



PM ADDRESSES SPECIAL SESSION OF PARLIAMENT IN LOK SABHA

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed a Special Session of Parliament in Lok Sabha on 18th September 2023, marking the occasion as the parliamentary journey of 75 years in the old Parliament Building before shifting to a newly inaugurated building. The Special Session took place from the 18th to the 22nd of September 2023. The session provided a platform for the Prime Minister to communicate important developments, policies, and initiatives to the nation. During his address, Prime Minister Modi highlighted key aspects of the government's agenda and its commitment to addressing pressing issues that our country is facing. He discussed various policy measures aimed at fostering economic growth, social development, and national security.

The Prime Minister's speech also touched upon international relations, emphasizing India's role on the global stage and its commitment to strengthening diplomatic ties with other nations. He restated the importance of India's place in the international community and its dedication to promoting peace, stability, and cooperation. Furthermore, Prime Minister Modi's address highlighted the government's commitment to parliamentary democracy and the spirit of cooperation among different political parties. He called for constructive debate and collaboration in addressing the nation's challenges and achieving its goals.

LANDMARK WOMEN'S RESERVATION BILL PASSES IN PARLIAMENT, PAVING THE WAY FOR GENDER EQUALITY IN POLICY MAKING

In a momentous development during a special Parliament session, on September 20, 2023, the Lok Sabha passed a historic Bill with near unanimity to amend the Constitution and provide one-third reservation to women in the Lok Sabha and State Assemblies, 27 years after it was first introduced in Parliament. Subsequently, on September 21st, 2023, the Rajya Sabha also cleared this landmark bill, paving the way for it to be presented to the President for her assent, officially becoming the Constitution (106th Amendment) Act.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi hailed it as a significant step towards greater women's political participation. With 454 members supporting the Bill, the required majority was easily achieved. The voting process was manual and took almost two hours. The bill is a step closer to becoming law, signaling a clear commitment to empowering women in political leadership roles.

This decision received widespread acclaim from various quarters, including women's rights activists, political leaders, and citizens at large. It was viewed as an important/crucial step in addressing the historical representation of women in Indian politics and promoting their active participation in decision-making processes. The bill's approval in the special Parliament session highlighted the government's dedication to addressing gender disparities and promoting women's rights. It marked a significant turning point in Indian politics and was celebrated as a triumph for the women's empowerment movement in the country.

Passing of the Bill holds the promise of reshaping India's political system by providing more opportunities for women to participate in and influence the nation's governance.



GLOBAL STAKEHOLDERS UNITE FOR PATIENT SAFETY RIGHTS CHARTER



The World Health Organization (WHO) hosted a global conference on patient safety and engagement on September 12th and 13th, 2023, both in Geneva and online. Over 2300 participants from all WHO regions, including patient advocates and representatives of patients' organizations, actively contributed to the development of the Patient Safety Rights Charter. This charter represents a significant global commitment to safer healthcare systems, emphasizing patient safety standards and individual rights in medical care.

The Patient Safety Rights Charter is the result of collaborative efforts among healthcare organizations, professionals, and patient advocacy groups. It establishes a comprehensive framework for patient safety, including transparent healthcare information access, informed consent, protection against medical errors, and the right to timely and effective treatment. This milestone received widespread acclaim from the healthcare community and patient advocacy organizations, reflecting global recognition of the importance of safeguarding patients' well-being and rights in healthcare.

The agreement represents a significant step toward creating a patient-centered care culture and accountability within the healthcare industry. It signifies a collective commitment to reducing medical errors and ensuring high-quality care for patients regardless of their location or circumstances. As healthcare systems evolve globally, adopting this patient safety charter is a crucial stride toward improving healthcare outcomes and prioritizing the rights and safety of patients worldwide.

AMWC INDIA 2023 SETS COURSE FOR AESTHETIC MEDICINE INDUSTRY IN INDIA

The Aesthetic and Anti-Ageing Medicine World Congress (AMWC) India 2023, the first-ever Indian edition of the globally recognized AMWC event series, took place at Hotel Sahara Star in Mumbai. Organized by Informa Markets in India, this annual event aimed to transform India's Aesthetic Medicine Industry in the years to come. AMWC India focuses on knowledge exchange, networking, innovation adoption, and industry growth, all while prioritizing safe and high-quality patient care. The inaugural ceremony featured international and domestic experts in the field, including Dr. Woffles Wu, Dr. Chytra Anand, Dr Jamuna Pai, and others, along with key figures from Informa Markets in India.

AMWC India is an extension of the prestigious Aesthetic & Anti-Aging Medicine World Congress (AMWC) that originated in Monaco in 2003. The event highlighted India's evolving medical aesthetics landscape, with projections of significant market growth in medical aesthetic devices and the anti-ageing market. India's thriving medical tourism industry further enhances the country's appeal as a destination for high-quality, cost-effective medical care.

The event unveiled the latest trends, groundbreaking research, innovative methodologies, and revolutionary advancements in aesthetic and anti-ageing medicine. The conference program, crafted by experts, covered a wide range of topics, including Botox and fillers, PRP, micro-needling, chemical.



