

Public Health under MCD's is in peril-needs a permanent solution

Mumbai, Feb 1: Though Health is a state subject, Delhi's healthcare is provided by Central government, State government, ESI, Railways, NDMC, MCD, Cantonment board, Delhi Univ. etc from the govt sector alone. Besides these there are many Corporate hospitals, Charitable hospitals to small Nursing homes and clinics, run by Private sector. However a large chunk of population, especially the low and middle income group, not only of Delhi but from neighbouring states depends on Government sector hospitals and dispensaries.

The plethora of agencies is responsible for quality of health care not being uniform. Different agencies have different priorities or budgetary and other logistic constraints. The agencies are also under different political parties at times which exacerbates the differences of vision and approach. This is best exemplified by the state of Hospitals being run by the 3 Municipal corporations of Delhi (MCDs). Their situation is so pathetic that even Doctors and other healthcare workers most of the time have to strike work to get paid.

The genesis of this financial crisis lies in the trifurcation of the erstwhile MCD in 2012 by the Shiela Dixit government. Since their inception, the three MCDs are facing huge financial crunch. Three MCDs mean increase in expenditure on separate administration for each. The imbalance of revenue sources and services provided has left South MCD being richer while East and North have little money but much more to spend on. The basic services like sanitation, roads, were already suffering which got exacerbated with the advent of COVID. The ongoing tussle between the two political adversaries in MCD and Delhi government has added fuel to the fire.

MCDs are also accused of being victim of massive corruption. The situation is grim and the ultimate sufferers are common people and thousands of municipal corporation employees including Healthcare workers.

This dismal show is re-

flected when the MCDs get the dubious distinction of being bottom most on All India comparison. The salaries of the MCD workers are disrupted frequently leading to lots of hardships. Arrears have not been paid for last 5 years, salaries are paid after months, pension to the retired employees are also delayed for months even the retirement benefits to employees retired 3-4 yrs back have not been given. 7th Pay Commission Recommendations have yet not been implemented. This systematic suffering of the employees has also allegedly led to lot of hardships and even in occasional cases suicides have also been reported.

The Three municipal corporations have many dispensaries and quite a few number of hospitals under them. The prominent of them are Hindu Rao hospital, Kasturba Gandhi hospital, Rajan Babu TB hospital and Infectious Disease hospital under NDMC and Swami Dayanand Hospital under EDMC. Hindu Rao hospital is also running a Medical College which is also financed by NDMC. The dispensaries and hospitals of MCDs treat lots of patients daily. Most of the patients catered to belong to poor classes who have nowhere else to go. It is quite evident that the financial crunch will affect the overall effective healthcare management, due to lack of equipments, Diagnostics, medicines and other health related items. Buildings require lot of maintenance, no new technology or equipment's are added. Recent incident that happened in Swami Dayanand Hospital where a child and mother were seriously injured by falling of the plaster from roof of the ward in which they were admitted are evidence of crumbling infrastructure.

This clearly shows that MCD's are unable to run the Public Healthcare delivery. What is the solution? A serious introspection should be done about taking away the healthcare provision from MCDs. It is a department which generates very less revenue but requires huge sums to be spent on it. If MCDs are divested of this public duty they would

be able to spend on sanitation, road improvement, pollution control, revenue collection etc. It would unshackle the MCDs from carrying this load. In any other state the hospitals could have been transferred to State government but Delhi being unique even Central government can be asked to take over some of these hospitals or divide them amongst State & Central.

It would be a relief also for the healthcare workers who have to go without being paid for months. The infrastructure too would improve leading to better services. It shall also decrease the load on Tertiary care centres because many cases requiring secondary level care won't flood their centres. It is a "win-win" situation. State government would get more dispensaries to augment its already running healthcare delivery plus the hospitals which it can upgrade without having to construct new ones. The staff would be at mental peace regarding payment of salaries, pensions and other benefits.

Punjab National Bank Budget reaction - PNB MD & CEO- Sh CH. S. S. Mallikarjuna Rao & Dr. Harsh Kumar Bhanwala, Executive Chairman, CIFL on the Union Budget 2021

New Delhi/ Hyderabad, Feb 1: Dr. Harsh Kumar Bhanwala, Executive Chairman, CIFL on the Union Budget 2021. "This is an infrastructure focused budget in urban and rural area with an emphasis on Capex. This will pay dividends in the long run. The professionally managed DFI to catalyze infrastructure financing is a huge boost for the sector. It is a much needed step to fill-in the financing gap and make it more organised. To enhance the infra pipeline, the sector requires a strong capital inflow. Further, an increased outlay for rural development, the RIDF will accelerate the infra growth for agricultural and allied activities."



