

This document is a compilation of health issues that have been discussed as part of party manifestos for the Lok Sabha (national) elections of 2014 in India. We have also presented a comparison of the issues that have been included against the themes that were advocated by the Jan Swasthya Abhiyan (People's Health Movement, India).

Table I: Health issues in current political manifestos classified by Jan Swasthya Abhiyan Health Manifesto Themes (2014)

JSA Health Manifesto	Political Party Manifestos
1. Act on the Social Determinants of Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expanding drinking water and sanitation facilities, health centers, schools and hostels in the tribal areas. CPI-M; Ensure functional toilets for every school and every household. INC; Make potable drinking water available to all thus reducing water-borne diseases, which will automatically translate into Diarrhoea-free India. BJP;
2. Address the Gender dimensions of Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring equal remuneration for women workers in all areas of work , crèche facilities for all women workers; health insurance for women workers in the unorganized sector including home based workers CPI-M; Full maternity benefits to all women including six months' leave with full wage/salary with provision for extension CPI-ML; Launch focused intervention to improve the Child Sex Ratio, within an overall "National Strategy for Care and Protection of the Girl Child" from birth to adolescence. One Stop Crisis Centres in all hospitals to provide medico-legal and psycho-social aid in rape and domestic violence cases. INC;
3. Immediately reverse Caste Based Discrimination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring house sites, houses, sanitation, water, health, electricity connections to all scheduled caste families and scheduled caste inhabited areas in a special drive with budgetary allocations to close the continuing gap between SCs compared to other communities as far as housing and civic facilities are concerned. CPI-M;
4. Enact a Right to Health Act	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pledge to bring Right to Health and provide every Indian access to quality healthcare INC; Introduce a comprehensive legislation Right to health care AAP Comprehensive healthcare policy to address the complex healthcare challenges -BJP;
5. Increase Public Expenditure on Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public expenditure on health to be raised to at least 5% of GDP-CPI-M;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health expenditure will be increased to 3% of GDP. INC; • A commitment to spend a significantly higher proportion of the GDP for health care. TMC;
6. Ensure quality and assured availability of health care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five state-of-the-art health care vans – equipped with X-ray machines and other apparatus for carrying out tests like mammography, blood analysis – will be stationed in every district. Ensure universal coverage of routine immunization through campaigns and effective monitoring in districts throughout the country.INC; • Ensuring that every citizen of the country will have access to high quality health care, irrespective of whether they are rich or poor- AAP; • Initiate the 'National Health Assurance Mission', with a clear mandate to provide universal healthcare. BJP;
7.Stop both Active and Passive Privatization of health care services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reversing the trend of privatisation of health care services and outsourcing of services through PPPs :CPI-M ;
8. Training of Health workforce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create 60 lakh new jobs in the health sector by 2020.INC; • Investing in human resources by ensuring that all vacancies are filled at the public health centre; developing a well trained cadre of frontline grass route workers. AAP; • Will review the role of various professional regulatory bodies in healthcare and consider setting up an overarching lean body for healthcare.BJP;
9.Well Governed, Adequate Public Health Workforce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure priority for the setting up of new colleges to train doctors and nurses by Government-CPI-M; • Strengthen the primary health workforce including ASHA's ANM's AWW's And MPW's and Community Health Officers etc.INC;
10. Secure access to quality assured essential medicines and diagnostic services in all public health facilities, free of charge.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Controlling price of essential drugs by adopting a cost-based pricing formula; Ensuring uninterrupted supply of all medicines, free of cost, in all public health facilities-CPI-M • Primary health care infrastructure will be strengthened right upto the point of the community health centre and continuity of care would be assured.INC • A big push will be given to produce significantly larger number of doctors, nurses, paramedics, diagnostic technicians, trained dais, etc. TMC;
11. Participatory Planning, Community Participation and Community Based Monitoring of health services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening, expanding and reorienting the public health system so that it is accountable to local communities and guarantees free and easy access-CPI-M

