

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

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. 2004 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. Citizen report Card on ICDS services in Odisha
 2. Community Score Card on Pre-School Education
 3. Expenditure Tracking of ICDS budget.

Summary of the Programme:

The program was inaugurated by Shri P.K. Sahoo, Chairman and co-founder of CYSD

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, 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 member 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, Karanjia, 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.

Decision taken:

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 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.

Encompass



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 ananganwadi 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 ananganwadi 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, toy bank, activity books for children and celebration of Early Childhood Care and Education Day for community awareness.

Huge vacancies in the ananganwadi 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 CAEL Odisha Sudhir Sabetwere present.

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

କେନ୍ଦ୍ରୀୟ ଅନୁଦାନ ହ୍ରାସ: ଆଇସିଡିଏସ୍ ବାଧାପ୍ରାପ୍ତ ହେବ

ଭୁବନେଶ୍ୱର, ୦୩୨୭ ମାର୍ଚ୍ଚ (ପିଏନ୍ଏସ୍): ଉତ୍ତର ଭାରତୀୟ ସ୍ଥିତିରେ ଥିବା ସମ୍ବନ୍ଧିତ ଶିଶୁ ବିକାଶ ଯୋଜନା (ଆଇସିଡିଏସ୍) ଆହୁରୀତେଣି ପ୍ରଭାବିତ ହେବା ଆଶଙ୍କା ରାଜ୍ୟରେ ବିଦ୍ୟୁତ୍ କମିଥିବା ଏକ ଆକଳନ ଅନୁଯାୟୀ ୧୪ଟି ଅର୍ଥ କମିଶନଙ୍କ ପ୍ରକାଶ ଅନୁଯାୟୀ କେନ୍ଦ୍ର ସରକାର ଏହି ଯୋଜନା ଲାଗି କମ୍ ବ୍ୟୟବରାଦ କରିଥିବାରୁ ଓଡ଼ିଶାକୁ କମ୍ ଅନୁଦାନ ମିଳିବ। ଏପରି ହେଲେ ରାଜ୍ୟରେ ଶିଶୁ ଅଧିକାରର ସୁରକ୍ଷା କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ଦେଖି ବିପନ୍ନ ହୋଇପଡ଼ିବ ବୋଲି ସଂଗଠନ ପକ୍ଷରୁ କୁହାଯାଇଛି।

ଆଇସିଡିଏସ୍ରେ ଅର୍ଥ କମିଶନଙ୍କ ପ୍ରକାଶ ସଂପର୍କରେ ଶୁକ୍ରବାର ବିଦ୍ୟୁତ୍ କମିସନ୍ ପକ୍ଷରୁ ଏକ ଆଲୋଚନାଚକ୍ର ଆୟୋଜିତ ହୋଇଥିଲା। ଏଥିରେ ସଂଗଠନ କର୍ମକର୍ତ୍ତାମାନେ ରାଜ୍ୟପତନ

କରିଥିବା ତଥ୍ୟ ଅନୁଯାୟୀ ୨୦୧୪-୧୫ରେ କେନ୍ଦ୍ରୀୟ ବଜେଟ୍ରେ ୧୮୫୦୦ ୧୦୮ କୋଟି ଟଙ୍କା ବ୍ୟୟବରାଦ ହୋଇଥିବାବେଳେ ୨୦୧୫-୧୬ରେ ଏହି ପରିମାଣକୁ ୮୨୪୫.୭୭ କୋଟି ଟଙ୍କାକୁ ହ୍ରାସ କରାଯାଇଛି। ତଦନୁଯାୟୀ ଓଡ଼ିଶାରେ ଦେଶର ସମୁଦାୟ ଆଇସିଡିଏସ୍ ପ୍ରକଳ୍ପର ୬ ଭାଗ ପାଇବ। ଅର୍ଥାତ୍, ୨୦୧୫-୧୬ରେ ଏହି ଯୋଜନା ବାବଦରେ ରାଜ୍ୟ ୮୦୦ କୋଟି ଟଙ୍କା ହରାଇବା ସମ୍ଭାବନା ରହିଛି। ଅନ୍ୟପକ୍ଷରେ ରାଜ୍ୟରେ ୨୦୧୪-୧୫ ବର୍ଷର ବଜେଟ୍ ବରାଦ ରାଜ୍ୟରେ ୨୦୧୫-୧୬ରେ ମୋଟ ବ୍ୟୟବରାଦରୁ ୫୦୪ କୋଟି ଟଙ୍କା

କାଟିଦିଆଯାଇଥିବାରୁ ମହିଳା ଓ ଶିଶୁ ବିକାଶ ବିଭାଗ ପାଇଁ ସଂକଟ ସୃଷ୍ଟି ହେବାର ଆଶଙ୍କା ରହିଛି। ସେହିପରି ପରିପୁରକ ପୁଷ୍ଟିକାର 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 ଅନ୍ତର୍ଗତ ବିଭିନ୍ନ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ବାଧାପ୍ରାପ୍ତ ହେବ। ଏ ସଂପର୍କରେ ବିଦ୍ୟୁତ୍ କମିସନ୍ ର କର୍ମକର୍ତ୍ତାମାନେ କହିଥିଲେ ଯେ, ରାଜ୍ୟରେ ବର୍ତ୍ତମାନ ୭୧ ହଜାର ଅଙ୍ଗନୱାଡ଼ି କେନ୍ଦ୍ର କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ

ଥିବାବେଳେ ତା' ମଧ୍ୟରୁ ୪୮ ହଜାର କେନ୍ଦ୍ର ନିର୍ମାଣ କୋଠା ନାହିଁ। ଅନୁମୋଦିତ ଅଙ୍ଗନୱାଡ଼ି କର୍ମ ପଦକ୍ଷେପ ୭୧୩୦୭ ହୋଇଥିବାବେଳେ ତାହା ମଧ୍ୟରୁ ୨୯୦୭ଟି ଏପର୍ଯ୍ୟନ୍ତ ପୂରଣ ହୋଇନାହିଁ। ଦେଶୀ ଉତ୍ପାଦନର ବିକାଶ ଯେ, ଅଙ୍ଗନୱାଡ଼ି କର୍ମୀମାନଙ୍କୁ କେବଳ ବାକିର ସମ୍ପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟ ରୁଲାଇବା ପାଇଁ ପୁଣିକ୍ଷଣ ଦିଆଯାଉଛି। ପିଲାମାନଙ୍କୁ କିଲି ପାଠପଢ଼ା ଯିବ ସେ ସଂପର୍କରେ ତାଲିମ୍ ଦିଆଯାଉନାହିଁ। ଏଭଳିସ୍ଥିତିରେ ଅନୁଦାନ ହ୍ରାସ ଆଇସିଡିଏସ୍ ପରିଚାଳନାରେ ଅଧିକ ବାଧା ରପୁଯାଇବ ବୋଲି ଆଲୋଚନାଚକ୍ରରେ ବକ୍ତାମାନେ ମତଦେଇଥିଲେ। ବିଦ୍ୟୁତ୍ କମିସନ୍ ର ଅଧ୍ୟକ୍ଷ ପୁଞ୍ଜି ସାହୁ, ପୂର୍ବତନ ସୁଦନା କମିଶନର ଜଗଦାନନ୍ଦ ପୁମୁଖ ଆଲୋଚନାଚକ୍ରରେ ଭାଗନେଇଥିଲେ।

୪୮୪୭୩ ଅଙ୍ଗନୱାଡ଼ି କେନ୍ଦ୍ର ନିର୍ମାଣ ଘର ନାହିଁ

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