

EFFECT OF HEALTH ON SOCIOECONOMIC

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INTRODUCTION

- Development is a dynamic process of growth and social changes in the direction towards nation building and socioeconomic progress.
- Dr MG Candua, Director General of the WHO said in his article (November, 1979): "The promotion and protection of the health of the people is essential to sustained economic and social development and contributes to a better quality of life and to world peace.
- In an overall concept of social and economic development of a country, health cannot be ignored. Health is directly related to consumption, productivity and labour.

THE EFFECTS OF HEALTH ON SOCIOECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ARE:

- Many uninhabitable areas can be made fit for settlement and thus it can help in the exploitation of idle resources of that area, e.g., in Haryana, an area of Pehowa block was made fit through the malaria eradication program.
- A study carried out by Correa and Cummins in "Contribution of Nutrition to Economic Growth covering 18 Countries
 for the period 1950 to 62", reveals that in 9 countries of Latin America, there was an increase in the national
 product, whereas the contribution was zero in the economically developed countries.
- We should not look at health only as a means of economic development.
- In a study by International Labor Organization (ILO) on qualitative difference in the labor force, health was found to be the factor clearly related to difference in economic growth.
- Better health induces positive attitudes conducive for economic growth and modernization. Improved health may
 induce in the increase productivity and motivation. The people with good health are generally enthusiastically try to
 achieve higher and higher goals in life.,
- The family alone at not less than Rs. 11,000 lakhs annually, In his conservative estimate of the annual financial loss to the country due to malaria, Sinton arrived at the figures of Rs. 1,000 crores. He stated:

- A study was carried out by Dr AS Sen and Dr RN Basu, Consultant and Senior Research Officer, Planning Commission, Government of India, to measure the cost of tuberculosis in India
- They found that the total losses from mortality, morbidity and the direct cost of the disease amounted to Rs. 420.4 crores, Rs. 288.58 crores and Rs. 29.68 crores respectively.
- The annual direct cost for a population of about 51 million works out at Rs. 0.49 per person per annum.
- Health programs cannot be related unilaterally to either the economic or the social spheres, as they influence both and are influenced by both.
- Thus, there is a need to promote, encourage and support research on the standardization of nomenclature, systems of health statistics, indices of health and socioeconomic development, evaluation methods, and health economics theory and practice.
- Health Programs to socioeconomic development (1972) arrived at the following general agreement:
- It was recognized as a basic principle that health programs are rarely ever justified solely on economic grounds, but rather as the means of maintaining and improving health, which is perhaps the most important single factor in improving the quality of life.

