.9	96.5	92.8	114	145		
State Shiksha Abhiyan												
Bud. Est	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Rev. Est	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Act. Exp	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Projective Disadvantaged												
Bud. Est	40	40	122	202	202	300	250	10	0	0	0	
Rev. Est	22	20.8	89.2	202	102	300	0	0	0	0	0	
Act. Exp	20	80	190	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Pre-Metric Scholarship for ST/OBC Children												
Bud. Est	33	40	110	140	100	75	75	20.1	80	155	144	
Rev. Est	30	30	110	135	100	75	75	20	60	125		
Act. Exp	23	40	61.2	54.8	92.5	75	75	20	59	0		
Special Schools Scheme for Disabled Children												
Bud. Est	0	0	0	12.5	15	5	7.5	25	100	0	0	
Rev. Est	0	0	0	15	5	5	7.5	12.5	50	0	0	
Act. Exp	0	0	0	1	3.2	7.5	7.4	13.3	45	0	0	

Maternity Entitlement And Views and Recommendations of 2nd National Labour Commission.

Views/Recommendation of 2 nd National Labour Commission		
1.	8.84 P-800	India is one of the first countries to enact laws for maternity protection. Article 42 of the Constitution of India requires that the States should make provision, inter alia, for maternity relief. The Maternity Benefit Act enacted in 1961 applies to all factories, establishments, plantations, mines, and shops where 10 or more persons are employed. Maternity benefits are also provided under the ESI Act, and an insured woman is entitled to maternity benefit in the form of periodical payments in case of confinement, miscarriage or sickness arising out of pregnancy. They are also entitled to medical care under the ESI Scheme for maternity, and where medical facilities are not available they are paid a sum of Rs.250 for the purpose. The factories or the establishments to which the provisions of the ESI schemes apply are excluded from the purview of the Maternity Benefit Act. However, women drawing wages above the wage ceiling under the ESI Act are entitled to be benefited under this Act. There is no wage limit for coverage under the maternity Benefit Act. Payments are made for actual absence upto 12 weeks on average daily wages, minimum wage or Rs.10. The Act is administered by State Governments. There are comprehensive regulatory provisions in the Act. Women employees who complete 80 days of work prior to delivery are entitled to maternity benefits. The provisions in the ESI Act for medical benefit are more comprehensive than those under the Maternity Benefit Act, in so far as they include medical care, and pre and post-natal care.
2.	8.85 P-800- 801	Maternity protection in India is provided by some other schemes too such as Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, Beedi And Cigar Workers Welfare Fund, Working Journalists and other Newspaper Employees (Conditions of Service) and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 1955, etc. A National Maternity Benefit Scheme (1995) has also been introduced under National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) to provide financial assistance to women who are below the poverty line. Many State Governments too have their own maternity assistance schemes.
3.	8.100 P-807	So far as the organised sector is concerned, the existing provisions for maternity benefit should be extended so as to be applicable to all women workers. There are three ways of doing so: one is to extend the application of the Maternity Benefit Act, the other is to extend the application of the ESI Act, and the third is to extend the scope of the Welfare Fund and other special employment schemes. Since the ESI Scheme is a composite scheme, its extension is conditioned by many factors. Suggestions have therefore been made elsewhere that it should be restructured in such a way as to make it possible to extend the provisions of the Act so far as employment injury and maternity benefits are concerned throughout the country, to all classes of establishments, subject to such limits as may be necessary with respect to the number of persons employed. In the meantime, the application of the Maternity Benefit Act may be extended to all classes of establishments where women are employed in large numbers.
4.	8.101 P-808	As we have stated above, the Maternity Benefit Act is presently applicable to all factories, mines, plantations, shops and establishments and a few other classes of establishments. There are many other classes of establishments where women are being employed increasingly, to which the Maternity Benefit Act is not applicable. We recommend that those classes may be brought within the scope of the Act on priority basis by following the National Industrial Classification. Some of these are mentioned below: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Aviation b) Building and construction industry c) Transport and communications d) Trade and commerce e) The Services Sector, namely <ul style="list-style-type: none"> _ Educational and scientific services _ Medical and health services _ Religious and welfare services

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> _ Legal services _ Business services _ Community services and trade and labour associations _ Recreation services _ Personnel services _ Other services etc.
8.102 P-808		<p>Maternity benefits being based on the principle of employer's liability, the financial feasibility for the extension of the Act depends upon the capacity of the employers to pay the benefit. This capacity varies according to several factors and cannot be generalised with reference to the nature of the industry or occupation. According to Convention 103 of the ILO, in no case should the employer be individually liable for the cost of the benefits. It is, therefore, very essential that the scheme of the Act should be converted into social insurance. This object can be achieved if the Maternity Benefit Act is integrated with the ESI Act. If that is not feasible, the question of introducing a separate social insurance scheme exclusively for maternity benefit or in combination with the employment injury benefit may be considered. A number of studies have indicated general dissatisfaction with the working of the various legislative measures. The evidence submitted before the Commission in various States also pointed out some of the drawbacks in the legislation. To quote a few: in the case of the ESI Act, the complaints are about the inadequacy of the hospital and dispensary facilities, delays in payment, and payment of cash in lieu of hospitalisation facilities. In the case of the Maternity Benefit Act, the complaints relate to alleged bias against women in employment, lack of awareness on the part of women about their entitlements, etc. Appropriate measures should be taken to remedy these defects. So far as women in the unorganised sector are concerned, there is undoubtedly a need for a separate legislation for providing maternity benefits. Its implementation is possible through Welfare Funds or area-based schemes.</p>
MATERNITY BENEFITS		
5.	8.279 P-856	<p>In a memorandum submitted to the Commission, the Forum for Crèche and Child Care Services (FORCES), has suggested that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The Government of India should ratify the ILO Convention No.183 and Recommendation No.191 concerning Maternity Protection. (b) A six months leave period should be provided to enable exclusive breast-feeding in view of the WHO recommendation on the subject. (c) The concept of maternity entitlement should be enlarged to include childcare and the two should be given the same status in law and policy. The health and well being of mother and the infant require cash support as well as crèches and childcare services on work sites and labour camps etc., for the protection and survival of infants while women work.
	8.280 P-856	<p>The Commission agrees with the suggestion that the quantum of benefits should be raised. According to ILO Conventions, the rate of maternity benefits should not be less than 75% of the wages last drawn. Assuming the woman qualifying for maternity benefit under the National Maternity Benefit Scheme is employed on minimum wages, for which the Central Government has fixed a floor level of Rs.45, the maternity benefits should not be less than Rs.30 per day or Rs.900 per month. The period for which maternity benefit is normally paid is 12 weeks or three months. The total amount of maternity benefit will, thus, come to Rs.2700. To this, may be added an additional provision of Rs.300 for supplementary nutrition etc. Thus, the total amount of cash benefit to be paid will come to Rs. 3000 per childbirth. The Commission recommends that the quantum of benefits may be raised to a minimum of Rs. 2000/-.</p>
	8.281 P-857	<p>The Commission endorses the suggestion that crèches must be provided to enable all working women to leave their children under proper care in a safe environment removing the burden from the shoulders of their siblings. We have made more specific recommendations on this issue in the chapter on women and child labour.</p>
6.	8.412 P-895	<p>Item 24 may be modified to read 'social security including social insurance, social safety nets and other forms of social assistance, employers' liability, medical care, sickness, workmen's compensation, invalidity or disability, maternity, mother and child care, family allowances, old age and survivors'</p>

benefits.

7.	P-920	<p>c) Pending that, coverage may be extended, by amending or acting on each existing Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">_ Establishing institutions similar to the ESIC or the State level to cover smaller establishments._ Decentralising the administration of the EPF Scheme and establishing State Level Boards with the mandate to extend the application of the scheme to all establishments._ Converting the employment injuries benefits under the WC Act into social insurance schemes and injuries extending the benefits to all types of work._ Converting the maternity benefits under the MB Act into a social insurance scheme and extending the benefits to all classes of establishments_ Making the payment of gratuity a compulsory insurance scheme covering all establishments. <p>d) In the case of persons employed on a casual or intermittent basis, the need is for employment security and continuity of employment through appropriate decasualisation measures. The most successful decasualisation measure is that of Dock Labour Boards, Mathadi Boards and Security Guards Board in Maharashtra and the Head-load Workers Welfare Fund Board in Kerala. Similar boards may be constituted for head-load workers, railway porters, security guards, beedi workers, building workers (including brick kiln workers) fish processing workers, and other classes of home based workers, rag pickers, and so on).</p> <p>e) Welfare funds can be an important model for providing social security to the workers in the unorganised sector. Welfare funds may be set up for each of the major employments with large number of persons employed, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">_ Agriculture_ Building and construction industry, including the brick kiln industry;_ Beedi industry;_ Handlooms and power looms;_ Fishing and fish processing;_ Toddy tapping;_ Head load workers;_ Railway porters;_ Agarbatti workers;_ Rag pickers and other scavengers;_ Rickshaw pullers;_ Salt workers;_ Carpet weavers; and_ Leather workers; <p>f) As regards other minor employments, it might not be practical to set up a Welfare Fund for each such employment. It would be necessary to bring them under an umbrella type of legislation with a common Welfare Fund.</p>
8.	P-928	<p>hh) The National Maternity Benefit Scheme may continue to be applicable to persons below the poverty line. The scheme should, however, be extended to cover all women within the age group 18-50, whether employed or not, other than those covered under the ESI or Maternity Benefit Act.</p>
9.		<p>MATERNITY ENTITLEMENTS</p>
	9.122 P-978	<p>A statutory scheme for the implementation of maternity entitlements should cover all women under income criteria. The scheme should provide financial support for childbirth, childcare and breast-feeding in the first few months of the child's life. The funds to support such a scheme should be raised from a basket of sources, including the employer, the employee, state contributions, and community contributions. It should be linked with the maternal and child health provisions of the public health system.</p>
	9.123	<p>The most productive years of a woman's life are also the reproductive years of her life. In the absence</p>

