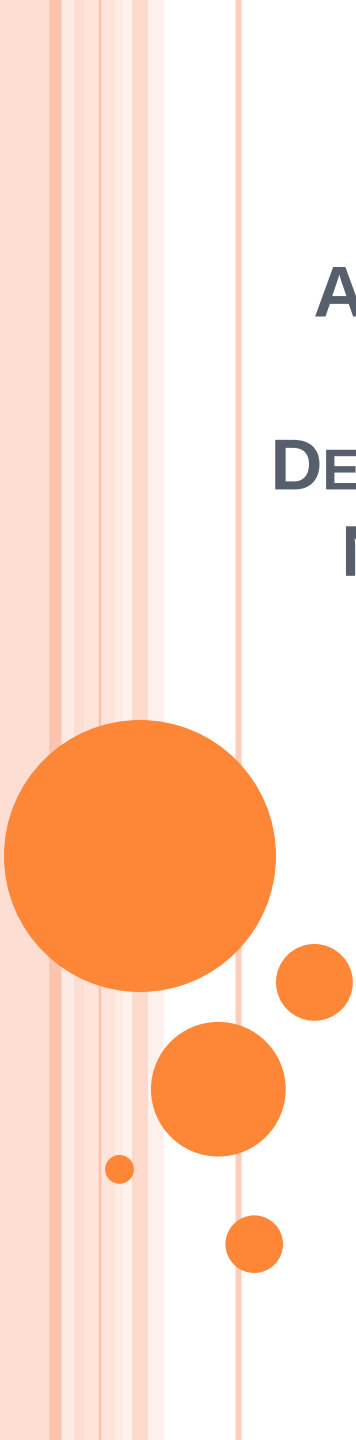




A STUDY ON ASSESSING THE KNOWLEDGE OF ANGANWADI WORKERS REGARDING INTEGRATED CHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICES (ICDS) IN TRIBAL AND NON-TRIBAL BLOCKS OF VALSAD DISTRICT, GUJARAT

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INTRODUCTION

- Children are our most precious resources and are the citizens of tomorrow, so nurturing our children is an investment. Hence, we should ensure a brilliant future for our children.
- In 1975, the Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) was launched in the country to provide integrated health and nutrition services focusing upon the holistic development of children at the village level by providing a package of services.
- However, while the program is intended to target the needs of the poorest and the most undernourished, as well as the age groups that represent a significant "window of opportunity" for nutrition investments there is a mismatch between the program's intentions and its actual implementation.



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- Malnutrition is the major problem of the country and to fight against malnourishment, coverage of beneficiaries should always be 100 per cent.
- As per the last Monthly progress report total number of malnourished children of Valsad district were more than 6000.



RATIONALE

- Anganwadi Workers are key player to enhance health and nutritional status of women and children at the grass root level.
- When eligible beneficiaries are not enrolled under ICDS, they are deprived of services which are their due right.
- Though government is spending lot of money on ICDS programme, impact is very ineffective.
- Most of the study concentrated on the nutritional and health status of the beneficiaries of ICDS.
- Less focus has been shifted over to assess the knowledge among AWWs regarding recommended ICDS programmes, who are actually the main resource person.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. What is the coverage status of registered children of 0 to 6 years in the selected blocks of Valsad district?
2. What is the knowledge Level of Anganwadi worker regarding ICDS services in selected blocks of Valsad district?
3. Whether there is any association between area (Non – Tribal and Tribal Blocks) and education level of AWW?
4. Whether there is any association between knowledge of Anganwadi worker and coverage status of registered children of 0 to 6years in Non - Tribal and Tribal block of Valsad district?



OBJECTIVES

- To assess the coverage status of registered children of 0 to 6 years in the selected blocks of Valsad district.
- To assess the level of knowledge of Anganwadi worker regarding ICDS services in selected blocks of Valsad district.
- To study the association between areas (Non – Tribal and Tribal Blocks) and education level of AWW.
- To study the association between knowledge of Anganwadi worker and the coverage status of registered children of 0 to 6 years.
- To identify the problems faced by AWWs while providing the ICDS services.

