

ONLINE ToT FOR MATRONS ON COUNSELLING AND LIFE SKILLS EDUCATION

Background

The Department of Scheduled Tribe and Scheduled Caste Development and Welfare of Minorities and Backward Classes runs around 6000 hostels across the state and engaged matrons in hostels. Against the sanctioned strength of 3000 matrons there are more than 2300 plus matrons are in position and actively supporting the government initiative to promote safety and wellbeing of students in residential school.

The basic minimum educational qualification of matrons is intermediate, but there are matrons appointed who are graduate and above. Irrespective of the educational status, theme-based training shall enhance their knowledge and reliance towards delivering responsibilities endowed to them. They have been considered as the first line service provider in the residential school hostels. So, the alertness and knowledge about safety of students and response mechanism shall enable them towards effective deliberation of responsibilities.

The main objective of the training was to;

- i. Ensure safety and wellbeing of the students studying in residential schools through building the capacity of matrons.
- ii. Ensure effective counselling service to the adolescents residing in the hostels of residential schools by the matrons.
- iii. Ensure to reduce school dropout, early marriage and teenage pregnancy among students through effective counselling services.

Introduction

The presence of matron through-out Odisha are such large in numbers practically difficult to train all of them in a single method. So, it was decided to prepare a pool of active resource group among the Matrons and systematic training shall be provided to them. These cadres shall act like trainers percolating the training to other matrons.

Specific theme like Counseling and Life skills education were chosen to be primary theme for

training. It shall be horizontal model for capacity building and implementation of counseling sessions in hostels.

On this background four days State Level Residential Training sessions was planned to provide training to 600 Matrons in 15 batches on counselling and life skills education by SCSTRTI, Govt. of Odisha with the collaboration of United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

Phase wise training calendar was designed and in the month of February and march 2020 first phase training was organized covering 431 matrons from 16 districts. The remaining batches of training were cancelled due to the Govt. advisory for COVID-19.

To maintain the continuity in training in the exigency situation during COVID-19, it was decided to organize training for the remaining batches through virtual platform. Necessary planning was done for rendering online training.

Meantime, a five days online Training of Trainers covering 177 Matrons in 7 batches on counselling and life skills education was successfully organized by SCSTRTI, Govt. of Odisha with the collaboration of United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). The online training programme for matrons was started on date 08.06.2020.

Introductory Remarks

The training session was opened with an introductory remark by officials of STSCRTI. It was consistence support of the officials that could makes possible to organise these virtual ToTs.

Prof.Dr. A.B Ota, Advisor cum Director & Spl.Secretary, SCSTRTI, Govt. of Odisha:

His generous presence on the introductory session was highly impacted. His always enquired and ensured continence of matrons learning through online platform. He urged for quality participations and interactive learning through post training discussions.

Mr.Sunil Ku Tandi, District welfare Officer, Sundergarh:

District officials played a very vital role ensuring the participations of matrons. So, they were also invited to encourage participants. He conveyed his thanks to SCSTRTI and UNFPA for organizing the programme. He also encouraged the participants for their active participation and improve their knowledge on different themes.

Mr.Pradipta Ku Panda, District Welfare Officer, Malkangiri:

Mr Pradipta Ku. Panda sincerely encouraged the participants for interactive learnings. He also added value to the training by sharing his experiences on dealing with students in residential schools.

Training Methodology & Sessions

After received the list of matrons from districts for online ToT programme for matrons, batch wise whatsapp group were formed.

And before the commencement of each batch training program pre orientation sessions(2 demo sessions) were organized for the participants how to join and manage the virtual platform without any hindrances.

As per the planned schedule, session was facilitated by the trained resource persons (List attached in the annexure).It was two hours training sessions.

After two hours of online sessions, one to one contact with the participants over phone was being done by the resource persons to clarify their doubts. Each day after the training sessions participants were also sharing their key learning notes.(some key notes attached in the Annexure)

The training focused on the following broad themes that were covered using the reference manual developed for matrons.

- Session-1: Principle and ethics of counseling
- Session-2: Understanding the need as aspiration of children and adolescents and process of Rapport building
- Session-3: Psychological counselling and management of risky behaviour of adolescents
- Session-4: Counselling on personal hygiene and environmental sanitationf children/adolescent
- Session-5: Nutritional counselling and control of anaemia
- Session-6: Counselling for management of menstruation and menstrual hygiene, overcoming traditional practice, myths associated with menstruation
- Session-7: Adolescent counselling for coping with changes during adolescent and attraction towards opposite sex
- Session-8: Counselling for management of RTI/STI during adolescent
- Session-9: Counselling for overcoming the challenges for early marriage and teenage pregnancy
- Session-10: Counselling for understanding abuses and overcoming harassment including sexual harassment.

