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PUBLIC HEALTH: PROMINENCE OF PUBLIC ROLE ON MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE

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ABSTRACT

The health scenario in our country is rapidly changing, both in terms of the public health challenges that we face as well as our response to these challenges. As India becomes more and more developed and we have greater means at our disposal, our response to our health challenges must reflect our changing health and socio-economic status. India faces enormous challenges in the area of women's and children's health. India is one of the few countries that have recorded substantial decline in maternal mortality. 75% of health infrastructure, medical manpower, and other health resources are concentrated in urban areas where 27% of the populations live.

KEYWORDS: *India, Role of government, public health, Present Scenario, Infant mortality rate, Maternal mortality rate.*

INTRODUCTION

After India's independence two approaches have been recognized: one was of community development programmes. The issues of nutrition and environmental sanitation have been underlined not only for individuals but also for community at large. The key steps which have been taken included initiating education on nutrition and sanitary issues, creation of women instructors for carrying out family planning activities and child welfare measures. It also involved creating workforce for paramedical work. The other approach was technocratic model governed by the state build enterprises. Its three embodiments have been industrial growth, scientific

development supplemented by higher education. The socialism encouraged by Nehru had its reflection in cohesive policy followed by him for betterment of public sector in comparison to private sector. A Nehruvian model of development followed the inward economic path (Nayyar, 2007:30 and Ramasubban, 2008:95-96). In line with this argument the government got aid from bilateral and multilateral agencies to carry out immunisation campaigns. It was anticipated that any political and economic development can be possible only when endemic diseases are eradicated. For Nehru the principle of modernity was linked to state making and the state was identified as main instrument of change. It was largely thought that there was a need to rebuild the social structure to overcome social inequalities and out-of-date value system. For this very purpose article 37-51 and 55 revealed the state obligation for public health, justifiable delivery of produces and right to beneficial employment. The directive principles were seen as instruments to foster the idea of economic democracy and social justice. In order to prevent the onslaught of infectious diseases which have been responsible for higher mortality rates among the infants, mother and population in general health related measures similar to immunization programmes have been carried out. To focus on public health issues support from other ministries have been acknowledged from time to time for instance water supply, sewerage, sanitation, and drainage etc.

OBJECTIVES

- 1.To study the role of government in public health in India
2. To examine the maternal mortality rate in India

HYPOTHESES

- 1.To study the role of government in public health in India is not a significant
- 2.To examine the maternal mortality rate in India is not a significant

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The information collected in this paper is based on the secondary data by using internet, websites, magazines, books, journals, averages and percentages, tables gives a qualitative approach towards this research framework.

ROLE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF PUBLIC HEALTH:

Health system strengthening

Important issues that the health systems must confront are lack of financial and material resources, health workforce issues and the stewardship challenge of implementing pro-equity health policies in a pluralistic environment. The National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) launched by the Government of India is a leap forward in establishing effective integration and convergence of health services and affecting architectural correction in the health care delivery system in India.

Health research system

There is a need for strengthening research infrastructure in the departments of community medicine in various institutes and to foster their partnerships with state health services.

Regulation and enforcement in public health

A good system of regulation is fundamental to successful public health outcomes. It reduces exposure to disease through enforcement of sanitary codes, e.g., water quality monitoring, slaughterhouse hygiene and food safety. Wide gaps exist in the enforcement, monitoring and evaluation, resulting in a weak public health system. This is partly due to poor financing for public health, lack of leadership and commitment of public health functionaries and lack of community involvement. Revival of public health regulation through concerted efforts by the government is possible through updating and implementation of public health laws, consulting stakeholders and increasing public awareness of existing laws and their enforcement procedures.

Public health policy

Identification of health objectives and targets is one of the more visible strategies to direct the activities of the health sector, e.g. in the United States, the “Healthy People 2010” offers a simple but powerful idea by providing health objectives in a format that enables diverse groups to combine their efforts and work as a team. Similarly, in India, we need a road map to “better health for all” that can be used by states, communities, professional organizations and all sectors. It will also facilitate changes in resource allocation for public health interventions and a platform for concerted inter-sectoral action, thereby enabling policy coherence.

