



A report on
Ensuring health for all among tribal communities in India (World Health Day)
Conducted at Pt. J.N.M. Medical College, Raipur, Chhattisgarh

Background: World Health Day is observed on 7th April every year with this year's theme being 'My Health My Right'

This year the Department of Community Medicine of Pt. J.N.M. Medical College, Raipur after the approval from the Dean Pt JNM Medical College Raipur have conducted a one-day seminar with collaboration with World Health Organization, Azim Premji Foundation & IAPSM on the topic 'Ensuring Health for all among Tribal Communities in India. This one-day seminar from 10:00am to 4:00pm held on 10th April, 2024 at Old Auditorium, Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Medical College, Raipur (C.G). The chief guest of this seminar was Dr. Tripti Nagaria (Dean, Pt. J.N.M Medical college Raipur Chhattisgarh). She was unable to join the Seminar but she gave best wished for the seminar.

Participants: around 160 Participants have participated out of which 125 have registered from government department, MoHFW, World Health Organization, UNICEF, Jhpiego, other NGOs and Academics working in the different area of tribal health have participated.

Dr. Nirmal Verma, Professor & Head, Dr. Kamlesh Jain, Professor, Dr. Mini Sharma, Associate Professor, Dr. Shailendra Agrawal, Assistant Professor, Dr. Neha Singh, Senior Scientist along with Dr. Manu Apurb, Dr. Shelly Sharma, Dr. Deepa Thakur (Demonstrators), 15 Post graduate Scholars and interns attended seminar.

The Seminar Started at 10:00 am with welcome & context setting by Mr. Sunil Sah (State head, Azim Premji Foundation Chhattisgarh). And Oration given by Mr. Suresh Sahu (Resource person, Azim Premji Foundation Chhattisgarh).

Presentation starts with Mr. Urya Nag, (Health Systems Officer, WHO, India) on the topic "Equity in Health & Significance of the Day." Says In public health and community medicine, it is "equity" which is the most important it means that we provide healthcare for all the population but within that we provide extra opportunities for healthcare for the disadvantage groups or populations. He also mentioned principles of equity in Health system to achieve the Universal Health Care.

After this presentation a wonderful session taken by Dr Kamlesh Jain Professor (MD, Community Medicine/Public Health, State Nodal Officer, Directorate of Health Services, CG) on the topic "Tribal Health – Issues and Challenges: Chhattisgarh Context." He gave information about the "HAAT BAZAR" scheme in which an MBBS trained doctor is providing services to the tribal community and their testing facility is also being available in the same place. And talked about the difficulties faced by health staff on the field and the possible solutions. He also discussed about the various ways to extend services to the PVTG Groups" (Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups). And defined that for a good health service delivery we need 3 commitments (1. Political Commitment, 2. Administrative Commitment, 3. Technical Commitment) we have Political commitment, Administrative Commitment but we lack in Technical Commitment. He also emphasis on Article 342 of the constitution which protects the schedule tribe in the state. He told government of Chhattisgarh is making significant efforts to reach the unreached in all aspects, especially in the health domain.

Then next presentation given by Dr. Suchin B. Ekjut, from Jharkhand on the topic health among tribal communities; Insights and experiences, A community-based mental health approach among the Gonds in Jharkhand. He spoke about the mental challenges which are facing by the tribal people. He did a qualitative study on the post-partum depression and he enumerated solutions to alleviate post-partum depression. Mental health is very important part of health and to connect the tribal community, awareness regarding mental issues and mental health must be delivered. He also mentioned that specialist are very very less in Tribal districts even private sectors are also less for high end services. We need to still reach to unreached.

Then next topic taken by Dr. Ramesh Kataria (Director, Jan Swasthya Salyog, Ganigar, Bilaspur) on "Health Interventions among the PVTG Groups" (Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups). He discussed about some of the major problems of vulnerable groups like malnutrition, poverty, and snake bite. He focused on the malnutrition which is one of the major problems which tribal communities are facing. He specify that Government commitment is very much needed for large scale comprehensive health services.

After all the presentation there was an open discussion taken by Moderator Dr Arina Mishra (Faculty Azim Premji University, Bangalore) all the NGOs which came from different areas of Chhattisgarh where participated and gave their insights regarding the difficulties to reach tribal communities. In terms of facilities, transportations. And discussed the achievements they achieved while doing work with collaboration with Azim Premji Foundation and other NGO's.

