

செய்தி வெளியீடு

‘மக்களைத் தேடி மருத்துவம்’ திட்டத்தை பாராட்டி “தி இந்து” ஆங்கில நாளிதழில் வந்த செய்தி குறித்து மாண்புமிகு தமிழ்நாடு முதலமைச்சர் திரு.மு.க.ஸ்டாலின் அவர்களின் சமூக வலைதளப் பதிவு

நமது திராவிட மாடல் அரசின் முதல் இரண்டு முன்னுரிமைகள் கல்வியும், சுகாதாரமும் தான். இந்திய மாநிலங்களிலேயே சிறந்து விளங்கும் மாநிலமாகவும், வளர்ந்த நாடுகளுக்கு இணையாகவும் தமிழ்நாட்டை நிலைநிறுத்த வேண்டும் என்ற நோக்கத்தில், ஆட்சிப் பொறுப்பேற்றது முதல், இத்துறைகளில் பல்வேறு திட்டங்களை முனைப்புடன் செயல்படுத்தி வருகிறோம். மாநில திட்டக் குழுவின் ஆய்வு முடிவுகள் நமது திட்டங்களின் தொலைநோக்குத் தன்மைக்கு சான்றாக விளங்குகின்றன. இன்றைய ‘தி இந்து’வில், தமிழ்நாட்டில் குறைந்த வருவாய்ப் பிரிவினர் மீது ‘மக்களைத் தேடி மருத்துவம்’ திட்டம் ஏற்படுத்திய ஆழமான தாக்கம் குறித்து சங்கீதா கந்தவேல் எழுதியுள்ளார்.

நமது திராவிட மாடல் அரசின் கொள்கைகளின்படி, தமிழ்நாட்டின் தொடர்ச்சியான வளர்ச்சிக்கும் செழிப்புக்கும் நாம் ஆர்வத்துடன் பாடுபடுவோம்.

Education and healthcare have always been the top two priorities of our Dravidian Model Government. Since assuming office, we have diligently implemented various schemes in these sectors, with the aim of positioning Tamil Nadu as a standout performer among Indian states and on par with developed nations. The findings of the State Planning Commission serve as a testament to the visionary nature of our schemes. In today's The Hindu, Sangeetha Kandavel has written about the profound impact of Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam on the lower-income groups in Tamil Nadu.

Let us passionately work towards the continuous development and prosperity of Tamil Nadu, guided by the principles of our Dravidian Model.

Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam comes in handy for lower income groups to cut out-of-pocket health expenditure

Sangeetha Kandavel
CHENNAI

The Tamil Nadu State Planning Commission, which initiated a State-wide survey to evaluate the impact of the State government's Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam (MTM) scheme, has said out-of-pocket medical expenditure for the lower income groups has halved after the scheme was implemented.

Before the scheme started operating, the poorest income group in the survey had to spend over 10% of their monthly family income on treatment of diabetes and hypertension. Once the scheme rolled out, spending on treatment of these two conditions more than halved.

According to an analysis done by the State Planning Commission, the median Out-of-Pocket Expenditure (OOPE) per visit for treatment (including medicines, travel cost and loss of wages) of an ailment before the scheme was implemented was ₹500.

Filip to healthcare

The Tamil Nadu government rolled out the Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam (MTM) scheme in August 2021. The State Planning Commission had conducted a survey on the scheme and released a report. Here are some details from the study.

As many as 6,856 people aged over 30 from across T.N. took part.

4,279 (62%) females

2,575 (38%) males

2 Others

4,155 (60%) were from rural pockets (of the total number of people surveyed)

2,701 (39%) were from urban areas

• About 33% of the people surveyed belonged to the Backward Castes, 23% were from the Scheduled Castes, 13% from Scheduled Tribes. (Many people did not reveal their caste)

• The study was undertaken by the Institute of Community Medicine, Madhav Medical College with the support of Dept. of Community Medicine in various govt. medical colleges across TN.

Reaching out: The scheme delivers health-care services at people's doorstep. © 2023 BAAU, IASRI

• more visits by women health volunteers and diagnosis and treatment of ailments covered under the scheme were some of the parameters that were analysed.

SCHEME SPECIFICS

- Those aged 18 and above are screened free of cost for 14 non-communicable diseases
- Additionally, it delivers free medications for hypertension and diabetes management to individuals aged 45 and above
- It covers a range of ailments from diabetes and hypertension to diagnosis and management of chronic kidney disease

The amount varied from ₹300 for the lower-income groups to ₹1,000 for the higher income group. After the scheme started, the median OOPE for every visit for treatment has dropped to ₹200 (since the OOPE involves travel costs and loss of wages, it would be difficult for the OOPE to drop to zero). It was also

difficult to ascertain whether the OOPE was within or outside the scheme, as most people surveyed went to multiple places for treatment.

According to the findings of the survey, before the scheme was implemented, only one-third of people from the low-income groups were screened for diabetes and hypertension; after the scheme was implemented, this rose to nearly half.

Healthcare issues

The scheme has also addressed healthcare issues of the elderly across Tamil Nadu. Before the scheme operated, only a quarter of the 60+ population were screened for diabetes and hypertension, and this has now grown to 36%.

The survey also offers new insights into the likely underestimation of non-communicable diseases in India.

So far, much of the public understanding of prevalence in India has been derived from the National

Family Health Survey (NFHS), which only surveys men aged 15-54 and women aged 15-49. However, this survey finds higher rates of prevalence than those reported by the NFHS.

The prevalence of hypertension is at 27%, which is higher than diabetes, at 22%. The prevalence is also higher for those in urban areas and among men.

Recommendations

The report shows urban coverage has been lower with only around 57% of the urban households visited by a woman health volunteer, as opposed to 83% of the rural households.

Additionally, while the scheme is meant to screen for cancer as well, only 20% got screened for any of the three cancers covered by the scheme. Given that cancer is one of the costliest diseases to treat, the State Planning Commission recommends that increasing cancer screening and counselling will reduce this burden.

வெளியீடு: இயக்குநர், செய்தி மக்கள் தொடர்புத்துறை, சென்னை-9

அரசின் செய்திகளை உடனுக்குடன் தெரிந்துகொள்ள :

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