

Assam to Upgrade Tea Garden Hospitals into Ayushman Aarogya Mandir Sub-Centres



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In a landmark move to enhance healthcare access for tea garden workers, the Assam state health department has announced a plan to upgrade tea garden hospitals into Ayushman Aarogya Mandir Sub-Centres. The initiative, part of the government's broader strategy to improve healthcare infrastructure in underserved regions, was formalized through multiple agreements signed this week.

Health and Family Welfare Minister Ashok Singhal presided over the signing ceremony held at Janata Bhawan in Dispur. The agreement, signed with tea garden management representatives, outlines plans to transform existing tea garden hospitals into fully equipped sub-centres. The upgraded facilities will provide essential medical services, including free diagnostic services and essential drugs, ensuring accessible healthcare for tea garden workers and their families.

Simultaneously, the district administration in Udalguri took a significant step by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with representatives from 23 tea gardens. Led by Additional District Commissioner Sarfaraz Haque, the agreement was signed at the District Commissioner's office. Under this MoU, 25 tea garden hospitals in Udalguri will be upgraded to Ayushman Aarogya Mandir Sub-Centres.

Speaking at the event, Minister Ashok Singhal emphasized the government's commitment to bridging healthcare gaps in the tea garden community. "This initiative is a vital step toward ensuring equitable healthcare access for tea garden workers and their families," he stated.

The upgraded sub-centres will be equipped with modern healthcare amenities, aiming to address long-standing healthcare challenges faced by the tea garden population. The initiative is expected to improve overall health outcomes and reduce the healthcare inequities experienced by these communities.

With this development, Assam continues its efforts to strengthen healthcare delivery, reaffirming its commitment to the welfare of the tea garden workforce, a crucial pillar of the state's economy.

Shajid Khan

Recipient of The Annual Colosseum Awards 2014 & 2015 (by The Assam Tribune group), Shajid Khan is an Independent journalist based in Assam. He has contributed numerous political, socio-political stories for bountiful national,international as well as Assam based publications including The New York Times,Firstpost,The Telegraph. He also pens down analytic commentary on print and web based publications.

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