



Public Affairs Forum of India

PRESS RELEASE

“India prepared to deal with any threat in the healthcare sector”- Dr Mansukh Mandaviya

- Ayushman Bharat scheme will benefit 50 Crore citizens; Each beneficiary has been insured for INR 5Lacs.

September 23, 2022, New Delhi: Dr Mansukh Mandaviya, Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare stressed the need for de-politicizing the discussions on Health Policy & Infrastructure & adopting a more holistic approach across the whole spectrum of the populace. He stated that “a healthy India will be a wealthy India”.

Speaking at the Public Affairs Forum of India’s (PAFI) 9th Annal Forum 2022 Dr Mandaviya started by saying that the difference has been made by the proactive planning of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He added that the health infrastructure is being propagated across the country via the PPP model with a microcosm of public hospitals mushrooming along with private medical colleges. 22 AIIMS have been planned across the country to gear up the tertiary level of health infrastructure and promotion of the same PPP (Public Private Partnership) model to enable immediate care & welfare of the small blocs & cities and integration with national health policy as envisioned by the PM.

Explaining how the country successfully managed Covid-19, he mentioned that the government had started efforts to understand the virus much before it came to India, and accordingly planned and prepared beforehand to face the pandemic.

Talking about why the health infrastructure to GDP ratio is declining in India, Dr Mandaviya explained that every country has its own model specific to its people. In India, healthcare expenditure is lower as compared to other nations. Still, the Government is very much concerned about the health of its people and has assigned a budget of INR 100 crores for each district to implement Ayushman Bharat Scheme in the next five years.

Giving the details of the PPP model in healthcare, Dr Mansukh Mandaviya said that the government is following the holistic approach in planning and building healthcare models for the country. He said that the government is following two models for healthcare; under one it launched the Nishchay Mitra scheme for the eradication of TB from India by 2025 and invoked the people to adopt 9 lakh TB patients. Under the second PPP arrangement, Ayushman Bharat Scheme has been extended to 24000+ private hospitals, thus also enabling the business to private hospitals and ensuring healthcare for all, creating a win-win situation for every stratum of society.

Talking about the missing middle class in the ambit of national health policy, he emphasized the need for inclusive healthcare for all across all strata and said that a policy is under consideration for the missing middle class as well.



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In his closing remarks, Dr. Mandaviya said that New India is prepared to deal with any threat in the healthcare sector. He underlined that the new India under the visionary leadership of PM Narendra Modi is an empowered nation and is well prepared to face any crisis.

The welcome note was delivered by **Ishteyaque Amjad, Past President & Managing Committee Member, PAFI** who thanked the dignitaries in attendance for joining the discussion & highlighted the role of PFAI in building bridges between the policy practitioners i.e; the industry and policymakers. The discussion was moderated by **Navika Kumar, Group Editor, Times Network**. The thank you note was delivered by **Vinita Sethi, Secretary, PAFI**.

PAFI (Public Affairs Forum of India)

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