

Gulf Conflict Hits Medical Tourism; Indian Hospitals Tap Other Markets

West Asia drives a large share of international patients for Apollo, Fortis, Manipal and HCG

Alekhith K Johny

Bengaluru: Indian hospital chains are turning to Southeast Asia, Africa and Central Asia for new patients as the conflict in the West Asia slows the flow of medical travellers from the region, industry executives and experts said. For Apollo Hospitals, Fortis Healthcare, Manipal Hospitals, HealthCare Global Enterprises and several other chains, the West Asia accounts for a significant number of international patients. Many patients from countries such as Oman, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq and Yemen travel to India for cancer treatment, heart surgeries, transplants and orthopaedic procedures. Their arrival has slowed to a near standstill as the Iran war has crippled air travel in the region.

"The West Asia contributes roughly 20-25% of our medical value travel (MVT) revenue, with a large proportion of patients coming from markets such as Yemen and Oman. If disruptions persist over an extended period, this corridor could see some temporary moderation in volumes," Manipal Hospitals group chief operating officer Karthik Rajagopal told ET. In such instances of conflict, we usually diversify our efforts across Southeast Asia, Africa and certain developed markets, he said.

Fortis Healthcare was getting five to six new patients daily from the region, primarily Iran and Iraq, before the conflict intensified. "We are hoping things will return to normal in a couple of months. But until then, we are planning fresh market research and new market development," said Ganapati Hegde, cluster head for international markets at the hospital group. The chain will probably focus more on the African region and Europe, because of the long waiting times patients face to see doctors in West India, he said. India's \$7.6 billion MVT industry relies heavily on patients from the West Asia

said Aryaman Tandon, managing partner for healthcare and life sciences at Praxis Global Alliance, a management consulting and advisory firm. "India's cost advantage is a key driver, with major surgeries 60-80% cheaper than in the West Asia," he added.

The impact goes beyond just fewer patients. West Asian patients typically stay in premium rooms, undergo complex procedures and pay in foreign currency, making them among the most profitable for Indian hospitals.

"Even a temporary disruption can materially impact the revenue mix, because a small number of such patients contribute disproportionately to profits," said Sallik Kallapur, managing director of market intelligence firm ARKS Knowledge Consulting. The 500-plus bed KIMSHEALTH AI-Shifa super-specialty hospital in Kerala's Malappuram district said its international revenue could take a hit if the conflict drags on, since most of its foreign patients come from the Middle East. The hospital expects a 10-15% drop in revenue if the situation does not improve, said chairman P. Umesh Hajji.

The West Asia accounted for nearly 18% of total foreign medical arrivals in India in 2024, after South Asia and Africa, according to the tourism ministry's Tourism Data Compendium 2025 report.

LOOKING BEYOND GULF

If the crisis persists and travel disruptions continue, hospitals are likely to focus more on diversifying their international patient sourcing towards regions such as Africa, Central Asia and neighbouring South Asian markets, said Tandon. Many providers are also strengthening teleconsultation and second-opinion services, allowing patients to initiate consultations remotely and travel only once the geopolitical situation stabilises. Flight connectivity is a major concern. Several West Asian air ports also serve as stopover points for patients flying in from other markets such as Africa and Central Asia. If those routes are disrupted, hospitals could lose patients from two regions simultaneously. "We will approach the government to add more direct flights from other countries as connecting flights often via Gulf get cancelled," Fortis Healthcare's Hegde said.

'Tsunami of Obesity, Diabetes Next Biggest Threat to Global Health'

ET Q&A

The world's biggest health threat may not be the next virus but a 'tsunami' of obesity and diabetes, warned Peter Plot, the world-renowned virologist who discovered Ebola and led the global fight against HIV/AIDS. In an exclusive interview with Rika Bhattacharya, Plot said the rapid rise of metabolic diseases is becoming a global epidemic, with countries such as India particularly vulnerable as diabetes rates surge. Plot, special adviser to the EU on health security and EU Chief Scientific Advisor on Epidemics, was in Hyderabad last month to attend the life sciences and healthcare conference BioIndia 2026. Plot, an independent director of Bioclin Biologics, highlighted the need for regulatory reform to accelerate biomedical innovation, and for deeper research ecosystems in countries such as India. He added that climate change will reshape infectious-disease patterns. Edited excerpts:



on cheap manufacturing, innovation is also needed. However, these drugs alone will not stop the epidemic if people continue to be surrounded by unhealthy food and poor lifestyle choices.

