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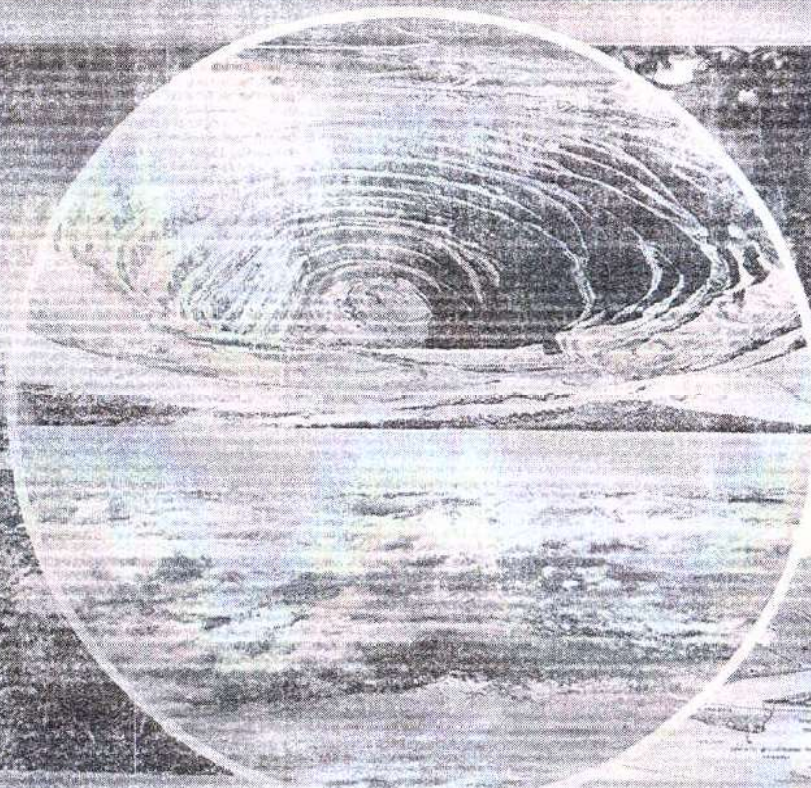
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**AN APPRAISAL ON PRIMARY HEALTH SERVICES : A CASE STUDY
OF BAMBAVADE PHC**

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ABSTRACT

In India, healthcare especially rural health care has been ignored area by the government, in hilly and remote areas the situation become worst. Nowadays, present rural healthcare services facing more challenges while implementing, and if want to efficient rural public health services, this sector will have to successfully face these challenges. Government, both Central and State, should take some initiatives for rural health care services become more effective and efficient. Nevertheless, in the given situation public health centres try to provide a quality services to the poor and needy, but they are facing lots of problems while rendering their service. Accordingly, a strong and efficient health system is must for rural areas, and for that present rural healthcare services will have to deal with some challenges. The present paper, therefore, put focus on the rural health care services with the case study of Primary Health Centre, Bambavade in Shahuwadi taluka of Kolhapur district.

1. Introduction

In recent times, rural public health sector facing so many problems and challenges during healthcare delivery all over the Maharashtra as well as India. However, many Primary Health Centres in Kolhapur district are tried to render their service very sincerely in given situation. Accordingly, a case study of the Primary Health Centre of Bambavade in Shahuwadi tahsil of Kolhapur district was done as a pilot project to know the actual working scenario of PHCs with the common loopholes.

