

Sharing Workshop on
Processes, Findings and Experience on ICDS
Monitoring Using Accountability Tools

A Report

Supported by

Bernard van Leer Foundation (BvLF)
Bhubaneswar

Organised by



Odisha Budget and Accountability Centre (OBAC)
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Odisha, INDIA

Background:

On 27th March 2015, Odisha Budget and Accountability Centre (OBAC) of Centre for Youth and Social Development (CYSD) in partnering with BvLF (Bernard van Leer Foundation) organized a multi stakeholder sharing workshop with the eminent citizens, CSOs, Child Right Organizations, Research bodies at State and District level development partners primarily working on child right.

The basic intention behind organizing the workshop was to share the findings of the below mentioned reports and thereby building a common consensus concerning issues among the civil society organizations working on Child Right in Odisha.

- After 14th Finance Commission's Recommendation, there has been some restructuring in the funding pattern of ICDS between State and Centre. Centre's allocation towards ICDS has drastically come down by more than 50 percent. On the other hand, Government of Odisha has estimated an allocation of Rs. 843.68 Cr under ICDS in budget 2015-16. Considering these issues, OBAC has prepared an analysis on status of ICDS in State Budget 2015-16.
- OBAC, in some tribal dominated districts, this year facilitated the community participation in order to monitor the ICDS services in their neighboring Anganwadi Centres. This monitoring process was done by using the accountability tools like Expenditure Tracking, Community Score Card and Citizens' Report Card. The centre has prepared three reports such as
 1. Expenditure Tracking of ICDS budget.
 2. Citizen Report Card on ICDS services in Odisha
 3. Community Score Card on Pre-School Education

Summary of the Programme:

Shri P.K. Sahoo, Chairman and Co-founder of CYSD welcomed the delegates and gave introductory remarks. He highlighted on the significance of this workshop and framework for ICDS monitoring including OBAC's serious efforts in initiating the process at District level through local organizations involving District/Block administration, etc.



Presentations:

1. "What is there for Pre-School Education in State Budget 2015-16"
2. "Status of Pre-School Education, a Reality Check"
3. Use of Community Score Card and Citizens' Report Card for Monitoring the Services under ICDS

Panellists:

Shri Aurobinda Behera, IAS (Retd.), Shri Nageswar Pattnaik, Editor Biz Odisha, Dr. (Prof.) Bhagabata Patro, Department of Economics, Berhampur University, Dr. Laxmidhar Behera, Asst. Professor, RIE, Shri Badal Tah, Secretary, ANKURAN, Shri Sudhir Sabat, State Convenor, CACL Odisha and Shri Jagadananda, Mentor and Co-founder of CYSD.



Figure 1 : During the presentation on Community Score Card on ICDS services in Tribal Districts of Odisha

Participants: Along with State based development organizations, CSOs from Koraput, Sundargarh, Bolangir, Nuapada, Karanja, Mayurbhanj, Kalahandi, Sambalpur, Balasore, Cuttack, Puri, Khurda, Ganjam, Gajapati and network partners like CACL, VCRO and OAM also participated in the consultation

Material Distributed: The hard copies of Citizens' Report Card and Community Score Card along with the Budget Response on Pre-School Education were distributed among all the participants.

Key Recommendations by the House:

- After the Fourteenth Finance Commission's Recommendation which resulted in reduced size of Central Assistance brings the onus of running ICDS program successfully comes to the State Government. It is now imperative for the State to develop a State specific Integrated Child Development plan including district specific planning and implementation framework for desired outcome.
- Community Score Card and Citizens' Report Card are two effective accountability tools involving the community members, Aanganwadi Workers, beneficiaries of the Aanganwadi Centres and local Administrators to improve the quality of services rendered by AWCs.
- The smooth transition from informal education to the formal one for the children demands the Aanganwadi Centres to be a part of elementary education.

- Like monitoring of ICDS services the community participation can also be effective in case of implementation and evaluation of the same.
- ICDS program which is currently struggling with quality and trained human resource, lack of own buildings and closed spaces and improper budget allocation for the PSE kits can be redesigned with more clarity on the program outcome.

