

## PUDUCHERRY STATE HEALTH MISSION – AN OVERVIEW

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Recognizing the importance of Health in the process of economic and social development and improving the quality of life of our citizens, the Government of India has launched the National Rural Health Mission to carry out necessary architectural correction in the basic health care delivery system. The Goal of the Mission is to improve the availability of and access to quality health care for people, especially for those residing in rural areas, the poor, women and children. The Puducherry State Health Mission was launched with the above goal and started implementing the goals. The health care infrastructure in rural areas has been developed by improving the three tier system, i.e. Sub-Centres (SCs), Primary Health Centres (PHCs) and Community Health Centres (CHCs). The main aim of Puducherry State Health Mission is to provide accessible, affordable, accountable, effective and reliable primary health care, especially to poor and vulnerable sections of the population. Further, it addresses the issue of health in the context of sector-wise approach addressing sanitation and hygiene, nutrition and safe drinking water as basic determinants of good health. This paper aims in bringing out the achievements of Puducherry State Health Mission over the years and to highlight the present activity of the mission. Newer Initiatives for 2008-09 of the mission includes: Screening of Adolescent boys & girls for BMI, Juvenile diabetes and anemia, Adolescent Clinic in all sub centres on fixed day schedule, Sanitary Napkins to rural adolescent Girls, Urban slums health and nutrition day (monthly), School health programme for Primary students 5-9 yrs, Dental Health services in CHCs, Rural incentives for MOs, Staff Nurses & ANMs. This paper also attempts to find out whether the above proposed initiatives are implemented are not. In this regards, secondary data is obtained from the Puducherry State Health Mission and an overview is being presented.