CAHO AND PFPSF LAUNCH PACS FOR PATIENT INVOLVEMENT



On World Patient Safety Day 2023, observed on September 17th, the Consortium of Accredited Healthcare Organizations (CAHO) and the Patient for Patient Safety Foundation (PFPSF) collaborated to introduce Patient Advisory Committees (PACs). This strategic collaboration aimed to bolster patient involvement and engagement in healthcare decision-making processes. The launch of PACs marked a significant step towards incorporating the valuable perspectives and experiences of patients into healthcare planning and policy formulation. These committees provided a platform for patients to actively participate in discussions related to healthcare quality, safety, and improvement initiatives.

The initiative received widespread support and recognition for its potential to enhance the overall healthcare experience by aligning it more closely with patients' needs and preferences. It underlined the growing importance of patient-centred care and the vital role that patients themselves can play in shaping the healthcare landscape.

CAHO and PFPSF's efforts in promoting patient involvement through PACs served as a model for other healthcare organizations and institutions looking to prioritize patient perspectives in their decision-making processes. This initiative confirmed the principle that patients are not just recipients of healthcare but essential partners in shaping the quality and safety of healthcare services.

NATHEALTH AND NABH COLLABORATE TO ENHANCE PATIENT SAFETY NATIONWIDE

On the occasion of World Patient Safety Day i.e. on 17th September, 2023, NATHEALTH, the Healthcare Federation of India and National Accreditation Board for Hospitals and Healthcare Providers (NABH), a constituent Board of Quality Council of India signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to further strengthen patient safety and quality healthcare across the nation. This collaboration aimed to leverage the expertise and resources of both organizations to enhance healthcare standards and patient outcomes in India. The MoU outlined various areas of cooperation, including the development of quality healthcare infrastructure, the promotion of best practices, and the establishment of robust accreditation mechanisms for healthcare facilities.

The partnership between NATHEALTH and NABH garnered attention for its potential to drive positive changes in the healthcare landscape of India. It underlined the importance of collective efforts in improving patient safety and healthcare quality. The MoU also emphasized a commitment to patient-centric care, the need for healthcare providers to prioritize the well-being and safety of patients above all else.

Additionally, NATHEALTH launched a public education campaign called "Choose Safer Healthcare" to raise awareness among consumers about safety precautions when accessing healthcare services, tests, diagnostics, and medications. The campaign includes a user-friendly website with resources in multiple languages to facilitate knowledge sharing in the healthcare industry. This initiative aims to improve patient safety by enhancing public awareness and understanding of quality and safety protocols.



DELHI'S RML HOSPITAL INAUGURATES INDIA'S FIRST TRANSGENDER OPD

In a significant milestone for transgender healthcare in India, Delhi's Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia (RML) Hospital inaugurated the nation's first dedicated Transgender Outpatient Department (OPD). This historic event marked a crucial step towards addressing the unique healthcare needs of the transgender community. The Transgender OPD at RML Hospital was established with the aim of providing comprehensive healthcare services tailored to the specific requirements of transgender individuals. This initiative aimed to break down barriers to healthcare access and reduce discrimination against the transgender community.

The OPD offered a range of services, including medical consultations, counseling, and access to hormone therapy. Moreover, it provided a safe and inclusive space where transgender individuals could seek healthcare without fear of stigma or discrimination.

The inauguration of India's first Transgender OPD at RML Hospital was widely celebrated as a progressive and inclusive step towards improving healthcare equity in the country. It reflected the growing awareness and recognition of the healthcare inequalities faced by transgender individuals and highlighted the importance of creating a more inclusive and supportive healthcare system in India.



KOLKATA APPEARS TO BE EMERGING AS THE NEW HORIZON FOR BIG NATIONAL HOSPITAL CHAINS

Merger and acquisition activities are reshaping the healthcare landscape in East India, signifying a notable transformation in the region's healthcare dynamics. A significant milestone in this evolution is Manipal Health Enterprises' strategic acquisition of AMRI (Advanced Medicare and Research Institute) Hospital. This strategic move combines Manipal's extensive expertise and resources with AMRI's well-established presence, promising an enriched healthcare experience for the residents of East India. This acquisition will result in technology-driven service enhancements centered around patient care, infrastructure upgrades, and the incorporation of advanced medical equipment.

The acquisition of AMRI Hospital addresses the pressing need for improved healthcare facilities in Eastern India. The entry of prominent healthcare chains bodes well for the region, augmenting its healthcare infrastructure. Additionally, these healthcare conglomerates bring advanced clinical capabilities, leading to improved treatment outcomes and greater viability with shorter bed occupancy times, which can be challenging for standalone hospitals in the long run.

In a parallel development, Fortis Healthcare has demonstrated its enduring commitment to addressing the healthcare needs of the region by acquiring land for potential future projects. This investment underscores the escalating demand for high-quality healthcare services in East India.

Furthermore, Apollo Hospitals has further solidified its presence in the region by acquiring a partially constructed hospital. This strategic decision not only underscores Apollo's unwavering dedication to delivering top-tier healthcare but also expands its footprint in the dynamic East Indian healthcare market.

As these healthcare giants collaborate, East India's residents can anticipate improved medical services and facilities, heralding a positive transformation in their healthcare landscape.



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