

CHAPTER - V



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SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

The most basic needs of an individual are air, water, food, shelter and clothing. Health can also be added to this list on account of the fact that it helps the country to develop in socio-economic, cultural, scientific and literary spheres. The health standards of the rural people in India are far from satisfactory. The promotional and preventive aspects of health-care have been neglected. Again, the Government programmes do not involve people actively. There are many shortcomings like defective personnel policies, inadequate allocation and misuse of medicines and materials, non-availability of modern diagnostic aids.

The review of the literature has clearly indicated that the stress has been given on the family planning at the expense of other areas such as water supply and environmental sanitation, improvement in the quality of foodgrains, literacy and health education, maternal and child health, immunization and school health services. Some researchers have pointed out the acute shortage of medicines and medical staff, while others have stated that hospitals and health care units are becoming centres of ill-health because of the absence of proper sanitation and inadequate supply of drinking water. Some of the medical practitioners and researchers had undertaken micro-studies to widen the scope of the medical and health

services with the aim of making these services available to everyone. This very informative background made the present researcher interested in the topic of "Assessment and Evaluation of Primary Health Centres", a body entrusted with the job of carrying out the National Health Programmes at the grassroots level.

The entire work of this research project has been divided into two parts, viz. (1) to assess the responses of a sample of 200 drawn from seven areas (villages) of Chandgad taluka (these responses were structured to highlight nine functional areas of the Primary Health Centres spread over their operational responsibility); and (2) to assess any meaningful variation, if it at all exists, in terms of the responses drawn from seven areas with regard to the operational efficiency of the Primary Health Centres.

Collective responses from the samples reflect that opinions were marginally favourable with regard to the medical services, quality foodgrains and poverty eradication, literacy and health education, maternal and child health (MCH) and family welfare (FW), immunization and school health. On the other hand, composite responses were marginally unfavourable with regard to the control of diseases, water supply and environmental sanitation and also the behaviour of the Primary Health Centres' staff. In short, more effective organizational infrastructure has got to be developed in order

to initiate the programmes formulated in the National Health Policy.

Secondly, when the calculated Chi-square values were compared with the tabulated Chi-square values for each of the major themes of this research work, it was observed that the 'Null Hypotheses' were accepted. In essence, it can be concluded from the information derived from the analysis of the Chi-square test that there is no significant difference, at 5% level of significance, between the services offered by the Primary Health Centres and the various areas under study.

SUGGESTIONS:

Following are the suggestions which the researcher is interested to contribute for the improvement of the Primary Health Centres' functioning:

- (1) An innovative management approach should be used to organize refresher training programmes for the employees so that they would effectively perform their field work.
- (2) Provision for own buildings for every health-care unit and recruitment of personnel.
- (3) Regular and adequate supply of medicines, drugs and equipments.
- (4) To monitor a control over the Primary Health Centre's functioning, a separate cell must be assigned to take up that responsibility, at the tahsil level.

- (5) 'Mahan Gaon (Village) Yojana', which was there and was terminated a few years ago, may be reactivated.
- (6) To increase the literacy rate through Adult Education Programme, some incentives have got to be offered to the women showing better performance.

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