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## Industry leaders respond to PM Modi's Ayushman Bharat speech on Independence Day

By EH News Bureau on August 15, 2018

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**DR KM CHERIAN, CHAIRMAN & CEO, FRONTIER HOSPITAL**

Dr PR Sodani, Acting President, IIHMR University, Jaipur expressed his opinion, "As 70 per cent of individual healthcare costs form people's out-of-pocket expenses, a national insurance policy for 50 crore of India's most vulnerable sections, safeguards them from being nudged into catastrophic absolute poverty. The scheme is ambitious in scope but secures a steady source of payments to the healthcare sector and also makes universal healthcare more accessible for the poor. However, the contours of how this mission will be implemented remains to be seen. Without participation from the private sector for-profit and not-for-profit sectors, implementation of the scheme for providing quality healthcare may be difficult.