

## **CHAPTER I**

### **Introduction:**

Infant mortality in Nepal is very high in comparison with other countries of the world, at 86 / 1000 live births (Pradhan et al., 1997). Major causes of high infant mortality are infectious diseases and diarrhea, which can be prevented by immunizing the child against these diseases. EPI program of Nepal has covers the immunization against measles, diphtheria, tetanus, poliomyelitis, pertussis and tuberculosis.

In the developing countries like Nepal, where 80 % population lives in rural area. Therefore, in the primary health care approach, it is necessary to deliver effective health services through the trained community health worker who belongs to their community and are easily available for them.

The essay, Chapter II, describes the measles and immunization, their causes and consequences. Although, according to immunization schedules, I have to discuss all the six killer diseases, but it will be to detail information and

description. Therefore, I choose to explain only about measles, which is a one of the important killer disease among the six.

The essay also describes in detail, that why immunization is needed for infants and child and how to prevent them from these diseases. Further the essay suggests in detail about the alternative solution of routine immunization service and focusing upon the role of community health worker regarding EPI services and emphasizing communication activities done by maternal and child health worker.

The essay concluded the EPI training to the maternal and child health worker will be effective tools for them, and after training they will be capable to provide effective immunization services to the community.

The proposal, Chapter III, gives an overview about the introduction of rationale and methodology used in this study. The general objective of this study is to improve the immunization program of the Nepal through the training and mobilization of the maternal and child health worker. The specific objective of this study are to develop the curriculum of training for the maternal and child health worker, trained them according to modules of training and implementation of program through them.

The main focus of this study is to provide effective immunization services to the rural community of Dang district, through the trained maternal and child health worker. Training for maternal and child health worker is a major component of the proposed plan. The purpose of the training is to teach the maternal and child health worker how to deliver a effective immunization service to the community and update the information about technology, immunization schedule and clients dealing. As well as maternal and child health worker will develop their interpersonal communication skills, and practical learning about immunization. That will be helpful to increase their capability.

The monitoring and supervision of EPI services will be done as planned. In which monitoring will help to determine the behavior and practices done by the maternal and child health worker and supervision will help them to perform their job better by improving knowledge and skill. After completing a year of program in the Dang district, plan has made to evaluate the impact of the program in the Dang district. Also evaluation will be carried out in the Bardiya district ( control group ). The findings of the both district will be compared.

Chapter IV, covers the data exercise. The study is still in preparation phase, therefore, the actual data needed for the impact evaluation could not be collected here in Thailand. I have done data exercise here in Thailand with setting

two objectives: to refined the data collection methods and to develop the data collection instruments. The main purpose of data exercise was to improve the proposal by incorporating lesson learned from data exercise. The focus groups discussion was conducted in Phahurat, Bangkok.

Chapter V, contains the presentation made during the thesis examination. It includes the information that used in front of examination committee. The annotated bibliography, appendices and other information are given in other sheets following to this chapter.

Finally, it is expected that this study will yield a clear picture of EPI program and services, provided by trained maternal and child health workers in Dang district of Nepal. It is also hoped that the National EPI program will be benefited from the research results. I hope, central, regional, and district level planners will use this approach. The out come of results will be presented to the Child Health Division, Department of Health services Kathmandu, Nepal.