PPP model in Health Care

What is the issue?

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- NITI Aayog in a recent report spoke about the public-private partnership (PPP) model in healthcare.
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- The PPP model will work alongside the public health system and will be chargeable.
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Why does the government need the participation of private sector?

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- India spends just than 1% of its gross domestic product (GDP) for health sector.
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- Countries that have robust public health systems spend much more.
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- Canada and the UK spend 8% of their GDP on healthcare.
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- India has set itself an unambitious target of 2.5% of GDP for distant 2025.
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- It is deducible that the low spending on health is a factor of governments and their employees being shielded from policies meant for the common people.
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What are the evidences for private sector participation?

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- Private healthcare in India usually offers quality service but is often expensive and largely unregulated.
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- As per the Delhi government’s policy, the government would pay for surgeries of private citizens conducted at private hospitals.
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- These surgeries would be ones that the government would not be able to conduct expeditiously at its own facilities.
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- The Delhi government’s new scheme is a novelty for the common man but has a precedent in several government schemes for employees which use public funds to provide private healthcare.
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- e.g the Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) has existed for decades and has been emulated by several states.
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- The states have floated similar schemes that discriminate between those who are employed by the state and those who are not.
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Source: LiveMint

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