

CHAPTER – 2 (Manual – 1)

Particulars of Organisation, Functions and Duties

HEALTH SECTOR

Puducherry

Health Care Service area and Population:

- The Health Care for the 6.48 lakhs urban population and 3.25 lakhs rural population (Census 2001) residing in 261 villages, poses great logistical challenges, as the three outlying districts (Karaikal, Mahe and Yanam) are at distance of 130, 650 and 950 Kms. from the capital Puducherry.
- The percentage distribution of children < 14 years is 31 % (India 37.7%) and elderly > 59 years is 7.5% (India 6.6%).
- The annual growth of Population is 2.9 (India 2.1), mainly due to migration from neighboring states of Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh and over 40% of the patients attended in the Health Care facilities are from these adjoining states.

Health Policy & Strategy:

The Health care system comprises of activities for the preventive and curative health care by health protection, promotion and rehabilitation. The health care approach has been primarily towards –

- Ensure availability, accessibility and acceptability for the population
- Ensure quality in health care by monitoring & effective supervision
- Ensuring against effective health care provision.
- Implementation of preventive health care programmes as per the Government of India guidelines.

Health Care Provision & Outcomes:

The effective implementation of earlier Five Year Plans have ensured accessible medical care within an average distance of less than 1.18 Kms. through a network of Primary Health Care Services of 4 Community Health Centres, 39 Primary Health Centres, 75 Sub-Centres, 14 ESI Dispensaries and 17 Disease specific clinics such as T.B., STD, Malaria and leprosy. The referral care is provided primarily by the 8 hospitals, (4 General Hospitals - one for each district, Maternity Hospital, Chest Diseases Hospital, Leprosy Hospital and ESI Hospital at the capital Puducherry). Annually over 57 lakhs Out-patients and over 1.4 lakhs In-patients are treated in these 157 health care facilities. The network of health care facilities in Puducherry is one of the best in India as detailed below –

Health Care Programmes & Achievements:

The administration is implementing various **Preventive Health Programmes** such as

- Reproductive & Child health including
- Immunization
- Family planning
- Post-partum programme
- Nutrition,
- Dental health,
- Ayurvedha,
- Siddha and Homeopathy systems of Medicine

Disease Control Programmes including

- Blindness
- AIDS
- S.T.D.
- Leprosy
- Malaria
- Filaria.
- T.B
- Cholera
- Goiter

The implementation of National Health Policy (1983) has ensured considerable improvement in the health status of the Union Territory population. Even though the Union Territory has joined the main stream of Indian Republic in the year 1964, the effective implementation of the Programmes ensured the achievements towards the Health For All – 2000

(A) Reproductive & Child Health:-

(i) Family Welfare:

- Amongst the 35 Indian states, Puducherry has achieved the distinction of performing the **highest number of sterilizations**.
- During the year 2001-2002 the performance was 7,536 Sterilisations for 10,000 unsterilised couples. (All India average 940, Tamil Nadu – 2882, Kerala –2798).
- During the IX Five Year Plan the sterilization operations per year have been increased by 24% from 9,793 to the present 12,545.
- During the past two decades the 3rd order and above births have been reduced from 42% to 19%. Puducherry has also achieved the distinction of achieving the **lowest (17.4%)** percentage of **families having more than two children** (Kerala (17.9), Tamilnadu (23.1), Andhra Pradesh (28.9) and All India (45.8)).
- The **Crude Birth Rate of 17.9 is the 9th lowest**. The **Infant Mortality Rate (I.M.R.) of 22** is the seventh lowest.
- Amongst all the 35 States **Puducherry has the lowest number of Girls marrying at the age of less than 18 years of 14.3%** (Kerala 17%, Tamil Nadu 24.9%, Andhra Pradesh 54.3%, All India 50%). Puducherry has achieved the **Total Fertility Rate of 1.8** on par with Kerala (Tamil Nadu 2, Karnataka & Andhra Pradesh 2.5, All India 3.3).

(ii) Immunization:

- Puducherry has been **achieving 100% of the targets set for the Immunisation** against 6 killer diseases.
- During the past **5 years** there was **no Polio case** in any of the 4 districts of U.T. even though the other adjoining states have confirmed Polio cases.
- The **UNICEF has ranked Puducherry at the top amongst all the States** for ensuring
 - 100% awareness of Polio
 - 100% availability of house-wise lists of children
 - 100% provision of maximum number of trained manpower for each booth.
 - 100% coverage
- The **National Population Commission has ranked Puducherry as the best** in complete Immunisation of new born, pre-school children, school children and pregnant women. The National Population Commission has ranked the U.T. as No.1 based on composite index of 13 vital indicators.
- Puducherry has scored the highest composite index of 78.1 followed by Kerala 75.33, Chandigarh 72.68 and Goa 70.54.

(B) AIDS / STD Control:

- The programme is being implemented by PACS and fund directly provided by Govt. of India.
- Since the inception of the Programme in 1986, a total of 2,28,619 samples were tested (96,896 samples in Blood Banks and 1,31,723 samples at VCTCs) and 6,756 (569 samples of Blood Banks and 6,187 samples of VCTCs) were found to be positive of HIV.