TABLE 1.1
MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE IN INDIA BETWEEN 2007-2018

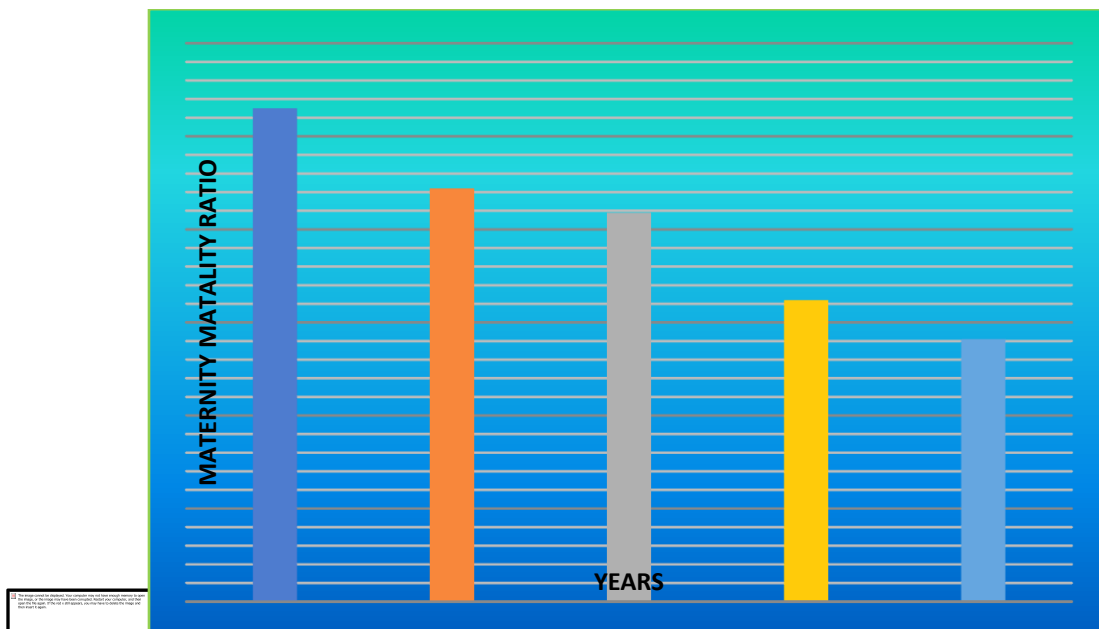
YEARS	MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE %
2007-09	26.5
2010-12	22.2
2013-14	20.9
2015-16	16.2
2017-18	14.1

Source: niti.gov.in

The Hindu, New Delhi , July 17, 2020

The Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) in India has drastically declined to 2007-09 to 2017-18. The Maternal Mortality Ratio between 2017 and 2018 dropped to 14.1% in India, almost 100 deaths lesser than in 2007-2009 period. Maternal mortality rate in India between 2007-2018 presented in figure 1.1

FIGURE 1.1
MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE IN INDIA BETWEEN 2007-2018



Source: niti.gov.in

RESULTS

1. To study the role of government in public health in India is not a significant
2. To examine the maternal mortality rate in India is a significant

FINDINGS

1. The Maternal Mortality Ratio between 2017 and 2018 dropped to 14.1% in India, almost 100 deaths lesser than in 2007-2009 period.

CONCLUSION

However, many initiatives have been taken recently for the growth of public health in India, which include National Rural Health Mission (NRHM). The priority is to ensure access, availability and utilization of primary healthcare to all including urban slums population for which there is a need to strengthen the healthcare infrastructure, increase public health work force with a dedicated public health cadre, enhancing public-private partnership. The challenges faced now in the health sector are much more complex. The complexities of culture and customs, economic situations, geography, ethnicity, and political situations make the challenges related to public health specific, for every state of the nation. The problems faced by Indians like high incidence of communicable diseases, low performance of maternal and child health indicators, and nutritional problems, especially that of women and children, are the issues that persist in almost all parts of the country even today apart from the burden of chronic non communicable diseases and other economic and social factors.

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