



Critical Analysis of Balwadi Programme

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Abstract: *The main objectives of this Programme are examining the Balwadi programme and their fulfillment as viewed by the instructors, community elders and educational functionaries, and also identify the various types of activities under the Balwadi educational programme run by the urban community development project. The study found that there was no significant difference amongst the various caste groups regarding the fulfillment of objectives, usage of natural resources and also found that there was a significant difference amongst the instructors regarding creative thinking development and total effectiveness.*

Key Words: *Natural Resources, Balwadi Educational Programme, curriculum*

Introduction: Research on pre-school programmes has been conducted on pre-school facilities, equipment, methods, curriculum and the behaviour of children from different social-economic backgrounds in the nursery school setting. Further, a number of other studies focused on perceptions of teacher educators and supervisors regarding the concept and importance of teacher educators and supervisors regarding the concept and importance of pre-school education, development of the language skills in pre-primary schools, curriculum in pre-school level, development in the reading skill at pre-school level, development of the educational programmes in pre-school level, childhood educator's beliefs and practices, relations between teacher's activity and pupils activity in pre-school level, various aspects of development trends in nursery school children, surveyed pre-primary

institutions in Bangalore city, socio-economic conditions in pre-school level.

Objectives of the present study

1. To study the objective of the Balwadi programme and their fulfillment as viewed by the instructors, community elders and educational functionaries.
2. To study the various types of activities under the Balwadi educational programme run by the urban community development project.
3. To study the various types of activities carried out by teachers in Balwadi centres and their attitudes towards those activities and the problems they face.

Methodology: The methodology followed in the present study has been given below under different aspects. The study was conducted in various Balwadi centres of Visakhapatnam, Vijayawada and Hyderabad cities.



Results of the Study

Table 1. Opinion of the Instructors based on their caste group in the aspect of fulfillment of objectives (ANOVA Results)

Aspect	Group	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig	
Fulfillment of Objectives	Between Groups	24.995	3	8.332	1.387	.248	
	Within Groups	1177.560	196	6.008			
	Total	1202.555	199				
	Variable				Mean		
	OC				28.30		
	SC				28.08		
	ST				27.00		
	BC			29.15			

Not Significant

The table 1 observed that the obtained 'F' ratio in the aspect of Fulfillment of Objectives is 1.387, which is not significant. It reveals that there is no significant difference among the instructors based on their caste groups of OC, BC, SC, and ST towards Balwadi Educational Programmes.

Physical Development:

Mean opinion scores of Instructors in the aspect of Physical Development of Balwadi Educational Programmes among the different caste groups i.e., OC, BC, SC and ST are shown in the below table. Opinion towards Balwadi Educational Programmes means score of different caste groups of Instructors.

Table 2- caste wise comparison of the means among the instructors of Baiwadis

Aspect	OC	SC	ST	BC
Physical Development	16.86	17.08	16.50	17.80

The Analysis of Variance of Instructors in the aspect of Physical Development based on their caste i.e. OC, BC, SC and ST towards Balwadi Educational Programmes has been presented below.



TABLE 3- Caste Wise

Aspect	Group	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig
Fulfillment of Objectives	Between Groups	17.063	3	5.688	2.811*	.041
	Within Groups	1177.560	196	2.024		
	Total	413.680	199			

The table 3 shows that the obtained 'F' ratio of 2.811, which is significant at 0.05 level. It reveals that there is a significant difference among the different caste groups of the instructors towards Balwadi Educational Programmes. Hence, the null hypothesis is that "there is no significant difference in the aspect of Physical Development among the instructors based on their caste groups of OC, BC, SC and ST towards Balwadi Educational Programmes " is rejected.

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The Scheffe's Post Hoc test values, which calculated through SPSS software to find out the paired mean difference and the level of significance are presented in table 4 below.