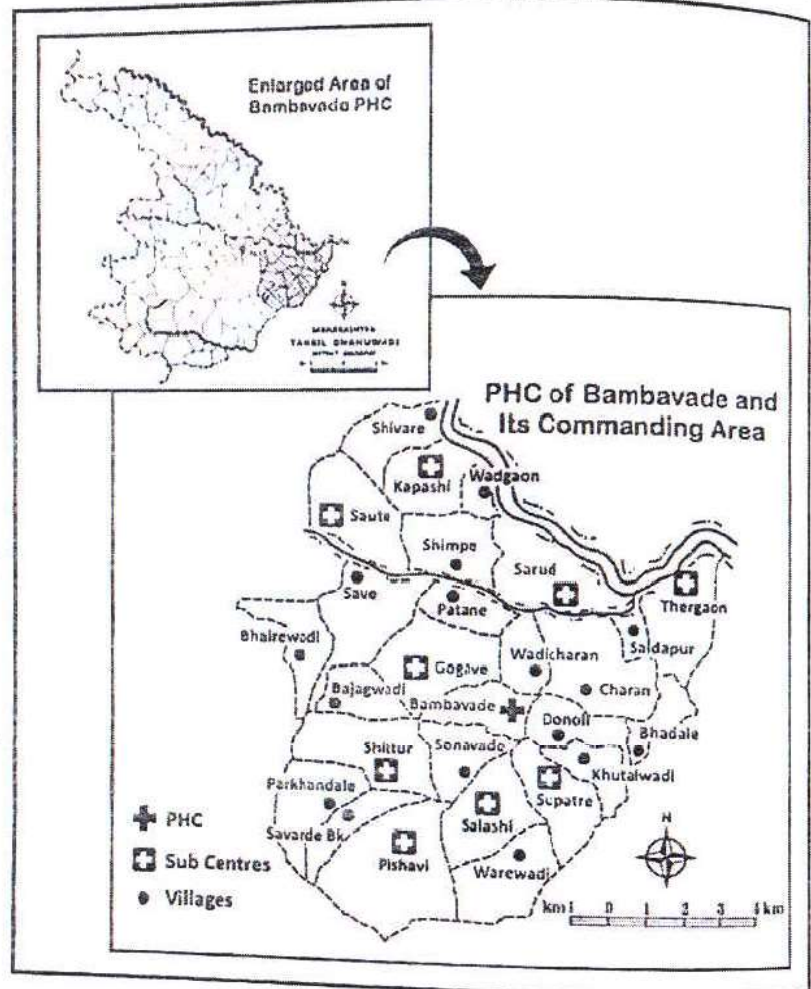
2. Geographical Background

Bambavade is one of the important villages and market place in the Shahuwadi tahsil of Kolhapur district. Primary Health Centre of Bambavade is near about 500 meters from the bus stand of Bambavade. Geographically, this Primary Health Centre lies on 16° 52' North latitude and 74° 02' East longitude and located on the height of 581 m from mean sea level. The village has been surrounded by Gogawe, Charan, Wadicharan, Donoli, Sonawade, Bajagwadi villages. Physiographically, surrounding area lies in the Panhala - Vishalgadh range and having foothills and hillocks type of topography. It means jurisdiction of Primary

Health Centre of Bambavade is very inconvenient and facing so much geographical hurdles while rendering their services.

3. Main Features

Concern to public health services, Primary Health Centre of Bambavade renders its services to 29 villages through 9 Sub-Centres, which are highest in the tahsil. The nine Sub-Centres associated with the PHC of Bambavade are Gogave, Kapashi, Pishavi, Salashi, Sarud, Saute, Shittur and Thergaon (see map). As population is concern, there is very heavy population burden of the Primary Health Centre of Bambavade, which serves 56,612 rural population of jurisdiction area. It means PHC of Bambavade has 26,612 excess population to serve, which is almost doubled as per the standard norms of IPHS.



Primary Health

Centre of Bambavade has its own RCC buildings of health centre as well as staff quarters. They are in condition and best utilise, but there is need to repair these buildings. According to the authorities of this PHC, there is need to reforms in the electricity fitting, as well as they requires neaten and regular water supply also.

As per medical facilities is concern, almost all the facilities are available at the PHC of Bambavade, such as Outpatients Department, Inpatients Department (Male/Female), Emergency Treatment Service, Maternal Child Health Service, Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), Labour Room, Operation Theatre, Laboratory, Post Mortem Room, ambulance service, etc.

4. Availability and Adequacy of Rooms

Every Primary Health Centre must have proper infrastructure to render their services more effectively and efficiently. Accordingly, availability of rooms in adequate manner is also important. As aforementioned, Primary Health Centre of Bambavade has own RCC building of health centre. There are 21 rooms available in this building and these rooms used by the Primary Health Centre for different

purposes. Various medical facilities have been given by the health centre in these rooms. The utilisation of these rooms has been mentioned in the Table 6.5 in detail.

