

INDIA NEWS BUDGET 2023 INDUSTRY MARKET STOCK HEALTHCARE MONEY AUTO BLOCKCHAIN SME BRANDWAGON AL

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Budget 2023: No major announcements on health front; Allocations increase by meagre 12 per cent

Union Budget 2023: For the upcoming financial year, Rs 86,175 crore has been allocated to the department of health and family welfare while Rs 2,980 crore has been allocated to the department of health research.

Written by [Sushmita Panda](#)

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Union Budget 2023: Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Wednesday announced the Union Budget 2023-24. With a marginal increase, the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, has been allocated Rs 89,155 crores in Union Budget FY24. There is rise of 12.6 per cent as compared to the revised Budget estimate for FY23.

In the last year's budget, the Health Ministry received a 16 per cent hike. In a tweet on Wednesday, former Health Secretary Sujatha K Rao called it "the most boring budget for the health sector."

"I would call it the most boring Budget for the health sector," said former Union health secretary Sujatha K Rao. "None of the health schemes have received any significant hike in allocation and it indicates that year-on-year health is getting neglected despite a pandemic like COVID-19 having shaken the whole system badly."

The most disheartening bit, she said, was that the PMJAY scheme was not being expanded to include the "missing middle" — people who are outside any health insurance coverage — to bring them under financial risk protection. There was no major push toward strengthening the healthcare infrastructure of the primary healthcare system either, Rao added.

"The government is not taking any move to implement components in its own National Health Policy declared in 2017 that seemed futuristic," Rao said.

"OPPI would like to congratulate the government on the 2023-24 Union Budget tabled by the Finance Minister. The budget has brought much optimism to the healthcare and pharma sector by putting the focus on research and innovation. With the announcement of a new program for research in the pharma industry being formulated, there is immense potential for the sector to remain competitive in providing quality healthcare to its people. Moreover, the impetus for public-private collaborations showcases the government's emphasis on providing faster solutions to India's health challenges. As OPPI, we are looking forward to putting in all our resources and aligning with the government to achieve the objective of healthcare for all," **OPPI DG, Vivek Sehgal said.**

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