NULL HYPOTHESIS

1. There is no association between area (Non – Tribal and Tribal Blocks) and education level of AWW.
2. There is no association between knowledge of Anganwadi worker and coverage status of registered children of 0 to 6years in Non – Tribal and Tribal block of Valsad district.



RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

- **Area of Study:**

- i. Non-Tribal block (Valsad 1, Pardi 1, Umargam 1)
 - ii. Tribal block (Dharampur 2, Kaprada 1, Kaprada 2)

- **Type of Study:** Analytical cross sectional study

- **Study Duration:** From 24th February 2015 to 11th May 2015

- **Target Population:** Anganwadi Workers of selected blocks

- **Sample Size:** 150 respondents

- **Sampling Technique:** Purposive sampling technique



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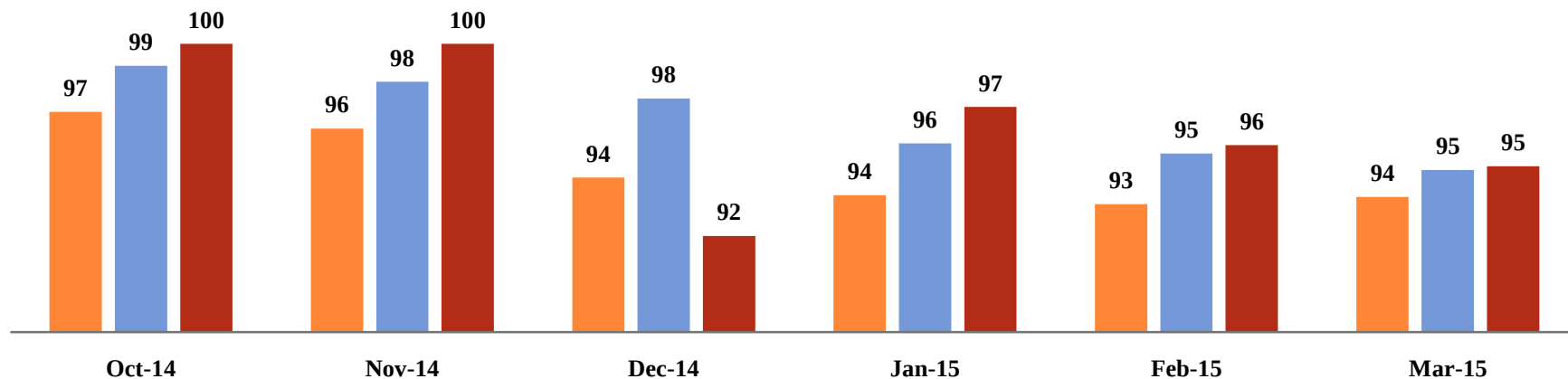
- **Data collection Method:**
 - i. For Primary data – Interpersonal interviews
 - ii. For Secondary data – Monthly progress report
- **Tool for data collection:** Semi structured questionnaire which was translated into local language i.e. Gujarati also.
- **Data Analysis:** SPSS 16 and Microsoft Excel
- **Ethical Consideration:** Informed consent



