

Attitude of Anganwadi workers towards their job

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■ **ABSTRACT** : The Anganwadi worker is the grass root level worker entrusted with the multifarious responsibilities of the over all development of children, women and adolescent girls of a locality. The tasks undertaken are herculean compared to the meagre remuneration they receive. Considering the fact that the attitude towards a job affects work output, so attitude scale comprising of 5 components of their work patterns was framed using statistically methods. When the total attitude scores were analysed it was observed that 8 per cent of the sample obtained high scores, 89 per cent medium scores and 3 per cent low scores. Educational level was seen to have a positive significant association with attitude.

■ **KEY WORDS** : Anganwadi workers, Occupational status, Media exposure

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The integrated child development scheme (ICDS) with its network of Anganwadis covering more than 3000 CD blocks in the country is perhaps the biggest women and child development programme which is being implemented in the world (Seema, 2001).

Chattopadhyay (2004) rightly states that the Anganwadi worker (AWW) is the community based voluntary front line worker of the ICDS programme selected from the community. She assumes the pivotal role due to her close and continuous contact with beneficiaries.

The Anganwadi worker is entrusted with the multifarious and huge responsibility of the overall development of children in the age group 0-6 years, by providing an integrated package of services consisting of supplementary nutrition, immunization, health checkups, referral services, nutrition and health education to mothers and non-formal pre- school education (DISHA, 1990).

The Anganwadi worker is paid just a honorarium of Rs.1500/ and PTI, (2006) on News online rightly points out that Anganwadi worker's remuneration is woefully inadequate compared with the service they render. People and democracy (2006) adds on that, Awws do not have any job security or social security after decades of service, they do not have anything to fall back upon in their old age. Besides, they do not have any promotional avenues. There has been a cry for

higher remunerations.

Studies on the work output of the AWWs and attitude towards their work are scanty. Hence, this study has been executed.

Objectives :

- Study the attitude of fresh Anganwadi workers towards their newly acquired job.
- Identify socio economic parameters affecting their attitude towards work.

■ RESEARCH METHODS

Area of study :

Thiruvananthapuram district was selected amongst the 14 districts of Kerala.

Selection of centres :

Of the 6 centres operational in Thiruvananthapuram, 2 were selected for this study: (i) Pre-service Training Centre at College of Agriculture, Vellayani (ii) ICDS Training Centre of Kerala State Child Welfare Council.

Selection of respondents :

One hundred respondents of 3 batches of pre-service training from both of these centres were selected for the study.