

Stanzin chokla- I completed my Master in Public Health from Hamburg University of Applied Sciences and would like to pursue my PhD on the following topic from a German University, I got interested in the topic during my work tenure with the Rewa Society an Ngo that's work for the children with special disability in Ladakh. The development of the topic is from a renowned Physician of Ladakh called Dr.Norboo.

Growth and development trend in infants of the Sub-Himalayan Region of Ladakh from birth to five years with special emphasis to pick-up abnormal neurological signs in the first two years in low birth infants for prognostic significance.

This longitudinal study would be conducted in collaboration with the Leh district Government Hospital and Ladakh Institute of Prevention NGO (Non-Governmental Organization). The same NGO, over the years, has carried out detailed epidemiological studies on the population of sub- Himalayan region (Ladakh) such as Domestic Pollution and Respiratory Illness in a Himalayan Village (Norboo et al., 1991). The NGO came into existence in 2003, is registered under the identification (ID) number 4370-S/2003 (Government ID- JK/2016/0111845).The **Ladakh Institute of Prevention (LIP)** also organises various training, workshops and health check-up (medical camps) for the people of Ladakh and due to the continuous endeavour for decades, the founder and secretary of the NGO, Dr.Tsering Norboo (Physician) was presented with the 4th highest civilian award in 2019 from the President of India.

Since more than 90% of the birth of children take place in the government Hospital of Ladakh a Nursew will be appointed so that she could collect the required data and help Dr.Norboo (LIP) in conducting various medical tests for the collection of data. NGO like Rewa Society will informed immediately about children with disability so that the child can get intervention on the earliest.

Problem Statement

The prevalence of conditions resulting from hypoxic ischemic lesions like cerebral palsy, mental retardation, epilepsy, Dyslexia, autistic spectrum disorders, Rett's syndrome, and unexplained slow learners are considerably high in Ladakh.

Purpose of the study

However no attempt has been made to identify modifiable risk factors for these disorders and thereby reduce the prevalence of these disorders in Ladakh. It is with this objective that we will be looking for abnormal neurological signs in low birth weight infants as early as possible to analyse and to plan early remedial measures and prognostic significance.

The endeavor of the study would be explore the following questions:

- ❖ To study the growth and developmental trend among 0 to 5 years children in the sub-himalayan region of India.
- ❖ To evaluate and analyse the abnormal neurological signs and their relation with low birth infants.
- ❖ To study the prognostic significance of the above.

Expected Research Budgeting

Item	Estimated Costs in Indian and (in Euro)	
2 Auxiliary Nursing Midwifery.	Rs 26000/month Or 325 Euros/month	
1 lab Technician	Rs 16000/month Or 200 Euro/month	
Follow up tour to various subdivisions of the region.	Rs 30000/month 375 Euros/month	
Other logistic support and doctors	-	Ladakh Institute of prevention (NGO).
Total	Rs 72000/year Or Euros 10800/Annum	

The fund will be transferred in the account of the Ladakh Institute of Prevention.