RESULTS

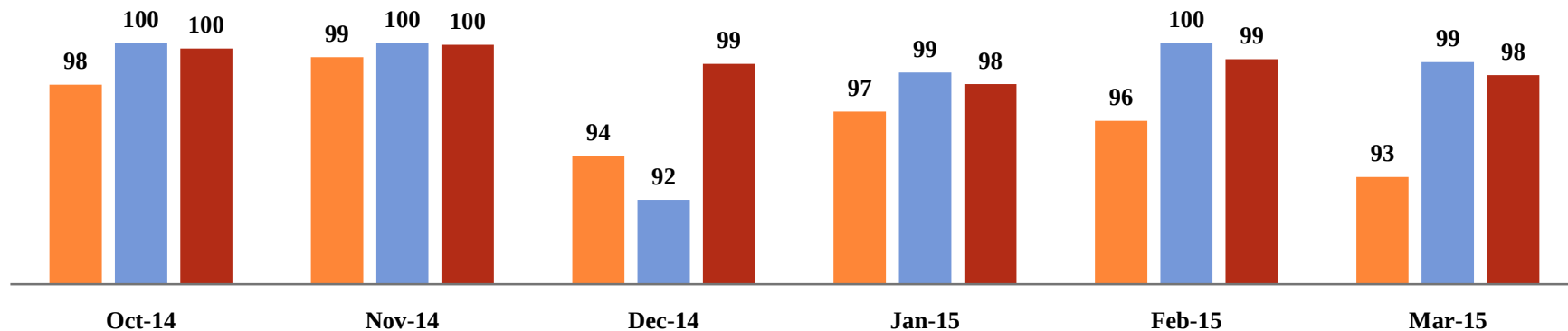
Percentage Distribution of Coverage status of registered children of 0 to 6 years in Non-Tribal block of Valsad from Oct – 14 to Mar – 15

