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EPIDEMICS AND PANDEMICS IN INDIA DURING THE EARLY 21ST CENTURY (2001-2018): A HISTORICAL STUDY

Dr. Deepak B. Bansod

Dept. of History, K. B. College for Women, Thane.

Abstract:

India has come upon quite a lot of epidemics and pandemics since past. The present research article discusses about this outbreaks which have occurred in the early period of 21st century. The essential factor to review this title is because the information is dispersed and to source them and accumulate them into a single article is the necessity of time. It will help people to understand what this country has been through in the past and what reforms have to be made by them, the community and the government in preventing such outbreaks in the future. It's important to learn lessons from the past during this present COVID-19 crises.

Keywords: epidemics, pandemics, outbreaks, COVID-19.

Introduction:

India has witnessed an array of epidemics and pandemics through the history. Numerous accounts of influenza, smallpox, cholera and various other diseases have been chronicled since past. Numerous diseases have been destroyed since times past by but some diseases still continue to bearing a risk to the community. Many unanticipated and rapid outbreaks have occurred in India. The earth have understood an extensive number of pandemics during the course of the bygone and in many occasions; their control had been challenging because of the deficiency of a appropriate, operational investigation system through the world. In India there have been major substantial pandemics incidence in past. It is important to study those so as to understand it for future benefits to the society.

Research Objective:

1. To study the major diseases affecting India in the early part of 21st Century.
2. To analysis the importance steps taken to tackle it.
3. To understand the situation of Pandemic and the efforts undertaken for it during Period.

21st Century (2001-2018)

Plague in Northern India during 2002:

In February 2002 the Plague of Northern India broke out in Shimla region of the state of Himachal Pradesh. It was a minor and a smaller amount severe epidemic. No sooner as the plague was detected, instantaneous procedures were taken like fumigation, evacuation, and chemoprophylaxis by the health ministry that resulted to the control of the epidemic in the state of Himachal Pradesh.

Dengue Epidemic during 2003:

During September 2003 there happened an occurrence of Dengue Epidemic in capital city of India; New Delhi. During the month of October-November it had reached its topmost and it persisted up until starting of December. The death rate was around three percent. It had became a foremost outbreak in India despite of the extensive defensive measures taken by the government to control Dengue Epidemic.

SARS Epidemic during 2003:

SARS (severe acute respiratory syndrome), is considered as the leading grave infectious disease outbreak of the early 21st century worldwide. In 2003 it originally started in the Guandong region of China. Later it spread speedily all across Asia, Africa, Europe, North and South America.

Meningococcal Meningitis Epidemic during 2005:

An unexpected outpouring were noted in meningococemia and meningococcal meningitis cases in India during early 2005. Several cases were stated from New Delhi and the neighbouring states of Uttar Pradesh and Haryana also from Maharashtra. About 430 cases of meningococcal meningitis were stated as during June 2005.

Chikungunya Outbreak during 2006:

In Ahmedabad region of Gujarat during 2006 about 3.4 million cases of Chikungunya were reported and around 2,944 deaths were assessed during that period. The death rate in 2006 Chikungunya epidemic was significantly augmented when related with that in the preceding years. In December in South India there happened one more Chikungunya Outbreak. The epidemic had affected the

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states of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. The unpredictable face of this epidemic was recognised to the group immunity to the then isolated genotype. Foremost hard work were taken for mosquito control and numerous wakefulness campaigns were introduced by the locals, government agencies, NGO's through television, radio and print media.

Dengue Outbreak during 2006:

The Dengue outbreak arose in September 2006 in New Delhi. It began to spread to other states like Rajasthan, Kerala, Gujarat, Chandigarh and Uttar Pradesh by September end. The ministry of health had made arrangement of a control room to monitor the outbreak and provide medical and technical support that led to the well-organized administration of the disease.

H1N1 Flu Pandemic during 2009:

In May 2009 the H1N1 Flu pandemic began in India. Later it spread worldwide by around July 2009. Around August 2010, it was acknowledged pandemic. It resulted in around 18,500 deaths all across the world.

Indian Swine Flu Outbreak during 2015:

The Indian Swine Flu outbreak of 2015 is deliberated as a reappearance of the infection of H1N1 Flu pandemic. Its reappearance was the mostly reasonably considered to the low temperature, declining herd immunity and slow pace of vaccination campaign after the year 2010. The most affected states in India during this pandemic were Rajasthan, Maharashtra, and Gujarat.

Nipah Outbreak during 2018:

In the countries of Singapore and Malaysia the virus was first reported in the late 1990's. The natural crowd for this disease is the fruit bat and transmission is from person to person contact. In May 2018 this Nipah virus outbreak first arose in Kozhikode District of the state of Kerala. The control of this outbreak was done by the spread of awareness about this infection, isolation of the infected person and post-outbreak investigation throughout the area.

Conclusion:

India has stood strong through the course of many pandemics and epidemics. The climatic conditions in India along with poverty, poor health-hygienic conditions, slums, pollution, etc. have been another significant issue contributing factor to frequent infections epidemics incidence throughout the past. In future also it will continue to affect. But promptness has to be given huge importance and control of spread of disease should be the greatest preference of the Health ministry and the medical fraternity in India.

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