



A STUDY OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES IN TRIBAL AREA



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Abstract :

World Health Organization (WHO) has rightly said that the primary goal of health services should be to provide better health in a responsive manner and with a fair financial distribution. The performance of the public health services in rural areas is of great significance as it is available, accessible and affordable to people in areas where the private health sector is virtually non-existent. In India, the public provision of health care is responsibility shared by the Central, State and local government, although it is effectively a state responsibility in terms of delivery. The right to primary health care has been recognized as a human right in the UN charter of Human Rights prepared in 1948¹. India being signatory to the UN convention on human right, it

is the duty of the government to provide primary health care to every citizen and especially to socially and economically disadvantaged groups².

Indian tribal is traditional, conservative and under-privileged people. They are socially and economically weaker and also under abject poverty and live in a subsistence economy and general backwardness. This is because of their ill-health which is a cause and consequence of poverty. The major impediments to good health are inequity in health system and radical poverty of the masses. Illness, lowers learning ability, reduces productivity, income and savings and it leads to poor quality of life and thus perpetuating poverty.

Almost more than half of the world tribal population is present in India. Over 84.3 million people belonging to 698 communities are identified as members of scheduled tribes, constituting of the total Indian population and is a larger than that of any other country in the world³. The proportion of individual of scheduled tribes in the total Indian population has increased from 5.3 per cent (1951) to 8.02 per cent (2011), out of which the health facilities are not reached the mass of 1.89 per cent⁴. Due to which recently, people in one tribal block of Maharashtra have organized 'Health March' for their proper health treatment and this event inspired, stimulated us to undertake this study. This paper attempts to study health care services in tribal area of Maharashtra especially in Kinwat block.

To study health care services in tribal block and the problems of health care services in tribal block of micro level are the main objectives of this study.

Keywords : human rights, world tribal population, WHO, economy, India