

HEALTH CAMP THROUGH HELICOPTER SERVICE IN TRIPURA

PROBLEM STATEMENT:

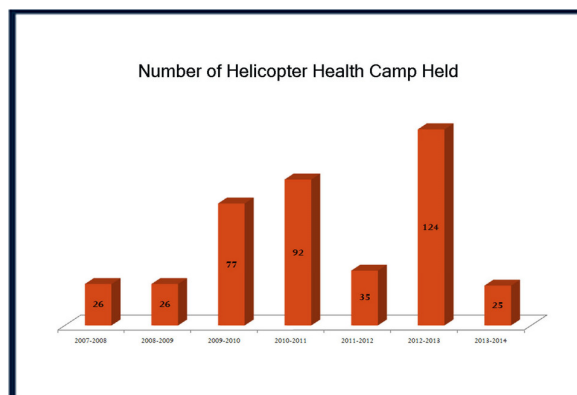
The State has 1038 ADC villages and Gram Panchayets, which comprises small hamlets, villages in rural and remote areas. There are many difficult interior and hilly sporadically distributed areas in Tripura, particular in North and Dhalai Districts of the State where road connectivity is poor, even one cannot reach by Motor/Vehicle and to access those areas on foot is difficult and time taking. There are few hard to reach areas which are yet to be equipped with adequate health facilities so far due to remote disconnected geographical locations. So organizing administrative health camps and special health camps in these selected remote parts is a strategy undertaken by the State to reach the remotest habitants with basic health care services.

PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION:



Health Camps in Tripura State predominantly acts as is the process to facilitate in catering basic health care services especially in hard to reach areas/ hamlets where health facilities are yet to be witnessed by the inhabitants in selected sites of the State. In Tripura, Health Camp is also organized in hard to reach areas through Helicopter Services. The prime objective of State Government of taking this initiative is to ensure un-served areas get at least primary health services to reduce mortality and morbidity.

Health Camps by Helicopter Service in Tripura started during 2004 – 05, then it became an approved activity since 2006-07. Initially, it used to be conducted in 15 (Fifteen) hard to reach locations, subsequently, with expansion of health network and road connectivity, it is felt to conduct health camp along with immunization activities in 8 (Eight) locations as mentioned below:



SI	Name of District	Name of Sub-division	Name of Identified Locations
1	North	Kanchanpur	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shakharsermoon ADC Village • Bhandarima ADC Village
2	Dhalai	Longtraï Valley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Govindabari ADC Village • Garjanpasa ADC Village • Tuipaibari ADC Village • Huriampara ADC Village
		Gandcaherra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M.K.Para ADC Village • Bhogirath Para ADC Villaged

IMPACT OF THE PROGRAMME:

- The systematic health camps in these areas along with frequent visits by health workers in the villages led to reduction in morbidity and mortality due to diarrhea and malaria, increase in immunization coverage, ANC coverage of Pregnant women, etc.
- Initially health camps through helicopter services were organized in 15 locations, which were inaccessible areas during that time, but at present it has been possible to reach in those 7 locations with health care services.
- The remotest habitants in hard to reach areas were lacking behind of adopting proper healthy behavior. The communities residing in those areas were reached with IEC-BCC messages, health care services through health camps organized by helicopters.
- The innovative interventions had tried to generate positive health behavior, adopting hygienic practices among the tribal communities, which lead for reducing diarrhea cases, malaria cases etc. in subsequent years.
- The all locations are tribal areas, where repeated interventions of catering health care services through helicopter services has made it possible to decrease overall morbidity.

CONCLUSION:

The process has facilitated in serving those hard to reach areas/ hamlets including immunization services to the children of targeted age group where health facilities is yet to be witnessed by the inhabitants in selected eight sites of the State. The innovative initiative of organizing health camp through helicopter was an interim measure which led to deliver health care services to the un-served pockets of the State.

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