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Public health expenditure and health benefits in the state of Gujarat

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Abstract:

This study is conducted in terms of government per capita health expenditure and health benefits in the context of Gujarat state, India. Secondary data is used for the study. Various published reports and statistics of the government have been used for secondary data collection. Data are interpreted based on time series data for classification and analysis. At the end of the study, it is found that the increase in government health expenditure in the state of Gujarat has an impact on health benefits. Thus government health expenditure is a very important factor in health benefits.

Key words: Public Health Expenditure, Infant Mortality Rate, Maternal Mortality Rate, Life Expectancy, Per Capita Health Expenditure.

Introduction:

The concept of development is seen to change with time. Adam Smith and his contemporaries economists in terms of economic development and growth believed that the market system operates freely and the role of the state is only as a police state. But the role of the state changes in Keynes and later. Today, in all the countries of the world, the role of the government is seen not only as a police state but towards development. The government of the country formulates various developmental programs and at the same time public expenditure is seen to increase. Public expenditure is expenditure incurred by the government. Which is known as developmental and non-developmental expenditure. Expenditures like education, health and family welfare expenditure etc. are considered important in developmental expenditure. Today in the world there are various types of health related problems and new problems are emerging as well. Today people of every country are availing various health related services to live a healthy life. The prevalence of health services has increased, both public and private.

Fields work. As health services are expensive and unaffordable to the common man, public health services and the public health expenditure incurred on them become important. Public health services are particularly important in terms of improving health care and health-related well-being of poor and low-income people. Today, various countries of the world are seen setting some important goals for the citizens of their country and jointly trying to achieve these goals. At the global level, the World Health Organization and other

similar organizations always set standards in the field of health. The concept of health is also seen to improve with time. Earlier health was associated only with physical health and well-being but today the World Health Organization defines health as physical, mental and social well-being.

Objectives of the study:

- 2.1. Examining health-related government expenditure in Gujarat
2.2. Check Infant Mortality Rate and Maternal Mortality Rate in Gujarat
2.3. Check life expectancy in Gujarat

Public health expenditure and health benefits in Gujarat:

Along with the development of health services in the world, the health expenditure is continuously increasing. In India and its states too, there is a constant effort to improve various government health services. Today, some states in India have improved their health indicators along with increased government spending on health. As health indicators improve, people achieve better health and well-being. This study is done in the context of Gujarat state to examine the health related government expenditure and the resulting health benefits received by the people of Gujarat. Here the per capita health expenditure figures of Gujarat state along with infant mortality rate, maternal mortality rate, life expectancy are taken as indicators of health. Today, life expectancy has been increasing in various countries in the world and child mortality has decreased in the world. Then it becomes important to check its status in the state of Gujarat and how efficient the government expenditure on health has been.

Table 3. 1. Per Capita Public Health Expenditure and Health Indicators in Gujarat

Table with 5 columns: Year, Per capita public health Expenditure (Rs), Life Expectancy at birth (year), Maternal Mortality Rate (per 100000 live birth), Infant Mortality rate (per 1000 live birth). Rows for 2006, 2016, 2020.

Source: 1. Handbook of Statistics on Indian States, Reserve Bank of India, 2021-22

2. Socio-Economic Survey 2022-23, Gujarat State Statistics Sheets

3. Brief Budget Analysis 2006-07 to 2020-21, Budget Publication, State of Gujarat

Analyzing the above statistics, it is known that the government health expenditure has increased in the state of Gujarat and life expectancy has also increased. We have seen maternal and child mortality rates decrease. In 2006, the per capita public health expenditure in the state was Rs 300, the life expectancy was 65.8 years and the maternal mortality rate was 160 and the infant mortality rate was 53. Whereas in 2020, the per capita public health expenditure has increased to 1636 rupees and the life expectancy has also increased. Life expectancy as of 2020 is 70.2 years. As of 2020, the maternal mortality rate is 70 per lakh live births and the infant mortality rate is 23 per thousand. Thus the health benefits in the state have increased.

Conclusion:

In the state of Gujarat, per capita government expenditure on health is seen to be increasing. And with it increased health benefits. Thus, public health expenditure in the state of Gujarat is an important factor for health benefits. At the same time, in other states too, the health benefits of increased government health expenditure have accrued to the poor and middle class. In India, the state of Kerala ranks first in terms of health expenditure and health benefits. It is the current demand of the entire society that the health-related government expenditure should be increased to