In the PHC of Bambavade, there are outpatient department with consulting room as well as patients' waiting room, inpatients department for both male and female patients, medicine storage with storeroom and deep freezer room for Ice Lined Refrigeration (ILR), labour Room with maternity ward as well as Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), operation theatre, dressing room, etc are available. Apart from that, rooms for eye check-ups, laboratory and also for post mortem are separately available. Besides, some rooms are used for administrative purpose like, office, case paper room, record room, solar room, etc., while some rooms are used as changing and resting room for nurses, as caravanserai to resting for patients' relatives, as garage for park the ambulance, etc.

Table 1

Availability of Rooms and its Uses in PHC of Bambavade

Room No.	Use of Room	Room No.	Use of Room
1	Waiting Room (OPD)	2	Case Paper Room
3	Medicine Storeroom	4	Office
5	Consulting Room (OPD)	6	Dressing Room
7	Eye Check-up Room	8	NICU
9	Maternity Ward	10	Labour Room
11	ILR - Deep freezer Room	12	Record Room
13	Nurse Room	14	IPD - Female
15	Solar Room	16	Operation Theatre
17	IPD - Male	18	Caravanserai
19	Laboratory	20	Post Mortem Room
21	Vehicle Garage		

Source : The data has been collected from PHC of Bambavade

According to the concern authorities in the PHC, the aforesaid rooms in the PHC are not adequate to the requirements. Therefore they mentioned need of six another rooms as meeting room, medicine storeroom, computer room, room for Health Assistants, store room and Hirakani room. They need meeting hall to get all PHC staff together and discuss about the various issues on improving human health and also discuss the implementation of various health policy and programmes. Available medicine storeroom is inadequate according to the authorities so they need another one. They need separate computer room, especially for the Village Child Development Centre (VCDC) training as well as training to ASHA. They need a room for changing and resting to Health Assistants both male and female. Finally they require one another room as 'Hirkani Room', where lactating mothers can breastfeed their child.

5. Health Personnel

Quality and quantity health personnel are always important for efficient and effective functioning every health centres. It is presumable that not a single health centre performing well unless and until it does not fulfil with quality health personal. As study reveals, there is almost 40 per cent shortfall of Medical Officers in the Kolhapur district. However, many of the health centres in the district performs with this scanty health personnel. The PHC of Bambavade also facing this problem, and perform in the given situation.

Table 2
Health Personnel in PHC of Bambavade

Sr. No.	Health Personnel	Required	Available	Vacant
1	Medical Officers	02	00	02
2	Pharmacist	01	01	00
3	Nurse - Midwife (Staff Nurse)	01	01	00
4	Additional Staff Nurse*	02	01	01
5	Health Worker / ANM (Female)	01	01	00
6	Health Assistant (Male)	02	01	01
7	Health Assistant / LHV (Female)	02	01	01
8	Clerk	01	01	00
9	Laboratory Technician	01	01	00
10	Driver*	01	01	00
11	Class IV Workers	04	03	01
12	ASHA	55	53	02
Total		73	66	07

Source : The data has been collected from PHC of Bambavade

* on contract basis

According to the table (Table 2), it is clear that Primary Health Centre of Bambavade also go through the problem of shortfall in health personnel. As usual there are two Medical Officers are approved to the health centre of Bambavade, but noteworthy thing is that, there is not a single post of Medical Officer filled permanently and it is a grave issue. There are two Medical Officers coming at alternate days from outside Primary Health Centres; one from PHC of Bhedasgao and other from PHC of Man, on deputation to render the health services to rural people under jurisdiction area of PHC of Bambavade. Apart from that, PHC of Bambavade has shortage of one staff nurse, one male health assistant, one female health assistant and one Class IV workers. Besides the PHC has also shortage of tow ASHAs.

The authorities of PHC of Bambavade are suggested that, there should be three Medical Officers, four Health Assistants (Male / Female) and four staff nurses available for every Primary Health Centre.

6. Patients' Profile

As abovementioned, Primary Health Centre of Bambavade has very heavy burden of population, it has more than 55,000 of population in its jurisdiction area. It means population burden of the health centre of Bambavade is almost doubled. Accordingly, OPD of the health centre has almost 100, so as inpatients also. Overall, Primary Health Centre of Bambavade is always crowded by the patients. The details regarding outpatients at the health centre are given in the following table (Table 3).