Pre-Post assessment analysis

As the standard procedure of training a questionnaire was set for pre and post knowledge assessment. The questionnaire was being shared with the participants through whatsapp group.

There were 22 questions were broadly covering the below stated 8 themes placed in (figure-1,Figure-2).

1. Safety, Security & POCSO Act
2. Growing up
3. Counselling

4. Mental health
5. Teenage pregnancy, Early marriage
6. Sexual abuse
7. Nutrition, Anaemia management
8. STI, RTI & HIV

- Many participants having least knowledge on how to operate android phones, so they faced difficulties in downloading the sent documents

Figure-1: Theme wise knowledge developed.

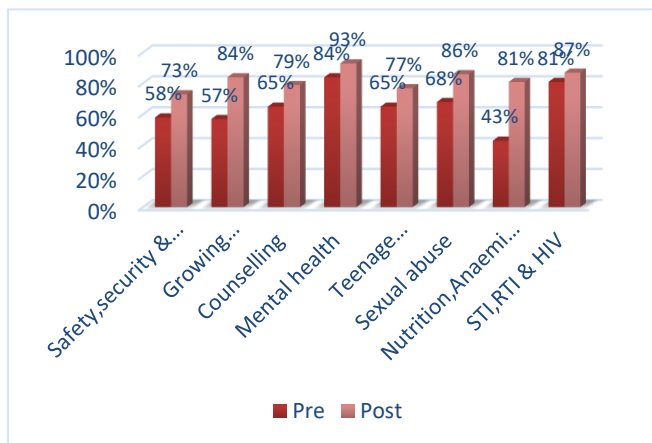
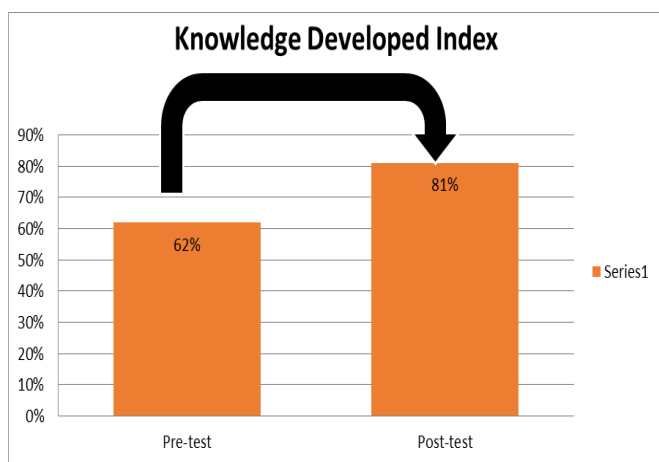


Figure-2: Knowledge Developed Index.



Challenges

- Network issues were a major hurdle for some of the participants
- Due to network issue some participants were coming 1 and 1.5 kms far from their home to network zone to join the meeting
- Due to network issues during session some participants were being disconnected and over phone by discussing with RPs clear their missed portions

Participants Desk

- Some participants appreciated to this initiative of the department to provide them such a unique platform to learn in this pandemic situation.
- Some participants shared that this training program will help them to work and deal with the students with update knowledge and skill.

Findings

- Though virtual platform was new experience for them but they were attending the training with full enthusiasm and sharing their key learning notes, quotes and pictures on different session themes.
- Pre demo training session was very helpful for them to operate the virtual training platform.
- This training program helped them to develop counselling skills among them.

Participation

Sl. No	Name of the District	No of Participants
1	Angul	8
2	Dhenkanal	6
3	Baragarh	12
4	Sundergarh	57
5	Nuapara	19
6	Boudh	6
7	Bolangir	7
8	Bhadrak	3
9	Cuttack	5
10	Jajpur	5
11	Sonepur	2
12	Malkangiri	34
13	Jharsuguda	8
14	Nayagarh	5

TRAINING REPORT ON ONLINE TOT TO MATRONS

Total	177
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(Participants list attached in the Annexure)

PHOTO GALLERY OF TRAINING PROGRAMME



SHARED BY MATRONS

