

Pre-budget expectation quote

"India is a country of over a billion people and has many key areas to focus on including healthcare, education, agriculture and employment amongst others. Currently, India spends less than \$100 average per person on healthcare, which is amongst the lowest across the world.

While the government has taken positive steps over the last few years in ensuring universal healthcare for its citizens. Ayushman Bharat is a good step in the right direction, however, inclusion of tertiary care is critical to making it beneficial overall. We also expect more clarity on the policy front for healthcare to benefit the patients and hospitals alike in order to ensure quality treatment and clinical excellence.

Cancer is a heavy burden on our society and thereby the economy. We anticipate the government take cognizance and increase taxes on tobacco and related products to curb their consumption. Overall, we are optimistic about the government proposing tax cuts for both capital gains as well as income tax. This should help revive the economy and improve consumer spending which is good for businesses especially startups". - **Rashie Jain, CEO & CO-founder of Onco.com.**



"India is grossly under insured. In terms of health insurance, the budget can increase the tax incentives for this segment. Increasing the Foreign direct investment from the current 49 percent to 74 percent for the insurance industry would help bring foreign investment to India and go a long way in increasing the insurance penetration. Some tax incentives for Home Insurance will also be welcomed." - **Pankaj Arora, MD and CEO of Raheja QBE General Insurance**



"The Government should look at reviving consumption to help accelerate growth. The benefits available under Section 80 C can be potentially revised upwards as the Rs. 200,000 limit has remained static for a long time now.

This would bring it in line with the increase in income over the years. Changes to the Long Term Capital Gains tax could help improve sentiment in the equity markets. Spending on Infrastructure is the key to reviving growth. This should be driven by both – public and private investments. The markets understand that revenue growth was been below expectations and would



not take it too amiss if the Government breaches the fiscal deficit targets so long as the increased expenditure is productive and goes to building infrastructure." - **Rajat Jain, CIO, Principal Mutual Fund**