P-978	of any provision for maternity leave, a woman worker often has to leave her job to have a child. Poor health, additional medical expenses and loss of employment, make the woman worker economically vulnerable during the period of childbirth, plunging her into a crisis of borrowing and high interest expenses. Often, she does not take adequate rest and starts working soon after childbirth with adverse effects on her health. This repeated neglect of a woman's health during pregnancy and childbirth manifests itself in high mortality rates (570 per 100000 live births), anaemia (88% in women 15- 49 years of age) and low birth weight of the new born (33% babies less than 2500 gms). A mother's health is closely linked to the child's welfare, and maternity entitlements are the lifeline to ensure proper survival and development of the child. In fact, the development of the child begins with the care of the pregnant mother and, thereafter, the opportunity to breast-feed her child for the first six months.
9.124 P-979	In recent years there has been a distinct trend towards declining allocation of funds for public health. For instance, the Seventh Five Year Plan allocated only 1.75% of the total plan investment to health as compared to 3.3% in the First Plan. The last decade has seen casualisation of the labour force, especially women workers. They are increasingly finding employment in temporary and contractual jobs with inappropriate and inferior conditions of work. The withdrawal of the social safety nets to working women is compounded by the privatisation of health care. The high rates of maternal and child mortality reflect the absence of access to basic services that can ensure the health of the mother and the survival of the child. Today, the reality in the country is that 85% of health needs are being met from private providers, and this percentage is growing.
9.125 P-979	The main international convention covering maternity benefits is the ILO's Maternity Entitlement Convention, 2000. The Convention includes the following components: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Maternity benefits should include all women workers, whether full time or part time or employed in atypical dependent forms of work. b) Leave should be granted for periods upto 14 weeks with a minimum of 6 weeks as compulsory in the post-natal period, and cash benefits should include not less than 2/3rds of a woman's insured earnings. c) Employment security should include protection from dismissal. The woman should have the right to return to the same job. No dismissal should take place if a woman is pregnant or ill. In case of dismissal the burden of proof is to lie with the employer.
9.126 P-979	The ILO convention has a limited scope since it does not consider the application of maternity benefits to all women. As far as the present framework of the Indian Constitution is concerned, Article 42 under the Directive Principles of State Policy provides that state shall make provisions for securing just and humane conditions of work and for maternity relief. The two main Acts that govern this provision are: The Maternity Benefit Act, 1961 and the Employees State Insurance Act 1948.
9.127 P-980	Employees State Insurance Act (ESI) 1948: The Act stipulates that a cash benefit is to be paid to an insured woman in case of confinement, miscarriage, sickness during pregnancy, medical termination pregnancy, premature birth etc. The Act only applies to non-seasonal factories using power and employing ten or more persons, factories not using power and some other establishments employing 20 or more persons. The Act applies to employees whose earnings are upto Rs.6500/- p.m. The paid leave in the pre and post confinement period is given for twelve weeks. In addition, the woman is also granted a medical allowance of Rs. 250 if her confinement is in an area where ESIC facilities are not available.
9.128 P-980	Maternity Benefits Act, 1961: It is applicable to all workers in the organised sector who are not covered under the Employees State Insurance Act. This Act covers workers in regular employment in factories, mines, plantations and establishments irrespective of the number of people working in the establishment. Further, every woman employee who has worked for a period of 80 continuous days in one year is eligible to be covered under the Act. The salient features of the Act include protection from dismissal during pregnancy, and 12 weeks of paid leave of which six weeks may be taken in the period preceding childbirth if the mother so desires. Further, the Act also stipulates that the employer will not compel the woman to do any arduous work during her pregnancy, or give notice for discharge or dismissal during this period. It also makes

	provisions for two nursing breaks of 15 minutes each, once the mother gets back to work.
9.129 P-980	It is universally acknowledged that there are inadequacies in both the Acts at the National Level. These Acts only cover workers in the organised sector. There is a need, therefore, to extend maternity benefit measures to women workers in the unorganised sector. Moreover, the coverage of these Acts is very limited even in establishments where all working women are covered by them. A study by Chaddha N. shows that only 0.25% of women avail maternity benefits in a situation though 94% are entitled to it. Further, the laws have many loopholes as factory owners and contractors find it easy not to adhere to the ESI Act by employing 19 rather than 20 women. These Acts provide no work protection for women. Many women are either forced to leave their jobs when they are pregnant, or are not hired at all because they will have to be provided maternity benefits during and after pregnancy. It has been brought to our notice that the amount of benefits provided by these two Acts are inadequate, as women are not able even to cover the cost of the extra nutrition that they require during their pregnancy.
9.130 P-981	Apart from these two Acts, there are several government schemes available for maternity benefits. For example, the Employment Guarantee Scheme in Maharashtra (1974) provides one month's wages, food as part of wages, and the facility of a crèche for children. The Tamil Nadu integrated Nutritional Project provides nutritional supplementation to pregnant and lactating mothers and the Muthulakshmi Reddy Scheme (1988) in Tamil Nadu and the maternal protection scheme of Gujarat (1986) provide cash benefits (Rs 350) to compensate for loss of wages. There is also a government scheme of cash support to agricultural labourers. But all these schemes have problems in implementation. Women often find it difficult to obtain proof of 160 days of employment, or make optimal use of nutritional supplements. 4 In some cases, the costs are too heavy for long-term sustainability of the scheme.
9.131 P-981	The numbers of child-births The population policy, particularly the two-child norm has an intimate relationship with the maternity benefits and entitlements issue. There are two schools of thought on this. One school argues that discrimination is practised once the issue of maternity entitlements is linked to the two-child norm. Examples of the States of Maharashtra and Rajasthan are cited, where women with more than two children are not even allowed to avail of the Public Distribution System. It has also been cited as one of the reasons for the failure of existing maternity entitlement schemes. One example that is cited is that of the Muthulakshmi Reddy Scheme which has benefited only 20 women in the whole State of Tamil Nadu.
9.132 P-982	In contrast to this view, the Population Commission and the Government – the proponents of the second school of thought argue that the two-child norm should be seen in the correct perspective. The norm was not binding at the national level, and should be only implemented if informed groups of people were supporting it at different levels. Representatives of the official view also state that the Population Commission was not imposing its will on the States, as its document was merely indicative and not prescriptive. Finally, they add that the word 'control' is now being replaced by other phrases to represent the socio-economic and demographic transition that was taking place.
9.133 P-982	While this Commission agrees that it is important to limit explosive growth in population, it wishes to point out that reducing deaths during childbirth and reducing infant mortality are important for society. The high rates of maternal and child mortality need to be seen in the context of the dearth of the basic services that are necessary to ensure the survival of the child. Moreover, it has been seen that "better educated women also have smaller families. Colombian women with the highest education had fewer children than women who had completed only their primary education. The continuing disparity in male and female education thus inflicts extremely high social and economic costs in the developing world" (Human Development Report 1990). The Commission recommends full baskets of maternity entitlements for the two live children, and a policy that discourages having more children.
10.	STATUTORY SCHEME
9.134 P-982	The Study Group has proposed a statutory scheme for the implementation of maternity entitlements. The scheme is to cover all women, the only discriminating factor being the economic criteria, and that too for a brief period of time if funds are not available. The Objectives of the Scheme are to: a) Provide financial support for childbirth and childcare and breast-feeding in the first few months of the child's life, as well as to promote the health of the mother and the child. b) Recognise the woman's reproductive role and compensate her for unavoidable absence from work. (To do this, the law should provide every woman with entitlement for four months' financial support. The norms may be fixed for such entitlement).
9.135 P-983	Cost of maternity entitlements and benefit: There were 18 million births per year as per the 1981 census. If we assume that even 60% of the mothers availed of maternity benefits, it would mean that 10.8m mothers availed of the benefit. If the daily wages of these mothers were to be protected for 120 days at the rate of Rs. 85 per day, the total amount required yearly for maternity entitlements would be

	Rs. 11016 crores. This figure would go up to Rs. 15973 crores if the calculation is made on the basis of the current figure of 26.1 m births per year as projected by the latest economic survey.
9.136 P-963	The access to this scheme should be through multiple channels and agencies like the panchayat office, post office, banks, health centres, ICDS centres, Government departments and banks. The sources of funding would be employees and the state at the central, state, district (or municipal) and local (ward or panchayat) levels, employers and community contributions as followed in Thailand and China, where the community sponsors one worker for every 100 families to ensure the proper delivery of benefits.
9.137 P-963	The scheme may also provide for the setting up of a Monitoring and Grievance Committee with representatives from workers, employers and local authorities. We endorse the scheme.