■ Valsad 1 ■ Pardi 1 ■ Umargam 1

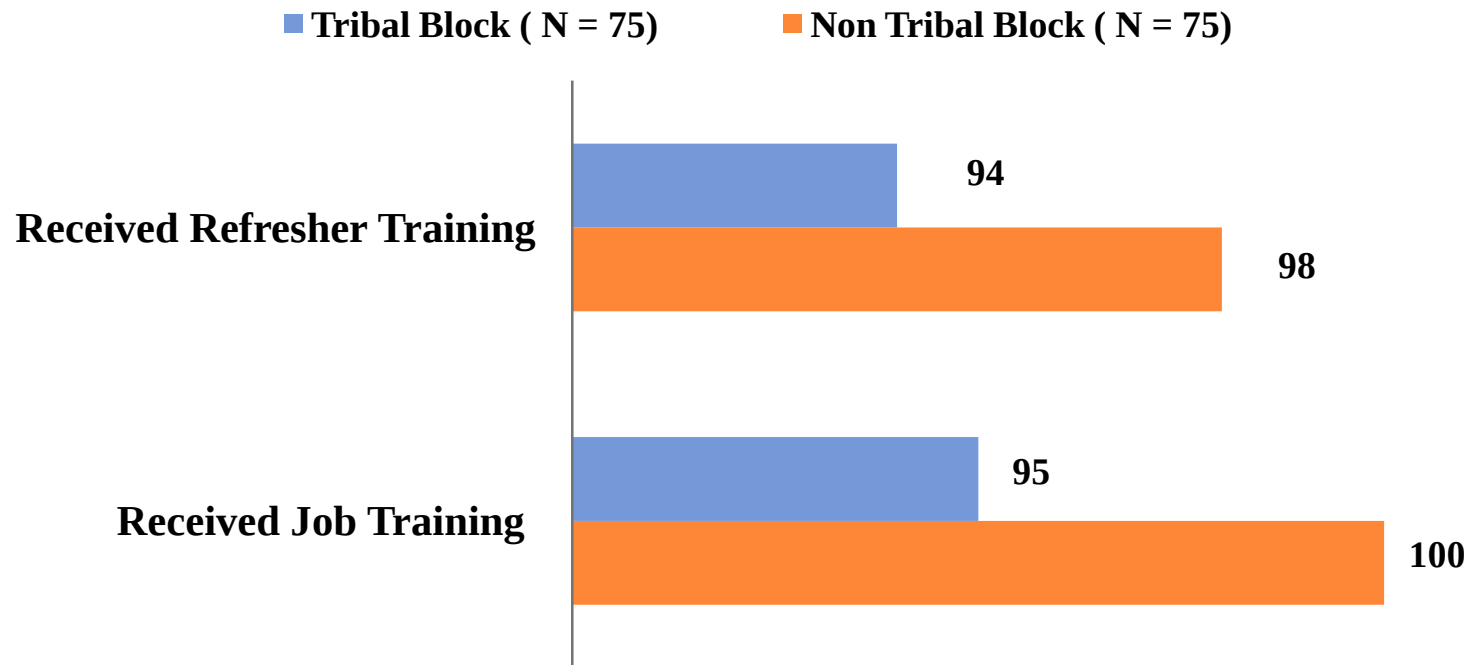


Percentage Distribution of Coverage status of registered children of 0 to 6 years in Tribal block of Valsad from Oct – 14 to Mar – 15

