

ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19



Department of Health & Family Welfare
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
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Introduction

INTRODUCTION

Our country has witnessed an exciting phase of development and in tune with the philosophy of development for all, Health is embedded in the growth story. Our success in eliminating Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus, becoming YAWS free and largely achieving the Millennium Development Goals 4, 5 and 6 has spurred us to set ambitious targets for fulfilling our commitments towards a vision of Healthy India.

Our work this year enabled progress towards the commitments of the National Health Policy, 2017. The launch of Ayushman Bharat last year marks a significant landmark in the history of health in India. Ayushman Bharat is India's road to Universal Health Care, and when fully operational will ensure universal, accessible, equitable and affordable health care for all. It comprises of two inter-related components. The first component is the creation of 1,50,000 Health and Wellness Centres (HWCs) by transforming PHCs/SCs to provide Comprehensive Primary Health Care (CPHC). HWCs will enable a focus on wellness and health promotion, and provide an expanded range of primary healthcare services, including access to medicines and diagnostics, and be delivered close to the community. Against a target of 15,000 this past year, about 17,000 were operationalized. The second component, Pradhan Mantri Jan Aarogya Yojna (PMJAY) provides health protection cover to over 10.74 crore poor and vulnerable families for secondary and tertiary care including pre- and post-hospitalization expenses. Key features include health cover of up to Rs. 5 lakhs per family per year through a network of Empanelled Health Care Providers (EHCP),

cashless access to services for the beneficiary at the point of service, national portability, no cap on family size, age or gender and covering all pre-existing conditions. The HWCs and PMJAY are expected to be linked through an integrated IT system and the HWCs can be expected to play a gatekeeping role and have linkages with the PMJAY for appropriate referral and follow-up. 17.96 lakh beneficiaries had already availed benefits worth Rs. 2417 crores under AB-PMJAY till March, 2019.

The National Health Mission (NHM), which is our flagship health systems reform programme, provides a robust platform for implementation of a range of interventions focused on primary and secondary health care in rural and urban areas. NHM's efforts at strengthening health systems in States by allocating additional financial resources, flexibility in design and implementation, ensured sharper focus on particularly marginalized and vulnerable populations and enabled us to achieve impressive improvements in several key indicators of RMNCH+A and communicable diseases.

Our focus on women and children is targeted and unwavering; we aimed to increase access and coverage and also ensure quality of services. The RMNCH+A strategy is based on provision of comprehensive care through the five thematic areas of reproductive, maternal, new-born, child and adolescent health. A landmark policy decision was taken to roll out midwifery services in order to improve the quality of care and ensure respectful care to pregnant women and newborns.

Five major strategic areas were identified to improve child health outcomes viz. interventions in respect of Newborn Health, Nutrition, to address pneumonia and diarrhea, to address the 4Ds (i.e.

birth defects, disabilities, delays and deficiencies) and lastly Immunization activities. Hon'ble Prime Minister launched the Home Based Care of Young Children (HBYC) Programme and also released the operational guidelines of Anemia Mukht Bharat Strategy in April, 2018.

We have also demonstrated significant achievements in the National Vector Disease Control Programme, Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme (RNTCP), National AIDS Control Programme (NACP), National Leprosy Eradication Programme (NLEP), and have embarked on a new National Viral Hepatitis Programme (NVHCP) to benefit nearly 5 crore hepatitis patients.

To address the burgeoning epidemic of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs), the MoHFW is supporting States through the NHM for screening, prevention, management and control of common NCDs linked to NCD clinics. This is being done through the NPCDCS programme and the AB-HWCs. The National Multi-sectoral Action Plan was developed in consultation with 39 Departments of Union Government and other stakeholders for prevention and control of NCDs.

The Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY) aims at correcting imbalances in the availability of affordable healthcare facilities and institutions for quality medical education in the under-served States. Of the 22 New AIIMS announced so far, six are functional. Of the remaining 16 New AIIMS, 15 AIIMS have been sanctioned. Besides, 75 projects have been considered for Upgradation of existing State Government Medical Colleges/ Institutions with 31 completed.

A persistent challenge of the health system is ensuring skilled human resources. To address the shortage of doctors, State Government Medical Colleges (GMCs) are being strengthened and upgraded. Further, 82 district hospitals have been taken up in two phases for upgradation to Medical Colleges so as to ensure availability of at least one Medical College for a grouping of three Parliamentary Constituencies. Such measures have resulted in an additional 4000 Post-graduate (PG) Seats and 10,000 MBBS seats.

To improve and increase access to quality services in rural and hard to reach areas, the MoHFW has introduced the Allied and Healthcare Professions Bill, 2018 in the Rajya Sabha which envisions establishment of an overarching Central and corresponding State Councils for 53 types of such allied and healthcare professions. This will not only ensure quality through standardisation but will generate millions of job opportunities in India and abroad.

Technology offers potential to transform health care. Several initiatives were undertaken towards development of a comprehensive nationwide integrated e-health ecosystem. Metadata & Data Standards (MDDS) were developed and were approved by MeitY and approximately 99% of public health facilities were allocated a unique National Identification Number (NIN) to facilitate inter-operability. A Hospital Information System (HIS) is being implemented for computerized registration and capturing the Electronic Health Records (EHRs)/ Emergency Medical Records (EMRs).

The Government has significantly increased the budgetary allocation for the Ministry consecutively for the last two years allowing us not only to strengthen infrastructure and services but also enabled expansion and introduction of the new programmes and interventions. This sustained commitment is testimony to confidence in our ability to deliver on our commitments.

I hope the Annual Report will help in presenting to you the progress of MoHFW across all its domains in 2018-19.



(Preeti Sudan)

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