Rajasthan FORCES
Regional Report (Period – Nov 2002 to June 2003)

To be presented in the 9th PCM at Ooty.

During the period Nov. 02 to June 03, the major components of the work undertaken at Rajasthan FORCVES are as follows: -

1) Participation in 8th PCM :- Co – ordinator of Rajasthan FORCES participated in 8th National Policy Committee Meeting of FORCES held at Ahamdabad.

2) Lobbying for Implementation of Central Law for Building & Construction Workers:-

FORCES Rajasthan together with Nirmaan Majdoor Panjachayat Sangam (N.M.P.S.) is trying to get the rules formed according to this law for the state of Rajasthan. Representatives of Rajasthan FORCES & NMPS have been meeting Labour Commissioner of Rajasthan in this connection since Nov. 2002. Labour commissioner, Mr. Rajendra Bhanawat had been very co-operating & understanding. He has shown positive attitude towards our demand and seems to be as much interested in bringing out this Law in force. But the Law is still stuck in the Law department. This Law has provision for protecting many rights of workers. It will also be helpful for women working on constructions sites because it safeguards maternity entitlements and right of daycare facility for the children of these women.

3) Rajasthan FORCES as a Resources Agency for a Training Program of NMPS:-

A three days training program was organized by NMPS from 26th Dec. to 28th Dec, 02. Rajasthan FORCES was invited to assist the Program and also to join the resources team. 70 workers of both sexes from different part of Rajasthan attended the program. In this program various problem of workers including those of females, rights of these workers and need of legal provisions to safeguard their rights were discussed Labour Commissioner of Rajasthan was invited to attend the closing ceremony. This time also he promised that he would try his level best to bring such a Law in Rajasthan that protects the right of workers from unorganized sector specially those of women and the small children.

4) Conducting a Workshop on 'Adoption' for Social Welfare Department of Rajasthan:-

The Child Officer of Social Welfare Department of Rajasthan invited Rajasthan FORCES and it's convener organization Vihaan to conduct, comper and event document a workshop on 'Adoption' on 3rd Jan. 03, organised by Social Welfare Department with the help of CARA (Central Adoption Resource Agency). Co-ordinator of Rajasthan FORCES compered and conducted the workshop and the Co- ordinator of Vihaan documented it. More that 50 persons including doctors, representatives of NGOs, top officials of Social Welfare Department etc., attended this workshop. Names of Rajasthan FORCES and Vihaan were suggested by CARA New Delhi because Rajasthan FORCES

had actively participated & documented such a program organized by Vihaan and Mac Arthur Foundation in March 2002 with the help of CARA.

5) FORCES in the group of Policy Makers for a Child Policy for Rajasthan:-

In the month of Feb. 2003 Minister of Women & Child Development in Rajasthan declared to have a state policy for children. The policy will protect 1012 crore children below 6 years of age. Rajasthan FORCES together with this convener organization Vihaan and its two partners CUTS & SOS Village is in the group of Department and Organization constituted to assist and provide suitable suggestion and support in making necessary documents like laws, policies, rules, schemes, programs, monographs etc., relating to children available so that comprehensive document of State Policy could be drafted and presented. Policy is aimed to cover all the necessary parameters as included in UN Convention on the right of the child and other documents related to survival growth and development of children.

Rajasthan FORCES is working with UNICEF & Women's Commission as a sub group on the topic of Family Environment and Alternate Care in which following sub topics have been taken up:-

- (i) Parental Evidence
- (ii) Parental Responsibility
- (iii) Separation from Parents
- (iv) Family Re-unification
- (v) Illicit Transfer & Non Return
- (vi) Recovery of Maintenance for the Child
- (vii) Children Deprived of their Family Environment
- (viii) Adoption
- (ix) Periodic Review of Placement
- (x) Abuse & neglect

The Zero Draft and the First Draft of this policy have come out

6. Rajasthan FORCES to Assist in Formulation of Gender Equity Policy for Rajasthan :-

Now there is new feather in the cap of Rajasthan FORCES. The Department of Women and Child Development as decided to bring out Gender Equity Policy for the State. This time again Rajasthan FORCES is going to work with UNICEF, Rajasthan State Women's Commission etc., for preparation of the document according to which Laws, Rules, Schemes etc., will be made.

7. Working for Drought hit Women and Children in Rajasthan:

The State has been hit by severe drought for past several years. The worst sufferer of these condition are Women & young children specially Rajasthan FORCES has been

participating in Dharnas Demonstration, Rallies etc., organized by Akal Sangharsh Samiti for helping drought hit people to get some relief.

8. Challenges Before Rajasthan FORCES:-

The main problems of Rajasthan FORCES is absence of funds for taking initiatives but Rajasthan FORCES has become a Fighter and is trying to get funds from somewhere. A project proposal for networking with in the State as been presented before 'Save the Children Fund'

9. Future Plans:-

(i) . In the last PCM Rajasthan FORCES promised to bring out a News Letter but due to lack of funds it was not possible either to get the News Letter in print are to find a space on net for an online News Letter because of the financial problem. But this time Rajasthan FORCES will try to fulfill this promise.

(ii). Continuing our efforts for getting Law for women who are working on construction sites & other areas of unorganized sector and of course the young children of these women.

(iii) Conducting a study for percentage of women getting maternity benefits through Panchayats.

(iv) Conducting workshops on 'Adoption' , Early Child hood Care and Education, maternity entitlement etc.,

(v) Any other thing suggested during 9th PCM.

9TH PCM REGIONAL REPORTING
ORISSA FORCES.
 (From November 2002 to May 2003)

A. **CRECHE SERVICES IN JAILS:** Orissa FORCES has been exclusively focusing on the effectiveness of crèche services in Orissa for last couple of years. With the active support from CLAP, the convenor organisation, Orissa FORCES organised seminar, research, fact-finding report, lobbying with govt. earlier. ~~(Recently after the release of the Fact-Finding Report in New Delhi, by Dr. A. K. Kundra, Secretary of Mines, Govt. Of India)~~ It tried further to explore the state of children who are living with their mothers in Jail in Orissa. In a pioneering effort a team of six persons including the Member of State Commission for Women visited Choudwar and Jharpada Jails to know the child care services provided by the govt. in the jails. It also plans to visit more jails in the state in order to make a comprehensive study and factual analysis. The I.G. (Jail) of Orissa and Andhrapradesh are being contacted for the purpose of this study and they agreed to provide all type of support to the study team.

B. **MEMORANDUM ON CRECHE SERVICES:** ^{Recently after the release of the Fact Finding R} In continuance to its advocacy effort on Crèche Services ^{in New} in Mines recently a representation-cum-appeal letter along with the Fact Finding Report, were sent ^{by Dr. A} to the Chief Minister, Governor, Speaker and Opposition Leader of Orissa Legislative Assembly, ^{Kundra} Concerned Central and State Govt. Ministries, Labour Commissioner, Trade Unions, Department of Mines and its independent Bodies and all Mines owners operating in the Sukinda Valley for effective implementation of the Mines Crèche Rules. It is a matter of great pleasure that after receiving our representation and the Report it is observed that Mines owners are taking immediate steps to revamp the Crèche Centres in their respective Mines. State Labour Commissioner has also assured us for taking appropriate steps in this regard. More than 150 Representations were submitted to concerned authorities from top to bottom in this regard. The dialogue with the Department of Crèche of Women and Child Development is continuing.

C. **PIL ON CRECHE SERVICES IN MINES:** Orissa FORCES and CLAP in a joint petition filed a PIL in the Hon'ble High Court on the issue of Crèche Services in Sukinda Mines. In the Facts and circumstances of the case It is being prayed that the Hon'ble Court may graciously be pleased to issue notice to the Opp. Parties directing them to produce the following documents and records:

- i) Government to produce the exact data and figure concerning the status of crèche services along with the list of Mines operating in the State with exact number of women working in Mines year-wise who have children in the age group of 0-6 years;

- ii) Government to produce documents stating therein Proceedings initiated so far for violation or contravention of Mines Crèches Rules, 1966, and action taken thereon;

And after hearing from both the Parties as well as perusals of the records issue a Writ in the nature of mandamus/certiorari directing to the Opp. Parties;

- i) For proper implementation of the provisions relating to Crèche facilities in Mines as per the provisions of Mines Crèche Rules, 1966;
- ii) Pass any other order/orders, direction/directions, writ/writs in the facts and circumstances of the present writ petition deemed fit and proper in the Best Interest of Children of working mothers;
- D. **PARTICIPATION IN THE CONSULTATION MEET ON MATERNITY ENTITLEMENT:** Two representatives from Orissa FORCES participated in the Consultation Meet on Maternity Entitlement vis-à-vis the recommendation of IInd Labour Commission at New Delhi, which was organised by the national FORCES recently. As decided in the Meet the representative of Orissa FORCES prepared a note on the recommendation of IInd Labour Commission and sent to the National Secretariat for further development so that the campaign strategy can be developed in the 9th PCM. It is in constant touch with the members regarding the strategy of the campaign to be followed on the issue later on.
- E. **PARTICIPATION IN THE SENSITIZATION MEET FOR LEGISLATORS ON SEX SELECTIVE ABORTION AND FEMALE FETICIDE:** Orissa FORCES participated in the Sensitisation Workshop being organised by NIHRD for the Members of Orissa Legislative Assembly and shared its concern over the alarming declining trend in the sex ratio in most of the urban cities of the State. It also appealed to the legislators to strictly implement the PNDT Act and review the Population Policy in this regard.
- F. **ORISSA FORCES IN NEWS:** The workshop organised by Orissa FORCES and CLAP on the issue of maternity in unorganised sector and child right have found a place in the national level news letter "My Name is Today" in Vol. X No.2.
- G. **CHALLENGES AHEAD:** Since its inception in 1999 Orissa FORCES has been earnestly pursuing the Network's agenda in Orissa and contributing to the process of Network building and Advocacy at the state and national level through active involvement and concerted endeavour.