■ Dharampur 2 ■ Kaprada 1 ■ Kaprada 2

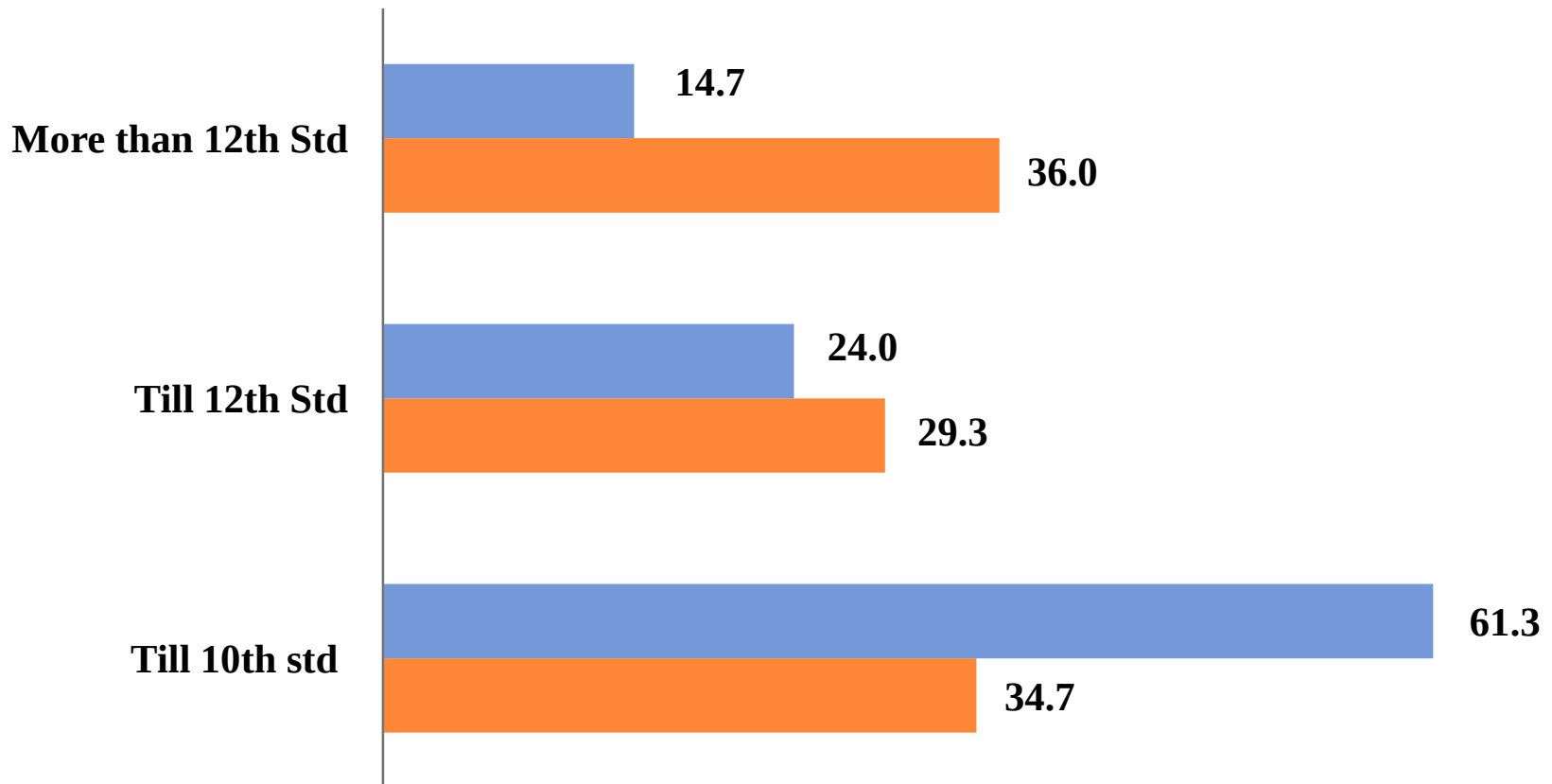


Percentage Distribution of respondents by Training