

Health Mela and World TB Day Celebrated

Keeping the motto of ' Holding Hands' alive, a Health Mela and World TB day were celebrated together at Village Hallomajra. The venture was inaugurated by Dr. Chander Mohan, Director Health & Family Welfare-cum-Mission Director, NRHM, U.T, Chandigarh along with Senior Officials from Health Department in the presence of NGOs, School Children and Panch members. The Health Mela was organized under NRHM, U.T, Chandigarh and proved to be successful as 1356 patients attended the various OPD services provided. The service in the medicines, Gynae, Eye , Ent ,Skin, Peadiatrics, AYUSH and Dental OPD were largely availed by the people of the village. The Worthy Director Health & Family Welfare visited various OPDs and the exhibition put up by National Programmes under NRHM. Free Medicines were also distributed. The success of the Mela can also be contributed to the intensive IEC activity carried out two days prior.

While addressing the gathering at World TB day Dr. Chander Mohan said " The City –beautiful has been able to contain the spread of TB through planned and sustained efforts of Health Department , the chain of spreading infection has been broken". He also laid emphasis on need to control TB by early detection, diagnosis and DOTS treatment which is available free of cost in various Health Institutions of Chandigarh.

He further said that decline in TB incidence in Chandigarh could be attributed to public awareness and sustained efforts of health workers. More than 22,000 TB patients have been diagnosed and registered for treatment since year 2002, when Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme (RNTCP) was launched in Chandigarh.

Dr. Chander Mohan said that Health Deptt. has initiated screening of all TB patients for HIV under TB-HIV intensified package which was implemented in April, 2010. From July 2011, DOTS –Plus programme is also being implemented at GMCH-32 for Multi Drug Resistant TB patients.He urged upon the Programme Managers to concentrate on slum areas as incidence of Tuberculosis is more in slums and intensify the Campaign so that treatment is provided at the door step of poor people.

Dr. Chander Mohan , Director Health Services said that the case detection rate has consistently been achieved by the Union Territory (U.T.) Chandigarh as per National targets. The sustained efforts of Health Deptt enabled Chandigarh to rank amongst best performing States in India for the last seven years. This achievement is significant and has been possible only with the co-operation of various segments of Society like IMA, NGOs, NIMA Doctors, School Teachers, Social activists etc.

Dr. Zora Singh, IMA President, Chandigarh further added that it is of utmost importance that we have decreased the default rate so that every diagnosed patient can complete the treatment and it will lead to reducing the burden of Tuberculosis. Referral system has also been strengthened so that the patient starts getting treatment wherever he/she goes.

There is tangible change in scenario as Chest symptomatic have started coming forward for diagnosis and treatment at their own, as the level of awareness has widened.

The Worthy DHS expressed his satisfaction that awareness has been considerably generated & case detection of TB is satisfactory in Chandigarh. He appealed to doctors, paramedical staff, private practitioners, NGOs, elected representatives of people to join hands together to root out TB from the soil of Chandigarh.

Intensive information education & communication activities were carried out two, three day prior to event to generate awareness. Various Multi Media activities like educative & informative exhibitions, Puppet Shows, Magic Shows and Nukkar Nataks, School Rally, Drawing competition carried out on the theme of tuberculosis were also .

An NGO namely Godwin Education Society, Hallomjara, have extend fully co-operation on the occasion of World TB Day by holding school rallies and competition in different schools of Hallomajra.

The function ended with distribution of prizes & certificate by Chief Guest to the Staff involved in RNTCP and Private Practitioners for their consistent good performance & support.

