

Dr. Neelima Chopra

Senior Fellow, Jamia Millia Islamia, Central University, India

National Representative India- Asia-Pacific Regional Network for Early Childhood (ARNEC)

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Summary

- Conducted major and minor research projects in ECCD funded by different funding organisations like Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Indian Council of Social Sciences Research (ICSSR), Fetzer Institute, USA and Save the Children, India and Mobile Crèches.
- Lead teams for various research and training projects and active involvement in project design, planning, tool development, monitoring and evaluation
- Responsible for proposal development and management of grants for the undertaken projects
- Supervision of PhD scholars and Masters Dissertation, Taught at different levels- University programmes (post graduate and undergraduate programmes) in ECD and in school (primary grades).
- Liaison and building strategic partnerships with governmental and non-governmental organisations
- Undertaken capacity development of early childhood professionals at national and state levels
- Advocacy and knowledge dissemination through organisation of conferences, seminars and symposiums
- Over 20 Publications and paper presentations on ECD/ECE at international and national conferences.
- Undertaken development of MOOCs, Radio talk shows and webinars on early childhood education/ teacher education
- Was Member CWC, Delhi.

Academic Qualifications:

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Degree (Year)</i>	<i>Name of Institution</i>
1.	PhD (Education), 2005	Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi
2.	MA (Educational Planning and Administration), 2004	Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi
3.	M. Sc (Child Development), 1998	Lady Irwin College, Delhi University, New Delhi
Certificate Courses		
1	Child Protection: Children's Rights in Theory and Practice, June 2020	HarvardX (Online Learning Initiative of Harvard University)

Work Experience:

S. No.	Organisation	Designation	Perio
1	Jamia Millia Islamia, Central University, India	Senior Fellow	2018-current
2	Jamia Millia Islamia, Central University, India	Assistant Professor	2011-2018

3	Delhi Public School, R. K. Puram, New Delhi, India	PRT	2007-2011
4	Department of Educational Studies, Jamia Millia Islamia, India	JRF/SRF	2000-2005
5	Indira Gandhi National Open University	Consultant	1998-2000

Research Experience:

- **Project Lead** for evaluation study of Mobile Crèches in 3 states. Leading teams of Field Investigators and Core Team members at CECDR, JMI. Project involves assessing impact of the MC intervention. **Responsibilities include developing research design and data collection instruments, monitoring and supervision of data collection, data analysis and report writing.**
- **Project Lead** for ICSSR funded Project titled ‘Quality of early childhood education: An investigation in the MCD schools of Delhi’ (2015). Leading a team of Researchers for understanding the quality of ECE in MCD schools of Delhi. **Responsibilities included developing research design and data collection instruments, monitoring and supervision of data collection, data analysis and report writing.**
- **Project Lead** for Save The Children Funded project titled ‘The study of language practices in early childhood programmes’ (2013).
- **Project Lead** for ICMR funded Project ‘Care Within and Outside Home for School Age Children with Insulin Dependent Diabetes Mellitus: Challenges for Children and their Mothers’(2017).
- Member of the research team in the Research project funded by Save the Children titled ‘Mapping of ECD services in rural and coastal areas of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu’(2012)
- Member of the research team in the Research project funded by Fetzer Institute, USA titled ‘Evaluation of HHI programme for mothers and young children in Odisha’ (2012)
- Member of the research team in the Research project by MoWCD through NIPCD titled ‘Development and Pilot Testing of the Revised Curriculum for the ICDS Programme in Haryana, Rajasthan and Delhi (2013)

Training Activities undertaken:

- **ECD Consultant** for UNICEF Lucknow Project (August-September 2018) **Developed training modules on Early Childhood Development** for ECD workers and mothers. The modules focussed on nutrition, health and early stimulation of 0-3 year children. The project also involved developing tools (structured interview schedule and FGD) for pre- and post-evaluation of training and intervention. Also conducted training sessions for 2 days for the ECD workers at UNICEF Lucknow.
- **ECD Consultant** for Action Against Hunger, India for Proposal writing on Early Intervention.
- CECDR conducted ECCE training of ICDS supervisors and CDPOs in collaboration with **Department of Women and Child Development, Govt of NCT and Delhi** in August 2017. As the **Training Coordinator**, I conducted ToT with trainers and was responsible for overseeing the entire training of 80 ICDS supervisors and CDPOs from South Delhi area. I was also responsible for coordinating **Monitoring and Evaluation** of the ‘practice classes’ conducted by ICDS Supervisors as the 80 trained ICDS supervisors conducted 2 weeks of practice classes in their respective anganwadis. The monitoring and evaluation of these practice classes was coordinated and supervised by me at CECDR.
- Conducted **parental awareness workshops** at M. F. Mushir Fatima Nursery School, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi.

- Conducted **workshops on early childhood education for teachers** at Katha Laboratory School, MCD schools, M. F. Mushir Fatima Nursery School, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi and Delhi Public School, East Of Kailash, New Delhi

Extension Activities Undertaken:

- Coordinator for ARNEC Learning Groups
- Conducted review of NCERT Training Modules for pre-school educators as a Technical ECE expert (2020)
- ECCE Subject Matter Expert at TCS (2020)
- Compiled a report on Child Rights for NCPCR
- Webinar series for ARNEC, Save the Children and Indus Action on COVID-19 and impact on children during the months of April, May and June 2020
- Build Strategic collaborations in field with Katha Laboratory School, Jodogyan, Asha Deep Foundation, Indus Action and other NGO's working with children.
- Organised Panel Discussion and Research Consultation on 'ECCE: Commitment for Street Children' at Jamia Millia Islamia.
- Developed preschool curriculum for ICDS programme in Delhi, Gurgoan, Rajasthan and Hissar.
- Recorded MOOC videos and conducted Radio Talks on Education topics for National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS).
- Designed and written the course material for the ECCE distance education programme, Centre for Arjun Singh Distance Education, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi
- Conducted extension lectures for Post-graduate Diploma students of Counselling and Guidance at National Institute of Public Cooperation in Child Development (NIPCCD), New Delhi