12. Eliminate Corruption in the Public Health System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the accountability of public health systems towards its users by decentralization of funds functions and functionaries to the appropriate level of local government. AAP;
13. Reverse Exploitation by private hospitals and protect ethical private non commercial private providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulating the private health care sector, especially the corporate owned hospital sector through urgent and stringent measures :CPI-M
14. Absorb, over a period, existing publicly funded health insurance schemes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand the Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana INC; • Cover every Indian with health insurance on a compulsory basis in a time bound manner.TMC;
15. Eliminate the role of multi-lateral and bilateral financing agencies	
16. Build National and State level capacity for Health research and development:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Universal coverage of all unorganised workers, irrespective of poverty line stipulations, CPI-M;
17. Ensure access to essential and safe Drugs & Devices:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviving the public sector pharmaceutical units to harness them for production of essential drugs and vaccines CPI-M; • Guarantee that all essential drugs are available on a regular basis to public health facilities and made available free to cost to the people.APP;
18. Regulation of clinical trials and ethics in biomedical research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strictly controlling and regulating clinical trials and prohibiting unethical clinical trials by foreign pharmaceutical companies-CPI-M;
19. Ensure access to treatment and care of persons with mental illness(PWMI)	
Not included in JSA but included in political manifestos	
1. AYUSH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical profession shall be democratised and all medical systems shall be developed, promoting positive aspects from various traditions CPI-ML; • AYUSH and Local health traditions to have a significant role in public health care; greater public investment into research into these systems of medicine. APP; • Special focus will be given on preventative care and research on traditional medicines .TMC; • Set up institutions and launch a vigorous program to standardize and validate the Ayurvedic medicine.BJP;

<p>2. Elderly care</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welfare of Senior citizens-AIADMK • "Every senior citizen, below a certain level of family income, will be provided with free medical care. TMC; • Senior Citizens healthcare would be a special focus area.BJP;
<p>3. Compensation to front line workers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adequate compensation will be provided to Anganwadi workers, Auxiliary Nurse Midwives and ASHA workers. INC
<p>4. Defend patent Laws</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defend India's patent laws and ensure no dilution. CPIM
<p>5. ESI</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extending and recasting the ESI scheme to effectively protect workers' health. CPI-M
<p>6. Reorganize MoHFW</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reorganize Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in order to converge various departments dealing in healthcare, food and nutrition and pharmaceuticals, for effective delivery of healthcare services. BJP
<p>7. School Health</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School health program would be a major focus area, and health and hygiene will be made a part of the school curriculum. BJP
<p>8. Occupational Health</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Occupational health programs will be pursued aggressively. BJP
<p>9. E governance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilize the ubiquitous platform of mobile phones for healthcare delivery and set up the 'National e Health Authority' to leverage telemedicine and mobile healthcare for expanding reach and coverage and to define the standards and legal framework for technology driven care.BJP
<p>10. Malnutrition</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mission mode project to eradicate malnutrition. BJP
<p>11. Vector born Disease</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launch National Mosquito Control mission.BJP
<p>12. Sanitation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure a 'Swachh Bharat' by Gandhiji's 150th birth anniversary in 2019, taking it up in mission mode by converging resources and building around jan bhagidari: BJP • Create an open defecation free India by awareness campaign BJP • Set up modern, scientific sewage and waste management systems. BJP • Introduce Sanitation Ratings measuring and ranking our cities and towns and rewarding the best performers.BJP

AAP: Aam Admi Party; AIADMK: All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam; BJP: Bharatiya Janata party; CPI- M: Community party of India Marxist; CPIML: Community party of India Marxist Leninist; INC: Indian National Congress ; TMC: Trinamool Congress

Table II: Health issues in political manifestos classified by Jan Swasthya Abhiyan Health Manifesto Themes (2009).

