

Composition on Rural Health in Bangladesh

Introduction: Bangladesh is an underdeveloped country of villages, more than 80% so its total population live in villages. Hence the question of rural health is a vital matter for us. The development of rural health is an important factor in the overall development of our country. If we want to see a healthy Bangladesh we should take all necessary steps for development of rural health.

Primitive Medicare in the villages: once the village people were healthy and happy. There was no pressure of population and no serious want of food and nutrition in the country. Fish, Milk, meat and other protein diets were in abundance in the villages. The villagers hardly cared for organizing medicare in a systematic way. 'Ayurved' and 'Yunani' were two important systems of treatment in the villagers. The villagers had little knowledge of the modern medical system. 'Ojhas' and 'Vaidyas' in general and 'Munshis' in the Muslim community treated the patients by uttering incantation or by prescribing talisman and quack remedies or by reciting verse form the Holly Quran.

The present state of health care in Bangladesh: in recent years there has been considerable progress in the field of healthcare in Bangladesh. Yet the present arrangements for health care are not quite adequate for our purpose. In villages, the condition is worse. In many villages, there are no good doctors or even any doctor at all. There is only one qualified doctor for every 25,000 village people on the average. Some people have never seen a doctor. Most of our people do not have any knowledge about health care.

Various kinds of disease of rural people: illiterate people of our rural areas are not aware of the importance of the rules of health and sanitation. They respond to the call of nature and throw dead

animals in the open field. All these are responsible for many discuss. They take impure water from ponds, rivers and canals. They are, therefore, attacked with water-borne diseases like cholera, diarrhoea and dysentery. They inhale unclean and polluted air. As a result, they get contaminated with the germs of air-borne diseases. Many of them do not keep their teeth, finger, nails and body clean.

A measure of uplift of rural health: our government are fully conscious of the basic problems of health and sanitation of our villages. They have set up health complexes at eh thane level. The number of dispensaries and health centres has been increased. For supplying pure drinking water to the people a good number of tube wells have been sunk in all parts of the country. Yet it can be safely said that healthcare facility in Bangladesh is much less than what we need.

Education essential: The most important point to note is that mass education is the essential pre-requisite for the solution of all these problems. Our government and the educated Section of our people should take the intensive programme to educate the rural people. This will help them to be careful about the knowledge and observance of the rules of health, hygiene and sanitation.

Conclusion: we are a free nation. We need healthy manpower for all-round development of our country. Without healthy manpower, the dream of a happy and prosperous Bangladesh cannot be put into reality.