and Refresher training

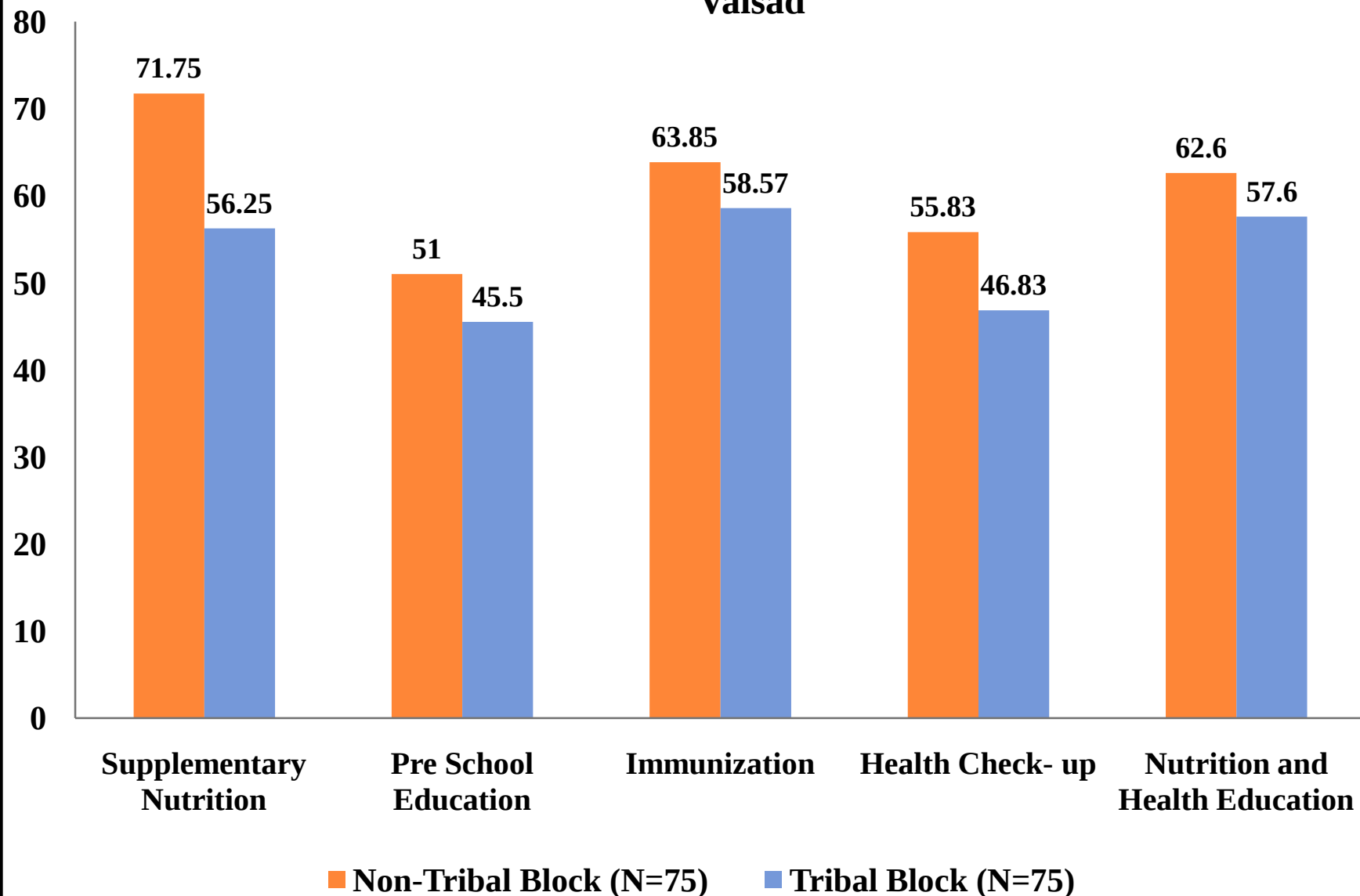


Percentage Distribution of Education Level of AWWs in Non