JSA Manifesto 2009	Political party manifestos 2009
Food insecurity and malnutrition are particularly critical factors currently determining the ill health. PDS and all other scheme related to food security should be universalized with Urgency.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revamping existing programmes and launching a multi-pronged war against malnutrition across the nation, especially in the under-developed areas, with the help of State Governments.-BJP
Ensure 100% availability of safe water without discrimination in each village and habitation and access to safe hygienic toilets in home.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean drinking water is one of the best barriers against common but often fatal diseases.-BJP
Moratorium on GM cropping and import of GM foods till health concerns are satisfied and regulatory frameworks are in place	
Enactment of national health act	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up a National Regulatory Authority for private hospitals-BJP • Keep sectors like health, education, water resources, banking and financial services out of GATS; Press for review of the TRIPS agreement-CPI-M • Prohibiting indiscriminate clinical trials by big pharma companies; Strict control and regulations for clinical trials-CPI-M
Strengthen Rural health infrastructure through NRHM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive Impact of NRHM , Training of Accredited Social Health activist-INC • Strengthening and expanding the public health system to guarantee the delivery of all basic health services; Reversing the trend of privatization of healthcare through PPPs-CPI-M
Issues of Drugs medicines and patents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring regular supply of all essential medicines through the public health system; All essential drugs to be brought under price control; Hazardous formulations of medicines to be weeded out from the market. Reviving the public sector in the production of essential drugs and vaccines-CPI-M
Gender and health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow a non-coercive and gender sensitive approach for population stabilisation.-BJP • Ensuring equal remuneration for women workers in all areas of work; adopting social security measures for working women including maternity benefits, pension and

	health insurance for women workers in the unorganized sector including home based workers. - CPI-M
Child health and nutrition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preventive health care by way of inoculation against diseases and dissemination of information will receive focussed attention.-BJP
Not included in JSA but included in political manifestos	
AYUSH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Substantial investment will be made in promoting Ayurved as an alternative therapy. Full support will be extended to the promotion of Unani system of medicine and homoeopathy. The promotion of Yoga will receive all Government assistance.-BJP
Increase in Govt Spending	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) education and health; (ii) on agriculture and rural development; (iii) Infrastructure like power and railways; and (iv) municipal services in towns and cities.-INC Public expenditure on health to be raised to 5% of GDP-CPI-M
Insurance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana for every family living below the poverty line-INC Introduce a 'Health for All' scheme based on an innovative insurance policy through public-private participation-BJP
Pension Scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension scheme for elder citizens over 65 years of age and living below the poverty line.
Job and social security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Providing job and social security for anganwadi workers, rural health workers and mid-day meal workers by recognizing them as Government employees-CPI-M

BJP-Bharatiya Janata Party

CPI-M- Community party of India Marxist

INC- Indian national Congress

Manifestos of Political parties – 2014 Elections: Excerpts from the sections on health

1. CPI-M Manifesto

Introduction

The people of India are going to the polls to elect the 16th Lok Sabha. These elections are being held at a time when parliamentary democracy is under onslaught from various quarters. Increasingly democracy is being undermined by the power of big money in politics. Rampant corruption at the highest levels of government and public life is corroding the vitals of the democratic system. The neo-liberal policies pursued by the Congress-led government for a decade has denigrated parliament with policies being determined by a nexus of big business, foreign financial institutions and pliant ruling politicians and bureaucrats. The communal forces headed by the BJP-RSS combine are making a bid for power which poses a threat to the secular –democratic values of the Republic.

The people, who have always vitalized the parliamentary system with their deep faith and participation in the democratic system, have to act. They have to assert their rights. They should fight to bring about a change in the policies, for ending the corrupt rule, for strengthening democracy and secularism.

