

ing stage (implementation) of the curriculum. Forces hindering implementation need to be reduced and those facilitating it need strengthening.

2. Investigations must be carried out in the area of clinical learning of the nursing students in the mission hospitals to make it possible to avoid unnecessary hours of practice which may be irrelevant to the purpose of the programme, and practice not based on sound learning principles.

3. There is need for preparation of faculty in planning and development of curriculum through inservice education or workshop at the Board of Education so that better standards would be maintained in the schools. Curriculum development should be a combined effort of the schools and the board.

4. Further appointment of teachers of nursing should consider their preparation at the B. Sc. level with thorough preparation in teaching and curriculum.

5. A study is recommended of the present curriculum for relevance of the subject matter and clinical learning in the light of the need of diploma nursing students. There is need to look deeply into the present curriculum (total), which could enable significant change.

6. A comparative study of the curricula of the three programmes in nursing, namely, degree, diploma, and auxiliary nurse preparation, should be undertaken to specify the difference in the type of preparation and practice.

7. There is need for appointment of clinical instructors in all the schools for teaching in clinical areas. There should be adequate numbers of staff nurses in the hospital to care for patients.

8. The opinion of the students should be taken into consideration before making further changes in curriculum.

9. It is recommended that there should be adequate and proper communication between nursing staff of the hospital and school regarding change because of the influence the nursing service personnel have on learning experiences of students.

10. It is recommended that better resources, such as library facilities, audiovisual aids, and other facilities, should be available for teachers to improve their teaching methods.

Replacement Copies !

A number of copies of December issue of the Journal have been sent back to us without wrappers containing addresses of subscribers. Those who have not received their copies may write to us immediately for replacement copies.

Business Manager

A COMMENDABLE EXAMPLE

A. K. PANJA

Mr. A. K. Panja, Minister for Health and Family Planning, West Bengal, gives here the experience of his State as a pathfinder for other areas in the country to meet the challenges in the field of health services and their management.

A WELL-KNIT organisation for rendering nursing to the people of the State—as we now see today—was nowhere near its present shape in the years preceding the Independence. There were very few hospitals under State control. Fewer still were trained personnel including trained nurses. Untrained nursing aides covered a vital area of patient care—with many things left to be desired. There being nothing of the State's participation in the production of trained nurses, a private organization, viz., The Calcutta Hospital Nurses' Institute was the only source feeding the two premier hospitals in the city, the Medical College Hospital and the P.G. Hospital (now Seth Sukhlal Karnani Memorial Hospital). The rest of the hospitals in the city and the State had to depend mainly on untrained nurses.

Spurt after Independence

With Independence there was a spurt in the development of social services in the country. West Bengal did not lag behind. Health Services made rapid strides in this State and 'nursing' as a profession came to the fore of women's participation in the programmes for the well-being of the community. Women all over the world have traditionally been the storehouse of the nation's sense of piety, love and self-sacrifice. The Indian women were not an exception. Nor was their Bengali counter-part. The call to the Bengali womanhood to join the nursing service for tending the sick and the ailing did not go unheeded. The State provided the inspiration by appointing for the first time a woman as the Superintendent of Nursing Services at the headquarters. The seed of the Nursing Organisation in its present form was sown.

In 1957 "revolutionary" changes were made in the service conditions of the nurses. Regular scales of pay were prescribed for different categories of trained nurses. Amenities unknown to the other State employees were sanctioned having regard to the difficult conditions in which the nurses have to serve. A number of junior and senior nurses' training schools were brought into being. Regular training programmes were drawn up, so that a trained nurse could be a finished product covering all the disciplines of nursing. Then followed a tireless programme of feeding the health services with trained nurses at every level. A well thought out yardstick was prescribed for

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giving uniform coverage of trained nurses to all health institutions. But that was only a humble beginning compared to what has been achieved since then. We have not rested on our laurels but have strived hard to give the Service the respectability it deserves.

In 1961 the number of trained nurses in West Bengal was 4,000. Today it is 12,000.

During the last 15 years we have set up 18 Auxiliary Nurse Midwife and 13 General Nurse Midwife schools. They produce 400 trained Auxiliary Nurse Midwives and 300 General Nurse Midwives every year.

In West Bengal we have now a College of Nursing—the first of its kind in this part of the country.

The Head of the Nursing Organisation in this State, the Superintendent of Nursing Services of the past, is

now a Deputy Director under immediate control of the Director of Health Services.

Gazetted Rank

The state Government has decided to confer gazetted rank on the top supervisory nursing posts in the different State hospitals numbering about 400.

We have a number of Nursing Officers who have acquired post-graduate degrees in nursing. Quite a few of them have had the opportunity of being sponsored for higher training abroad under the different fellowship programmes.

We look forward to a day when West Bengal will provide a lead to the rest of the country in the development of this important branch of social service.

TNAI SCHOLARSHIPS : 1977

The Trained Nurses Association of India invites applications for Scholarships for higher studies for the year 1977.

FOR GENERAL NURSES

(a) *Master of Nursing Course* of any University recognised by the Indian Nursing Council/State Governments.

(b) *Post-Certificate B. Sc. (N) Course* for 2 years at any one of the Colleges of Nursing recognised by the Indian Nursing Council.

(c) *Post-Certificate Diploma Courses* in teaching, nursing administration, midwifery tutor and public health nursing.

Qualifications

(a) Master of Nursing-B.Sc. Nursing.

(b) Post-Certificate B.Sc.-Pre-University/Intermediate or equivalent degree. Registered nurses with midwifery certificate. Three years' experience in clinical/public health nursing.

(c) *Post-Certificate Diploma Courses*-Matriculation or equivalent examination. Registered nurse with midwifery certificate. In case of male nurses, proof of having undergone training in a special subject in lieu of midwifery. Three years' experience in a school of nursing for the teaching and midwifery courses and five years' experience in a school of nursing for the nursing administration course.

Formal Requirements

(i) A postal order of Rs. 3 on account of application fee to be sent along with the completed application forms.

(ii) A glossy passport size photograph.

Incomplete application forms will not be entertained.

FOR HEALTH VISITORS AND A.N. Ms :

Eligibility

(i) Pass in S.S.L.C.

(ii) The minimum period of three years' experience.

(iii) Participation in activities of the Association.

General Conditions

(a) The candidate should be a member of the TNAI for at least three years.

(b) Applications be submitted through the State Branch President.

(c) Those who are selected for the Scholarships will be required to give a written agreement that they will continue in service for at least two years. In case of default the awardees will be required to refund the scholarship money.

(d) Admission to the selected course of study should be arranged by the candidates themselves. Applicants should also clearly state whether they will be able to meet a portion of the expenses towards the course on their own and to what extent.

CLOSING DATE FOR RECEIVING COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS FOR ALL SCHOLARSHIPS-MARCH 15, 1977.

Application Forms may be obtained from the Secretary, Trained Nurses Association of India, L-16, Green Park, New Delhi-110016, by sending a self-addressed stamped (25 Paise) envelope of Size 24 x 10 cm.