- During the past 5 years (1998 to 2002), the Blood samples tested for HIV have been increased from 18,017 in 1998 to 28,220 in 2002.
- The annual cumulative HIV Prevalence has declined from 39.35 in 1998 to 30.86 in 2002 per 1000.
- The STD detection facility have been extended to all the PHCs after due training to all the Medical Officer's of Health Centres. As a result the STD cases detected has increased from 1,056 (1999) to 16,726 (2001-02).
- The declining trend has set in now and only 13,570 cases were detected and treated during the year 2002-03.

(C) T.B. Control:

- The Government of India targets of sputum examinations were exceeded annually and the **defaulter rate** has been **reduced from 28.7 to 14.7**.
- During the Five Year Plan the sputum examinations were **increased by 330%** from 9,084 to 41,089.
- The **sputum positive and negative Ratio** has **decreased from 1.70 to 0.99**. An exclusive 138 bedded Chest Diseases Hospital is functioning for the In-patient treatment of T.B. patients and annually 1,627 In-patients are treated (37% from other States).

(D) Leprosy:

- UT of Puducherry has **Achieved Elimination of Leprosy** in March 2004 (**0.85** per 10,000 population). The Prevalence Rate (PR) of Leprosy is **0.50** per 10,000 as on March 2005. The District Level Elimination (<1 per 10,000 population) has also been **achieved in August 2004**.
- Seven Special Action Project for Elimination of Leprosy (SAPEL) and Leprosy Elimination Campaign (LEC) have been completed in UT of Puducherry (April 2003 to November 2004) under World Bank NLEP Phase-II Project. 46 new Leprosy Cases were deducted and treated.
- The elimination status will be sustained in UT of Puducherry with continued efforts and successful implementation of the Programme.

(E) Blindness Control & Eye Care:

- A Blindness survey was conducted during the year 2002-03 covering 3.46 lakh populations.
- At present, Puducherry has the **lowest blindness prevalence rate of 0.41** and **high Cataract Surgery rate of 634**, of which **97% are IOL** implantations.
- The latest technique of IOL for cataract operations was extended to the rural areas by providing operations theatre facilities, microscopic surgery equipments. Annually over 1,000 IOL cataract operations are performed in these 7 rural health centres.
- The cataract operations performed per 1000 in Puducherry are 3 times higher than in the neighboring states of Karnataka and Kerala.
- An exclusive campaign was conducted for school children in 14 months from October 2000 and all the **2.01 lakh students** (1st to 12th Std.) in **all the 630 schools** were **examined** for eye defects by **teams of Eye Specialists**.
- A total of 8,616 (4.28%) students were identified to be suffering from eye defects and given medical advice/treatment, and 3,461 children of below poverty line were given spectacles. This **achievement is the first of its kind in India**.

(F) Malaria & Filariasis:

- The early identification of potential areas and by increasing the pesticide sprays from 5,892 (1998) to 27,261 (2003), the **Annual Parasite Incidence** for Malaria (API) has been effectively **reduced from 0.17 to 0.042** in 2004.
- The Anti-Malaria Survey operations of blood smears examined was increased by 32% from 2.90 lakhs to 3.05 lakhs and the number of **Malaria cases** have been effectively brought **down by over 32%** (106 cases in the year 2002 & 43 cases in the year 2004).

Similarly the night blood survey operations were further strengthened and during the past 3 years the blood examinations for Filariasis have been increased from (1999-75,250 to 1,33,000 - 2003).

- The **Filariasis cases** have been **brought down from 719 to 152** (in the year 2004).

(G) Hospitals:

- During the IX Five Year Plan, the General Hospital Puducherry was provided with a **new emergency services block** with the facilities of spacious new Casualty, Emergency wards, Trauma Care wards, emergency Orthopedic Operation Theatre, ICCU, Laboratories, Blood Bank and Surgery Operation Theatres.
- The **diagnostic facilities at General Hospital Puducherry** were further strengthened by providing a CT Scan, MRI Scan, Transesophageal Echo Cardiogram and other equipments at a cost of 8 crores.
- The **Maternity Hospital Puducherry** was provided **with additional 41 beds for postpartum and postnatal patients**.
- The **General Hospital Karaikal** was also provided **with CT Scan, a new 120 bedded Maternity block and Eye Block**

(H) PHCs & Sub-Centres:

- **New buildings for 2 Sub-Centres were constructed & functioning since October 2002 & November 2004 at a cost of 15,91,000 & 14,17,000 respectively.**
- **New building for 2 Primary Health Centres were constructed and functioning since August 2002 & October 2002.**
- **Two Sub-Centres (Panayadikuppam in Puducherry and East-Palloor in Mahe) were started this year.**

(I) Medical Education:

- The **General Hospital and Maternity Hospital at Puducherry** have been **recognized in the year 2001 by the National Board of Examinations for Postgraduate DNB courses** of Medicine, Surgery, Pediatric, Orthopedic, Anaesthesiology, Obst. & Gynecology, Pediatric Surgery & Urology.
- **The Medical Council of India has granted permission to these institutions for Compulsory Internship** from the year 2003-04.
- During the year 1991-92 the **Mother Theresa Institute of Health Sciences** was stated to ensure Nursing & Paramedical personnel in Puducherry and has been conducting the courses of B.Sc.(Nursing), B. Physiotherapy, B. Pharmacology, B. Medical Lab. Technology, Diploma in Radiological Asst., Diploma Multi Purpose Worker (Male) and D.M.P.W.S.(Female) courses.
- The Mahatma Gandhi Dental College was established to ensure adequate health care personnel in the Union Territory and PG courses were started from the academic year 2000-01.