

## **Progress Report of Preschool activities in the Anganwadi Centers of Trilokpuri and Nand Nagri Project Area**

Pratham Delhi's MoU with the Department of Women and Child Development was renewed in November 2009. Thus, the preschool work continued in 130 Anganwadis of Nand Nagri and 134 of Trilokpuri project. In the period between November 09 and March 10, following themes were covered:

1. Mausam Aur Kapde (Season and Cloths)
2. Yatayaat ke Saadhan (Mode of Transport)
3. Hamare Tyohar (Our Festivals)

Monthly attendance of children in the Anganwadis of the two project areas for the purpose of preschool education are as follows:

Table 1: Monthly attendance of children in 264 Anganwadis of Trilokpuri and Nand Nagri

					Trilokpuri				Nand Nagri			
	No. of children			% of girls	No. of children			% of girls	No. of children			% of girls
Month	Boys	Girls	Total		Boys	Girls	Total		Boys	Girls	Total	
November	2378	2557	<b>4935</b>	<b>52</b>	1186	1320	<b>2506</b>	<b>53</b>	1192	1237	<b>2429</b>	<b>51</b>
December	2384	2609	<b>4993</b>	<b>52</b>	1202	1357	<b>2559</b>	<b>53</b>	1182	1252	<b>2434</b>	<b>51</b>
January	2388	2595	<b>4983</b>	<b>52</b>	1186	1319	<b>2505</b>	<b>53</b>	1202	1276	<b>2478</b>	<b>51</b>
February	2343	2587	<b>4930</b>	<b>52</b>	1186	1321	<b>2507</b>	<b>53</b>	1157	1266	<b>2423</b>	<b>52</b>
March	2309	2539	<b>4848</b>	<b>52</b>	1181	1304	<b>2485</b>	<b>52</b>	1128	1235	<b>2363</b>	<b>52</b>

As the data of the last five months shows, there are more girls in the Anganwadis for preschool education than boys. The gender distribution of children in the Anganwadis of the two areas is almost similar to the entire programme areas of Pratham spread across the underprivileged segments of the 5 municipal zones of Delhi. More girls are coming to Anganwadis for preschools and at the same time among the children who go to private kindergarten, 56% are boys (Pratham Basti Profile<sup>1</sup>, 2009).

The preschool activities in the Anganwadis have stabilized and are undertaken for about an hour to 90 minutes every day. Anganwadi helpers actively support Pratham volunteers

<sup>1</sup> Since 2005, Pratham has demarcated its programme areas in the 3 municipal zones (North Shahdara, South Shahdara and Karolbagh) into small cluster of about 200 household each. Every year, the schooling (3-14 years) status and learning (6-14 years) level of children are recorded for programme planning and impact assessment purposes.

in getting the children to class every morning. The support is more regular in Trilokpuri area.

### Assessment

The indicators used in this assessment were such where the child is not required to undergo any separate test rather it is based on the observations of their respective teachers. Also the indicators were aligned with the activities undertaken with children. However, it is possible that these recorded observations may have been an outcome of other influences also among the children. The observations were recorded in the Month of January 10. Out of 4983 children enrolled for the preschool activities in the Anganwadis of the two areas in that month, 4963 children were observed.

Further, there were two different tools used- one for children who are 3 year old and the other who are 4-5 year old. The one who are 3 year old will continue to be in the preschool set up even next year while the 4 and 5 year one will start moving on to the primary schools by the next academic year. Thus, while the purpose of assessment in the case of former set of children was to record their response to some set of activities, in case of latter it was also intended to record their school readiness.

<b>Table 2: Assessment Report on Cognitive Development (3 year old children)</b>							
		<b>Indicators of Cognitive Development</b>					
<b>Project Area</b>	<b>No. of children assessed</b>	आकार/रंग कार्ड अनुसार क्रम से लगा सकता है।		3-4 टुकड़ों वाले पजल्स जोड़ सकता है।		दो वस्तुओं में वर्गीकरण कर सकता है।	
		<b>No.</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>%</b>
Trilokpuri	1476	1313	89.0	1349	91.4	1367	92.6
Nand Nagri	1185	746	63.0	822	69.4	832	70.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>2661</b>	<b>2059</b>	<b>77.4</b>	<b>2171</b>	<b>81.6</b>	<b>2199</b>	<b>82.6</b>

Table 2, records the observations on 3 indicators of cognitive development. The related sets of activities are regularly conducted by Pratham volunteers in the Anganwadis. About 90% children can do the activities comfortably in Trilokpuri, in Nand Nagri it is between 60-70% children.

Children in the age group of 4 & 5 years were assessed on certain Language and Cognitive development indicators in order to gauge their school readiness (Table 3).

**Table 3: Assessment Report on two developmental indicators (Age group of 4-5 years)**

		Indicators of Language Development				Indicators of Cognitive Development			
Project Area	No. of children assessed	किसी वस्तु पर एक वाक्य बोल सकता है।		कराये गए अक्षर पहचान सकता है।		आकार/रंग कार्ड अनुसार क्रम से लगा सकता है।		1-6 अंक में चीजें निकाल सकता है।	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Trilokpuri	1021	907	89	916	90	951	93	885	87
Nand Nagri	1281	600	47	798	62	869	68	697	54
<b>Total</b>	<b>2302</b>	<b>1507</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>1714</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>1820</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>1582</b>	<b>69</b>

In Trilokpuri project area, almost 90% children could do the age appropriate task and are therefore ready to join the next level of schooling. However, in Nand Nagri area, just over 50% children could do the age appropriate task. The external factor responsible for the significant difference in the performance level of children in the two areas is stability. While the population of children in Trilokpuri is quite stable, there is a regular change in the children from some parts of Nand Nagri areas.

Thus, the conclusion of this assessment is that if children come regularly to the centers and participate in the preschool activities there is a definite visible impact of the developmental interventions. However, too frequent change in the habitation of the parents pulls down the opportunities for children to regularly participate in the preschool activities which will have bearings on their eventual schooling and learning also.