Table - 4

OC	BC	SC	ST	Mean difference	STD. ERR.	p value
16.86	17.80			0.94	0.34	0.055
16.86		17.08		0.21	0.41	0.965
16.86			16.50	0.36	0.59	0.945
	17.08	17.08		0.72	0.51	0.566
	17.08		16.50	1.30	0.66	0.281
		17.08	16.50	0.58	0.70	0.879

Table 4 shows the ordered Scheffe's Post Hoc Test, and the mean difference of the two groups. The mean difference between OC, BC, SC and ST are 0.94, 0.21, 0.36, 0.72, 1.30 and 0.58. The p values are found to be 0.055, 0.965, 0.945, 0.566, 0.281 and 0.879 respectively, which are not significant. Hence, there is no significant difference among the instructors based on their caste group in the aspect of Physical Development towards their opinion on Balwadi Educational Programmes.



Table 5 Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) - opinion of the Instructors based on their caste group in the aspect of Psychomotor Development

Aspect	Group	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig
Fulfillment of Objectives	Between Groups	4.323	3	1.441	1.387	.248
	Within Groups	483.497	196	2.467		
	Total	487.820	199			
	Variable				Mean	
	OC				12.03	
	SC				11.69	
	ST				11.33	
BC				11.85		

The table 5 observed that the obtained 'F' ratio in the aspect of Psychomotor Development is 0.584, which is not significant. It reveals that there is no significant difference among the instructors based on their caste groups of OC, BC, SC, and ST towards Balwadi Educational Programmes.

Table 6. Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) - opinion of the Instructors based on their caste group in the aspect of Language Development

Aspect	Group	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig
Fulfillment of Objectives	Between Groups	8.466	3	2.822	1.755	.157
	Within Groups	315.114	196	1.608		
	Total	323.580	199			
	Variable				Mean	
	OC				12.32	
	SC				12.31	
	ST				12.50	
BC				13.00		



The table 6 observed that the obtained 'F' ratio in the aspect of Language Development is 1.755, which is not significant. It reveals that there is no significant difference among the instructors based on their caste groups of OC, BC, SC, and ST towards Balwadi Educational Programmes.

Creative Thinking Development:

Mean opinion scores of Instructors in the aspect of Creative Thinking Development of Balwadi Educational Programmes among the different caste groups i.e., OC, BC, SC and ST are shown in the below table.

Opinion towards Balwadi Educational Programmes means score of different caste groups of Instructors.

Table 7 - caste wise comparison of the means among the instructors of Balwadis

Aspect	OC	SC	ST	BC
Creative Thinking	10.36	12.08	9.50	11.35

The Analysis of Variance of Instructors in the aspect of Development based on their caste i.e. OC, BC, SC and ST towards Balwadi Educational Programmes has been presented below.

Table 8 - caste wise

Aspect	Group	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig
Creative Thinking Development	Between Groups	55.516	3	18.505	5.505***	.001
	Within Groups	608.079	196	3.102		
	Total	663.595	199			

The table 8 shows that the obtained 'F' ratio of 6.326, which is significant at 0.01 level. It reveals that there is a significant difference among the different caste groups of the instructors towards Balwadi Educational Programmes. Hence, the null hypothesis is that "there is no significant difference in the aspect of among the instructors based on their caste groups of OC, BC, SC and ST towards Balwadi Educational Programmes " is rejected.



The Scheffe's Post Hoc test values, which calculated through SPSS software to find out the paired mean difference and the level of significance are presented in table 4.6.5c below.

Table - 9 Scheffe's Post Hoc Test, and the mean difference of the two groups.

OC	BC	SC	ST	Mean difference	STD. ERR.	p value
10.36	11.35			0.99	.42	.136
10.36		12.08		1.72	.51	.011
10.36			9.50	0.86	.73	.711
	11.35	12.08		0.73	.63	.719
	11.35		9.50	1.85	.82	.169
		12.08	9.50	2.58	.87	.035

Table 9 shows the ordered Scheffe's Post Hoc Test, and the mean difference of the two groups.

The mean difference between OC and BC groups was (0.99), OC and ST was (0.86). BC and SC was (0.73) and BC and ST was (1.85). The p values are 0.136, 0.711, 0.719 and 0.169 respectively, which are not significant. The mean difference between OC and SC groups was (1.72) and SC and ST was (2.58). The p values are 0.011 and 0.035 respectively, which are significant at 0.05 level. Hence, there is a significant difference between OC and SC and SC and ST groups instructors in the aspect of Creative Thinking Aspect towards Balwadi Educational Programmes.