Tribal and Tribal blocks of Valsad

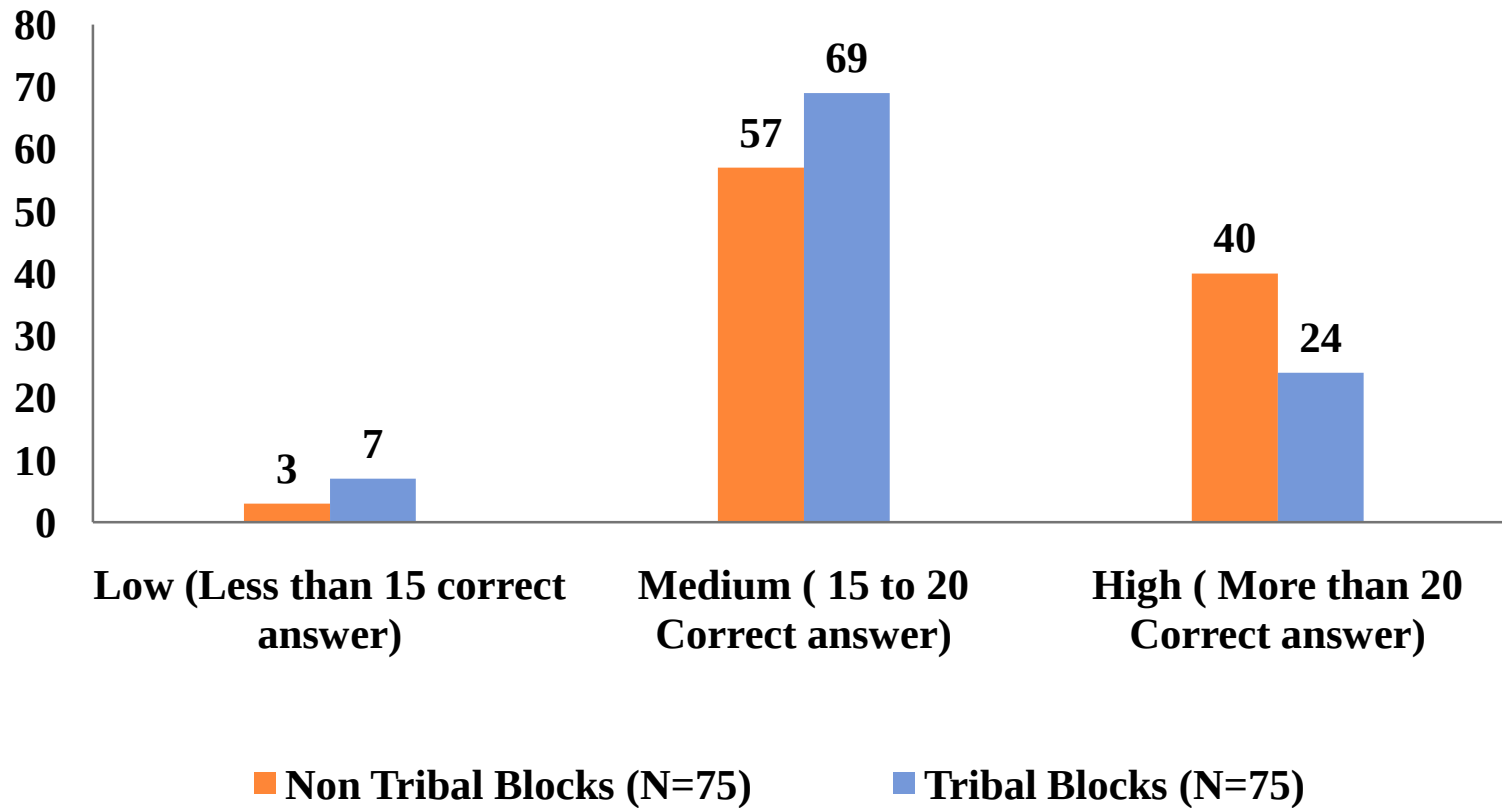
■ Tribal Block (N= 75) ■ Non - Tribal block (N=75)