Health

- ☒ Public expenditure on health to be raised to at least 5% of GDP, which would include a significantly enhanced allocation from the centre
- ☒ Strengthening, expanding and reorienting the public health system so that it is accountable to local communities and guarantees free and easy access to a range of comprehensive health care services.
- ☒ Immediately and effectively reversing the trend of privatisation of health care services and outsourcing of services through PPPs.
- ☒ Extending and recasting the ESI scheme to effectively protect workers' health.
- ☒ Regulating the private health care sector, especially the corporate owned hospital sector through urgent and stringent measures.
- ☒ Ensuring uninterrupted supply of all medicines, free of cost, in all public health facilities; Hazardous formulations of medicines to be weeded out from the market
- ☒ Controlling price of essential drugs by adopting a cost-based pricing formula; Minimum Cost-MRP margin and removal of all taxes on medicines in National List of Essential Medicines(NLEM); reduce huge excise duty on medicines by reversing from MRP-based to Costbased collection.

- ☒ Reviving the public sector pharmaceutical units to harness them for production of essential drugs and vaccines.
- ☒ Strictly controlling and regulating clinical trials and prohibiting unethical clinical trials by foreign pharmaceutical companies.
- ☒ Removing US government's drug law enforcing agency USFDA's offices and officials from India; No enforcement of US law on Indian soil
- ☒ Defend India's patent laws and ensure no dilution
- ☒ Ensure priority for the setting up of new colleges to train doctors and nurses by Government. Public funding of such colleges as a priority in underserved areas such as in the north east and in poorer States. Training institutes to be set up for health workers.

Other

WTO and Trade Issues

Keeping sectors like health, education, water resources, banking and financial services out of GATS; Press for review of the TRIPS agreement

Working Class:

Improving the legislation on Unorganized Sector Workers and implement the recommendations of the Standing Committee on Labour in this regard; Special social security measures for migrant workers and plantation workers, amending the law to move away from rigid industrial and occupational classification of Boards with a single window access for all workers; Constituting national fund for unorganised workers with adequate budgetary financial allocations' Universal coverage of all unorganised workers, irrespective of poverty line stipulations, with minimum social security benefits including old age, **health** including maternity, and child care benefits, accident and life insurance

Ensuring equal remuneration for women workers in all areas of work; adopting social security measures for working women including maternity benefits, pension and **health insurance** for women workers in the unorganized sector including home based workers; crèche facilities for all women workers.

Agricultural Workers

Banning the use of poisonous insecticides injurious to health like endosulfan and ensuring **free medical treatment for agricultural labour suffering from their ill-effects.**

Children

Complete coverage of basic services, such as supplementary nutrition, immunization, pre school non-formal education, **regular health check ups and quick referral services.**

Scheduled Castes

In all spheres of basic human rights such as the universal right to health, education, employment, decent living conditions and security, it will promote special measures specifically for the advancement of the rights of scheduled castes including additional allocations

Ensuring house sites, houses, sanitation, water, health, electricity connections to all scheduled caste families and scheduled caste inhabited areas in a special drive with budgetary allocations to close the continuing gap between SCs compared to other communities as far as housing and civic facilities are concerned.

Scheduled Tribes

Expanding drinking water and sanitation facilities, health centres, schools and hostels in the tribal areas.

Minorities

Special initiatives in the sphere of employment, education and health to be undertaken targeting districts where the Muslim population is concentrated.

Persons with Disabilities

Making Health facilities accessible and free for persons with disabilities.

Urban Issues

Ensuring affordable basic services like drinking water, sanitation, power, transportation, ration shops, health facilities, schools, street lighting, etc., for the urban poor;

2. AIADMK manifesto

(Health achievements described in detail but no major issues included in manifesto except -

Welfare of Senior citizens

will take action to implement such a Comprehensive Medical Insurance Scheme all over the Country.

3. CPI ML Manifesto

The people's government shall ensure right to food, clothing, housing, education, **healthcare** and employment for all by incorporating it as fundamental rights in the Constitution and taking appropriate steps for its implementation

Social services and public distribution

The people's government shall **ensure universal and affordable primary health facilities for all**. Domination of pharmaceutical MNCs in the country's health sphere shall be abolished. Indigenous research and development of pharmaceutical industry shall be promoted.