It is worth noting that the strength of Orissa FORCES has increased to 102 in last 2 years. The group is now a big potential to emerge as a single pressure group in the state over the issue of Early Childhood Care and Development. Still many organisations in Orissa are interested to be a member of Orissa FORCES.

However, the State Secretariat is not in a position to capitalise such a big strength due to paucity of resources. Demands do come from a number of Organisations to carry on early childhood issues in an extensive and effective way. The mid-term self-evaluation reveals that there is a need to reorient the members on the current issue and role of FORCES, establishment of a semi-independent Secretariat with minimum manpower and infrastructure, regular communication and dialogue with the network members on different issues, development of specific advocacy strategy, follow up to the initiatives and above all to enable and involve as many organisation as it can in pursuing the issues of the Network in the state. But due to financial instability and unequipped Secretariat it becomes too difficult to meet these needs.

So far Orissa FORCES has not received any support from any agencies. It purely depends upon the Convenor Organisation and the contribution of some Members, which is neither sufficient nor proficient for its effectiveness and sustainability.

It is gradually realised that sharing of opinion & experience with member constituents becomes a heavy task & involves lot of financial obligation. Therefore, the Policy committee should delve deeply in to the issues and find out ways and means to address the problem. Alternatively voices of a few prevail all the time.

N: B- (Many exemplary and innovative initiatives of Orissa FORCES members are not been reflected due to non-receipt of information concerning their work in time.)

(Bikash Das)

Convenor,

Orissa FORCES.

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ACTIVITY REPORT OF TN-FORCES

NOVEMBER 2002-JUNE 2003

(Forum for Crèche and Childcare Services in Tamil Nadu,
Department of Social Work, Loyola College, Chennai)Dr.K.Shanmugavelayutham
Convenor,
TN-FORCES**Introduction:**

Started in 1992, Forum for Crèche and Childcare Services in Tamil Nadu is an advocacy network of 105 Organizations currently functioning with the Department of Social Work, Loyola College as its Secretariat. The details below are the activities for November 2002-June 2003 of the TN-FORCES Network based on the specific issues, that were addressed to influence a wide range of people including the Bureaucrats, Political Party leaders, Members of Legislative Assembly, Policy Makers, Ministers, Media NGOs, the general public etc.

1. General Body Meeting

The General Body Meeting of TN-FORCES was held on 14th December 2002. Nearly 50 participants attended the meeting.

The following decisions were taken at the meeting:

- The TN-FORCES activity should be based on the 10 point agenda decided by the Annual conference held on 16-12-2000.
- TN-FORCES should participate in the Asia Social Forum to be held in Hyderabad.
- TN-FORCES will host 9th PCM of National FORCES at Ooty.
- Southern Regional Consultation for Maternity Entitlement (II National Labour Commission) will be organized by TN-FORCES either at Bangalore or Chennai.
- This year TN-FORCES will organize the programme to sensitize the various stakeholders in the unreached areas –Nilgiris, Dharmapuri, Theni and Namakkal Districts.
- Nursery Admission Procedures guidelines will be finalised and published in the form of booklets.
- TN-FORCES will undertake a survey on the magnitude and problems of Migrant Labourers in Tamil Nadu.

2. Protest Demonstration**The issues addressed**

It is true there are many ongoing Government schemes, programmes and assistance towards working women. But, whether these programmes are appropriate, adequate and fair is the question. Demanding immediate and comprehensive remedial measures towards this hitherto unresolved issues are the central objective of TN-FORCES' current Campaign.

Demand 1.

Allocate 1% of State GSDP towards childcare services in Tamil Nadu.

Tamil Nadu's allocation for childcare services is a meager 0.02 %. An alarming 40 % of the families below poverty line are left uncovered by any childcare services in Tamil Nadu. Though there are childcare centres spread all over Tamil Nadu, remote villages, slum areas and many hill areas are yet to be covered. An amount of Rs. 2,318/- alone has been spent by the Government per Centre apart from food expenses. The allocation for food per child per day is again a bare minimum of 35 paise (17 ps. towards – vegetables, 7ps. - towards oil etc., 11 ps. – towards fuel, 0.5 ps. –towards salt). With 17. paise you cannot even buy four *Chundaikkais!*(SeeAnnexure-5) It is obvious that the allocated amount is insufficient to provide even the basic care. If the childcare services should be one as it is envisaged to be, then 1% of the State's GSDP has to be allocated for a totally revamped and restructured childcare services.

Demand 2.

Raise grants given to NGOs which run Creches aided by Central and State Social Welfare Boards

It is a common phenomenon that the children of working and ailing mothers drop out of school to take care of their younger siblings. To prevent this, the CSWB and the SSWB assist NGOs to run creches. In Tamil Nadu there are 1700 creches under the Scheme. But the grant has not been revised for many years; the Government allocates a meagre amount of Rs. 1.05 /- per child per day for supplementary feed. Also, the Grant receiving NGOs have to operate under a precondition that they should not raise funds from other sources for this purpose. However, keeping in mind today's cost of living it has almost become an impossibility to run the creches with the sole money received from the Government. We demand Rs. 9/- per child per day be allocated for supplementary feed. In spite of various protests, rallies and fast held at different levels to draw Government's attention, there has been no response yet from the Government about revising the grant.

Demand 3.

Raise the assistance given under National Maternity Assistance Scheme to Rs. 3200/- and extend it to all working women without pre conditions:

This Scheme extends a cash assistance of Rs. 500 /- to pregnant women below poverty line with a pre condition that they have not less than two children. The objective is to compensate the loss of income during this period enabling access to nutritious food and helping the infant to secure its right to mother's feed and care. Though many women apply for the benefit, they do not get the amount in the time of their need. This Scheme needs a revision in order to help the women who are forced to return to work within few months of childbirth due to financial constraints. We demand to raise the assistance to Rs.3,200 keeping in mind today's cost of living and make this Scheme applicable to all pregnant mothers below poverty line without any pre conditions.

Demand 4.**Raise the overall quality standards of ICDS**

ICDS project are designed in an integrated manner to benefit the undernourished children, pregnant and lactating mothers, to prevent malnutrition and allied illnesses. This program is intended to meet the developmental needs of children since their conception till they attain six years which includes, nutritious food and stimulative environment for physical and mental development.

This program is executed through childcare centres (Anganwadi Centres) in all 29 Districts with 434 projects (urban 47, Rural 385 and Tribal 2). In Tamil Nadu there are 30,125 ICDS centers. 8,19,846 children below six years are benefited through this Scheme. But facilities (toilet, water, space) for a hygienic environment are not available in these centres. Facilities to take care of children between 0-2 years of age are almost not available. Quality pre-school education is not imparted and teaching aids are not provided. A safe and clean environment is the foundation for child health and development.

- Ensure toilets and safe drinking water in every childcare centre.
- Provide for safe drinking water and sanitation facilities in every village and every urban slum.

Demand 5.**Under the current Government programs modify the creches' location and timing to fit the requirements of the beneficiaries; set up creches in slums and in places of occupation.**

The child care needs of working women vary with their occupation and habitation. But the available services do not suit their needs. The timings of the childcare programs don't correspond to the needs of working mothers (See Annexure-1). The existing childcare centres need to be shifted to areas where they are needed.

The existing child care centres very often are not located to the mothers' convenience and women are hence unable to utilise them fully. To benefit the working mothers, creches should go to the people, wherever they are needed. For example, at:

- Quarries and construction sites
- Markets in urban areas
- Remote hamlets
- Adidravidar Colonies
- In areas where agriculture women workers live and near every primary and middle school for girls

Yes, We demand a change in the location and timings of the childcare centres.

Demand 6.**Pay fair salary to child care workers based on experience**

In the ICDS Scheme, the Anganwadi worker is paid a monthly honorarium of Rs. 1,100/- and the helper Rs. 600/-. In the Scheme of assistance to NGOs to run creches, the CSWB allocates Rs. 550/- to the worker and Rs. 250/- for the helper. In the Scheme assisted by SSWB, the worker and the helper are paid Rs. 300/- and Rs 100/- respectively. It has been 8 years since the Nursery teachers of Private Institutions have been included in the Sec. 27 of the Minimum Wages Act 1948. But the minimum wage is yet to be fixed. The

pay differs in various places (See Annexure-4). The childcare workers and the Nursery School teachers who work in the capacity as the First Teacher of the child are not paid duly. We demand a fair salary for them.