Teaching Experience:

- MA (Early Childhood Development)- papers taught include Cognitive Development in Early Years, Language Development in Early Years, Curriculum and Pedagogy in Early Years, ECD Practical
- Supervision of 4 PhD scholars on various topics related with ECD/ECE
- Supervision of Masters Dissertation
- Taught in pre-primary and primary grades for 4.5 years

Other Contributions:

- Webinar on ECD for AAH foundation on 5th April 2019
- Invited Speaker and Chair for technical session at Chandigarh College of Education in April 2017
- Editorial member of National Journal of Education published by Chandigarh College of Education

Publications

a) Journals

1. Chopra, N. (2016). Quality early childhood education for disadvantaged children: An investigation in the MCD schools. International Journal of Early Years Education. Volume 24, Issue 1, Page 49-62. ISBN No. 0966-9760.
2. Sharma, P. & Chopra, N. (2020). Food safety and hygiene in anganwadi kitchens of North-east region of Delhi. International Journal of Home Science. Vol 6(3). 447-450 ISSN: 2395-7476.
3. Chopra, N., Narang, B., Iqbal, J. (2017) Diabetes management in schools: Teachers' knowledge, attitude and care practices. Jamia Journal Of Education. Vol 4 page 259-264.
4. Chopra, N and Narang, B. (2017) Living with Type I Diabetes: Diabetic Children's Experiences and Perceptions. Indian Journal of Health and Wellbeing Vol 8(3) 2017 Page 228-233.

5. Chopra, N. (2015). A Book review of Bernadette Duffy's Supporting Creativity and Imagination in Early Years. *International Journal of Early Years Education*. Volume 23, Issue 2, Page 223-225. ISBN No. 0966-9760. DOI: 10.1080/09669760.2013.771326.
6. Chopra, N. (2015). Significance of Adult-Child Interaction for Promoting Language and Literacy Skills in Early Years: The Indian Context. *ARNEC CONNECTIONS: Working Together for Early Childhood* Volume 9.
7. Chopra, N. (2014). A focus on early childhood care and education to ensure fulfilment of Right to Education-2009. *Indian Journal of Educational Research*. Volume 1(1). ISSN No. 2349-6908.
8. Chopra, N. (2012). A study of early childhood education programmes in Delhi, India. *International Journal of Early Years Education*, volume 20 issue 2 pages 159-174. ISBN No. 0966-9760

b) Books

1. Chopra, N. (2015). *Early Childhood Education in MCD schools*. Global Books Organisation: New Delhi. ISBN: 978-93-80570-91-4.
2. Chopra, N. (2015). *Care for the Young Children: Health, Nutrition and Protection*. Global Books Organisation: New Delhi. ISBN: 978-93-80570-98-3.

c) Chapters in Books

1. Neelima Chopra and Ikanshi Khanna (2019). Play as a Mechanism of Promoting Emergent Literacy among Young Children: The Indian Context [Online First], IntechOpen, DOI: 10.5772/intechopen.82363. Available from: <https://www.intechopen.com/online-first/play-as-a-mechanism-of-promoting-emergent-literacy-among-young-children-the-indian-context>
2. Chopra, N. (2017). Need for 'Child Development Centres': Strengthening convergence between key departments to ensure effective delivery of quality health services to young children. In N U Khan, Priya Mohan, Paneer Sigamani (Eds): *Concerns in Public Health Practices In India*. Bloomsbury Publications: New Delhi. ISBN: 978-93-86432-61-2.
3. Chopra, N. (2015). Emerging Issues and Challenges In Teaching And Learning Of ESL: A Case Of 'Private Nursery Schools' Of Delhi. In *Early Learning: Perspectives to Early Childhood Education*. Ed. Azmat, S. Page 97-103. Global Books Organisation. ISBN: 978-93-80570-97-6.
4. Kidwai, K. & Chopra, N. (2015). Barriers for Smooth Transition from Pre-primary to Primary school-case of MCD schools, Delhi. In *Early Learning: Perspectives to Early Childhood Education*. Ed. Azmat, S. Page 90-96. Global Books Organisation. ISBN: 978-93-80570-97-6.
5. Kidwai, K. & Chopra, N. (2015). Intervention in Early Years: Understanding Community Perceptions about ECD through CASP PLAN. In *Family and Community Participation in Early Childhood Development*. Ed. Kumar, K. Page 54-60. Global Books Organisation. ISBN: 978-93-80570-96-9.
6. Kidwai, K and Chopra, N. (2015). Quality of early childhood education in MCD schools: Implications for teacher education Institutes. In *Quality Assurance in Teacher Education*. Ed(s). Rihani, I & Mahajan, N. Twentyfirst Centaury Publication: Patiala, Punjab. ISBN: 978-93-85446-06-1.
7. Chopra, N. (2012). Quality of provisions in Early Childhood Programmes in Delhi. In *Emerging Issues and Challenges in Education: Global and Indian Perspective*. Eds. Tyagi, G. Saxena, K. & Rajput, A. Radha Publication, New Delhi. ISBN: 81-7487-811-4.

Membership of Professional Bodies

- Member and ARNEC- National Representative for India
- Member Of All India Association of Educational Research (AIAER)
- Member of Association for Early Childhood Education and Development (AECED), Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai.
- Member of International Economics Development Research Center (IEDRC)

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