Medical profession shall be democratised and all medical systems shall be developed, promoting positive aspects from various traditions. Corporatisation of medical education and using of Indian people as guinea pigs by MNCs with the connivance of the ruling classes shall be abolished.

Equality of Women

It shall ensure full maternity benefits to all women including six months' leave with full wage/salary with provision for extension if such need arises. It shall ensure community day-care facilities for all children in the pre-school stage with full guarantee for their healthcare and recreation.

4. Indian National Congress- Manifesto

Right to health

Every Indian has a right to quality healthcare. We will guarantee that through a Right to Health. Existing network of community health centres will be strengthened and mobile health care vans will reach every part of India.

- Pledge to bring Right to Health and provide every Indian access to quality healthcare. Health expenditure will be increased to 3% of GDP.

- Five state-of-the-art health care vans – equipped with X-ray machines and other apparatus for carrying out tests like mammography, blood analysis – will be stationed in every district.
- Strengthen primary healthcare infrastructure right up to the point of community health centres. Ensure functional toilets for every school and every household.
- Create 60 lakh new jobs in the health sector by 2020.
- Expand the Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana.
- HIV infections in India have decreased by 57%. We will reduce this further and provide comprehensive care and support to all those living with HIV/AIDS.
- Launch a focused programme to improve the Child Sex Ratio as part of National Strategy for Care and Protection of the Girl Child.

Womens empowerment and protection of children

- One Stop Crisis Centres in all hospitals to provide medico-legal and psycho-social aid in rape and domestic violence cases.
- Will work with women's Self-Help-Groups to distribute free sanitary napkins to adolescent girls.

Rural development and panchyati raj

- Adequate compensation will be provided to Anganwadi workers, Auxiliary Nurse Midwives and ASHA workers.

5. Aam Admi Party

India's Public Health System is in crisis. A common man doesnot have access to good quality health care facilities, and one serious illness can throw a family into a serious financial crisis. Aam admi party is firmly committed to ensuring that every citizen of the country will have access to high quality health care, irrespective of whether they are rich or poor. towards this APP will introduce

- i. Introduce a comprehensive legislation Right to health care enabling access to high quality health care for all citizens of the country irrespective of whether they are rich or poor. This would be along the lines of right o information act.

- ii. Improve the accountability of public health systems towards its users by decentralization of funds functions and functionaries to the appropriate level of local government.

- iii. Guarantee that all essential drugs are available on a regular basis to public health facilities and made available free to cost to the people. APP will incentivize states to adopt a transparent procurement system for bulk procurement of generic drugs.

iv. To improve the accountability of private health providers by making it mandatory for private hospitals to display and observe a charter of patients rights and to display the rates and charges of various services. Ensure that the private health care subsidized by the government honor their commitment to aam admi.

V. AYUSH and Local health traditions to have a significant role in public health care; greater public investment into research into these systems of medicine.

Investing in human resources by ensuring that all vacancies are filled at the public health centre; developing a well trained cadre of frontline grass route workers

6. Trinamool Congress

We believe in 'Health For All' in a time bound manner.

"Comprehensive change in providing health services to each and every village will be at the heart of this 'health for all' programme.

"Mother and child care will be at the heart of 'health for all'.

"Many more maternal care wards will be set up in different district and State hospitals.

"Every senior citizen, below a certain level of family income, will be provided with free medical care.

"Our commitment is to cover every Indian with health insurance on a compulsory basis in a time bound manner.

"Special focus will be given on preventative care and research on traditional medicines.

"A big push will be given to produce significantly larger number of doctors, nurses, paramedics, diagnostic technicians, trained dais, etc.

"A massive emphasis will be given to the entire vertical of health for all with a commitment to spend a significantly higher proportion of the GDP for health care.