Demand 7

Introduce decentralization in childcare services

Child welfare is one of the components in the Schedule 234G of 73rd and 74th Amendments of the Indian Constitution. Hence the responsibility of delivering the childcare services could be laid upon the elected local bodies.

There will be a better delivery of childcare services only if decentralization is carried out with people's participation, which gains the efforts of the people in childcare services. The objective of decentralization is to involve the childcare workers and the people in decision making.

- Decentralise the management of child care services to the local level.
- Recognise and strengthen local community initiatives in child care services.

Demand 8

As per various Labour Welfare Laws, Government should enforce implementation of childcare services & maternity benefits in the organised sectors.

Laws with reference to crèches exist primarily in relation to this sector. The Factories Act (1948) the Mines Act (1950) and the Plantations Act (1951) make it obligatory for the employer to provide crèches for children age 0-6 wherever more than stipulated minimum of women is employed in factories, mines and plantations. These laws have not been amended to keep pace with the changing economic situation and are largely irrelevant to present-day working conditions, besides being applicable only to a small minority of working women.

The chief limitation of these laws is the insistence on a minimum number of women workers for the law to become applicable. It omits certain categories of workers such as those employed in small establishments, temporary workers, casual workers, contract workers. Etc.

Most of the Industrial Estates and Factories do not provide crèches for working women as per the law. We demand a strict implementation of this law, which will ensure proper care for the children of working women.

Maternity leave (under Maternity Benefit Act, 1961 and Employees State Insurance Act, 1950) should be provided for sixteen weeks (or four months) from the date of childbirth, with special provision for pregnancy leave during the last two to four weeks of pregnancy. Nursing breaks of 40 minutes duration may be allowed till the child reaches the age of 12 months. The same rules should be applicable to all women, whether employees of Government Department and Government institutions or in the private sector or voluntary sector.

Demand 9.

In the unorganised sector, Government should take steps to provide creche facilities, maternity leave and other benefits.

In Tamil Nadu many lakhs of women are employed in the unorganized sectors. For their benefit, there are no proper childcare services. At present Government of Tamil Nadu has

forces district
Committee in 1968
dis fact

set up Tamil Nadu Construction Labour Welfare Board, Physical Labour and Social Security and Welfare Board, Tailors welfare Board, Auto Rickshaw and Taxi Drivers Welfare Board, Hair Dressers Welfare Board, Handicrafts Workers Welfare Board, Palmyra Workers Welfare Board. But these boards have no schemes in childcare services. Except Tamil Nadu Construction Welfare Board all other Boards are virtually defunct. In the unorganized sector, the Contract Labour Act (1970) and the Inter-State Migrant Workers' Act (1980) which is an upgraded version of the former, as well as the Bidi and Cigar Workers Act (1966) attempt to legislate the provision of crèches. But the implementation is very poor.

Demand 10

Introduce Code of Regulation to govern private nursery schools.

There has been an unprecedented growth in the number of nursery schools both in the rural and urban areas. These Schools hold various names like, Childcare Centres, Children School, Crèches, Day Care Centre, Play School, Pre School, Kinder Garden, Montessori School etc. According to Dr. Tamil Kudi Magan, Minister for Tamil Language, Culture and Development, there are 20,000 unrecognized pre schools in Tamil Nadu alone (Dinamani 17.11.98). The Chitti Babu Committee report states that there were only 26 unrecognized pre schools in 1947 but the number has been increased to 10,000 in 1992. According to our calculations there are 20,000 unrecognized pre schools in the State.

To regulate the nursery schools, there is a Code of Regulation for Approved Nursery and Primary Schools (GO MS No. 484 / Education dt. 24.4.91 as amended in GO MS No. 349, Education dt. 31.3.93), Govt. of Tamil Nadu.

But these codes of regulation are applicable only to the recognized schools, which function under the Directorate of Elementary Education. But these regulations are common for pre schools and Matriculation Schools, i.e., common for children between 3 to 14 years of age. This again is obscure, as many regulations are not relevant to younger children – pre school children (See Annexure-8).

According to the Code of Regulation, Chapter VI, Section 17 provision: only lady teachers are to be appointed for Nursery Classes (B) the teachers to be appointed in future in the existing approved nursery schools and the teachers to be appointed in the New Nursery Schools to be opened should be qualified trained teachers only. But it is not clearly mentioned who is a qualified trained teacher. The Codes are only for Matriculation Schools. The training Institutes do not function any more. So in most of the Schools untrained or teachers with inappropriate training for children are appointed for less salary. The number of trained teachers is scarce (See Annexure- 9).

We demand the following:

- A separate code of regulation for pre school education.
- Recognize training institutes that deliver appropriate training.
- Appoint only trained teachers for pre schools.

To press the 10 Point demands a protest demonstration was held on March 3, 2003 at Chennai. 300 women labourers participated. National Federation of Indian Women Tamil Nadu General Secretary Mrs. Shanthakumari, Tamil Nadu AITUC Secretary, Mr. T.R.S. Mani Mrs. Geetha, Nirman Mazdoor Panchayat Sangh, Mrs. Padmini Sivasubramanian, of Women Voluntary Services participated. After the demonstration a

Memorandum consisting of demands was presented to the Secretary, Social Welfare; Secretary, Labour Welfare and Educational Secretary.

3. Lobbying Work

a) Lobbying with Legislators:

TN-FORCES lobbied with members of Legislative Assembly of Tamil Nadu on various pressing issues related to young children in ICDS centers and rise of salaries to Anganwadi workers. The Budget Sessions pertaining to Labour Welfare and Social Welfare grant were held on 23rd and 25th April 2003 respectively. The Charter of demands pertaining to young children included increasing the allocation of Budget pertaining to per child per day for food at ICDS centers from 35 paise to Rs. 2/-

Besides the Charter of demands, it was brought to the notice of the Opposition party legislators that beginning with first week of April, ICDS centers have not been supplied with Green Dhal and Chenna dhal. The legislators were also given samples of the poor quality of cereals and pulses supplied to ICDS centers.

The following are the Members of Legislature met by TN-FORCES.

1. Shri. S.R.Balasubramanian, Indian National Congress.
2. Shri G.K. Mani, Pattali Makkal Katchi.
3. Shri G.Palnichamy, Communist Party of India.
4. Shri Hemachandren, Communist Party of India (Marxist).

b) Lobbying with Bureaucrats:

TN-FORCES team met Mr. G. Ramakrishnan, I.A.S Project Co-ordinator of World Bank Integrated Child Development Services-3 on 13-11-2002 and discussed issues like Child Friendly Toilet, Workshop about preparation of Curriculum and improving Oral Communication skills etc. Government is going to consider some of the points raised by the TN-FORCES.

On 26th March, 2003 TN-FORCES team met Mr.G.Ramakrishnan, I.A.S and discussed about the regulations of Nursery Schools. The team consisted of Mrs. Mina Swaminathan, Mrs.Usha Raghavan and the Convenor of TN-FORCES.

c) Brain Storming Session: Government has ordered upgradation of 5000 ICDS Centers to full-fledged nursery schools. To get the opinion of experts, for the upgrading, in the field before formulating the plan of action on the development of strategies, Government organised the brainstorming session on 7th May 2003. TN-FORCES team participated and offered following suggestions.

1. Provision of Uniforms.
2. Upgrading of Oral Communication skills.
3. Quality improvement Infrastructures.

4. Capacity Building:

a) Training of Pre-School Teachers:

TN-FORCES conducted training for nearly 15 Pre School Teachers from the Malaysian Pre-School Teachers Association on Activity based Developmentally Appropriate Curriculum. We also arranged training for them in ICCW, Children's Garden School, Chennai and in other places in Tamil Nadu including Gandhi Gram.

b) Professional Social Workers

TN-FORCES along with the Professional Social Workers Forum held a State Level Conference on Early Childhood Care and Development at the Madras School of Social Work on December 7th 2002. There were nearly 200 participants, Students, NGO Representatives, Academicians and Research Scholars presented papers on ECCD. Mr. Vijayakumar Commissioner of Police of Chennai and Mrs. Mina Swaminathan participated

c) Trainers Training Programme:

Institute of Human Rights Education organized Trainers Training programme for the Lawyers and NGOs from May 8 to 13 2003 at Coonoor. In that meet TN-FORCES participated as a Resource person in the ECCD subject.

d) Working with Panchayat Leaders:

With the help of Centre for Child Rights and TANPIC one day Consultation with Village Panchayat Presidents in Trivellore District was held on 3-12-2002. In that meet Role of Panchayat in ECCD was stressed. Nearly 150 Village Panchayat Presidents participated.