What strategic priorities should India focus on in vaccines and biopharma innovation?
India has done a fantastic job in high-quality, lower-cost manufacturing. Innovation has been strong on the engineering side. Now, with the human capital and strong academic institutions, it is time to push further on discovery and innovation. For that, an ecosystem linking research institutions, academia, industry and investors is essential. The ideas and talent exist, but they need to be brought together with regulatory certainty and investment.

FOR FULL REPORT, GO TO www.economictimes.com

How do you assess the world's current pandemic preparedness? Are we genuinely better prepared now than before Covid-19?
On a technical level, we are much better prepared. One of the big lessons from Covid was the power of innovation, and we developed vaccines in record time. The regulatory environment also demonstrated that it can keep pace with innovation. In a few months, we had vaccines - something that normally takes years - not because of shortcuts, but because everyone was doing their job. That's a big lesson because you wonder if it could happen then, can we 'twice it' now? For India, that's a fantastic rise in harmonisation, because in China it takes only 30 days to gain approval for the next trial stage, whereas here it takes months. In Europe, we face a similar issue. We have better platforms, better technology, but whether we are better prepared as societies, I am not sure. In Europe and the US, there is mistrust - not only in vaccines, but also in technology and government.

What emerging health threat do you think the world is underestimating right now?
The biggest health threat is really a tsunami of diabetes and obesity. I am part of a Lancet Commission that examined the major health threats for the rest of the century, and number one was obesity and diabetes. When you consider that in a state like Kerala already about 25% of adults have diabetes, you see how fast it is spreading. It is not only India - it is global. For me, it is an epidemic, a real tsunami.

How do you see the new generation of anti-obesity drugs such as GLP-1 therapies?
They are enormous blockbuster and clearly meet a huge demand. But most people who need these drugs do not have access, they are expensive. Patents will expire soon, and this is only the first generation. There is a lot of innovation happening, including in India, to develop oral versions rather than injections. Here again, there will be competition between China and India for mass production. But I would not focus solely

पंजाब एण्ड सिंध बैंक
(भारत सरकार का उपकारक)
पंजाब एण्ड सिंध बैंक, गुरगाँव
दूरभाष: 7055095562 ई-मेल: p0254@psb.co.in

PUNJAB & SIND BANK
(A Government of India Undertaking)
Branch: Pilibhit
Tarakpur Road, Pilibhit
Ph: 7055095562, E-mail: p0254@psb.co.in

Annexure-IV
1. **M/s Anand Prakash Contractor Prop: Anand Prakash (Borrower)** Add: Vill- Simariya Gosu Po-Bhikaripur Tehsil & Dist- Pilibhit U.P. 262001
2. **M/s Anand Prakash S/o Bhupal Singh (Borrower/Mortgagor)** Add: Moh- Subhash Nagar Colony, Near TV Tower, Tehsil & Dist- Pilibhit U.P. 262001
3. **Sh. Tej Bahadur S/o Shyam Charan (Guarantor)** Add: Moh- Godavari Estate Civil Lines, Tehsil & Dist- Pilibhit U.P. 262001

Dear Sir/Madam,

REG: SALE OF SECURED ASSETS UNDER SARFAESI ACT, 2002

Name of the Account: M/s Anand Prakash Contractor A/c No-02541300001166

This is to inform you that pursuant to the possession taken by the undersigned as Authorized Officer under SARFAESI ACT, 2002 on 04.01.2024 vide possession notice dated 04.01.2024 for recovery of the secured debts of Punjab & Sind Bank- Pilibhit (P0254), amounting to Rs. 76,798.50 (Rs. Seven Lac Sixty Seven Thousand Nine Hundred Eighty Two and Fifty Paise only) and interest w.e.f. 01.06.2018 and other charges from M/s Anand Prakash Contractor Through Anand Prakash S/o Bhupal Singh, the undersigned intends to sell the following secured assets for recovery of the entire dues for which necessary steps including publication in Newspaper have been taken/are being taken.