Proposed Action Plan:

Three major decisions were taken

- All the participants from almost 15 districts will be conducting Citizens' Report Card on the Status of ICDS services comprising 20 households and 2 AWCS in their respective districts using the tools developed by OBAC.
- OBAC has given the responsibility to compile and prepare a comprehensive report based on the findings of the above mentioned CRC reports. Encompassing the findings OBAC will organize follow up workshop to reflect the overall situation of ICDS implementation in State.
- The findings of the report will be shared with the W & CD department for their reference and further action to be taken.

Note: OBAC had a holistic discussion with the Director of Social Welfare before conducting CSC and CRC. During the preparation of these reports, the department of W & CD was in constant loop. However, due to some unscheduled department meeting the Commissioner Cum Secretary Mr. Saswat Mishra could not attend the consultation.

Media Coverage:

The findings of the reports were carried by the following print media:

- Odisha Sun Times (E-news portal of The Sambad)
<http://odishasuntimes.com/120062/68-of-anganwadis-in-odisha-do-not-have-their-own-building/>
- **Business Standard** <http://mybs.in/2RtxhWs>
The scanned copy of the article covered in the main newspaper will be shared with you soon.

ICDS Scheme Needs More State Focus, Say Experts

Express News Service

Bhubaneswar: With the 14th Finance Commission recommendations effecting a drastic cut in Central allocations for Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) scheme in Odisha, the onus is now on the State Government to take greater responsibility.

The State requires to develop district-specific integrated child development plans along with the implementation framework for desired outcome, experts stressed at a workshop recently.

In tune with the Finance Commission recommendations, the allocation for ICDS programme in Odisha has already been slashed from ₹18,108 crore in 2014-15 to ₹8,245.77 crore in 2015-16. The State Government may also not receive any fund for construction of anganwadi centre (AWC) buildings.

There are over 71,000 functional AWCs of which over 48,000 do not have their own buildings. Further, the AWCs constructed more than a decade back have begun to fall into dilapidation needing repair and renovation. How-

BUDGET CUT

➤ The allocation for ICDS programme in Odisha has been slashed from ₹18,108 cr in 2014-15 to ₹8,245.77 cr in 2015-16

➤ The State Budget has cut down on the allocations earmarking only around ₹300 crore for 2015-16 against the ₹676.41 cr in 2014-15

➤ The State Govt may also not receive any fund for construction of anganwadi centre buildings

➤ There are over 71,000 functional AWCs in the State of which over 48,000 do not have their own buildings

ever, the State Budget has been cutting down on the allocations, earmarking only around ₹300 crore for 2015-16 against the ₹676.41 crore in the revised Budget of 2014-15.

The Budget for pre-school education has remained unchanged at ₹17 crore which is

woefully low considering the revised ICDS framework of the Central Government which includes providing pre-school education kit, toybank, activity books for children and celebration of Early Childhood Care and Education Day for community awareness.

Huge vacancies in the anganwadi posts have also raised questions on implementation of ICDS programme. Of 71,306 sanctioned posts, 2,906 are vacant, reports on status of pre-school education have revealed.

A multi-stakeholder sharing workshop based on the Finance Commission recommendations was organised by Odisha Budget and Accountability Centre (OBAC) of CYSD to analyse the fallout of the Budget cuts. Chairman of CYSD PK Sahoo, former bureaucrat Aurobinda Behera, Economics Professor Bhagabata Patro, educationist Dr Laxmidhar Behera, founder member of CYSD Jagadananda, secretary of ANKURAN Badal Tah and State convener of CACL Odisha Sudhir Sabet were present.

