

**Weekly Newsletter**  
**(January 20 – 26, 2020)**

Dear Reader,

Now we are barely a week away from the Union Budget 2020-21. NATHEALTH expects the government to provide further policy push to the healthcare sector. We had submitted our Pre Budget recommendations and suggested several measures to strengthen all the pillars of the sector which includes Ayushman Bharat (Health Insurance), Quality and Skilling, Digital Health among others. We are also proactively involved in highlighting our recommendations. Our efforts during the week were also reflected through media.

Healthcare leaders are being involved in presenting their views on Budget expectations. During our Annual Summit, we had created one and unified voice for the healthcare industry. Hence, our joint pre-budget recommendations with FICCI had received extensive media coverage with a focus on rationalisation of Goods and Services Tax (GST). Likewise, this week, Mint carried out views expressed by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) on GST and highlighted NATHEALTH President's views on yet another critical issue.

This week, Mint quoted Dr Sudarshan Ballal saying "The government needs to provide tax incentives for both existing and new projects. To spur investment in the health sector, the government could consider a tax holiday period of 15 years for hospitals. The length of the period of exemption needs to be longer, as new hospitals take at-least 5-7 years to start earning returns, after recovering interest and depreciation. For existing projects incentives can be given for 10 years, to support re-investment in capacity and technology upgrades."

This week also saw the rising threat of China Coronavirus. Because of the threat, the sector needs to be on high alert. Our members from providers segment should issue an advisory for the people to take preventive measures. Meanwhile, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has listed out steps undertaken to prevent the spreading of the China virus. This primer on the steps taken by the government came after China reported 41 coronavirus cases as per a WHO update.

Going forward, we will keep you updated on our efforts on advocacy with governments, Private-Public Partnerships, and several other critical issues concerning the healthcare industry.

Check out the newsletter to know what is happening in other segments of the healthcare sector. Follow us on twitter, LinkedIn and Facebook for real times updates.

<https://twitter.com/nathealthindia>

<https://www.facebook.com/nathealthindia/>

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Check out our previous newsletters [Here](#)

## **NATHEALTH Leadership Series**

### **[Health industry proposes zero rating GST on healthcare services](#)**

The health industry has sought a zero rate of goods and services tax (GST) for healthcare services and health insurance premiums. The Confederation of Indian Industry has said since GST is not payable on healthcare services, service providers are not eligible to avail credit on the input taxes paid by it.

## **Healthcare Policy Updates**

### **[Government issues advisory on Coronavirus](#)**

Amid the spread of a new SARS-like virus, novel coronavirus, which has already killed 17 and infected hundreds of people in the neighbouring China, the Indian government has issued a statement and a travel advisory

### **[Unhealthy affair: Book review - Make Health in India](#)**

Newspaper headlines such as 'India to be world's third largest economy by 2030' are otherwise heart-warming, but the country's poor health indicators surely dampen the euphoria.

### **[Budget 2020: What FM Sitharaman can do for health, life and motor insurance](#)**

This year's budget is very important for the insurance sector as in 2019, the industry witnessed several key announcements and regulatory changes across all sectors.

### **[Guaranteeing healthcare, the Brazilian way](#)**

As Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro visits New Delhi this Republic Day, one interesting field of cooperation to explore in the strategic partnership is healthcare.

## **Healthcare Industry Overview**

### **[8 Ways in Which India's Public Healthcare Can Change for the Better](#)**

It has been a rough end to 2019 for India's pharmaceutical industry. While like the rest of India Inc, companies in this sector have been bogged down by economic malaise, there are some sector-specific issues that concern my fellow CEOs.

### **[Davos 2020: Government should increase healthcare spending to 2.5% of GDP, says Alisha Moopen](#)**

Alisha Moopen, Deputy Managing Director, Aster DM Healthcare, talks about the theme of Davos, companies growth and expansion in India, expectations from the Budget and UAE acquisition among others during an interview

### **[Future in Artificial Intelligence \(AI\) in Healthcare Market by Verticals, by Technologies, by Components, Shares and Forecast 2020-2026](#)**

Global Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Healthcare Market 2020 research will help you to decide how the market will evolve, to make confident decisions to capture new opportunities.

## **Medtech Forum**

### [Indian Scientists Build App To Detect Tuberculosis Instantly With Just Sound Of Your Cough](#)

[Tuberculosis, often referred to as TB is one of the most dangerous diseases that's not just easy to spread but also takes a long time to get detected. As per WHO, India tops the number of patients suffering from TB -- around 26.9 lakhs in the year 2018.](#)

### [Global Ablation Technologies Market 2020 | Medtronic, AtriCure, Dornier MedTech, Boston Scientific, AngioDynamics, Lumenis, Abbott](#)

[The Global Ablation Technologies Market covers the latest market statistics, industry growth driving factors, size, share, trends, as well as Forecast.](#)

### [Kidney Stone Market: How Industry Witnessed Huge Improvement| Cook, Richard Wolf, Allengers, Lumenis, EMS, Dornier MedTech](#)

[Data Bridge Market Research has published a new report titled Global Kidney Stone Market reports provides 5 year pre-historic and forecast for the sector and include data on socio-economic data of global.](#)

## **Insurance Forum**

### [Hike in tax sop for health insurance premium sought in Budget 2020](#)

[With the rise in healthcare costs, the tax exemption limits can be further increased by 20% for self and dependent parents each.](#)

### [Reliance General launches a comprehensive health insurance plan with additional benefits; Check details](#)

[With this policy, policyholders will be able to more focus on their critical treatment, rather than worry about which room to choose against their insurance coverage.](#)

### [HDFC ERGO General Insurance to seek IRDAI nod to merge with ERGO Health](#)

[HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company has sought the insurance regulator's approval to merge with HDFC ERGO Health, following HDFC's acquisition of a nearly 51.2% stake in Apollo Munich earlier this month.](#)

## **Diagnostics Forum**

### [Industry opens bag of expectations from Union Budget 2020-21](#)

[The Union Budget for 2020-21 is all set to be presented on Saturday, February 1, 2020. What is likely to be announced and what not will be answered soon. Nevertheless, the industry is ready with its bag of expectations.](#)

### [India In Vitro Diagnostics \(IVD\) Market Outlook, 2025: Fully Automated Systems are Being Adopted, Increasing Number of Phase-III Clinical Trials](#)

[The market is immensely driven by the increase in the number of chronic and lifestyle-related disorders, increasing cancer incidences, growing awareness on the importance of early diagnosis and prevention, and improving access to healthcare facilities and diagnostic set-ups.](#)

### [Influenza Diagnostics Market Enhancement in Medical sector 2019 to 2025](#)

[The Recently Published Global Influenza Diagnostics Market Research Study With More Than 100 Industry Informative Desk And Figures Spread Through Pages And Easy To Understand Detailed TOC On Influenza Diagnostics Market.](#)