Table 10. Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) - opinion of the Instructors based on their caste Group in the aspect of Use of Natural Resources

Aspect	Group	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig	
Use of Natural Resources	Between Groups	2.058	3	.686	.394	.758	
	Within Groups	341.622	196	1.743			
	Total	343.680	199				
	Variable	Mean					
	OC	10.93					
	SC	10.92					
	ST	11.50					
	BC					11.05	

Not Significant



The table 10 observed that the obtained 'F' ratio in the aspect of Use of Natural Resources is 0.394, which is not significant. It reveals that there is no significant difference among the instructors based on their caste groups of OC, BC, SC, and ST towards Balwadi Educational Programmes

4.6.7. Total Effectiveness:

Mean opinion scores of Instructors in the aspect of Total Effectiveness of Balwadi Educational Programmes among the different caste groups i.e., OC, BC, SC and ST are shown in the below table.

Opinion towards Balwadi Educational Programmes means score of different caste groups of Instructors.

Table 11 - caste wise comparison of the means among the instructors of Balwadis

Aspect	OC	BC	SC	ST
Total Effectiveness	90.81	94.20	92.15	88.33

The Analysis of Variance of Instructors in the aspect of Total Effectiveness based on their caste i.e. OC, BC, SC and ST towards Balwadi Educational Programmes has been presented below.

Table 12 - caste wise

Aspect	Group	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig
Total Effectiveness	Between Groups	265.623	3	88.541	3.532*	.016
	Within Groups	4913.257	196	25.068		
	Total	5178.880	199			

The table 12 shows that the obtained 'F' ratio of 6.326, which is significant at 0.01 level. It reveals that there is a significant difference among the different caste groups of the instructors towards Balwadi Educational Programmes. Hence, the null hypothesis is that "there is no significant difference in the aspect of Total Effectiveness among the instructors based on their caste groups of OC, BC, SC and ST towards Balwadi Educational Programmes " is rejected.

The Scheffe's Post Hoc test values, which calculated through SPSS software to find out the paired mean difference and the level of significance are presented in table 4.6.7c below.



Table - 13 Scheffe's Post Hoc Test, and the mean difference of the two groups.

OC	BC	SC	ST	Mean difference	STD. ERR.	p value
90.81	94.20			3.39	1.19	.046
90.81		92.15		1.35	1.44	.833
90.81			88.33	2.47	2.08	.703
	94.20	92.15		2.05	1.78	.726
	11.35		88.33	5.87	2.33	.100
		92.15	88.33	3.82	2.47	.497

Table 13 shows the ordered Scheffe's Post Hoc Test, and the mean difference of the two groups.

The mean difference between OC and BC groups was (3.39). The p values is found to be 0.046, which is significant at 0.05 level. Hence, there is a significant difference between OC and BC groups instructors in the aspect of Total Effectiveness towards Balwadi Educational Programmes.

The mean difference between OC and SC groups was (1.35), OC and ST was (2.47). BC and SC was (2.05) and BC and ST was (5.87) and SC and ST was (3.82). The p values are 0.833, 0.703, 0.726, 0.100 and 0.497 respectively, which are not significant.

Major findings:

The heart of any research is draw findings and conclusions. Findings are those drawn from the statistical inferences obtained from collected of data. The following are the major findings of the study.

It is observed from the scores, means and percentage of responses from all the two hundred instructors that, they have expressed high effectiveness levels

(between 70 and 85 percent) on various aspects and the overall functioning of Balwadis in all the three select cities of Andhra Pradesh.

This is an indication that Balwadis are functioning effectively according their objectives , in providing physical, psychological, language and creative thinking developments and in the utilization of natural resources in the activities of Balwadis.

Further, from the quantitative analysis of the results obtained from the analysis of results based on the comparison according to the dependent and independent variables, the following findings are observed.

