

## Hurdles of Health Care Delivery System of Bangladesh

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Health care delivery system of Bangladesh is extended to the doorstep of common people. It is the good side of the system and we feel proud of it. Main objectives of the system is to ensure optimum health for all people of the country irrespective of party, politics and religion. To achieve that targets Bangladesh government has adopted national health policy which includes 15 goals and objectives, 10 principles and 32 strategies where all aspects are well described<sup>1</sup>. An ideal health service should fulfill following criteria<sup>2</sup>:

- Appropriate: Health service should be relevant to the priority need of the people.
- Available: It should cover 100% of population.
- Adequate: It should be sufficient to satisfy the needs of the people.
- Accessible: It should be within easy physical distance.
- Affordable: It should be purchasable by the people.
- Comprehensive: Right mix of promotive, preventive, curative and rehabilitative services.

But due to some avoidable and correctable issues the good system fails to provide satisfactory services to the people. A Focus Group Discussion (FGD) consists of 10 veterans on the subject unanimously opined about the hurdles. Health policy of the Government of Bangladesh was also discussed and contrasted vis a vis. There were several opinions. But unanimous and filtered opinions are as follows<sup>3</sup>:

- i) Lack of strong political commitment to improve existing situation.
- ii) Inappropriate planning, bureaucracy, corruption, nepotism, and political affiliation.
- iii) Disproportionate demand and supply.

- iv) Lack of collaboration, comprehensiveness & poor management at all level.
- v) Disproportionate manpower and environment is not doctor friendly.
- vi) Ineffective referral system.
- vii) Underutilization of resources.
- viii) Bad communication and infrastructure of health facilities.
- ix) Illiteracy, ignorance and poor affordability of the patient. Moreover, environment is not patient friendly.
- x) Poor accountability, performance evaluation, reward and punishment.

Every conscious citizen and government machinery know about above mentioned hurdles of health services. Increasing national health budget >5%, improving managerial and technical capacity and ensuring zero tolerance against all sorts of corruption all hurdles are removable. So, under short term and long term plan all hurdles should be removed as soon as possible for the betterment of the commoner of the country.

### References

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