They would be free of worries and able to concentrate on providing healthcare & be accountable.

The MCDs would not have to feed the proverbial "white elephant" anymore. Their revenue generation would be impacted very little while expenditure would come down substantially. General public would get better services and would have one agency less to deal with. Hopefully even courts wouldn't have to devote time in resolving the tussle between MCDs and Delhi government despite being ruled by different political parties.

All it needs is the will of the top officials of the government. Lt. Governor of Delhi should take the lead as he is constitutionally the head of Delhi's administration. He should ask Delhi government and MCDs to formulate a road map for this change. If it happens it would be a "game changer" in how Healthcare is delivered in Capital of India that will benefit all stakeholders specially the public.

Budget reaction from Banking and Agriculture sectors - Punjab National Bank and Netafim India - Union Budget 2021-22

New Delhi/ Hyderabad, Feb 1: We welcome the measures announced by Hon'ble Finance Minister in Union Budget 2021-22. The budget rightly strikes a reasonable balance between addressing the key pillars of Health & Well-being, Inclusive Development, Human Capital, Innovation and R&D, apart from laying the path for a robust economy by providing a major infrastructure boost. The array of measures announced are in line with people as well as market expectations and will go a long way to bring the nation back on track by boosting spending on infrastructure and rural development while fighting the pandemic through health focused measures.

As far as the financial sector is concerned, further recapitalization of Rs 20,000 crore for PSBs in the FY 2021-22 is a welcome step. The other measures which are expected to strengthen the sector are as under:

* Various measures have been announced on the infrastructure front, which are expected to take the economy into a new trajectory of growth. In addition to over a 34% increase in capital expenditure, new highway projects have also been announced.

* Setting up of a professionally managed Development Financial Institution will catalyze infrastructure funding.

* Creation of an ARC and Asset Management Company that will take over the stressed assets and sell to Alternative



Investment Funds (AIFs), is also welcome as it will help improve the health of the banking sector through impact on price discovery and improving competition in the market.

* The NCLT system will be strengthened and e-Courts will be adopted and alternate mechanism of debt resolution will be set up.

* The massive program for monetization of completed/ running projects will help in creating required resources through the instruments like INVITs.

* Other important announcements of bringing in the IPO of LIC, hiking the FDI limit in insurance increase to 74% from 49%, strategically divest 2 Public Sector Banks and 1 general

insurance company, are steps in the right direction.

The voluntary scrapping policy proposed for discarding old commercial vehicles will boost the automobile industry. The gross borrowing programme is also helpful to maintain the fiscal health of the economy, while providing necessary funding towards growth and development of the infrastructure.

"The Union Budget clearly highlights the Government's continued focus to modernize the Agri sector. We welcome the announcement of additional allocation of Rs. 5,000 cr to the Micro Irrigation Fund (MIF) under NABARD which now totals Rs. 10,000 cr. This is in line with the Government's vision of 'per drop more crop', and will help move closer to the target of micro irrigation coverage across 1 crore ha in five years, across the country. In order to improve the fund utilization, we request policymakers to remove the condition of disbursement (which is only against additional subsidy) and consider to make it available for the mandatory state share as well. The additional fund could keep the momentum up in states like Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Karnataka which are already in favour of the scheme, help restart in states like Andhra Pradesh and Telangana and bring newer states like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, etc. under its gamut."

BJP will form next govt in West Bengal

Vijayawada, Feb 1 (AMN): Slamming West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, Union Home Minister Amit Shah asserted that the TMC chief, under her leadership has done injustice to people of the State and has taken West Bengal backward in every field.

Shah made the statement while addressing a rally in Howrah virtually from New Delhi, ahead of the state assembly polls slated later this year.

This comes a day after former Trinamool Congress (TMC) leaders Rajib Banerjee, Baishali Dalmiya, Prabir Ghoshal, Rathin Chakraborti, and Rudranil Ghosh joined BJP. "Mamata Banerjee has taken West Bengal backward in every sphere. People of the State will never forgive her. Leaders of the Trinamool Congress and other parties are joining Bharatiya Janata Party. Mamata di will find herself alone by the time election happens. She has done injustice to people of State," Union Minister said.

