



EDITORIAL

The Upscaling Integration of the Private Sector in Meeting the National Healthcare Needs

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India's long-term development roadmap envisions a **developed nation by 2047**, with health as a central pillar. The focus is on **universal health coverage**, digital health transformation, equitable access, and global leadership in healthcare innovation. Corporate hospitals, already a strong pillar of tertiary and quaternary care, will be instrumental in bridging gaps across **infrastructure, workforce, innovation, and global health competitiveness**.

Expectations and Involvement of Corporate Hospitals

Expanding Access & Infrastructure

To establish **quaternary care centers** in tier-2 and tier-3 cities, reduce over-reliance on metros; build **centers of excellence** in oncology, transplant medicine, pediatrics, cardiology, and critical care & support the Government's Ayushman Bharat & PM-JAY schemes by partnering for high-end services.

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Workforce Training & Postgraduate Education

Corporate hospitals can be key **training grounds** under NBEMS/NMC, expanding postgraduate and fellowship seats; play a role in **critical care training**, simulation-based learning, and digital logbooks to meet future workforce demands; structured **mentorship and Entrustable Professional Activity (EPA)-based curricula** can be mainstreamed with corporate hospital–academic partnerships.

Digital Health & Precision Medicine

Drive adoption of **AI, digital twins, wearables, robotics, and tele-ICU networks**; scale up **biobanking and precision medicine platforms**, linking research with clinical care; and lead integration with **NDHM/ABDM (National Digital Health Mission/Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission)** for interoperable, Aadhaar-linked digital health.

Public Health & Community Outreach

Extend **preventive healthcare and wellness programs** beyond hospital walls

(school health, vaccination drives, lifestyle clinics); participate in **chronic disease management programs** using digital therapeutics; improve **emergency & trauma systems**, setting benchmarks in response times and outcomes.

Medical Tourism & Global Leadership

Position India as a **global healthcare hub**, with corporate hospitals leading inbound medical tourism; Ensure international standards in **clinical outcomes, safety, and patient experience**; Promote “Heal in India, Heal by India” by exporting

healthcare expertise and telehealth services.

Challenges & Safeguards

Equity—Avoid widening rural–urban and rich–poor gaps. Mandate CSR and PPP models for rural/underserved regions; **Affordability**—Align pricing with **insurance and PM-JAY reimbursements** to ensure inclusivity; **Quality & Standardization**—Strong accreditation (NABH, JCI) and transparent outcomes reporting; **Ethics**—Guard against over-commercialization; reinforce ethics, compassion, and patient-centricity.

Universal Health Coverage & Equitable Access

- Sustaining critical care CCUs in 2-tier cities through the STEP DOWN Model & Hand holding; Learnings from the COVID MODULE
- Centres of excellence in
 - Oncology,
 - Pediatrics,
 - Transplant medicine,
 - Cardiac &
 - Neurosciences
 - Critical care
 - Other emerging fields
- Workforce training: JOINT ACCREDITATION PROGRAMME
- Simulation-based learning: SKILL LABS
- Support the Government in AYUSHMAN B & PMJAY

The private healthcare sector currently contributes over **60–70%** of outpatient care and **50–60%** of inpatient care in India. Leveraging its resources, innovation capacity, and reach will be critical in achieving universal health coverage (UHC) and building a resilient, world-class health system.

Proposed Areas of Contribution

a) Infrastructure Development

- Establish multi-specialty hospitals and diagnostic centres in Tier 2 & 3 cities.
- Partner in building medical colleges and nursing institutions.
- Invest in telemedicine hubs and mobile health units for last-mile access.

b) Health Financing & Insurance

- Support health insurance penetration through low-cost products.
- Co-create risk-pooling mechanisms for catastrophic care.
- Work with the government to expand Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY coverage.

c) Capacity Building

- Joint training programs for doctors, nurses, paramedics, and public health professionals.
- Integrate skill development with National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) initiatives.
- Promote ethics, quality, and patient safety standards across all facilities.

Strategic Roles of Corporate Hospitals

- Expanding Access and Infrastructure
- Workforce Training and Postgraduate Education
- Digital Health & Innovation
- Public Health and Community Engagement
- Medical Tourism and Global Health Leadership

Way Forward

A multi-stakeholder platform may be considered under NITI Aayog or the Ministry of Health to design a **National Private Sector Engagement Framework** for Viksit Bharat 2047. This should include clear roles, incentives, and accountability mechanisms to ensure alignment with public health goals.

- **Green & Sustainable Hospitals:** Net-zero carbon healthcare infrastructure.
- **Research Leadership:** Corporate-driven clinical trials, innovation hubs, and AI–biobank ecosystems.
- **Global Benchmarks:** Match Mayo, Cleveland, and NHS in quality, outcomes, and innovation.

Corporate hospitals must evolve as **nation-building institutions** within *Viksit Bharat 2047*. Their role is not limited to service delivery but extends to **training the workforce, pioneering innovation, shaping public health, and driving India's emergence as a global healthcare**

leader. The following areas need to gather momentum: **Public–Private Partnerships (PPPs):** Mandate collaboration between corporate and public hospitals for universal coverage; **Green Hospitals 2047:** Encourage investment in **sustainable, net-zero carbon infrastructure**; **Research & Innovation Hubs:** Incentivize corporate hospitals to establish **AI, biotech, and precision medicine labs**; **Outcome Transparency:** Enforce reporting of treatment success rates, complications, and patient satisfaction metrics; **Global Competitiveness:** Position India's corporate hospitals alongside leading global institutions (Mayo, Cleveland & NHS).