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NEED AND IMPORTANCE OF CONTINUOUS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF ANGANWADI WORKERS IN ASSAM

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Abstract

Early childhood development is globally acknowledged as a significant factor for successful completion of primary education and lifelong development. Early childhood education plays a major role in the development of human resources in a country. Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) are the foundation, the ground level worker of the Anganwadi Centres, of early childhood education. Capacity building of the AWWs is necessary for quality early childhood education which in turn ensures quality human resource for future. The paper aims at studying the status of training of Anganwadi workers in Assam, finding out the adequacy of training received by them and studying the attitude of AWWs towards continuous professional development. It was found in the study that the AWWs require additional training to what they are receiving at present for which open and distance learning system is a viable alternative. Also, there is a positive attitude among the AWWs towards further training of longer duration and wider scope.

Keywords: *Early Childhood Education, Anganwadi Workers, Training.*

Introduction

Early childhood education is the foundation of the whole education system. If we need a strong education system, we need to design a strong and scientific early childhood education system. Early childhood education strives for holistic development of the child and prepares it for school. It develops readiness in the child for the demands of primary education in particular and for later stages in general. Early childhood development is globally acknowledged as a significant factor for successful completion of primary education and lifelong development. A developing nation like India cannot afford to give less attention to the future human resource of the nation. As their productivity and quality depends to a large extent on their early childhood period, so every effort should be made to provide them an appropriate atmosphere through education during the early childhood period. However, the importance of early