"Mamata Banerjee has taken West Bengal backward in every sphere. People of the State will never forgive her," he

added. Further slamming Mamata and his nephew (TMC MP) Abhishek Banerjee, Shah said, "Modi government is committed to public welfare and Mamata Didi's government is busy in 'nephew welfare'. The welfare of the people of Bengal is not an agenda for them." Taking shots at the Bengal CM, Shah added, "Just as a large number of Trinamool Congress, Communist Party leaders, good leaders of the Congress Party are joining the BJP, you (Mamata) will be left alone to look back and no one else will be with you."

Amit Shah further promised to bring the benefits of the Ayushman Bharat Yojana for the people of Bengal. "After the BJP

government comes in, we will propose in the first cabinet that poor people all over Bengal get the full benefit of the Ayushman Bharat Yojana. Didi (Mamata Banerjee) you cannot stop the wave of change that has taken place inside Bengal," Shah added. While Shah addressed the crowd virtually from Delhi, Union Minister Smriti Irani in Howrah said that no patriot can stay in a TMC that "insults the slogan" of 'Jai Shri Ram'. "People will not support a political party which makes them fight among themselves and hates the Central government for its own profit. No patriot can stay for even a single minute in a party that insults the slogan of 'Jai Shri Ram'," said Smriti Irani.

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STATEMENT OF UN AUDITED RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER / NINE MONTHS ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 2020							
(Rs. In Lakhs)							
Sl. No.	Particulars	QUARTER ENDED			HALF YEAR ENDED		YEAR ENDED
		31.12.2020 (Un audited)	30.09.2020 (Unaudited)	31.12.2019 (Unaudited)	31.12.2020 (Unaudited)	31.12.2019 (Unaudited)	31.03.2020 (Audited)
1	Income from Operations						
	(a) Revenue from operations	0.02	32.71	38.20	88.21	109.57	194.33
	(b) Other Income	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total Revenue (1)	0.02	32.71	38.20	88.21	109.57	194.33
2	Expenses						
	(a) Cost of material consumed	-	-	-	-	-	-
	(b) Purchases of Stock-in-trade	-	13.55	12.53	34.03	68.53	152.69
	(c) Changes in Inventories of finished goods, Stock - in-Trade and Work-in-Progress	0.02	7.09	12.66	23.93	2.98	(22.63)
	(d) Employee Benefit Expenses	6.08	6.07	6.24	18.32	18.88	25.73
	(e) Finance Costs	0.38	0.07	0.16	0.68	0.63	0.82
	(f) Selling Expenses	-	0.24	0.21	0.62	0.45	0.55
	(g) Depreciation and amortisation Expenses	0.16	0.17	0.30	0.49	0.90	1.14
	(h) Other Expenses	4.72	2.57	4.64	13.49	16.17	24.38
	Total Expenses (2)	11.36	29.76	36.74	91.56	108.54	182.68
3	Profit/(Loss) before Exceptional & Extraordinary items and tax (1-2)	(11.34)	2.95	1.46	(3.35)	1.13	11.65
4	Exceptional items	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	Profit/(Loss) before tax(3-4)	(11.34)	2.95	1.46	(3.35)	1.13	11.65
6	Tax Expenses						
	(a) Current Tax	-	-	-	-	-	1.82
	(b) Deferred Tax	-	-	-	-	-	1.74
7	Profit/(Loss) for the period from continuing operations (5-6)	(11.34)	2.95	1.46	(3.35)	1.13	11.65
8	Profit/(Loss) from discontinued operations	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	Tax Expense of discontinued operations	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	Profit /Loss from Discontinued operations after tax (8-9)	-	-	-	-	-	-
11	Profit/(Loss) for the period (7+10)	(11.34)	2.95	1.46	(3.35)	1.13	8.09
12	Other Comprehensive Income						
	A (1) Items that will not be reclassified to profit or loss	-	-	-	-	-	-
	(2) Income tax relating to items that will not be reclassified to profit or loss	-	-	-	-	-	-
	B (1) Items that will be reclassified to profit or loss	-	-	-	-	-	-
	(2) Income tax relating to items that will be reclassified to profit or loss	-	-	-	-	-	-
13	Total Comprehensive Income for the period (11+12)	(11.34)	2.95	1.46	(3.35)	1.13	8.09
14	(comprising Profit (Loss) and other comprehensive income for the period						
15	Paid up Equity Capital(Face value of Rs. 10/- each)	1,025.08	1,025.08	1,025.08	1,025.08	1,025.08	1,025.08
16	Reserves excluding Revaluation Reserves as per balance sheet of previous accounting year						(800.64)
17	Earnings per equity share for continuing operations						
	(A) Basic	(0.11)	0.03	0.01	(0.03)	0.01	0.08
	(B) Diluted	(0.11)	0.03	0.01	(0.03)	0.01	0.08
18	Earnings per equity share for discontinuing operations						
	(A) Basic	-	-	-	-	-	-
	(B) Diluted	-	-	-	-	-	-
19	Earnings per equity share(for discontinuing & continuing operations)						
	(A) Basic	(0.11)	0.03	0.01	(0.03)	0.01	0.08
	(B) Diluted	(0.11)	0.03	0.01	(0.03)	0.01	0.08