Table 3
Disease-wise Classification of Outpatients in PHC of Bambavade

Sr. No.	Nature of Disease	No. of Patients
1	Communicable Diseases	2499
2	Non-Communicable Diseases	406
3	Snake / Dog / Rats bites	1497
4	Accidents	161
5	Pre-Delivery Checkups	671
6	Eye Checkups	290
7	Others	15441
Total		20965

Source : The data has been collected from PHC of Bambavade

As per the records of Primary Health Centre of Bambavade, there are 20,965 patients are treated in the year 2014-15. Most of the patients (15,441) are suffering with occasional headache, fever, body pain, weariness or fatigue, gripes, minute injuries, etc. Communicable diseases like flu (Influenza), cold, bacterial diarrhoea, tuberculosis, leprosy, chickenpox, scabies, ringworm, etc. are found more in numbers (2,499) in the year 2014-15. The cases of snake, dog or rat bites are also high in numbers (1,497); especially, cases of snake bites are more often at the health centre of Bambavade. Due to the hilly and rigid topography, heavy rainfall, dense vegetation in jurisdiction area of the Bambavade health centre the cases of snake bites are frequent.

Apart from that, numbers of women (671) come to the health centre for pre-delivery checkups, due to Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSK) and Janani-Shishu Suraksha Karyakram (JSSK) these numbers are increasing day by day. Some patients with Non Communicable Diseases (406) also gave the primary treatment in the health centres; especially patients of asthma and diabetes are found more as concern to non-communicable diseases. Eye checkups camps are arranged at the health centre at regular intervals, so some patients coming for eye checkups (290) are also on the record. Besides, few accident cases (161) are also got treatment in the health centre of Bambavade.

Table 4

Disease-wise Classification of Inpatients in PHC of Bambavade

Sr. No.	Nature of Disease	No. of Patients
1	Communicable Diseases	709
2	Non-Communicable Diseases	92
3	Childbed (Delivery) Patients	576
4	Surgical Sterilisation (Family Planning)	341
5	Others	812
Total		2530

Source : The data has been collected from PHC of Bambavade

As inpatients are concern, there are high numbers of inpatients of different ailments have been admitted and treated in the Primary Health Centre of Bambavade. The above table (Table 4) give the detail disease-wise information about the inpatients treated in the Health centre.

According to the records of the Primary Health Centre of Bambavade, there are 2,530 patients were admitted in the health centre in the year 2014-15. Among them, most number of patients (812) is admitted because of fever, cold-cough, accident cases, severe snake bites, pre-delivery complications, etc. Besides, some suicide cases, some cases of neonatal care have also been treated in the health centre. After these common ailments patients of communicable diseases (709) like flue, cold, bacterial diarrhoea, gastro, malaria, typhoid fever, hepatitis, rabies, etc. are found in more numbers. Due to various programmes and policies run by the government, childbed (delivery) patients (576) are more in numbers and deliveries of all these childbed patients have been normal in nature. Besides, 341 surgical sterilisation (family planning) patients are also found, among them 325 cases of female sterilisation while only 16 cases of vasectomy (Male Sterilisation). Vasectomy cases are very few as compare to the female sterilisation and health centre of Bambavade tries to increase this number. A very few numbers of patients of non-communicable diseases (92) are treated in the health centre; again most of them are suffering with asthma and diabetes.

This discussion clearly indicates that there is heavy burden of both types of patient i.e. outpatients and inpatients and Primary Health Centre of Bambavade try to manage health of these patients with minimum infrastructure and health facilities.

7. Availability and Adequacy of Beds

Primary Health Centre of Bambavade had 06 beds for inpatients till the year 2012, afterward due to funding of NRHM the number of beds has been increased up to 10 beds. Hence, at present health centre of Bambavade has 10 beds for inpatients. However, as per the authorities in the PHC of Bambavade these beds are also insufficient to the inpatients, which are admitted in the health centre. As per the record, the inpatients in the health centre were 2,530 in the year 2014-15.

In general, there are more than 200 patients have been admitted in the health centre every month, so available beds are not enough to serve them. According to concern authorities, the bed facility is also inadequately available at the health centre. They insist to provide at least another five beds at the health centre.