Secured Assets:

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Secured Assets: Detail of the mortgaged immovable property as under

Equitable mortgage of the Residential property Measuring 126.61 SQM situated at Mohalla Subhash Nagar, Near TV Tower Tehsil & District- Pilibhit Belongs to Anand Prakash S/o Bhupal Singh Vide Bahi No. 1, Zild No-1632, Page No-363 to 374, Serial No-4104, Registered on 21.05.2002 in the Office of Sub Registrar Pilibhit U.P. **Property Bounded North:** Jalebi Devi, **South:** Rasta, **East:** Vilaso Devi, **West:** Sanjay Kumar

Date: 07.03.2026 Place: Pilibhit Authorised Officer

पंजाब एण्ड सिंध बैंक
(भारत सरकार का उपकारक)
Punjab & Sind Bank
(A Government Of India Undertaking)
Where service is a way of life

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Liquidation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. [APPENDIX-IV-A]

E-Auction Date & Time: 25-03-2026 & 11:00 Am to 01:00 PM **Last Date of EMD and Document Submission: 23-03-2026 Upto 5:00 PM.** **Property Inspection Date & Time: 23-03-2026 & 10:00 AM to 04:00 PM**

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the secured Creditor, the symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Punjab & Sind Bank, Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" for realization of Bank's dues by sale of the said properties/Asset, secured creditor from respective borrower(s) and guarantor(s). The reserve price and earnest money deposit will be as mentioned in the below attached the respective properties/Assets. The sale will be done by the undersigned through e-auction platform provided at the website: <https://banknet.com/>.

DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES		Demand Notice date & Outstanding Amount		Reserve Price	QR code for property photos/videos	QR Code for location of property	QR code for service provider
Sr. No.		Name of Branch & Name of the Borrower/Guarantor		EMD Bid Increase			
1.	BO-Civil Line, Bareilly (B0235)	Property No.1: Part of house bearing no 264-B, measuring 63.87 Sq. Mtr in the name of Smt. Kamla Devi W/o Rajesh Kumar situated at Bhikaripur Kh. Sale Deed Dated 10-04-2013 Book No.-1, vol no-5667, pages 383-404 at S/o-4713 in the office of sub registrar Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh		25-05-2021	Rs. 42,91,000.00		
		Bounded Property No.1 - East- House Om Avtar Gupta, West- Rasta Gali no 10 Feet, North- Rasta Gali no 06 feet, South- Rest house Shakuntala		Rs. 18,81,938.66 + interest & other charges w.e.f. 01.04-2021	Rs. 42,91,000.00		
2.	BO-Pilibhit	Property No.2: Part of house bearing no 264 - B, measuring 31.935 SqM in the name of Rajesh Kumar S/o Deendayal situated at Bhikaripur Kh Bareilly. Sale Deed Dated-06.01.2014 Book no-1 Vol. no-6210, pages from 1 to 14 serial no 183 in the office of Sub Registrar Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh		07-06-2018	Rs. 24,95,000.00		
		Bounded Property No 2 East-House of Om Avtar Gupta, West-Rasta 08 feet, North - House of Smt. Kamla, South-House Ashok Kumar		Rs. 7,67,982.50 + interest & other charges w.e.f. 07-06-2018	Rs. 24,95,000.00		

NAME OF AUTHORIZED OFFICER : SH. ROHIT VERMA, CONTACT NUMBER :- 8279812878 FOR CIVIL LINES, BAREILLY BRANCH
NAME OF AUTHORIZED OFFICER : SH. RADHEY SHYAM PRABHAKAR CONTACT NO. 84009-79711 FOR PILIBHIT BRANCH

EMD TO BE TRANSFERRED BY BIDDER IN THEIR OWN WALLET PROVIDED ON E-AUCTION PORTAL I.E. <https://ebkray.in/BYNET/RTGS/CHALLAN>, DETAILS OF ACCOUNT IN WHICH REMAINING AMOUNT AFTER EMD IS TO BE DEPOSITED THROUGH RTGS/NEFT: A/C NAME- NEFT PARKING ACCOUNT; A/C NUMBER- 8001504000073; FOR DETAILED TERMS & CONDITIONS OF THE SALE, PLEASE REFER TO <https://punjabandsindbank.com/in/module/sarfaesi-list> & <https://banknet.com/>

This notice is also to be treated as 15 days statutory sale notice to borrowers and Guarantors (L/Rs) Under Rule 8(6) Security Interest (Enforcement), Rules-2002.

