Key sectoral takeaways from National Budget for FY 2020-2021—Health, Nutrition, & Women

- Rs. 69,000 crore has been dedicated to the Health Sector
- A total allocation of Rs. 69,000 crore has been dedicated to the health sector, as compared to Rs 62,659 in 2019 - of this, around Rs 6,400 crore would be for Ayushman Bharat Yojana or Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) scheme, flat from last year.
- AB-PMJAY scheme would be expanded by setting up more hospitals in the tier-II and III cities under the public-private-partnership (PPP) route
- The Finance Minister (FM) highlighted that the ‘Beti Bachao Beti Padhao’ (BBBP) campaign has been a huge success, mentioning that gross enrolment of girls under the initiative is higher than that of boys
- Adding that women are a priority for the government, FM mentioned that it is imperative to lower the Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) in India
- An allocation of Rs. 35,600 crore for nutrition-related programmes has been made. Further, Rs. 28,600 will be dedicated to women-linked programmes.
- Anti-Tuberculosis campaign ‘TB Haarega, Desh Jeetega’ has been established, with an aim to eradicate the disease by 2025
- FM mentioned that more than 6 lakh Anganwadi workers are equipped with mobile phones to upload nutritional status of households
- The government will open hospitals in tier II and tier III cities covered under Aspirational Districts Scheme, which still do not have a Ayushman-empanelled hospitals
- Addressing the huge demand for teachers, nurses, paramedical staff, the government has proposed large hospitals to offer Diplomate of National Board (DNB/SNB) courses to increase specialist doctors
- The FM has proposed to expand government’s vaccination programme - Mission Indradhanush, to cover new diseases and vaccines
- Health cess on import of medical equipment has been imposed, since most of the medical equipment is now being manufacture in India itself.

Date: 3rd January 2020
Produced by Pratigya Campaign
Edited by Population First