ROLE OF ASHAs IN MASS GATHERING IN BIHAR

ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION

- CARE India established in 1946 as a humanitarian organization, started operations in 1950. Provided emergency relief and rehabilitation Gujarat earthquake in 2001, and Indian Ocean tsunami in 2004.
- In Bihar, CARE is one of the partners for Bihar Technical Support Program of the Government, focused on reducing rates of maternal, newborn, and child mortality and malnutrition, and of improving immunization rates and reproductive health services

Organization Vision and Mission

- VISION : "The Organization seeks a world of hope that is inclusive and just, where all people live in dignity and security"
- MISSION : "To save lives, enable social protection and defeat poverty".

https://www.careindia.org/

Organization structure (District Level)

INTRODUCTION

MASS GATHERING

A mass gathering (MG), as defined by WHO, is "any occasion, either organized or spontaneous, that attracts sufficient numbers of people to strain the planning and response resources of the community, city or nation hosting the event".

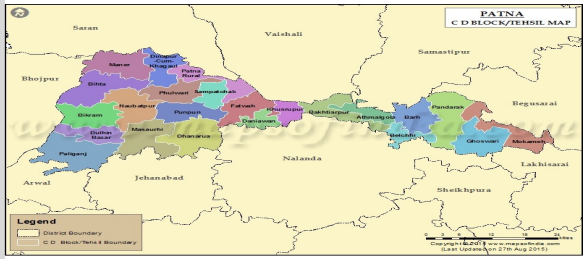
OBJECTIVES

To understand the role of ASHAs during mass gathering.

To understand the role of PRIs members during mass gathering.

METHODOLOGY

Study Setting: 10 blocks: Patna Rural, Phulwari, Paliganj, Bihta, Dhanarua, Fatwah, Daniawan, Bakhtiarpur, Barh, and Pandarak in Patna district



- Duration: Two mounts
- Target Population: ASHA workers and PRI members
- Sample Size: 40
- Type of Data Collection: Primary Data collection
- Study Approach: Qualitative Cross-sectional study

RESULTS

ASHA

Results show that 48 per cent of 29 ASHAs were aware of the health risks caused due to mass gatherings. About one-third of ASHs were unsure while rest of them responded no such risks.

Of those who were aware, mentioned possible risks of injuries (92%), followed by poor sanitation (76%) infectious diseases, heat stroke, accidents (53% each).

On being asked ASHAs about their specific roles during mass gatherings, of every 10 ASHAs, four reported that they provide their services like first aid (91%), health education on family planning, maternal and child health (41%), and emergency support (8%) during mass gatherings

PRIs Members

Of 11 PRIs, about 82% of PRIs used to manage mass gathering on regular basis but they did not get any training to handle even stampede like situation. They were not provided any resources to manage the emergencies.

SWOT analysis
Role of ASHAs in Mass gathering

Strengths	Weakness
Local person oriented on health issues especially women health	Limited resources
Being local person, people trust her	Limited capacity
She knows where to go, whom to approach etc. therefore, works as a bridge between the community and health facility	
Opportunity	**Threats**
Awareness generation in a larger group	Challenges from men (not limited to her village only)

SWOT analysis
Role of PRIs in Mass gathering

Strengths	Weakness
Local knowledge and presence	Limited resources
Authority to call police, health workers, etc	Inadequate training
Grassroots representation	Lack of specialized skills
Opportunity	**Threats**
Collaborative partnerships with NGO and government	Safety and security risks
	Inadequate infrastructure, such as limited transportation facilities.

USEFULNESS OF INTERNSHIP

- It helped me understand how public health and NGOs work.
- I could use what I learned in theory and apply it to practical work.
- It improved my communication and networking skills.
- I became aware of different roles of various officials in public health.
- I had the opportunity to interact with government officers like doctors and hospital managers.

LEARNINGS DURING INTERNSHIP

- Learn how to effectively communicate and engage with ASHA (Accredited Social Health Activist), and PRI (Panchayati Raj Institution) members.
- Learn how to develop tools and effectively implement them in practical

CHALLENGES FACED DURING INTERNSHIP

- The organization mentor provided topic to work without offering regular guidance.

LEARNING DIFFERENCE

THEORY

- None
- In Research Methodology learn how prepare tools and implementation of the tools.
- Roles and responsibilities of ASHAs but not specifically in mass gathering
- In Research Methodology learn how to conduct interview and collect data

PRACTICAL

- Mass Gathering A mass gathering (MG), as defined by WHO, is "any occasion, either organized or spontaneous, that attracts sufficient numbers of people to strain the planning and response resources of the community, city or nation hosting the event".
- Prepare tools and execute their implementation in real-world scenarios.
- Conduct interviews with 29 ASHAs to gain insights into the role of frontline health functionaries in managing healthcare during "mass gatherings" during festivals.
- Conduct interviews with 11 male local governance representatives, including Mukhiyas and Ward Panch.

SUGGESTION

- Provide trainings to ASHA regarding mass gathering.
- Provide trained volunteers to PRI members for stampede situations.

Name: Saroj Kumar Pathak
Roll No; 1598/ HM27
Mentor Name: Nutan P. Jain
Organization Name: CARE INDIA
Organization Mentor: Sharad Chaturvedi