Date: 09.03.2026 Place: Bareilly, Pilibhit Authorised Officer Punjab and Sind Bank

SDAL Invests \$1.4B in DeepTech Def Manufacturing

Manu Pabby

Nagpur: The Solar Group has announced a \$1.4 billion push into DeepTech manufacturing, which will include robotics and UAV ecosystem capable of producing over 10,000 military drones annually at the MIHAN SEZ in Nagpur. The investment, cleared by the Maharashtra government under the mega sector policy, will be deployed within the next four years, marking the group's transition from explosives and ammunition to high-technology defence systems and automation. The ground-breaking ceremony for the new facility, which is adjacent to the air-

port and spread over 289 acres, was carried out on Saturday by Union minister Nitin Gadkari and Maharashtra chief minister Devendra Fadnis. SDAL described the upcoming facility as an AI-powered Industry 5.0 ecosystem integrating advanced robotics, intelligent automation and sustainable human-centric production lines. Solar Defence and Aerospace Ltd (SDAL), the group's defence arm, plans to begin production within a year, with a target capacity of 10,000 drones of different sizes, 1,000 humanoid robots and 50 medium altitude long endurance (MALE) UAVs annually.

New facility at MIHAN to roll out 10,000 robots annually

NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY

E-tender is invited by Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (G.N.E. Railway) Izanagar for & on behalf of the President of India for the following works:
S.No.01:- Open E- Tender Notice No. 12N-Elect-OT-2026, Date:05.03.26
Description of work:- Zonal Maintenance work of Electrical assets of Zone-I under Kargil & Mahura depot, for year ending December 2026. Jurisdiction of zone-I: PT-KS-JMTJ and KS-Kachhi had sections of Division of N.E. Railway. Approximate tender Value in Rs.: 5,82,74,754.92 Earnest Money in Rs.: 1,16,50,00.00 Cost-Material Paper in Rs.: 25,000.00 Closing Tender: 26.03.2026 at 17.00 hours. Completion time from the date of issue of letter of acceptance: 09 months.

S.No.02:- Open E- Tender Notice No. 12N-Elect-OT-19-2026, Date: 05.03.26 Description of work:- Zonal Maintenance work of Electrical assets of Zone-I under Fatehpur & Kannauj depot, for year ending Dec-2026. Jurisdiction of zone-I: CPA-KJN-FDZ DRD-Narhari sections of Division of N.E. Railway. Approximate tender Value in Rs.: 62,76,557.57 Earnest Money in Rs.: 1,25,500.00 Cost of tender Paper in Rs.: Nil. Type of tender: Open Tender, Date & time of closing Tender: 26.03.2026 at 17.00 hours. Completion time from the date of issue of letter of acceptance: 09 months.

Manual offers are not allowed against this tender and such manual offer received shall be ignored. The tender can be viewed at web site <http://www.irops.gov.in>. The tender/bidders must have valid Digital signature and must have registered on IREPS portal. All relevant papers must be uploaded at the time of participating in e-tendering. The bidders are advised to periodically check for online corrigendum issue, if Any. No separate publication in newspaper shall be issued. Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer (G) CPKJN-236

Never travel on roof and foot boards

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice

Tender No: 31SEPHCTSR/2025-26
Jai Jawan Mission - Pavarty Water Supply Scheme - Phase II - R/WPM from Thrithala pumping Station to mudavayur WTP/interconnection work. Supplying and laying leading pipe from well to collection chamber & Clear Water gravity main from Mudavayur (Thrithala) to Kottanad-Pipeline Work. EMD: Rs. 5,00,000/- Tender fee: Rs. 16540/- Last Date for submitting Tender: 07-04-2026 03:00 pm. Phone: 0487-2423230 Website: www.kwa.kerala.gov.in

Sd/- Superintending Engineer, PH Circle, Kochi

KWA-JB-GL-6-73-2025-26

KARNATAKA STATE ELECTRONICS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
No. 59, 1st Floor, Kumara Park West, Railway Parallel Road, Seshadripuram, Bangalore - 560020.

