Dear colleague,

As you are aware, one of the key objectives of the National Health Policy (NHP) 2017 is “assuring availability of free, comprehensive primary health care services, for all aspects of reproductive, maternal, child and adolescent health and for the most prevalent communicable, non-communicable and occupational diseases in the population”. In line with this objective and as announced in the Budget Speech, it has been decided to upgrade Sub Centres and the PHCs into Health and Wellness Centres (HWCs) across the country, in a time bound manner for provision of comprehensive primary care closer to the community needs.

2. However, ensuring adequate resources for transforming the Sub Centres across the country to HWCs, including for infrastructural upgradation, could be a challenge for the health system, especially in light of multiple priorities in States. Yet, the need of the hour could be met through managing and utilizing opportunities and resources optimally across sectors.

3. In this regard, it is strongly suggested that you may tap into funds available with the State under different schemes for construction of HWCs or upgradation of existing SCs to HWCs to the extent possible.

4. You should also explore the possibility of using funds under MLA/MPLAD Scheme LAD Scheme for this activity for which the honourable Members of Parliament/Legislative Assembly/Legislative Council may be approached. It is further suggested that the NHM funds may be leveraged to encourage participation of MP/MLALAD/PRI/ ULB funds by providing 50% funds for construction/ upgradation from the NHM. Further, efforts also be made to tap funds earmarked by Corporates towards Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) for constructing HWCs or upgrading existing SCs to HWCs.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Manoj Jhalani)

Additional Chief Secretary (Health)/Principle Secretary (Health)/Secretary (Health) – All States and UTs
Copy to:
Mission Director, NHM – All States and UT