



National Health Policy, 2017- A Milestone towards Health Security in India? Some Annotations

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ABSTRACT The new National Health Policy (NHP) announced by the government recently, has the same objectives of health attainment, as earlier stated, without specific timeline. The present government has been ambitious and aims to achieve many goals in quick time. The use of military words like “surgical” and “strategic” in government programmes and schemes including the present NHP, 2018, indicates towards more clarity and focus on the objectives. The present scheme amongst many other features has two novel feature of “strategic purchase of health care” from the private sector and making the health care a social movement. These are massive, long term objectives and unlike military precision, no time line is specified. By its own admission, the key government intervention by spending of 3 percent of GDP in public health facilities is to be achieved only by 2025. The social movement is still a longer-term goal involving decades of scaling and sustainment.