Dt.: 30/03/2015, The New Indian Express

<http://epaper.newindianexpress.com/468900/The-New-Indian-Express>

କେନ୍ଦ୍ରୀୟ ଅନୁଦାନ ହ୍ରାସ: ଆଇସିଡିଏସ୍ ବାଧାପ୍ରାପ୍ତ ହେବ

ଭୁବନେଶ୍ୱର, ୦୩୨୭୩(ପିଏନ୍ଏସ୍): ସହଜେ ବିପର୍ଯ୍ୟୟ ସ୍ଥିତିରେ ଥିବା ସମନ୍ୱିତ ଶିଶୁ ବିକାଶ ଯୋଜନା (ଆଇସିଡିଏସ୍) ଆହୁରାବେଶି ପ୍ରଭାବିତ ହେବା ଆଶଙ୍କା ଉପୁଜୁଛି। ସିଡ୍ଫାଇଏସ୍‌ଡି କର୍ମିଥିବା ଏକ ଆକଳନ ଅନୁଯାୟୀ ୧୪ତମ ଅର୍ଥ କମିଶନଙ୍କ ସୁପାରିଶ ଅନୁଯାୟୀ କେନ୍ଦ୍ର ସରକାର ଏହି ଯୋଜନା ଲାଗି କମ୍ ବ୍ୟୟବରାଦ କରିଥିବାରୁ ଓଡ଼ିଶାକୁ କମ୍ ଅନୁଦାନ ମିଳିବ। ଏପରି ହେଲେ ରାଜ୍ୟରେ ଶିଶୁ ଅଧିକାରର ସୁରକ୍ଷା କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ବେଶି ବିପନ୍ନ ହୋଇପଡ଼ିବ ବୋଲି ସଂଗଠନ ପକ୍ଷରୁ କୁହାଯାଇଛି।

ଆଇସିଡିଏସ୍‌ରେ ଅର୍ଥ କମିଶନଙ୍କ ପ୍ରଭାବ ସଂପର୍କରେ ଶୁଭବାର ସିଡ୍ଫାଇଏସ୍‌ଡି ପକ୍ଷରୁ ଏକ ଆଲୋଚନାତଳ ଆୟୋଜିତ ହୋଇଥିଲା। ଏଥିରେ ସଂଗଠନର କର୍ମକର୍ତ୍ତାମାନେ ଉପସ୍ଥାପନ

କରିଥିବା ତଥ୍ୟ ଅନୁଯାୟୀ ୨୦୧୪-୧୫ରେ କେନ୍ଦ୍ରୀୟ ବଜେଟ୍‌ରେ ୧୮ହଜାର ୧୦୮ କୋଟି ଟଙ୍କା ବ୍ୟୟବରାଦ ହୋଇଥିବାବେଳେ ୨୦୧୫-୧୬ରେ ଏହି ପରିମାଣକୁ

୪୮୪୬୩ ଅଙ୍ଗନୱାଡ଼ି କେନ୍ଦ୍ରର ନିଜସ୍ୱ ଘର ନାହିଁ

୮୨୪୫.୭୭ କୋଟି ଟଙ୍କାକୁ ହ୍ରାସ କରାଯାଇଛି। ତତନୁଯାୟୀ ଓଡ଼ିଶାରେ ଦେଶର ସମୁଦାୟ ଆଇସିଡିଏସ୍ ପ୍ରକଳ୍ପର ୬ ଭାଗ ଥିବାରୁ ରାଜ୍ୟ ୪୯୪ କୋଟି ଟଙ୍କା ପାଇବ। ଅର୍ଥାତ୍ ୨୦୧୫-୧୬ରେ ଏହି ଯୋଜନା ବାବଦରେ ରାଜ୍ୟ ୮୦୦ କୋଟି ଟଙ୍କା ହରାଇବା ସମ୍ଭାବନା ରହିଛି।

ଅନ୍ୟପକ୍ଷରେ ରାଜ୍ୟରେ ୨୦୧୪-୧୫ ବର୍ଷର ବଜେଟ୍ ବରାଦ ତୁଳନାରେ ୨୦୧୫-୧୬ରେ ମୋଟ ବ୍ୟୟବରାଦରୁ ୫୦୪ କୋଟି ଟଙ୍କା