5. Network Activities

a) Crèches for working and Ailing Mothers scheme

As you are aware, consistent advocacy from our part to revise the Scheme of Assistance to Voluntary Agencies to run crèches for the Children of Working and Ailing mothers is yet to evoke a positive response from the Government. A meeting was held for NGOs receiving the assistance from Central Social Welfare Board to develop a plan of action, on 24 February 2003.

District Level programme

b) Coimbatore District Quality Childcare Services

Seminar on Quality childcare services was held on 18th March 2003 at Coimbatore. Mrs. Shymala, the State Co-ordinator of Pennurimai Iyyakkam presided over the seminar. Mr. Gopal, Working President, Mr. Sanathanswamy of Nirman Mazdoor Panchayat Sangh Tmt. Jaydevei, Tmt. Mallika, Mrs. Lakshmi, Mrs. Palayam, Mrs. Leelavathi and Mr. Anandan of Manual Workers Association participated. Around 200 women members of Self Help Groups and Unorganised women labourers participated. The purpose of the meeting was to sensitize the need for quality childcare services.

c) Thiruvellore District

TN-FORCES Members in Thiruvellore District met on 5th June, 2003 at Thiruvallur and discussed about plan of action. Twenty five members from Nine agencies participated. The outcome of the meeting is to organize sensitization programme for Local Body members and Trainers training programme for NGOs who are involved in the Self Help Group work.

d) Pre-School Subgroup meeting: On February 8, 2003 Pre-school subgroup meeting was held at ICCW to finalize the programme schedule for the preparation of curriculum.

e) Educational Manual

Educational Reports in Tamil Nadu have cited the archaic Educational Rules and instructions given in the past as one of the main reasons for turning way children from the poorer backgrounds especially with the illiterate parents. Government has constituted a Committee to bring out, Acts and Rules by suggesting suitable changes and notifications and make the existing codes, acts and rules relevant and forward looking to suit the present needs and also to cater to the future demands of all the stake holders. In this

context , Government of Tamil Nadu constituted a High Level Committee for the preparation of Educational Manual.

First level State level meeting was held on January 10, 2003. Various NGO representatives participated. In that committee Taskforce was constituted to examine the changes and provide suggestions in the Educational rules. Taskforce met on January 23 and 30, 2003 and discussed the recommendations (See Annexure-2).

Third level State level meeting was held on February 8. Experts from disability NGOs, Educational experts, and retired officials participated (See Annexure-3).

A State Level Consultation Meeting on the Tamil Nadu Education Manual was held on March 9, 2003 at Trichy in collaboration with National Educational Group.

On 17th March a team including TN-FORCES representative met the High-level Committee Chairman Mr. A. Muthukrishnan, Secretary; Mr. Palaniyandi; Members: Director of Matriculation Schools, Mr. Narayanaswami; Mr. P. Santhanakrishnan and discussed the changes to be made in the Educational manual.

6. Research Activity - Workshop on Tamil Proverbs

TN-FORCES convened a Workshop on Tamil Proverbs on May 19, 2003. The Director of Tamil Development Department, Government of Tamil Nadu, Dr. M. Rajendran participated (See Annexure-6).

Objectives of the workshop.

- To identify and review the existing Tamil Proverbs that are outdated and against the interest of young children, girl children and the disabled people.
- To evolve New Proverbs in the place of existing derogatory proverbs as and where necessary.

Forty participants including Tamil Scholars, Representatives from Non Governmental Organisations and Social Workers were present in the workshop (See Annexure-7).

Professor R.K. Nagu, Retired Chief Professor, Department of Tamil, Presidency College, Chennai chaired the Panel Discussion. Dr. L.S. Saraswathi, Educationist who was a panelist focussed on Proverbs on Maternity and Early Childhood. Mr. G. Chidambaramathan, President, Federation for the Physically Handicapped dwelled upon the proverbs that are against the dignity of the disabled. Ms. Bhuvaneshwari, Research Scholar, Department of Social Work, focused on Feminist thoughts and Proverbs.

Following the Panel Discussion, the participants worked in groups to evolve new proverbs. 1000 proverbs were identified for the review. Around 200 new proverbs were formulated. The new proverbs some of which were reforms in the old proverbs and some altogether afresh were presented during the valedictory. Dr. Muthiah, Joint Director, Social Welfare presented the Valedictory Speech and assured that the new proverbs could be taken to the people through the 30,000 ICDS centers in the state.

Outcome of the Workshop

Through the workshop new proverbs were formulated based on the following points.

- Gender insensitive proverbs were discarded
- Corporal Punishments were abandoned
- Role of both parents in child care was stressed
- Gender Equity
- Rights of the Disabled
- Young Child's Right for Breastmilk

7. International Forum -Asia Social Forum

The posters to be presented by TN-FORCES at the Asia Social Forum, Hyderabad was released among the entire group participating in the Asian Social Forum, at Memorial Hall on January 1, 2003.

TN-FORCES participated in the Asia Social Forum from 3rd to 5th January 2003 at Hyderabad. TN-FORCES represented by 30-member team including 20 children staged number of street plays in the venue regarding impact of globalisation on childcare. Children enacted these street plays. TN-FORCES brought out 14 different posters on the topic 'Globalization's impact on childcare', in English and Hindi.

8. Working with Allies:

a) Budget Analysis:

ICCW had undertaken a research study regarding Budget analysis for the child welfare programmes. A draft of recommendations was presented. TN-FORCES participated on January 30, 2003 and offered suggestions. TN-FORCES supported the research study and offered necessary help in the ECCD.

b) Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act, 2002.

TNVHA organized two day training programme for NGO representatives, Doctors to sensitize the Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act, 2002. TN-FORCES participated as resource persons and circulated the paper regarding the Role of civil society in the implementation of PNDT Act including NGOs.

c) Habitational Justice- National Seminar

The National Forum for Housing Rights, Indore, along with TN-FORCES and Chennai Slum Dwellers Movement, Chennai, held a National Level Seminar on 'Habitational Justice For All' at Chennai from 24-26, January 2003. Finally Chennai Declaration was announced.

d) Women Struggle Committee

TN- Forces along with the Women's Struggle Committee held a protestation against the arrest of Sr. Lucy, a lawyer activist on 31st December 2002.

e) Bharat Yatra

TN-FORCES participated in the Bharat Yatra. In that context, a protest against Globalisation was held in front of Memorial Hall on February 3rd, 2003 along with the Women's Struggle Committee and The Narmada Bachao Andolan Movement's chief Metha Patkar.

f) National Commission for women

A Public Hearing was organised by the National Commission for Women, New Delhi with the help of Women Struggle Committee and Chennai Coastal Fishermen Protection Committee and the Chennai Slum Dwellers Rights Movement also made its presence felt on 21-05-2003. In that Public Hearing TN-FORCES deposed before the Commission on the issue of threat of slum eviction on women and children.

g) Healthy Environment of Children

TN-FORCES associated with Vijaya Health Centre and participated in a Workshop stressing the importance of Child Health and Environment on 4th March, 2003 at Vijaya Health Centre, Chennai.

h) Campaign Against Child Labour- Tamil Nadu

TN-FORCES participated in the State Level Convention and Public Hearing on girl child Labourers, on 26 and 27th February, 2003 organised by CACL.

i) Joint Action Committee for Unorganised Labour:

Joint Action Committee for Unorganised Labour and TN-FORCES jointly organized Hall meeting on 21 April on the eve of the Budget Session. Various unorganised sectors leaders participated. Finally a Memorandum was submitted to the Hon'ble Minister for Labour welfare.

k) National Campaign for Child Rights

National Campaign for Child Rights organized Regional Consultation – South India on May 26, 2003 hosted by ASSEFA and Save the Children Canada (SCC). The deliberations focused on two broad areas namely: National Commission for Children Bill – 2001, and Child Labour Legislation based on the Proposed Child Labour Elimination and Education Bill – 2003. Finally a set of recommendations were finalised

9. Publications

1. "The must for Nursery Admission" Guidelines Booklet both in Tamil and English.
2. Mother's Milk is the best food for the Children-Tamil Booklet.
3. Ten-Points Programme to improve the Quality of Child Care Services- Tamil Booklet.

10. Newsletters:-

Three Newsletters were published by TN-FORCES in the month of December- 2002, March and June 2003 reporting about the activities. A Special Newsletter was also released for the 'Educational Manual'.

Issues:

- Over the years number of ICDS centers has gradually reduced from 38,000 to 30,000.
- Only of late Government is pursuing community Participation concept.
- Mushrooming of Private Nursery schools leads to reduction in strength in ICDS centers.
- Various Labour Welfare Boards yet to establish Crèches inspite of sustained campaign.
- Government bureaucrats are often changing leading to difficulty in Lobbying and advocacy work.

Annexures:-

1. City Express: She is a mother. She is also a daily Labourer.
2. News Today :Plea to do away with Corporal Punishments.

3. City Express :Govt urged to re-frame TN Education Rules.
4. City Express: Higher Work load encumbers ICDS Chennai Project.
5. The Hindu: Chennai office refusing to clear increased amount:Workers.
6. City Express: Workshop on Gender Sensitisation Today.
7. The Hindu: Talk of the Town.
8. The New Indian Express: Are Matriculation Schools Commercialising Education?
9. City Express :Admission Interviews, a tough call for a child.