7. Bharatiya Janata Party

Health Services - Increase the Access, Improve the Quality, Lower the Cost

India needs a holistic care system that is universally accessible, affordable and effective and drastically reduces the out of pocket spending on health. NRHM has failed to meet the objectives and will be radically reformed. BJP accords high priority to health sector, which is crucial for securing the economy. The overarching goal of healthcare would be to provide, 'Health Assurance to all Indians and to reduce the out of pocket spending on health care', with the help of state governments. The current situation calls for radical reforms in

the healthcare system with regards to national healthcare programs and delivery, medical education and training and financing of healthcare. Our government would focus on the following reforms in healthcare

- The last healthcare policy dates back to 2002. India now needs a comprehensive healthcare policy to address the complex healthcare challenges, keeping in view the developments in the healthcare sector and the changing demographics. BJP will initiate the New Health Policy.
- Initiate the 'National Health Assurance Mission', with a clear mandate to provide universal healthcare that is not only accessible and affordable, but also effective, and reduces the OOP spending for the common man.
- Education and Training - Will review the role of various professional regulatory bodies in healthcare and consider setting up an overarching lean body for healthcare.
- High priority will be given to address the shortfall of healthcare professionals.
- Modernize Government hospitals, upgrading infrastructure and latest technologies.
- Reorganize Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in order to converge various departments dealing in healthcare, food and nutrition and pharmaceuticals, for effective delivery of healthcare services.
- Increase the number of medical and para-medical colleges to make India self sufficient in human resources, and set up an AIIMS like institute in every state.
- Yoga and Ayurveda are the gifts of ancient Indian civilization to humanity and we will increase the public investment to promote Yoga and AYUSH. We will start integrated courses for Indian System of Medicine (ISM) and modern science and Ayurgenomics. We will set up institutions and launch a vigorous program to standardize and validate the Ayurvedic medicine.
- Move to pre-emptive care model where the focus and thrust will be on child health and prevention.
- School health program would be a major focus area, and health and hygiene will be made a part of the school curriculum.
- Focus on Rural Health care delivery.
- Senior Citizens healthcare would be a special focus area.
- Give high priority to chronic diseases, and will invest in research and development of solutions for chronic diseases like obesity, diabetes, cancer, CVD etc.
- Occupational health programs will be pursued aggressively.
- Utilize the ubiquitous platform of mobile phones for healthcare delivery and set up the 'National eHealth Authority' to leverage telemedicine and mobile healthcare for expanding reach and coverage and to define the standards and legal framework for technology driven care.
- Universalization of emergency medical services-108.
- Re-orientation of herbal plants board to encourage farming of herbal plants.
- Population stabilization would be a major thrust area and would be pursued as a mission mode program.

- Programme for Women Healthcare with emphasis on rural, SC, ST and OBC in a mission mode.
- Mission mode project to eradicate malnutrition.
- Launch National Mosquito Control mission.
- Poor Hygiene and Sanitation have a far reaching, cascading impact. We will ensure a 'Swachh Bharat' by Gandhiji's 150th birth anniversary in 2019, taking it up in mission mode by converging resources and building around jan bhagidari:
- Create an open defecation free India by awareness campaign and enabling people to build toilets in their home as well as in schools and public places.
- Set up modern, scientific sewage and waste management systems.
- We will introduce Sanitation Ratings measuring and ranking our cities and towns on 'sanitation'; and rewarding the best performers.
- Make potable drinking water available to all thus reducing water-borne diseases, which will automatically translate into Diarrhoea-free India.

Included in Compilation but not included in the tables

8. Nationalist Congress Party

HEALTH AND NUTRITION:

The Nationalist Congress Party, shall make sincere efforts to;

Reduce the maternal mortality and child mortality rates of their current rates.

To implement policies for prevention, diagnosis and treatment of HIV/AIDS.

Construction of Multi Specialty Hospitals in all districts of country .

Upgradation of Equipments and Technology in Government and Semi Government Hospitals.

Primary health centres would be provided with necessary doctors, staff and medical equipments and regular medicine supply.

