

Health indicators show improvement in India

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By : BioVoice News Desk - November 28, 2016



New Delhi: The country has demonstrated reduction in key health indicators such as Infant Mortality Rate, Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR), Under 5 Mortality Rate. Further, the annual average pace of decline in MMR (for the period 1990 to 2013) was much faster in India (4.5%) as compared to global rate (2.6%).

Additionally, mortality due to various diseases has reduced too. For instance, the Global Burden of Disease (2015) reports a decrease in mortality (between the years 2005 and 2015) on account of lower respiratory infections (by 22.6%), diarrhoeal diseases (by 31.7%), tuberculosis (by 30.7%), neonatal preterm birth (by 39.5%), neonatal encephalopathy (by 31%) and road injuries (by 2.7%).

As per the Global Burden of Disease report for India, the deaths due to self-harm for the period 2005 to 2015 have declined by 3.9%. The Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) National Health Mission (NHM), has two sub-missions, viz. the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) and the National Urban Health Mission (NUHM). While NRHM was launched in April 2005, launch of NUHM was approved by the Cabinet on 1st May 2013. NHM envisages achievement of universal access to equitable, affordable & quality healthcare services that are accountable and responsive to people's needs. The main programmatic components include Health System strengthening in rural and urban areas, Reproductive-Maternal-Neonatal-Child and Adolescent Health (RMNCH+A) interventions and control of Communicable and Non-Communicable Diseases.