କାଟିଦିଆଯାଇଥିବାରୁ ମହିଳା ଓ ଶିଶୁ ବିକାଶ ବିଭାଗ ପାଇଁ ସଂକଟ ସୃଷ୍ଟି ହେବାର ଆଶଙ୍କା ରହିଛି। ସେହିପରି ପରିପୁରକ ପୁଷ୍ଟିସାର କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ପାଇଁ ୨୦୦୪.୦୫ କୋଟି ଟଙ୍କା ଧାର୍ଯ୍ୟ କରାଯାଇଥିବା ବେଳେ ସେଥିରେ ଅଙ୍ଗନୱାଡ଼ି ଗୃହ ନିର୍ମାଣ ମଧ୍ୟ ସାମିଲ ରହିଛି। ତେଣୁ ଅଙ୍ଗନୱାଡ଼ି କେନ୍ଦ୍ରର ଗୃହ ନିର୍ମାଣ ପାଇଁ ଅର୍ଥ କମିଶନଙ୍କ ସୌଜନ୍ୟରୁ ରାଜ୍ୟସରକାର ଅନୁଦାନ ପାଇବା ସମ୍ଭାବନା କ୍ଷୀଣ।

ଅନୁଦାନ ସଂକୋଚନ ଯୋଗୁ ଆଇସିଡିଏସ୍ ଅକ୍ତର୍ଗତ ବିଭିନ୍ନ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ବାଧାପ୍ରାପ୍ତ ହେବ। ଏ ସଂପର୍କରେ ସିଡ୍ଫାଇଏସ୍‌ଡିର କର୍ମକର୍ତ୍ତାମାନେ କହିଥିଲେ ଯେ, ରାଜ୍ୟରେ ବର୍ତ୍ତମାନ ୭୧ ହଜାର ଅଙ୍ଗନୱାଡ଼ି କେନ୍ଦ୍ର କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ

ଥିବାବେଳେ ତା' ମଧ୍ୟରୁ ୪୮ ହଜାର କେନ୍ଦ୍ରର ନିଜସ୍ୱ କୋଠା ନାହିଁ। ଅନୁମୋଦିତ ଅଙ୍ଗନୱାଡ଼ି କର୍ମୀ ପଦବୀ ସଂଖ୍ୟା ୭୧୩୦୬ ହୋଇଥିବାବେଳେ ତାହା ମଧ୍ୟରୁ ୨୯୦୬ଟି ଏପର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ତ ପୁରଣ ହୋଇନାହିଁ। ବେଶା ଉଦ୍ଦେଶ୍ୟର ବିଷୟ ଯେ, ଅଙ୍ଗନୱାଡ଼ି କର୍ମୀମାନଙ୍କୁ କେବଳ ତାଙ୍କରି ସମ୍ପନ୍ନ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟ ତୁଲାାଇବା ପାଇଁ ପୁଣିକ୍ଷଣ ଦିଆଯାଉଛି। ପିଲାମାନଙ୍କୁ କିଭଳି ପାଠପଢ଼ି ଯିବ ସେ ସଂପର୍କରେ ତାଲିମ୍ ଦିଆଯାଉନାହିଁ। ଏଭଳିସ୍ଥିତିରେ ଅନୁଦାନ ହ୍ରାସ ଆଇସିଡିଏସ୍‌ର ପରିଚାଳନାରେ ଅଧିକ ବାଧା ଉପୁଯାଇବ ବୋଲି ଆଲୋଚନାତଳରେ ବକ୍ତାମାନେ ମତଦେଇଥିଲେ। ସିଡ୍ଫାଇଏସ୍‌ଡିର ଅଧ୍ୟକ୍ଷ ପୁଫୁଲ ସାହୁ, ପୂର୍ବତନ ସୂଚନା କମିଶନର ଜଗଦାନନ୍ଦ ପୁପୁଣ ଆଲୋଚନାତଳରେ ଭାଗନେଇଥିଲେ।

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 (http://epaper.prameyanews.com/epapermain.aspx?queryed=9&ed date=3/28/2015)