To encourage the pharmaceutical industry to make life saving drugs more widely available and affordable by all who need them.

A new public health policy recognising the health rights of the people in general and the marginalized sections in particular would be introduced.

Food security for those belonging to weaker sections of the society to continue. Strengthening of Midday meals programme for school going children and Comprehensive schemes to combat malnutrition among the children.

Promotion of Generic medicine and to endeavour to make Life saving medicine available at affordable rates.

9. Biju Janta Dal

Health security for all

With the introduction of state of art free emergency ambulance services, health insurances for more than 55lakh farmer families and Odisha state treatment fund.

The BJD govt has set high standards in Health , It would be endeavour of the BJD govt to provide medicines through Odisha medical corporation and to make health insurance coverage universal covering every section of society both in urban and rural areas.

Assistance from Odisha State treatment fund and CMRF would be enhanced.

10. Janata Dal Secular

Health Insurance and retirement pension after 60 years.

Health & Family Welfare

1. New Health Care Delivery System: In order to ensure proper access to healthcare to all citizens we will introduce a “New health care delivery system” on the lines of NHS, UK.
2. Free distribution of Drugs: Medicines will be distributed freely to all citizens at all health care institutions of Karnataka provided the prescription is in the form of “ Generic Drugs”.
3. Opening of Generic drug stores: “ Private Pharmacists “ will be supported with 80 % subsidy for opening of Generic drug stores. Branded drugs will carry 14% VAT. Generic drugs will be tax free.
4. “ Karnataka State Medical Assistance Fund” will be created with funding from Government as well as Private bodies and Philanthropists. The fund will be managed by a Trust composed of “Padma awardees”. Fund will be used for the following purposes.
 - o All diabetic and BP affected patients will be provided free “ Generic drugs” on a monthly basis.
 - o All families up to Rs. 2,00,000 per annum income eligible for treatment of catastrophic illnesses such as cancer, heart failure, neurological diseases, kidney disorder etc. at any of the CGHS notified hospitals of the State at CGHS rates. The Scheme will be administered by the trust.

- o An assistance of Rs 6000 per month to all patients requiring Dialysis.
 - o An Assistance of Rs 6000 per month per patient will be provided for all cases of Dementia, Alzheimers, Parkinson Disease, Paraplegia & Hemiplegia, ALC, Ankylosing Spondylitis (Stage iv),Spastic cases.
5. New Medical and Para Medical Colleges will be opened in all districts. Fee assistance to students will be provided.
 6. New specialty hospitals will be established at Mysore, Hubli, Belgaum, Gulbarga for critical care of cancer, kidney and heart
 7. Healthcare services will be decentralized and district hospitals would be equipped with Cardiac intensive care unit, kidney dialysis centre and neonatal intensive care unit.
 8. Assistance to Mothers: A pregnant mother will be provided with an assistance of Rs 5000 per month for 6 months before delivery. and 6 months after delivery. Madilu Programme started by JDS led government in 2007 will be continued Crushes at village level. For every child between age of 8 months to 2 years, admitted to the crush on daycare basis an amount of Rs 1000 will be provided to the Stree Shakti Sangha.

Direct Involvement In healthcare: A new system of healthcare delivery on the lines of NHS UK will be introduced.

Healthcare of Disabled:

- i. Special hospitals for disabled: Special hospitals exclusively for the disabled will be opened at four regional revenue head quarters. In addition a separate wing exclusively for the care of the disabled will be established at all district hospitals.
- ii. Special rehabilitation centers: Special rehabilitation centers will be established in all districts.
- iii. Medical assistance: Life time free medical assistance will be provided for disabled.
- iv. Insurance for disabled: Both life insurance coverage as well as health insurance coverage will be provided to the disabled. Cashless health card will be distributed.
- v. Tax Concessions: All equipment used by the disabled persons will be tax free.

*Compiled by Deepak Kumaraswamy and Ravi Narayan, SOCHARA Bangalore
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