

HIGH PER CAPITA HEALTH SPEND NEEDED, BUT THAT ALONE ISN'T ENOUGH: DATA

In News:

- How well states do on health indices does not seem to be directly correlated to how much they spend per capita on healthcare.
- This fact was highlighted by the recently-released **National Health Accounts** for 2018-19 for 20 large states.

National Health Accounts

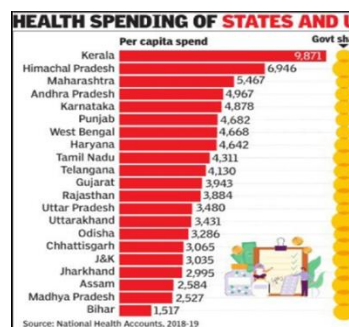
- National Health Accounts (NHA) provide financing information on health system which is very important for evidenced based policy making.
- It is a tool to describe health expenditures and the flow of funds in both Government and private sector in the country.
- It is published by the **National Health Systems Resource Centre** under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- NHA 2018-19 is the 6th round of estimates in the series of annual Health Accounts for India.

News Summary

- The recently-released National Health Accounts for 2018-19 has revealed the fact that high per capita health spend is needed, but that alone is not enough.

Key highlights

- **Health spending of States/UTs**



- **Health outcomes are not directly correlated to per capita spending by state**
 - The report showed that J&K had indicators nearly as good as those of Kerala, Himachal or Maharashtra with less than half the spending.
 - Tamil Nadu too achieved similar outcomes with much lower expenditure.

- It shows that often where total health expenditure is high, the bulk is borne by people out of their own pockets, as in Kerala and Maharashtra.
- However, in Himachal and J&K, the government accounts for more than half the total spending on health and 47% in Tamil Nadu too.
- **Spending is necessary, but spending alone is not sufficient**
- States with the least per capita spend — Bihar, MP and Assam in that order — have very poor health indices, which underlines that spending is necessary.
- However, Bihar does better on most indices than many states with higher levels of spending, showing that spending alone is not sufficient.
- **Government's share in total health spending**
- It was highest in Uttarakhand at 61% and Assam at over 55%, while lowest in UP and Kerala at about 25%.
- **Per capita spending**
- Per capita health spending is highest in Kerala, while lowest in Bihar.
- **Increased public spending on health**
- Almost all states have increased public spending on health from abysmal levels in 2004-05.
- Assam had the highest jump in share of public spending in the total health expenditure between 2004-05 and 2018.
- J&K saw the lowest increase in this period.

IBBI AMENDS NORMS: RESOLUTION PROFESSIONAL TO PROVIDE OPINION

In News:

- The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) has said that its latest regulations on corporate rescue allow administrators and lenders of bankrupt firms to invite bids for individual assets of the distressed company.

Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI):

- The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India was established in October, 2016 under the **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 (Code)**.

- The Bankruptcy Code consolidates and amends the laws relating to reorganization and insolvency resolution of corporate persons, partnership firms and individuals in a time bound manner.
- The Code aims to promote entrepreneurship, availability of credit and balance the interests of all the stakeholders.
- IBBI is a unique regulator. It regulates a profession as well as processes.
- It has regulatory oversight over the Insolvency Professionals, Insolvency Professional Agencies, Insolvency Professional Entities and Information Utilities.
- It writes and enforces rules for processes, namely, corporate insolvency resolution, corporate liquidation, individual insolvency resolution and individual bankruptcy under the Code.

Composition:

- IBBI is constituted by ten-member committee which includes –
 - Chairman,
 - Three members from Central Government who cannot be below the rank of Joint Secretary or equivalent,
 - One member is nominated by RBI (Reserve Bank of India) in this committee,
 - Rest five members are nominated by Central Government.

Powers & Functions:

- The IBBI has wide powers for administering the insolvency and bankruptcy regime in the country. These include –
 - Registration of insolvency agencies and professionals,
 - Levying fees from them,
 - Specifying the regulations and standards for agencies and professionals,
 - Monitoring and carrying out inspections and investigations on these entities etc.

News Summary:

- The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) has amended the regulations with the "objective to maximise value in resolution".
- IBBI will now allow administrators/lenders of bankrupt firms to invite bids for individual assets of the distressed company if they received no rescue plan for the entity as a whole the first time.

- This will ensure that better quality information about the insolvent company and its assets is available to the market, including prospective resolution applicants, in a timely manner.
 - The amendment also makes it mandatory for Resolution Professionals to provide an opinion on whether the company has been subject to avoidance transactions within 75 days of the start of corporate insolvency resolution process.
 - The Avoidance transactions are the financial deals done by a debtor, which put the creditors at a disadvantage or give preference to some creditors over others.
 - Such provisions would allow stakeholders to claw back lost value and would disincentivise stakeholders from entering into such transactions.
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NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE TOURISM MINISTERS

Development of tourism infrastructure and sustainable tourism will be the focus of a national conference of tourism ministers from various states and Union Territories that is being held in Himachal Pradesh's Dharamshala.