Percentage Distribution of Knowledge Level of AWWs regarding the services provided by ICDS in Non – Tribal and Tribal blocks of Valsad



Percentage Distribution of Knowledge Level of AWWs in Non - Tribal and Tribal Blocks

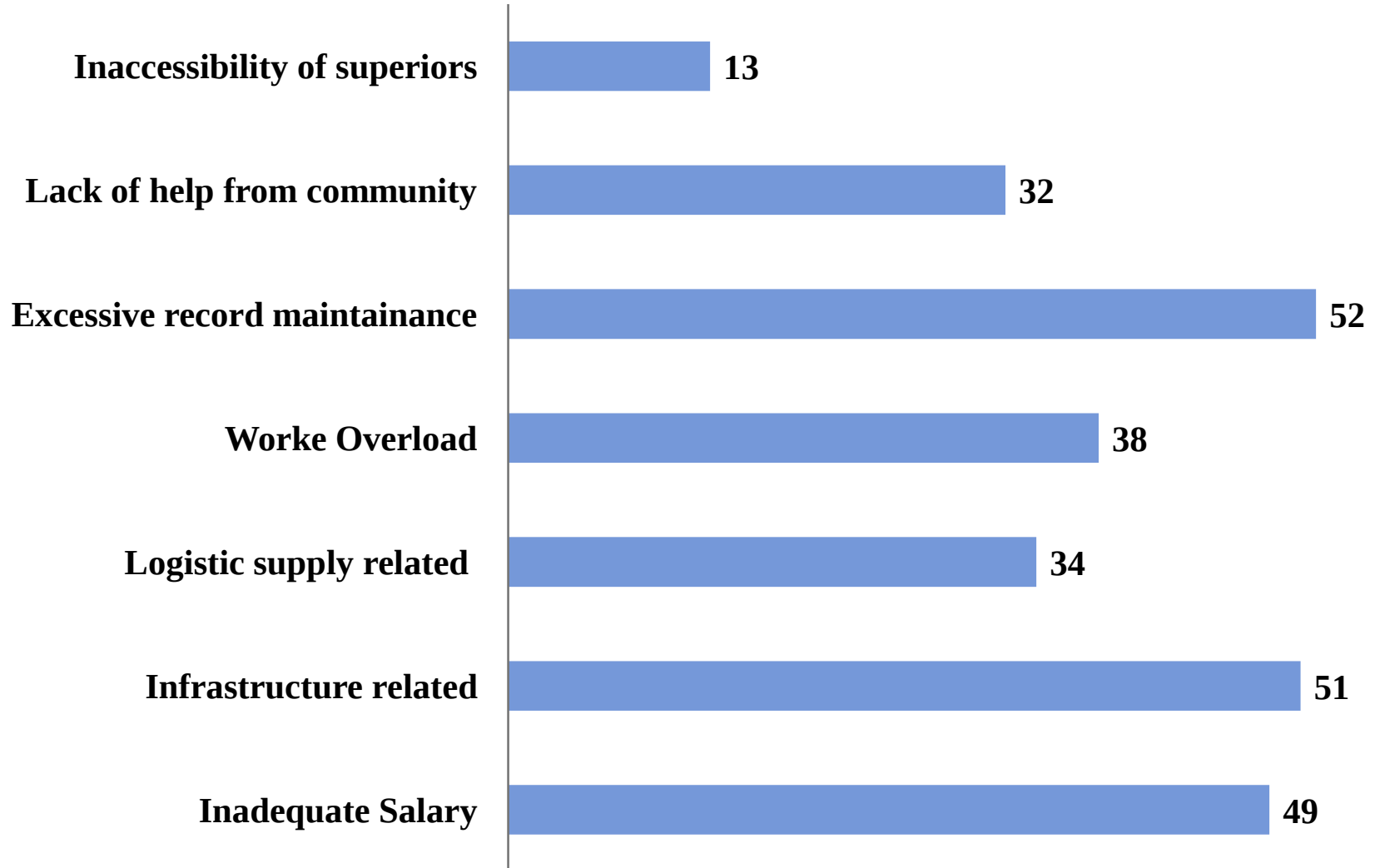


Association between Areas and Education level AWWs

			What is your educational qualification?			Total
			Till 10th std	Till 12 std	More than 12th Std	
Area status tribal Non – tribal	Tribal	Count	46	18	11	75
		% within area status tribal nion tribal	61.3%	24.0%	14.7%	100.0 %
	Non-tribal	Count	26	22	27	75
		% within area status tribal Non - tribal	34.7%	29.3%	36.0%	100.0 %
Total		Count	72	40	38	150
		% within area status tribal Non – tribal	48.0%	26.7%	25.3%	100.0 %

*Chi squared Value 0.002, p value > 0.5

Percentage distribution of Problems faced by AWWs in Non-tribal and Tribal blocks (N = 150)



CONCLUSION

- The knowledge level of AWW of tribal areas was lower than those were in Non – Tribal areas, still coverage of registered children of 0 to 6 years was high in both Non – Tribal and Tribal blocks of Valsad District.
- During this study it was observed that majority of AWW residing in Non-tribal blocks belongs to more than 30 years. As the AWW were more experienced in Non-tribal blocks and received their job training as well as refresher training, they were more experienced as compared to those in tribal blocks.
- Last but not the least, more than 50 per cent of AWW of both Non – tribal and tribal blocks faced infrastructure related problems and felt excessive record maintenance.

CONTI.....

- Further it was observed that there were significance association between education level of AWW and areas (Non – Tribal and Tribal blocks).
- The findings of the study reflects that there were no association between the coverage of registered children of 0 to 6 years and knowledge level of AWWs. So, to reduce prevalence of malnutrition among children, focus should not be merely on the enrollment but focus should be on providing all the services of ICDS.
- So, in conclusion a comprehensive approach to improve the knowledge of ICDS services in the study area is needed.



LIMITATIONS

- This study was done in selected blocks of Valsad district only.
- Perception of all the beneficiaries could have been included.
- Study duration was limited.



RECOMMENDATIONS

- AWW who has more than higher secondary education should be recruited and minimum eligibility criteria in context of education up to 12th class should be focused though it is up to 10th class.
- Along with the coverage of registered children of 0 to 6 years in AWC, delivery of ICDS services to beneficiaries and their nutrition status should also be focused.
- Training of newly recruited AWW and refresher training of previously recruited AWW should be done at regular interval.



CONT....

- Try to reduce problems faced by AWW.
- Focus of AWW should be only on providing ICDS services. AWW should not be given multiple responsibilities other than ICDS services.



Thank You
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