The Future Of Their Children Is The Top Concern Of Thousands Of Women Labourers Who Have Migrated To Chennai

She is a mother, she is also a daily labourer

By Dhanya Parthasarathy

Chennai, Dec 17

IF you thought being a Mom was a breeze, try this: Being a mother, saddled with a demanding vocation, extended working hours, no maid, an equally busy husband and two wailing toddlers — while earning what's known as the 'minimum wage'.

That's precisely the job description of a woman labourer who has migrated to the city along with her family in search of a job.

Chennai is home to thousands of such families who have temporarily migrated from their villages in search of work — either in a construction site, a quarry or a brick kiln.

"Most of the time, these workers are not even paid minimum wages. Their living conditions are appalling — they have to live on the pavements with no access to drinking water, no toilets and absolutely no amenities," says R Geetha, the Additional Secretary of

the Nirman Mazdoor Panchayat Sangh, a non-governmental organisation. "Their children are the worst affected," she says.

Selvi, who has migrated from Villupuram, takes her six-month-old Silambarasan to her workplace, where she and her husband dig up roads five metres deep to lay optic fibre cables. "I have no place to leave Silambarasan. I take breaks to breast-

International Day Of Solidarity With Migrant Workers

feed him," she says.

A recent study conducted on 800 married women migrant workers revealed that an overwhelming number of mothers — 87 percent — do not leave their children in a *balwadi* because of "the distance, timings and dissatisfaction with existing centres".

The study was conducted on 800 married women migrant labourers between the age group of 21 to 40 years by Dr K Shanmugavelayutham, who

is also the convenor TN FORCES, and MBhuvaneswari of the Department of Social Work, Loyola College.

Dr B S Virudhagirinathan, a psychologist, says migrant labourers work very hard to ensure that their children don't fall into the poverty trap. But the migrant and temporary nature of the work plays havoc with the child's education.

L C Rajkumar, senior executive,

development support division of Child Relief and You, points out the singular lack of child care facilities targeted specifically at migrant labourers. "The early child care facilities for children of migrant labourers should be taken up as a special case. That's because the children are exposed to hazardous conditions," he adds.

He cites the possibility of a creche on wheels in Mumbai, where a well-equipped mobile van goes to pick up

What Migrant Mothers Want...

...From The Government

1. Child care centres near the workplace to suit their working hours
2. Free education/ a monthly stipend for educating the children
3. Medical care for the child by a doctor

...From The NGOs

1. Evening/night tuitions for older children
2. Non-formal education for older children
3. Immunisation and medical care

toddlers from various work sites in the morning. The van has an *ayah* and a teacher. The children play in the van and are dropped back at their respective sites in the evenings. "This van is a safe place for the children away from the risky work zone of their parents," he says.

Dr Virudhagirinathan suggests schemes where builders, who employ construction workers, can set aside at least half a percent of the profits for an

educational fund. "The workers will be grateful to the builder for life," he says. The law recognises the needs of only Interstate Migrant labourers and promises the workers a large number of benefits including medical aid, creches and canteens.

Labourers like Selvi, who have migrated from within Tamil Nadu, however, fall under the jurisdiction of the Tamil Nadu Manual Workers Act 1982. Though this Act provides for registration of employers and workers, recruitment and disbursement of wages, the schemes it offers for child care and welfare do not suit or target the specific needs of migrants like Selvi and thousands of other migrant mothers, scattered across Tamil Nadu.

MONDAY 7
10 FEBRUARY 2003

NEWS TODAY

Plea to do away with corporal punishments

NT Bureau

Chennai, Feb 10:

Speakers at a State-level consultation on 'Tamilnadu Education Manual' held here on Saturday have stressed that the manual should have separate section on Role of Local Bodies on Education based on 73rd and 74th amendments and pointed out that rules for tuition should be removed and in the admission application form, parent (including mother) should be included instead of father/guardian.

A press release here said the consultation, which was jointly organised by Tamilnadu Forum for Creche and Childcare Services (TN-FORCES) and the Tamilnadu People's Forum for Social Development (TNPFS), also

stressed the need for uniform law for the elementary education irrespective of minority, non-minority, matriculation, government, private and inclusion of all the stakeholders including teachers, parents, administrators, representatives of local bodies and NGOs.

The meeting came up with 12 major recommendations which included doing away with corporal punishments and removal of Section 51 of Tamilnadu Education rules which permit corporal punishments; introduction of a separate Act for nursery schools to regulate donations for admission, admission fees, teachers salary, admission tests; introduction of uniform age at admission as completion of six years for Class I; all the disabled children should be admitted in the normal school and pro-

vide inclusive education based on the 'Persons with Disability Act - 1995'; rewrite all rules in simple Tamil and make it available to all officials of Education Department, schools, teachers, parents, public and the children.

The consultation also sought to include information about the existing scholarships in the manual and make it available in all the schools; removal of clause on expulsion of the students and entering negative marks on the record sheet of the student that spoil the entire career of the student; introduce alternative evaluation methods to save the teachers' time and their creativity; the rules of the government on education must be child-centred and child-friendly among others, the press release said.

Govt urged to re-frame TN Education Rules

Express News Service

Chennai, Feb 11.

TAMIL Nadu Forum for Creche and Child Care Services (TN-FORCES) has urged the government to re-frame the Tamil Nadu Education Rules to make schools child-friendly and to provide inclusive education for the disabled children.

Children with disabilities have the right to education in normal schools under the Persons with Disability Act (1995), K Shanmugavelayutham, TN-FORCES convenor, said. Special children including those who are

physically and mentally challenged should be absorbed into schools which have a child-centric approach.

Shanmugavelayutham also called for amendments to the Tamil Nadu Education Manual. "Section 15 of TN Education Rule says that no pupil should be allowed into the school with his shoes on unless the shoes are of English pattern and unless socks are worn. The Corporation or Government schools are filled with children from middle and lower middle class and they will not be able to afford the shoes," he said calling for its immediate removal.

Coming down strongly on corporal pun-

ishment, he said the section 51 (a) "permitted six cuts of the cane on the hands" to be administered by or under the supervision of the headmaster. "This barbarous form of treating children should be done away with. The clause that children can be punished for deliberate lying, obstinacy or flagrant insubordination cannot have a place in the modern day school," he said.

At a recent state-level consultation held recently by TN-FORCES, Tamil Nadu Primary School Improvement Campaign and Tamil Nadu People's Forum for Social Development, educators also called for uniform law for elementary education irrespective of minority,

matriculation, government status.

Shanmugavelayutham said archaic provisions such as only the father being the guardian of the child and provisions for tuition after school hours, made a mockery of the system. "It is in the welfare of the child that mother should also be the guardian," he said adding the provision on tuition that it should not exceed 12 hours a week, etc. has added to the burden that children carried.

The recommendations, including those on making primary education free and introducing alternative evaluation systems, could be forwarded to the high-level committee formed under TANSICHE director Muthukrishnan.

Higher work load encumbers ICDS Chennai project

By Krithika Ramalingam

Chennai, Feb 21

THE government's plans of strengthening women's empowerment schemes in the State by transforming 'Mothers' groups' of World Bank-assisted Integrated Child Development Project into SHGs has run into rough weather.

The culprit here seems to be the overzealous Project Officers (POs) of the nutrition programme who have put the entire onus on the Anganwadi helpers and teachers.

Agitated Anganwadi teachers told the *The New Indian Express*: "We have been forced to start at least five SHGs with the mothers of the children in our Anganwadi. Our duties include collecting monthly savings and subscription and starting bank accounts for them. We then have to obtain a loan for them to start the enterprise of their choice."

An Anganwadi teacher from a Pulianthope centre alleges that the workload on teachers has been increasing without any additional monetary benefit. "We still continue to earn Rs 1,340 per month despite greater responsibilities," says another teacher from North Chennai. Social Welfare Department officials, however, contradict the teachers' contention and insist only "approved NGOs" could start self-help groups. "Administrative instructions were issued to form 850 groups with the help of 15 NGOs. The teachers will help the NGOs to identify the women in Mothers' groups. The support cost and the training component for the scheme are to be handed over to the NGOs."

While the government is categorical about the role of the child care staff, Anganwadi teachers swear that "oral directions" from project officers have set the five-SHG target for them. Officials believe it could be the handiwork of overzealous POs who have set their own target.

When contacted, a senior PO insists no such oral order has been issued. "We had asked the Anganwadi teachers to open up the centres to NGOs and Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women for a meeting place for the mothers' groups. And nothing else." Meanwhile, Anganwadi workers say their ever increasing itinerary has burned them out. With a duty list of maintaining immunisation schedules, weighing and identifying malnourished children, preparing and distributing the nutritious balls to the evening pre-school children in the six months to three years group, the demand on them has left them unmotivated.

Says P Shanmughavelayutham, TN-FORCES convenor, "The nutrition and economic activities should be kept separate mainly because the crushing work load on the teachers hardly matches the minimum wages they earn." Though they are skilled workers in education and nutritional aspects, they have no training in starting SHGs and hand-holding till the groups become economically viable, he adds.

