Table of Contents

Genesis: A trip down memory lane 1
Gagan S

Editorial

A New Beginning 5
Editorial team – Annals of Community Heath
Evidence based public health – the need of the hour 7
Raghuram V

Blast from the Past

“Malaria, mosquitoes and the legacy of Ronald Ross” – A Commentary 8
Animesh Jain

NEWS Updates

Ksheera Bhagya Yojana 13
Girish B

Happenings

Roadmap for accelerating child survival and improving maternal health in India 14
Sandeep Kumar Panigrahi

Original Research Articles

A study of the reproductive health status and its related factors among women living in the post tsunami intermediate shelters of Andaman islands, India 15
Pretesh R Kiran, Anu Susan, Jiny, Bobby Joseph

Self-rated health as a measure of health status among people with chronic illness in an Urban area of South India 20
Raghuram V, Narasimha Murthy NS, Gopinath D

Short Communication

Socioeconomic status scales - An update 24
Sharankumar Holyachi, Santosh A

Viewpoint

Challenges in the area of health care waste management 28
Pruthwish S, Girish N, Hemanth T

Perspectives

Mathematical modelling: Basic concepts & applications in Medical field 31
Swapna Jaswanth

Qualitative Research 36
Suma R K
Institute of Public Health Importance

Society for Community Health Awareness Research and Action (SOCHARA): Philosophy, work approach and impact

Adithya Pradyumna

Success Story

Silver Jubilee conference of the Karnataka Association of Community Health – walking down the memory lane

Girish N Rao
Ksheera Bhagya Yojana

Girish B

Ksheera Bhagya Yojana (KBY) is a nutritional supplementation program launched by Govt. of Karnataka from 1st August 2013. This Yojana is working in coordination of Karnataka Milk Federation (KMF) and all its milk unions. This scheme is under Department of Education in Karnataka.

Benefits

Students from Class one to Class tenth studying in government and government-aided schools and Anganwadi children are the beneficiaries. The programme is targeted at 65 lakh children studying from Class 1 to Class 10 in around 51,000 government schools and 39 lakh beneficiaries in as many as 64,000 Anganwadis in the state. This free milk scheme helps to tackle malnutrition among children in rural areas.

Objective of Ksheera Bhagya Yojana

- To prevent malnutrition in children.
- To improve the nutritional and health status of children

Distribution: This scheme entitles all students 150 ml of milk three times a week. The milk powder will be hygienically reconstituted with hot water before distributing it to students. Milk with constituents such as calcium, proteins, carbohydrates, vitamins, zinc and riboflavin, is a complete food, which is necessary for a child to become healthy and intelligent.

As per the ‘Ksheera Bhagya’ scheme, 18 grams each of whole milk powder will be provided to students from Class 1 to Class 10, while 15 grams of skimmed milk powder will be provided to children in Anganwadis on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, under Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS).

Milk powder is being supplied in one Kg pockets and in bulk requirements in 20 Kg packets. Pockets will be distributed directly to the schools by milk unions once in 15 days. It has a shelf life of three months. Skimmed milk powder (Milk powder without cream) is supplied to Anganwadi. It has a shelf life of one year.

Benefits: Milk powder will be distributed to students in government schools and children in Anganwadis all over the state thrice a week to prevent malnutrition. This scheme will help in improving the nutritional and health status of children in government schools, as nutrition is essential for the overall development of a child. The distribution of milk, along with other schemes such as provision of midday meals and iron-folic tablets, would also encourage children to attend classes. It also generates revenue for milk producers and farmers through KMF.

Operational Cost

Each child in schools will receive 18 grams of whole milk powder at a cost of Rs.4.64, whereas 15 grams of skimmed milk powder is provided to Anganwadi children. The programme for school students will cost Rs.313.66 crore and the programme for Anganwadis will cost Rs.115.59 crore annually.

1.17-lakh kg of milk powder with cream is supplied each day to nearly 51,000 schools in the state. This scheme helps to prevent malnutrition in around 1.04 crore children across Karnataka. School teachers are trained for the implementation of the scheme.

References

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1Dept. of Community Medicine, Sri Siddhartha Medical College, N.H. 206, Tumkur, Karnataka.
Correspondence to Dr Girish B (girish.b24@gmail.com)