

India records a landmark milestone with operationalisation of more than 50,000 Ayushman Bharat Health & Wellness Centres (HWCs)

Dr Harsh Vardhan congratulates States/UTs on this achievement

The contribution of HWCs in COVID response and management is unique: Dr Harsh Vardhan

6.43 cr people screened for hypertension, 5.23 cr for diabetes and 6.14 cr for cancers

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India has crossed a landmark milestone on the journey of universal healthcare. More than 50,000 (50,025) Ayushman Bharat - Health and Wellness Centres (AB-HWCs) are now operational across the country. Aiming at providing Comprehensive Primary Health Care (CPHC) services to the communities closer to their homes, 1.5 lakh AB-HWCs are to be established by December 2022. With more than 50,000 having been established, 1/3 of the target has been met. This has led to improved access to affordable primary healthcare services for more than 25 crore people.

Dr Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare congratulated the States/UTs for their efforts in operationalising the HWCs despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. “This has been possible due to the joint efforts of the Center and the States/UTs in planning, monitoring at all levels, standardization of processes, the flexibility for adaptation provided to the States/UTs, and building on the health systems created thus far”, he stated. The HFM specially thanked the frontline health workers, the Medical Officers, the Community Health Officers and ASHAs for their dedication to the cause of providing Comprehensive Primary Health Care services and for supporting millions of people with necessary services in these difficult times. “They are the backbone of the healthcare delivery system. Their contribution during the COVID period has been exemplary”, he said. HWCs have helped in interventions such as risk communication, contact tracing, community surveillance and early identification of cases, and seamless provisioning of non-COVID essential health services for ensuring protection of vulnerable groups, such as the newborn, elderly and those with co-morbidities.



#COVID19 screening at a HWC in Assam

Ayushman Bharat was launched in 2018 with its twin pillars of Health & Wellness Centers (HWCs) and Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY) with bidirectional linkages between the two for providing the full range of services across the continuum of care. The first AB-HWC was launched by Hon. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on the 14th of April 2018 at Jhangla in Bijapur District of Chhattisgarh.

The Health & Wellness Centers provide CPHC services to people and sustain the efforts for provision of reproductive, maternal, neonatal, child, adolescent and nutrition (RMNCHA+N) services and control of communicable diseases. They also focus on disease prevention, especially for chronic and non-communicable diseases, wellness through community engagement and creating awareness about health lifestyles, appropriate nutrition and physical activities such as Yoga. The HWC team consists of a trained Community Health Officer, one or two Health Workers and 5-8 ASHAs. This team has well defined tasks which intend to deliver public health functions and primary health care by bringing health-care services closer to the community.

The 50,025 operational AB-HWCs are now spread across 678 districts, and include 27,890 Sub Health Centres, 18,536 Primary Health Centres and 3,599 Urban Primary Health Centres. Together, these AB-HWC have witnessed over 28.10 crore footfalls of which over 53% percent are women who sought care at these centres. More than 6.43 crore people have been screened for hypertension, 5.23 crore for diabetes and 6.14 crore people for cancers. About 1.0 crore people are being provided free drugs for treatment of hypertension and about 60 lakhs for diabetes.



Community Health Officer screening for hypertension at a HWC in Tripura

Focus on wellness is one of the novel interventions under the ABHWC Programme. Over 30 lakhs wellness sessions have been conducted at these centres including activities such as Yoga, Zumba, Community Walks, Shirodhara, Meditation etc.



#Yoga session at Phubasahi Khordha HWC, Odisha

HWCs also provide a strong backbone for the implementation of the eSanjeevani platform of Health Ministry which includes the eSanjeevani Patient-to-Doctor OPD and eSanjeevani-HWC which provides Doctor-to-Doctor teleconsultation service. 23,103 HWCs have started providing teleconsultation services to citizens. More than 7.5 lakh teleconsultations have already been conducted through these platforms. The eSanjeevani-HWC was rolled out in November 2019. It is to be implemented in all the 1.5 lakh Health and Wellness Centres in a 'Hub and Spoke' model, by December 2022. States need to set up dedicated 'Hubs' in Medical Colleges and District hospitals to provide tele-consultation services to 'Spokes', i.e. Health & Wellness Centres (HWC).

