

Press Release

Patients received free treatment and medicines during Health Mela in School

Ground of Village Behlana, Chandigarh, organized by NRHM, Chandigarh

A Health Mela was organized today i.e., 13th March, 2011 from 9.00 a.m onwards in the premises of School Ground of Village Behlana Chandigarh by Health Department, U.T under National Rural Health Mission. The Health Mela was inaugurated by Dr. Chander Mohan, Director Health and Family Welfare cum Mission Director, NRHM, Chandigarh Administration in the presence of senior health officials, School principal, teachers and members of the panchyat of the village.

Intensive Information, Education & Communication activities were carried out two- three days prior to the health Mela by way of announcements from Village Gurudwara & Temple, by dholi and also by miking in the area. During this Health Mela out of approximately 9100 population of the village 1201 patients were examined by various specialists of all the departments. The speciality services like Gynae, Padiatrics, Ortho, Medicine, Surgery, Skin, Eye, ENT, Dental, Ayurvedic and Homoeopathy were provided.

Dr. Chander Mohan, visited various OPDs and the exhibition area of the Mela. He applauded efforts of National Programmes like Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme whereby it was explained that Chandigarh is among top performing states in eradicating TB in India. The programme has introduced self addressed postcards and envelopes with the message of TB for transferred out and referred out patients to facilitate the treatment and feedback of the patients. On the Spot Iodine Testing Kits being used for testing the iodine content in the kitchen salt was appreciated by Director Health Services, Chandigarh Administration whereby he was updated about these kits being provided to Anganwaris to check the presence of iodine in the salt being used by the residents. He said that importance of iodine in the salt which is equally important in containing anemia according to study published by PGIMER, Chandigarh. It should also be publicized in Urban areas as well. National Leprosy Eradication Programme stressed upon the survey which is being carried out in the city to detect any/every case of leprosy was also explained. The demonstration by National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme to explain the life cycle of mosquito spreading malaria and dengue was informative and educative. There has been no Dengue case but only one case of Malaria in this village so far. The OPD of Eye had a

good influx of patients of eye related diseases whereby they were examined, given eye drops free of cost. Further The present crowd was sensitized as well as screened in any other eye related ailment who were referred to GMSH-16 for surgery or free spectacles for children. The Dental OPD had a good number of patients as well.

To further strengthen the availability of all facilities an Integrated Counseling & Testing Centre (ICTC) was put up by CSACS where free testing & Counseling facilities regarding HIV/AIDS were provided alongwith a presentation of street play on HIV/AIDS and a separate counter for condom promotion.

Keeping in mind the immerging trend of non communicable diseases due to faulty life style, this village has been adopted under Project Foundation by the NCD Programme. A House to house Survey has been conducted by the program whereby the weight , blood pressure & abdominal girth of each member of house hold has been assessed. Regular awareness generation campaign and Yoga Camps have been held to inculcate healthy life style in the residents. This effort of NRHM was highly appreciated & further suggested to be implemented in all villages of U.T Chandigarh.

Dr. Chander Mohan, Director Health & Family Welfare cum Mission Director, NRHM said that this kind of Mela helps to reach out to the people in need, the people who because of one reason or the other can not visit dispensaries or hospitals to get the treatment. He said that these kinds of Health Melas help in creating awareness about different important health issues like TB, HIV/AIDS, and Malaria etc.