About:

- The conference is being organised by the Ministry of Tourism from September 18-20 to discuss issues related to development of tourism in the country, officials said.
 - The conference in Dharamshala will be attended by central ministers, tourism ministers from various states and UTs, governors, administrators and seniors officials of the central government, state governments and heads of tourism and hospitality associations.
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INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF MILLETS (IYOM) 2023

FAO side event on International Year of Millets (IYOM) 2023 was held during the Ninth Session of the Governing Body (GB-9) of the International Treaty (Food and Agricultural Organisation) being hosted by the Government of India in New Delhi.



About:

- The side event on IYOM-2023 focussed on celebrating Millets' farmers.
- To bring back millets and create domestic, and global demand and to provide nutritional food to the people, the Government of India decided to mark the National Year of Millets in 2018.
- In 2021, India proposed to United Nations for declaring 2023 as the International Year of Millets (IYOM).
- The proposal of India got support from 72 countries and United Nation's General Assembly (UNGA) declared 2023 as the International Year of Millets.

TYPHOON NANMADOL

Typhoon Nanmadol, one of the biggest storms to hit Japan in years, killed at least two people and brought ferocious winds and record rainfall to the west of the country, causing transport disruptions and forcing manufacturers to suspend operations.



About:

- Nanmadol made landfall near Kagoshima city late on Sunday before battering the western island of Kyushu and roaring onto the main island of Honshu on Monday morning.
- A typhoon is a mature tropical cyclone that develops between 180° and 100°E in the Northern Hemisphere.
- This region is referred to as the Northwestern Pacific Basin, and is the most active tropical cyclone basin on Earth, accounting for almost one-third of the world's annual tropical cyclones.

NUMALIGARH REFINERY

The Numaligarh Refinery Limited has planned to invest over 35 thousand crore rupees in the next five years. This amount will be invested in completing five ongoing projects including India- Bangladesh Friendship Pipeline.



About:

- The Numaligarh Refinery is located at Morangi, Golaghat district, Assam.
- Numaligarh Refinery Limited (NRL) is a Category-I Mini Ratna PSU of Government of India.
- It is a group company of Oil India Limited (earlier subsidiary of BPCL) and the present shareholding pattern of NRL is OIL-80.16%, Govt. of Assam (GoA)-15.47% and Engineers India Ltd (EIL) – 4.37%.
- In 2019, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved plans to increase the refinery's capacity to 9 million metric tonnes per year.

NATIONAL ASSESSMENT AND ACCREDITATION COUNCIL (NAAC)

The National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), which carries out quality checks or assessments of Indian Higher-level Educational Institutions (HEIs), courted controversy recently over the rating of the Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda and allegations of bribery in the process.



About:

- The NAAC, an autonomous body under the University Grants Commission (UGC), assesses and certifies HEIs with gradings as part of accreditation.
- Through a multi-layered process, a higher education institution learns whether it meets the standards of quality set by the evaluator in terms of curriculum, faculty, infrastructure, research, and other parameters. The ratings of institutions range from A++ to C. If an institution is graded D, it means it is not accredited.

How many institutions in India are accredited?

- There are 1,043 universities and 42,343 colleges listed on the portal of the All India Survey on Higher Education.
- As per the latest data from June 21, there were 406 universities and 8,686 colleges that were NAAC-accredited.
- Among the states, Maharashtra accounts for the highest number of accredited colleges at 1,869 – more than twice as many as Karnataka’s 914, the second highest. Tamil Nadu has the most accredited universities at 43.

PM PRANAM SCHEME

In order to reduce the use of chemical fertilisers by incentivising states, the Union government plans to introduce a new scheme – PM PRANAM, which stands for PM Promotion of Alternate Nutrients for Agriculture Management Yojana.



About:

- The proposed scheme intends to reduce the subsidy burden on chemical fertilisers, which is expected to increase to Rs 2.25 lakh crore in 2022-2023, which is 39% higher than the previous year’s figure of Rs 1.62 lakh crore.
- The scheme will not have a separate budget and will be financed by the “savings of existing fertiliser subsidy” under schemes run by the Department of fertilisers.
- Further, 50% subsidy savings will be passed on as a grant to the state that saves the money and that 70% of the grant provided under the scheme can be used for asset creation related to technological adoption of alternate fertilisers and alternate fertiliser production units at village, block and district levels.
- The remaining 30% grant money can be used for incentivising farmers, panchayats, farmer producer organisations and self-help groups that are involved in the reduction of fertiliser use and awareness generation.