1. There is a significant difference between male and female Balwadi educational instructors in the aspect of fulfillment objectives and total effectiveness towards Balwadi educational programmes as viewed by instructors, community elders, and educational functionaries of Visakhapatnam, Vijayawada and Hyderabad cities in Andhra Pradesh.



2. There is no significant difference between male and female Balwadi educational instructors in all aspects except fulfillment objectives and total effectiveness towards Balwadi educational programmes as viewed by instructors, community elders and educational functionaries of Visakhapatnam, Vijayawada and Hyderabad cities in Andhra Pradesh.

3. There is a significant difference among the Balwadi educational instructors based on their city groups of Visakhapatnam, Vijayawada and Hyderabad in all aspects except use of natural resources aspect towards Balwadi educational programmes as viewed by instructors, community elders, and educational functionaries of Visakhapatnam, Vijayawada and Hyderabad cities in Andhra Pradesh.

4. There is no significant difference among the Balwadi educational instructors based on their city groups of Visakhapatnam, Vijayawada and Hyderabad in all aspects except use of natural resources aspect towards Balwadi educational programmes as viewed by instructors, community elders, and educational functionaries of Visakhapatnam, Vijayawada and Hyderabad cities in Andhra Pradesh.

5. There is a significant difference among the Balwadi educational instructors based on their age groups of below 30,31-40,41-50,51-60 years in the aspects of fulfillment of objectives ,psychomotor development and total effectiveness towards Balwadi educational programmes as viewed by instructors, community elders, and educational functionaries of Visakhapatnam, Vijayawada and Hyderabad cities in Andhra Pradesh.

6. There is no significant difference among the Balwadi educational instructors based on their age groups of below 30,31-40,41-50,51-60 years in the aspects of physical development, language development, creative thinking and use of natural resources aspect towards Balwadi educational programmes as viewed by instructors, community elders, and educational functionaries of Visakhapatnam, Vijayawada and Hyderabad cities in Andhra Pradesh.

7. There is no significant difference among the Balwadi educational instructors based on their marital status groups of married, unmarried and divorced in all aspects towards Balwadi educational programmes as viewed by instructors, community elders, and educational functionaries of Visakhapatnam, Vijayawada and Hyderabad cities in Andhra Pradesh.

There is a significant difference among the Balwadi educational instructors based on their Educational status groups of up to 10th ,Inter, Graduation Post graduation in the aspect of creative thinking development towards Balwadi educational programmes as viewed by instructors, community elders ,and educational functionaries of Visakhapatnam, Vijayawada and Hyderabad cities in Andhra Pradesh.

Suggestions

All the suggestions given by the instructors are in the context of the problems identified by them and they want these problems to be eliminated or minimized so that effective functioning of Balwadis takes place.

The Educational functionaries are actively involved in the functioning of the



Balwadi centres in their respective areas. They include:

1. Encouraging the parents of the little children in the age group of Balwadi instruction to enroll their children in the centres
2. Looking after the regular functioning of the Balwadi centre
3. Taking care of the coming in and going out of the children to and from the Balwadi centres
4. providing necessary support to the instructors in identifying and introducing the parents to the instructors and functionaries
5. providing necessary facilities and support for the effective functioning of the Balwadi centre.
6. Representing the problems and the requirements to the authorities and getting things done
7. Providing all required help and support to the Balwadi instructors
8. Providing volunteers to the Balwadi instructors.
9. Encouraging the mothers of the children attending the Balwadis to help the instructor if they are free during the working hours
10. Involving the community personnel from the improvement of the Balwadis.

Conclusions: The study has thrown light on various aspects of functioning of Balwadis and the personnel involved in it and their various role and responsibilities. The study focuses on the functioning of Balwadis and in finding out the effectiveness of these centres. All the three categories of personnel involved in the programme, i.e educational

instructors, community elders and educational functionaries have expressed highest level of satisfaction over the functioning of Balwadis in the select cities of Visakhapatnam, Vijayawada and Hyderabad cities in Andhra Pradesh. It can be concluded that the Balwadi centres are functioning according to the objectives of the Balwadi educational programme. All have expressed that they are fulfilling the objectives for which they have been established. The activities, programmes, facilities have found to be at satisfactory levels for all these respondents.

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