Then the last session taken by Dr. Nikofer Salim Bijali (Resource Person, Azim Premji Foundation) on the topic Initiating Work on Health Among Tribal Communities.

Last but not the least the seminar ended with the gracing and vote of thanks given by Dr Nirmal Verma (Prof & HOD Dept of Community Medicine Pt JNM Medical College Raipur CG). He said as we reflect on the theme of World Health Day, it is crucial to recognize the pressing need to address the health disparities faced by these marginalized populations. In the vote of thanks Dr Nirmal Verma expressed his heartfelt gratitude to chief guest Dean Pt JNM Medical College for approval of this event. He gave a special thank you to the World health Organization, Azim Premji Foundation and IAPSM for their unwavering support and dedication that made this event possible. He gave sincere appreciation to all the speakers and participants for sharing knowledge and experiences with us all. He gave thanks to Volunteers, Stakeholders for their contributions that have been invaluable, and the success of this event is a direct result of their expertise and enthusiasm. Finally, He gave thanks to each one present on the event. All their interest and engagement bring life to events like this. We are grateful for your participation and hope you found it beneficial.

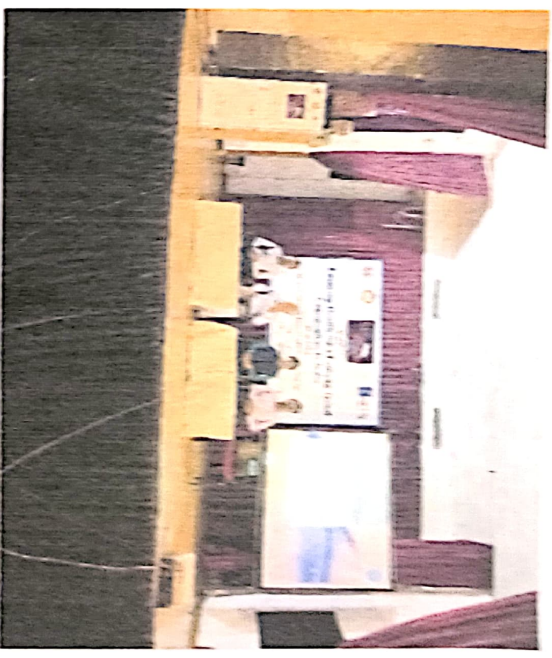




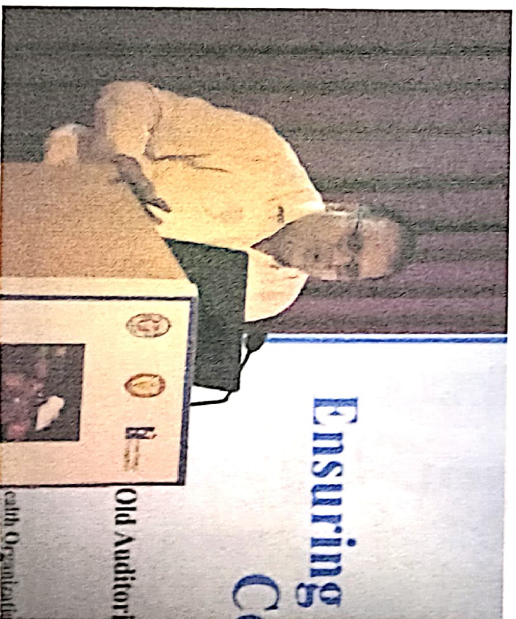
Audience in the event



Dr. Nirmal Verma Prof & HOD Dept of Community Medicine Pt. J.N.M. Medical college Raipur extended heartfelt gratitude to organizing committee, volunteers and every one present in seminar for their contribution.



Starting of Seminar with welcome & Context setting



Prof. Dr. Kamlesh Jain, MD, Community Medicine / Public Health, State Nodal Officer, Directorate of Health Services, Chhattisgarh presented seminar on the topic- Tribal Health – Issues and Challenges: Chhattisgarh

Dr. Kamlesh Jain, giving answers of the questions in the open discussion.

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