

From the Desk of Editor-in-Chief

Understanding Health Care Delivery System in India

Dr. Swapnil S. Bumb

*Post Graduate Student, Department of Public Health Dentistry, Teerthanker Mahaveer Dental College & Research Centre, Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh, India.
E-mail: swapnil_bumb@yahoo.com*

Health is a fundamental human right. Health care is a public right. Hence it implies that the state authority has a responsibility for the health of its people. Also we are aware that social, economic, political, environmental factors have impact on the health care delivery system of any country because it influences growth and development of that particular country. National governments of all countries around the globe are striving to improve and expand their health care delivery services. Nearly all governments of the world have recognized these principles. The current drawbacks and criticism against health care services is that they are: Urban oriented, curative in nature and it is accessible only to a limited population.

In both developed and developing countries currently the aim is not only to reach the whole population with sufficient & adequate health care services, but also to secure an acceptable level of health for all through the application of primary health care programmes.

In country like India, health care is completely a governmental affair. Since independence, India has created a vast public health infrastructure comprising of several Sub-centres, Public Health Centres (PHCs) and Community Health Centres (CHCs). It is estimated

that this vast infrastructure is only benefitted by 20% of the population, while 80% of healthcare needs are still being provided by the private sector. Poor access to health leads to avoidable incidence of morbidity, mortality and out-of-pocket expenses, often leading to indebtedness. In rural areas especially, there are pockets of under-served populations where the vicious circle of poverty, malnutrition and poor health reinforce each other. Moreover WHO has identified inequalities in access for health care will be one of the future's major public health problems. Hence health care delivery system should be organized in such a manner that it can meet the needs of entire population. Primary health care is best way to provide health services to the community. Public health infrastructure should be strengthened to address the systemic issues in the Health Sector, so as to ensure that the Outlays earmarked for Health Sector are efficiently utilized, and can be translated into outcomes, which can stand public scrutiny. Hence all the possible necessary actions and attempts should be made to improve quality of life of the entire population by improving education, research sectors and also implementing and promoting health related policy and in order to improve a system within a country, it is utmost important to acquire knowledge of various policies, health projects running internationally.