No. KSDEC/P449/2025-26 Date: 07.03.2026

E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

As per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and 2000, Karnataka State Electronics Development Corporation Limited (KEONICS), Bengaluru invites tender of 10 days through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal 'Tender for Empanlement of Vendors for Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning and Warranty of Printers at Karnataka State Electronics Development Corporation Limited (KEONICS) for a period of 01 Year (Call-6)'. The information regarding the tender is made available at <https://kpp.karnataka.gov.in>. For any tender related queries or more information, Bidders may contact KEONICS during office hours. (Telephone Number 080-2222 5645).

Sl. No.	Tender Notification No.	Details of Tender	Last date to submit the tender
1	KEONICS/ 2025-26/ NO.0299/ Call-3	Tender for Empanlement of Vendors for Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning and Warranty of Printers at Karnataka State Electronics Development Corporation Limited (KEONICS) for a period of 01 Year (Call-6).	17.03.2026

DIPR/CP/6079/SA/2025-26 Sd/- Director (Finance)

Bihar State Milk Co-Operative Federation Ltd.
DAIRY DEVELOPMENT COMPLEX, P.O. - BIHAR VETERINARY COLLEGE, PATNA-800014 (BIHAR)
E-Mail: engineering@confedpatna@gmail.com Website: www.sudha.co.in

(Through e-tendering mode only on website-www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in)
Notice Inviting Tender
NIT No.: Confed-Eng-1385 Date: 06/03/2026
1.0 Name & address of advertiser: Managing Director, Bihar State Milk Co-operative Federation Ltd., (COMFED), Dairy Development Complex, P.O. - B.V. College, Patna - 800014. 2.0 Bid submission start date: 07.03.2026 Saturday on www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in 3.0 Date & time of pre bid meeting: 11.03.2026 (Wednesday) at 11.00 noon at COMFED Hq. Dairy Development Complex, P.O. - B.V. College, Patna-800014. 4.0 Bid submission End date and time by the bidders: 21.03.2026 (Saturday) up to 17.00 hours on www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in 5.0 Last date, time & place for submission of tender instrument of EMD etc. as allowed in tender: 23.03.2026 (Monday) up to 15.00 hours at COMFED Hq. Dairy Development Complex, P.O. - B.V. College, Patna-800014. 6.0 Date & time & place of opening of TENDER commercial bid (Bid Part -1) : 23.03.2026 (Monday) up to 15.30 hours on www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in 7.0 Date & time of opening of price bid : Date & time will be communicated later subsequent to approval of technical commercial bid. Place - www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in 8.0 Validity: 180 Days (One hundred eighty days) 9.0 Details of work:

Sl. No.	Name of the work/item	Estimated amount	Cost of tender document	Earnest money to be deposited	Bid processing fees to be paid through on line (Non refundable)	Completion period
01	Design, Construction, Supply, installation, testing and commissioning of 30 MT Fully Automatic Powder Plant at Dairi Complex, under S.M.J. Area as per technical specification and BOQ of tender document on turnkey basis.	₹ 74,37,44,638.00	₹ 10,000.00	₹ 148.75 lakh	As per E-proc 2	Eighteen (18) Months
02	Design, Construction, Supply, installation, testing and commissioning of 30 MT Fully Automatic Powder Plant at Sitamarhi under T.M.L.M. Muzaffarpur as per technical specification and BOQ of tender document on turnkey basis.	₹ 74,37,44,638.00	₹ 10,000.00	₹ 148.75 lakh	As per E-proc 2	Eighteen (18) Months
11.0 For participation in the above e-tender process the bidders are required to get themselves registered as per details given at www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in so that the user ID, Password and digital signatures are issued to them. 12.0 Tender Document can be seen and purchased on web site www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in . Any modification/instrument in tender will be notified on e-portal. The Managing Director, COMFED reserves the right to reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason. AGM (Engg.)						

Zonal Office, Bareilly
97/2, Tulasherpur, Pilibhit Bypass Road, Bareilly U.P. - Pin Code 243122
Phone : 0581-2510512 E-mail : zo.bareilly@psb.co.in