



Cash Transfer Schemes On Maternal and Child Health/Nutrition



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History

Nand Ghar is a social initiative of the Anil Agarwal Foundation(2015), the philanthropic arm of the Vedanta Groups. The project aims to transform the lives of 7 crore children and 2 crore women across the 13.7 Lakh Anganwadi centres by providing online education, primary healthcare, nutritional requirements and economically skill training for women across India. The first Nand Ghar was established in the Nagepur district of Varanasi in April 2016.

Description

Nand Ghar is a collaborative project between Vedanta and the Ministry of Women and Child Development, with an MoU signed up for developing 4000 modern Anganwadis as Nand Ghars across India. 6000+ Nand Ghar have been upgraded across 14 states in India.

Vision

Transforming the lives of 7 cr. children and 2 cr. women across 13.7 lakh Anganwadis in India through Nand Ghars, by imparting best in class curriculum through televisions for e-learning, healthcare with a doctor at doorstep, hygienic pre cooked meals for nutrition and economically empowering women through customized skill training across India.

Mission

Committed to the Prime Minister's national vision of eradicating child malnutrition, providing education, healthcare and empowering women with skill development

Organization structure



Cash Transfer Schemes On Maternal and Child Health/Nutrition

Direct cash transfer schemes provide financial support directly to pregnant women and families with young children to improve health and nutrition outcomes. These programs improve access to health care and nutritious food, reduce malnutrition and mortality, and strengthen families economically, leading to better health and quality of life.

Difference between Theoretical & practical understanding

A theoretical understanding of cash transfer schemes involves studying the principles, models and predicted benefits for maternal and child health from the existing literature. In contrast, practical understanding involves implementing schemes, observing real-world impacts, overcoming operational challenges, and evaluating actual outcomes through direct engagement and data collection

Challenges faced during internship

- No formal training was provided.
- Places at Nand Ghar were hard to reach.
- Limited positive response from stakeholders.
- Challenges in coordinating visits to remote locations.
- Difficulty in communicating with organization mentor.

Learnings During Internship

- Gained knowledge about how direct cash transfer Schemes improve maternal and child health by providing financial support
- Learned about data collection methods and communication strategies used at various levels to evaluate these programs.
- Acquired knowledge of public health programs and their integration with cash transfer schemes.
- Identified issues in the implementation of cash transfer schemes, including monitoring the use of funds and program effectiveness
- Gained insight into CSR initiatives like Vedanta's Nand Ghar and their role in improving public health.



Usefulness of internship

- Received hands-on experience with direct cash transfer schemes and early childhood development projects
- Enhanced skills in data collection, analysis and reporting through real-world applications.
- Offered insight into the practical application of corporate social responsibility in healthcare and education.
- Deeper understanding of how financial assistance and integrated services impact maternal and child health.

Suggestions

- Develop a centralized communication platform and establish regular interdepartmental meetings to improve coordination and reduce dependency.
- Simplify and digitize documentation processes for the PMMVY scheme to reduce complexity and administrative burden.
- Conduct regular hands-on training for Anganwadi workers on online platforms and administrative procedures.
- Introduce structured counseling sessions and educational materials on health and nutrition for beneficiaries to improve awareness and support.