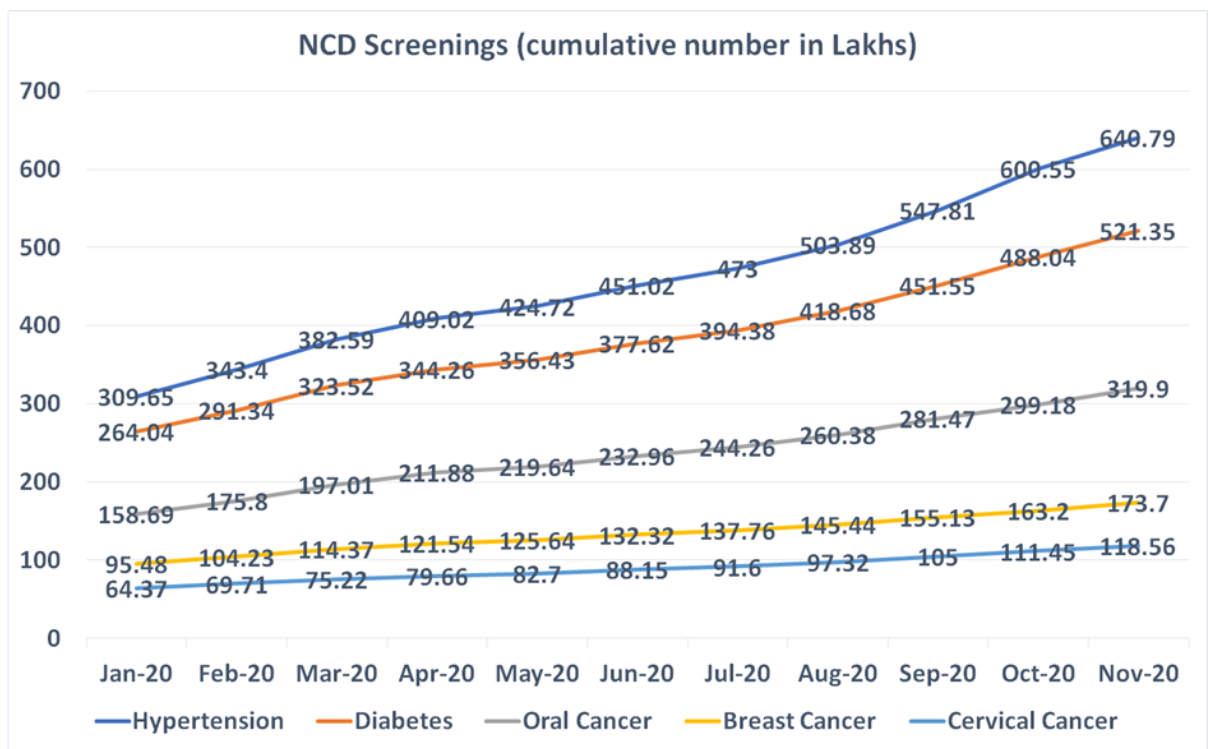
State wise functional AB-HWCs as on 18.11.2020

SN	STATE	Functional AB-HWCs as on 18112020			
		SHC	PHC	UPHC	TOTAL
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	58	17	5	80
2	Andhra Pradesh	1122	1145	241	2508
3	Arunachal Pradesh	91	38	4	133
4	Assam	878	379	52	1309
5	Bihar	207	877	98	1182
6	Chandigarh		33	2	35
7	Chhattisgarh	1450	402	45	1897
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	52	8	0	60
9	Daman & Diu	26	4	0	30
10	Delhi	Not implementing the Programme			
11	Goa	9	54	5	68
12	Gujarat	3523	1108	222	4853
13	Haryana	159	364	100	623
14	Himachal Pradesh	275	422	6	703
15	Jammu & Kashmir	505	305	16	826

16	Jharkhand	852	132	52	1036
17	Karnataka	1572	1896	336	3804
18	Kerala	0	733	83	816
19	Ladakh	0	0	0	0
20	Lakshadweep	0	3	0	3
21	Madhya Pradesh	3026	1128	130	4284
22	Maharashtra	4117	1825	439	6381
23	Manipur	111	39	1	151
24	Meghalaya	70	34	19	123
25	Mizoram	44	54	8	106
26	Nagaland	101	47	7	155
27	Odisha	304	1225	86	1615
28	Puducherry	77	37	2	116
29	Punjab	1607	346	93	2046
30	Rajasthan	131	1859	116	2106
31	Sikkim	43	13	0	56
32	Tamil Nadu	858	1371	453	2682
33	Telangana	274	624	221	1119
34	Tripura	266	32	5	303
35	Uttar Pradesh	3509	1468	391	5368
36	Uttarakhand	262	246	36	544
37	West Bengal	2311	268	325	2904
	Total	27890	18536	3599	50025

MV

HFV/50,000 HWCs/20November2020/1



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