8. Availability and Adequacy of Medicine

The required medicines are supplied to the health centre by Zillah Parishad of Kolhapur as well as Rogi Kalyan Samiti (RKS). But the authority said that, the supply of medicines is proper time but not enough to meet the requirements. As aforementioned, at the health centre of Bambavade cases of snake bites are very often but the vaccines provided by the governing authorities are not adequate. Apart from that, there is one storeroom for the storage of medicine, but that is also inadequate as per the authorities. They require one more storeroom for medicines.

9. Programmes and Policies Implementation

Many programmes and policies are made at national level for improving health of the rural area, and all these programmes and policies are implemented at the rural area through the Primary Health Centres and Community Health Centres. Primary Health Centres plays a vital role in the implementation of these programmes and policies. Accordingly, an attempt is made to know how effectively Primary Health Centre of Bambavade implemented these programmes and policies.

Table 5

Programmes and Policies Implemented by PHC of Bambavade

Sr. No.	Programme or Policies	Beneficiaries
1	National Malaria Programme	54
2	National Programme for Control of Blindness (NPCB)	290
3	National Leprosy Eradication Programme (NLEP)	01
4	National Tuberculosis Control Programme	38
5	National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, CVD and Stroke (NPCDCS)	12
6	Integrated Diseases Surveillance Programme	325
7	Janani-Shishu Suraksha Karyakram (JSSK)	576
8	Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY)	147
9	Routine Immunisation Programme	786
10	National Family Welfare Programme	341
Total		2570

Source : The data has been collected from PHC of Bambavade

According to the above table (Table 5) it is clear that, many of programmes and policies are well implemented by the Primary Health Centre of Bambavade during the year 2013-14. Routine Immunisation programme are strictly implemented by the health centre and there are 786 beneficiaries of this scheme. According to this scheme health centre provides vaccines such as Tetanus, BCG, OPV, Hepatitis B, DPT, Measles, Vitamin A, etc. to pregnant women, infants and children. Afterward, there are 576 pregnant women access the government facilities

during their pregnancy under the Janani-Shishu Suraksha Karyakram (JSSK), while 147 women benefited by Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY), accordingly they are accessed pre-delivery health services. There are 341 surgical sterilisation was done under the Family Welfare Programme at the health centre of Bambavade. Moreover, there are 325 cases benefited from the Integrated Diseases Surveillance Programme. There is separate provision of eye care at the Primary Health Centre of Bambavade, with the help of this health centre effectively implemented the National Programme for Control of Blindness (NPCB) and 290 patients are benefitted with this service. Besides, there are 54 beneficiaries of National Malaria Programme, 38 beneficiaries of National Tuberculosis Control Programme (NTCP), 12 beneficiaries of National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, CVD and Stroke (NPCDCS) and 01 beneficiary of National Leprosy Eradication Programme (NLEP).

10. Concluding Remarks

- PHC of Bambavade has almost doubled population than the standard norms as PHC experienced very heavy burden population.
- PHC has 21 rooms in its building, which are well utilised by various departments, but PHC has been necessitates six more rooms for various purpose.
- PHC of Bambavade severally experienced shortfall in health personnel, especially Medical Officers, Staff Nurses and Health Assistants inadequately available in the health centre.
- There is more number of outpatients suffering with common illness, while patients of communicable diseases, snake and dog bites cases are also found more in numbers. Due to the JSK patients of pre-delivery checkups are also in increasing numbers. As inpatients are concern there are patients from common illness, communicable diseases, childbed (delivery) patients, surgical sterilisation patients, etc. are more in numbers, while very few patients from the non-communicable diseases.
- There are 10 hospital beds are available in the PHC, while as per the population in the jurisdiction area and number of inpatients are concern these beds are insufficient. The health centres needs at least five another hospital beds in the health centres.
- Medicines supply to the PHC of Bambavade is proper time but inadequate. Especially, they need more vaccines of snake bites as the cases are very often at the health centre.
- PHC of Bambavade effectively coordinates various programmes and policies implemented by the state as well as central government. PHC has also been arranged few health camps and awareness campaigns to improving health of people in the jurisdiction area.