NOTES:
1 The Un Audited Financial Results were taken on record by the Board of Directors in their meeting held on 30.01.2021.
2 Previous Year figures have been regrouped wherever necessary.

Place: Hyderabad
Date: 30.01.2021

for Hindustan Bio Sciences Limited
J.V.R. Mohan Raju
Managing Director

Andhra temple priest arrested for desecration of idol

Vijayawada, Feb 1 (AMN): Andhra Pradesh police on Sunday arrested the priest of a temple at Rajahmohendravaram for desecrating Subramanya Swamy's idol allegedly at the behest of two men with links to the Opposition Telugu Desam Party (TDP). M.Venkata Raju, husband of a former TDP corporator and Dantuluri Venkatapati Raju who is a former organising secretary of TNTUC, an affiliated body of TDP, were also arrested along with the priest Venkata Murali Krishna.

In the incident that took place on December 31 at Vinayaka temple, both hands of the idol were broken. On a complaint by the priest, the police on January 1 registered a case against unknown persons under section 448, 427, 295 and 153 (A) of the Indian Penal Code.

Police had constituted eight teams to investigate the case. The investigations revealed that it was none other than Venkata Murali Krishna, the temple's priest who desecrated the idol in return for money offered by two known members of the TDP, a police officer said. Accused with known links to a particular political outfit actively participating in the desecration of Hindu idols and the consequential propaganda run against the government by using images of idols on social media expose the malafide and alarming intent of TDP's leadership, apart from proving what the government has been reiterating time and time again, an official statement said.

Chief Minister Y. S Jagan Mohan Reddy has already accused TDP being the core conspirators behind temples related incidents in the state. He pointed out that nine such incidents were strategically executed around launch of important government schemes, with an intention to sabotage the same. One of the nine incidents listed by the CM was the desecration of a Subramanya Swamy idol in Rajahmohendravaram. The incident occurred on December 31 when government was in the process of distributing the 30 lakh house pattas to poor under its flagship housing scheme.

Will Modi Govt ever give Special Status to AP?

Vijayawada, Feb 1 (AMN): At the time of separating Telangana, the one main promise made to Andhra Pradesh was Special Category Status. The Congress which brought this up lost power at the Centre and lost its political existence in AP. In the 2019 elections, CM Jagan Reddy made Special Status a key issue and greatly embarrassed the TDP. After coming to power, Jagan Reddy lost no time to say that his Government would not bring pressure on the Centre but it would go on requesting for Special Status.

Now ahead of the Parliament session, once again, the Special Status became

one issue that both the YCP and the TDP were insisting on. Vijay Sai Reddy said that their party made a strong plea to the Modi regime to grant the Special Status. But the TDP MPs criticised that the YCP did not even dare to raise the topic in front of the Prime Minister. Analysts say that more knotty issues were there to say that the Central Government would fulfill any promise but not the Special Status.

Firstly, both the national parties, the Congress and the BJP, became politically irrelevant in AP just as they have been in Tamil Nadu. While TN is dominated by Dravidian politics, AP is dominated by

caste considerations. So, as long as the national parties would not have a stake in AP, they would not bother about its Special Status. The second reason was that both the YCP and the TDP were not able to bring pressure on the Centre.

The YCP's support in Rajya Sabha became crucial for the BJP but it was not demanding the Special Status for obvious reasons. At the same time, the TDP was also not able to expose this along similar reasons. TN parties might fight between themselves but they become united for their State's cause. That situation is not possible in AP.