Supriya Sahu, Director of Social Welfare Department and a member of the TNCDW, says implementing SHG programme in urban areas has always been a challenge. Any programme of empowerment in metros is difficult as the compulsions are too many. Sahu, however, adds it has the potential to address both economic aspect and nutritional poverty that dog urban slums.

ANGANWADIS / ALLOCATION FOR NUTRITION

Chennai office refusing to clear increased amount: workers

By Ramya Kannan

CHENNAI, MARCH 3. The benefits of the increased allocation for nutrition in anganwadis (from 23 paise to 35 paise per child) approved in December last are yet to reach the children of Chennai.

While near satisfactory implementation has been noted in other parts of the State, the anganwadi workers of the Chennai projects complain that the increase of 12 paise has not yet been sanctioned for them. The order for the increased allocation came on December 5, 2002, sanctioning 15 paise for vegetables, 9 paise for masala and condiments and 11 paise for fuel. The hike was sanctioned after frantic appeals by anganwadi workers who struggled to make ends meet and provide necessary rations for the children at their centres. Following persistent complaints from the Anganwadi workers' unions, an announcement made in last year's Budget was followed up with actual sanction only late last year.

However, the workers are once again up in arms, complaining that the Chennai project office is refusing to clear the sanctioned sum to most of the centres. One of the representatives of the anganwadi workers working in the Egmore area says running the centre has once again become a problem with the sanctions failing to come through.

"We expected that the new allocation would bring relief, at least in terms of procuring fuel allocation, which we always found difficult. We have to put in our own money for the feeding

charges and even when we submit bills, they are not cleared for several months. Centres in Royapuram, RK.Nagar and Choolai are still awaiting the money spent in January", an anganwadi worker says, on condition of anonymity.

While the children in the other centres are benefiting from the increased allocation, the workers ask, why should children in Chennai alone continue to be deprived? In addition, they also complain that the supplies, such as the chickpeas ration provided to centres through the PDS are rotten and cannot be fed to the children, a worker from Royapuram centre says. Oil supplies have also not been received over the last three months, so the cooks are forced to avoid using oil to prepare the food. "The children do not like the taste of the food and we have a problem trying to get them to eat it," she says.

The TN-FORCES convener, P.Shanmugavelayutham, points out that these deficiencies in the system continue despite the Chief Minister's mandate to make Tamil Nadu a mal-nutrition free State.

In response to the complaints made by the workers, the project officer in Chennai says no irregularities exist in the sanction of feeding charges. "It is not true that there is any outstanding amount pending clearance at any of the centres. We clear the bills as soon as we receive them", she retorts. With regards rotten grains, the PO contends that the chickpeas are delivered in good condition, but because of the storage problems in the anganwadis, rot sets in.

CityExpress

Chennai, Monday, May 19, 2003

With The New Indian Express

Workshop on gender sensitisation today

■ After the "Kudimagal" change to Tamil, much more is set to happen. Following the example set by Tamil Nadu Chief Minister in trying to evolve a sensitive Tamil language, TN-Forces will hold a workshop tomorrow to make Tamil a gender-sensitive and politically correct language.

With names such as "Pothum Ponnu" (enough of girl children) and adages like "Pon poranda mathiri" (a slip-shod work) in common currency especially in the female infanticide-prone areas, the workshop will aim at removing outdated proverbs and evolving new ones to ensure equality and justice to the girl children and the disabled. Tamil scholars, including the State Tamil Development Department Director, M Rajendran, R K Nagu, social scientists like Prof Saraswathi and others will participate in the deliberations ~ ENS



■ CLOSE ON the heels of the Chief Minister's announcement in the Assembly that 'kudimagal' would hitherto indicate a female citizen, a city based NGO held a workshop on Tamil proverbs, to weed out derogatory references to other disadvantaged groups.

Seizing the opportunity and the break that the Chief Minister's announcement gave them, TN Forces, a forum for creche and childcare services in Tamil Nadu, convened a workshop with the specific aim of taking the CM's initiative further. Explaining the goals of the programme, K. Shanmugavelayutham, of TN

Forces said, they included identifying and reviewing the existing Tamil proverbs that are against the interests of girl children and disabled people, and replace these derogatory proverbs with others.

Around 40 participants including Tamil scholars, representatives from NGOs, and social workers contributed towards this revamping of the language. Some 1000 proverbs came up for review and 200 new proverbs were evolved during the exercise. It was also decided to take these new lines to the people through the 30,000 ICDS centres in the state.

Are matriculation schools commercialising education?

Point Counterpoint

The government wants to provide education for all children from 6 to 14 years. But it does not have the resources to open more schools. As a result, the stake of the private players in school education has increased. But are the private matriculation schools doing a service to the students. Or are they commercially exploiting them. The voices differ:

Yes, they do

Chennai, May 25: "There can be no doubt that matriculation schools are commercially exploiting parents. Right from the sale of application forms to admitting students, it is an expensive affair. Parents have to pay huge sums as donation and the child has to undergo tests and interview even for admission to the kindergarten", says Professor K Shanmugavelayutham, convenor, Tamil Nadu Forum for Creche and Child Care Service (TN-FORCES).



"Unfortunately, the 1980 Code of Regulation for Matriculation Schools has no mention about the fee structure. This is being used conveniently by the schools to charge high fees.

"In the absence of clear-cut regulations and regular inspections, the school managements are not penalised for their arbitrary functioning. For instance, though the curriculum is prescribed by the government, schools insist that students should buy the textbooks only from them unlike State Board schools where they can be purchased from the Tamil Nadu Textbook Corporation. They collect money for notebooks, geometry box, pencils and pen. They also collect money for various functions and events.

"Another common feature in matriculation schools is that teachers are not paid adequate salaries.

"Every year, schools advertise about the success rate in the public examinations so that they can use that to collect high fees. But at the same time, a couple of months before board examinations, they summon parents of average students and advise them not to send their son or daughter for the public examination. This is done just to get cent per cent results.

"Therefore, there is a strong need for streamlining matriculation schools in the State," concludes Shanmugavelayutham. •ENS

Wrong notion

"It is wrong to say that matriculation schools commercialise education because we provide quality education to a section of affluent student community," says Grace George, president, Association of Matriculation Schools, TN and Pondy.

"At the same time, we are easing the burden on government by providing education to all. We are actually extending support to the government with the best infrastructure available and with a qualified staff. So, what we are doing is a service. Sometimes we have to collect donations and a higher fees because our schools do not receive any government help.

"As far as pressurising students and parents are concerned, sometimes we do push them to perform well. This is because they are looking forward to get into a professional course. We are only an agency helping them to achieve their goals," Grace adds. •ENS



Many parents, after applying for admission for their kids, too have sleepless nights in anticipation of the interview

Admission interviews, a tough call for a child

By Jeeva

Chennai, May 25

AS primary education largely rests with the private sector without much control by the government, the nursery school admissions are based on huge donations and laced with unreasonable conditions. It's then not uncommon that some elite schools demand the parents be graduates and own vehicles and that students undergo admission interviews.

Education experts say these kind of practices are not only unethical but also against the child's fundamental right to education. TN-FORCES, a city based NGO, has come out with an "alternative approach" to admission to pre-school to ensure child-friendly admission procedures. It conducted two meetings with parents, teachers, academics and consumer activists on

February 16 and May 13 this year and submitted its report to the State Government. "As of now, there is no regulation for nursery schools in terms of admission, syllabus, teacher-student ratio and teachers' qualification," the report noted and urged the government to ban the admission test and set up a separate directorate for nursery education. "Early childhood education is considered significant to anyone. Denying admission to a child who is merely two-and-a-half-year old on the basis of an interview is unethical," says Dr K Shanmugavelayudham, TN-FORCES convenor, who is a professor of Loyola college.

"When the child could not even pronounce his/her own name properly, many schools collect fee to provide computer education to the children and also convene a convocation for them," he adds.

Many parents after applying for admission for their kids undergo

sleepless nights in anticipation of the interview, and their anxiety reflects on the innocent child too. "It'll affect the mental faculties of the child," laments Shanmugavelayudham.

"A child has the fear for new environment and it's not possible to assess the intelligence of the young child within a matter of few minutes," says M Bhuvanewari, a research associate in TN-FORCES.

"So it is unfair to expect a kid to answer to questions like 'tell numerals 1 to 50 or for that matter A to Z', 'what do they see in the sky during day time and at night?' and 'speak in English'," she adds. In many schools, selling of applications itself is a racket, Bhuvanewari notes and adds that the number of seats available and the number of applications sold must be in the proportion of 1:3.

The unethical practices of nursery schools have also caught the attention of the State Human Rights Commission

(SHRC) and the consumer courts alike.

K Ramasamy, president, Chennai (North) District Consumer Disputes Redressal Forum, says conducting interview to children for nursery admission is a crime. "A child's original interest could be known only if we let him/her free," he points out.

Admission procedures must be made clear and transparent. Parents have the right to information about the schools and must be aware of the required details, he argues.

"The schools must publish information leaflets on the conditions for admission, availability of seats and teachers and their experience besides the curriculum and teaching methodology," Ramasamy says.

The SHRC, which initiated action against a few private schools recently following complaints, had already instructed the Education Department to strictly monitor the nursery school admission procedures.