



लेफ्टिनेन्ट जनरल योगेंद्र सिंह, पी वी एस एम, वी एस एम, पी एच एस  
महानिदेशक सशस्त्र चिकित्सा सेवा एवं वरिष्ठ कर्नल कमान्डेन्ट

*Lt Gen Yogendra Singh, PVSM, VSM, PHS*

Director General Armed Forces Medical Services & Sr. Colonel Commandant  
Tele (O) : 23093331, 23093326 Ascon : 33080  
E-mail : dgafms@yahoo.co.in

कार्यालय महानिदेशक  
सशस्त्र चिकित्सा सेवा  
रक्षा मंत्रालय  
एम ब्लॉक, नई दिल्ली - 110001  
Office of Director General  
Armed Forces Medical Services  
Ministry of Defence  
'M' Block, New Delhi - 110001



## FOREWORD

The need for a comprehensive textbook covering the vast and closely related subjects of Public Health and Community Medicine in the Indian context has been felt by all concerned in the medical field in India. The health scenario in our country is rapidly changing, both in terms of the public health challenges that we face as well as our response to these challenges. As India becomes more and more developed and we have greater means at our disposal, our response to our health challenges must reflect our changing health and socio-economic status. It is, indeed, time for a quality textbook to clearly bring before our scientists and health practitioners, the actual health situation in our country and guide their responses to these challenges.

It gives me immense pleasure to learn that the Department of Community Medicine, Armed Forces Medical College, Pune has endeavored to author a textbook on 'Public Health & Community Medicine' to encompass the rapid changes in the field of Public Health and Community Medicine, while preserving the basic contents of the subject, for the benefit of medical students and the practitioners of public health.

The book is comprehensive and complete in its content and aims to reflect the current medical knowledge on the topics presented. A unique feature of this book is that several new chapters have been included which would be difficult to find in any standard textbook at one place. Besides, all chapters have been provided with summary and relevant questions to make learning more comprehensive. All chapters in the book have detailed references and suggested readings which will guide readers towards further reading, thereby making it an ideal resource book for students undergoing training in the speciality of Community Medicine / Public Health, including those preparing for entry into these specialities.

This textbook will indeed occupy a niche in the shelves of library of graduate and post-graduate medical students, practitioners of public health, as well as various Institutes of Public Health and Community Medicine in our country. I implore all to ensure that this book is updated at regular intervals.

I acknowledge and appreciate the perseverance and dedication shown by the team of Authors and Editors led by Col Rajvir Bhalwar, Professor & Head and the faculty at the Department of Community Medicine, Armed Forces Medical College. I congratulate them all for this commendable effort and wish them all success.

New Delhi

  
(Yogendra Singh)  
Lieutenant General