

ANGANWARI WORKERS TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR THE MADHYA PRADESH STATE WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Gold Medal for Innovation in Open and Distance Learning for year 2011 was conferred to Dr. Harkirat Bains in the 22nd Convocation of the University for her Innovation in Anganwari Workers Training Programme for the Madhya Pradesh State Women and Child Development Department. A brief about this Innovation and the Innovator is given below.

ABOUT THE INNOVATION

The Anganwari Workers Training Programme is an innovative intervention in preparing skilled personnel who would help the Government to lower its Infant Mortality Rate (IMR), in the State of Madhya Pradesh. The innovator conceived, designed, developed and conducted the training programme. The training modules for the Anganwari Workers of the State Women and Child Development Department were prepared and training of 1014 workers in Vidisha District completed in collaboration with UNICEF. In addition components like Immunization, Nutrition, Sanitation, Growth monitoring, identification of severely malnourished children were included in this programme.

The objective of conducting this programme was not limited to adding a qualification to the academic profile of Anganwari Workers, but to build capacity in a manner that distinctly improved their existing skill levels. The average score of the group of 1014 workers in pre evaluation was 31.23 which increased to 61.12 after the training. This increase of about 30 points clearly indicates that the programme made a substantial impact. This value addition could be achieved only because the programme was tailored according to the responsibilities of and expectations from an Anganwari Worker.

This programme known as "Vidisha Model" has been adopted by the Government of Madhya Pradesh for the training of about 80,000 Anganwari Workers in the entire state. The training module was also adopted for the Training of Trainers (ToT) by the Women & Child Development Department, Government of Chhatisgarh.

ABOUT THE INNOVATOR



Dr. Harkirat Bains completed her Post-Graduation, securing 2nd position in Punjab University in 1986. She did her Bachelor's in Education from the same University the subsequent year and cleared NET in 1999. She did her Doctorate in Food and Nutrition and also successfully completed her D.Sc from Barkatullah University, Madhya Pradesh.

She was working on UNICEF projects and she has been the Vice President of 'Childs Rights Observatory' of Madhya Pradesh and is a Resource Person for various organizations.

She has designed and developed innovative programmes in the field of Dietetics, Physiotherapy and Therapeutic Nutrition.

She has a passion for gardening which has won her numerous state-level awards. Her collection of poems, 'The Last Autumn Leaf' was first published in 2002.