

Department of Public Relations, Chandigarh Administration
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Press Release

Chandigarh, August 30:- Mr. Shivraj V. Patil, Governor of Punjab and Administrator, UT, Chandigarh, has sought liberal support from the Centre for up-gradation of health infrastructure in Chandigarh. Mr. Patil was speaking at the 11th conference of the council for health and family welfare, in New Delhi today.

While addressing the participants on this occasion, Mr. Patil said that besides providing healthcare facilities to its own residents, Chandigarh also caters to the medical needs of the three adjoining states of Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh. This puts an added load on its healthcare facilities. He said that in 2009-10, total OPDs in Chandigarh's Government health institutions were more than 30 lakh. He further added that despite the ever increasing pressure and demands on the healthcare staff and infrastructure in Chandigarh, the health indices have shown an ascending graph in the past years. Mr. Patil said that as compared to the National figure of an IMR of 53, an MMR of 254 and a TFR of 2.7, Chandigarh has an IMR of 28, an MMR of 44 and a TFR of 2.1.

Mr. Patil also spoke about the noteworthy initiatives taken by Chandigarh Administration which include, strengthening of the School Health Scheme, extending the scheme to Madrassas, improving health related services to the Anganwaries, setting up of a drug detoxification and treatment centre and implementation of the Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana etc.

Mr. Patil apprised the Union Health Minister that Chandigarh Administration is trying to augment the existing infrastructure with support from the Central Government. This year the new OPD Block in the Government Multi Specialty Hospital, Sector 16 would be commissioned. A new Block in the Government Medical College and Hospital will also be completed. However, this is not at all adequate to meet the increased flow of patients from adjoining states, he said. He shared his concern about increasing gaps in essential health requirements in terms of manpower, equipment and the physical infrastructure due to the increased load on health care infrastructure in recent times.

Stressing on the urgent need to sanction adequate staff, Mr. Patil said that there is an acute shortage of staff, doctors, nurses, paramedics, in various hospitals of Chandigarh. Though during the last decade, the population pressure on our health infrastructure has trebled, however, no corresponding manpower has been sanctioned and a few proposals are pending in the union Health Ministry. He

requested GOI to expedite following proposals with regard to sanctioning of staff-

- Proposal for creation of 6 posts in the Specialty of Gastroenterology, Vascular Thoracic Surgery and Urology, 3 posts in the department of Radiotherapy and 6 and 19 posts for Genetic Lab and the Department of Anaesthesiology respectively in GMCH 32.**
- Proposal for creation of 13 posts of Senior Residents and 657 posts of nurses and other technical staff in GMCH.**
- Proposals for creation of 105 posts of doctors and 553 posts of paramedical staff in Government Multi Specialty Hospital, Sector-16.**

He stressed that there is an urgent need to establish additional dispensaries in all sectors, especially, in southern sectors. He requested for Centre's help for up-gradation of existing PHCs & CHCs, addition of new blocks i.e. paediatric block, gynae block and administrative block in the Government Multi Specialty Hospital and establishment of another hospital equivalent to this Hospital needs to be established in southern sectors.

He further requested for liberal financial support from GOI for setting up of 300 bedded multi specialty Trauma centre in GMCH-32, Up-gradation of facilities at GMCH-32 required for increasing the intake of MBBS students from 50 to 100, setting up of 100 bedded maternity Hospital, setting up of indoor facility of 30 beds for AYUSH system of medicines and for setting up of an all inclusive dedicated cancer treatment unit.