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3) A list of records maintained is painted on one of the walls. A cursory glance of the list painted on the wall reveals gross spelling mistakes conspicuously. I made a request to the Anganwadi worker to correct the spelling mistakes as wrong spelling should be imprinted in the minds of the young children.

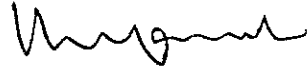
4) I perused weight monitoring register and found that one or two children had lost weight of 2 Kgs in 2 months. Unfortunately, I found that neither reason thereof analyzed nor action taken in furtherance of it recorded which are incorrect. When I sought for the register on Sabla Scheme – Caring of adolescent girls by supply of rice and whole Bengal gram, I found that neither the quantity requirement projection nor date of receipt of supply nor distribution to the beneficiaries nor stock position was recorded. Likewise, I found that maintenance of other records namely Inspection register or issue of pension to differently abled persons register or issue of old age pension register was not up to the mark. When inquired it is informed that engagement of Anganwadi worker for multipurpose women development coordination was the reason, which I am not prepared to accept as a convincing answer. The higher authorities

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of Women and Child Development / ICDS should ensure proper budgeting of of time of Anganwadi workers so that off the office hours of Anganwadi their services utilized without affecting the proper functioning of the Anganwadis. It is good to note that Anganwadi workers are not complaining of allotment of additional works as they understand that one cannot have cake and eat it too.



C.R. K.R. SHYAMSUNDRAN

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**Visit to Anganwadi at Vadakku Palpannaicherry, Nagore**  
**in Nagappatinam District**

By Dr K.R.Shyamsundar

I paid a visit to an Anganwadi at Vadakku Palpannaicherry, Nagore in Nagappatinam District along with Revenue Divisional Officer and ICDS officials on 13<sup>th</sup> June, 2015. Anganwadi worker and a helper were present.

2) The said Anganwadi is housed in a rented building comprising a hall measuring 9' \*17.5' and a small store room with a toilet outside on a monthly rent of Rs. 750. Out of the 157.5 sft hall, a portion of space is occupied for keeping preschool activity materials and therefore the utility space available is highly insufficient. It is learnt that since Rs. 750/- is the prescribed ceiling for rent authorities are unable to move to another building with adequate and reasonable space. It is further learnt that the actual rent is Rs. 1000/month and that the balance amount of Rs. 250/- is met either from donation given by a ward member or from the savings made in the purchase of vegetables and the latter one is an unacceptable proposition, which may encourage or give room for malpractices. Therefore, it is suggested that District Collector may

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take up the matter with the concerned as rental value is exorbitant in town areas.

3) On the date of visit 15 children in uniform were present out of the actual strength of 20 and the absentees were accounted for. Prescribed charts and preschool activity materials including lesson plan are kept neatly.

4) A discussion with the ICDP & Anganwadi staff reveals that Vadakku Palpannaicherry Anganwadi caters to 302 families with a total population of 1243 with 54 children including 33 girl babies in the age group of 0 -3 and 48 including 23 girl children in the age group of 4 to 6 and statistics regarding supplementary Nutrition Beneficiary children , underweight children, number of adolescent girls (105) and anti and post natal mothers are kept in a register. Supplementary food is supplied to adolescent girls and anti and post natal mothers. Considering the pay package given to the Anganwadi workers, the enthusiasm exhibited by them is just amazing and the authorities need to be complimented for keeping them in good humour by patting them on their back once in a while.

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Dr. K. R. SRINIVASAN