

ADB and Ujala Cygnus: A New Deal to Promote Affordable Health Care in India



The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has signed a deal to provide 1.5 billion Indian rupees (equivalent to \$18.4 million) in debt financing to Cygnus Medicare Private Limited. This financial support aims to facilitate the expansion of affordable and high-quality healthcare services in northern India.

Established in 2011, Cygnus currently manages a network of 20 multispecialty hospitals spread across 18 cities in India. Focused on delivering cost-effective and quality healthcare, particularly in tier-2 and tier-3 cities, the company has received accreditation for fifteen of its hospitals from the National Accreditation Board for Hospitals & Healthcare Providers. Cygnus offers a range of medical services, including general medicine, cardiology, surgery, neurology, gastroenterology, nephrology, orthopedics, gynecology, emergency and trauma care, and oncology.



“We are committed to providing high-quality, sustainable, and inclusive health care to the communities in tier-2 and tier-3 cities. Our vision is aligned with the Government of India’s health care mission, having pioneered the implementation of AB-PMJAY in its true spirit,” said **Cygnus Chairman and Managing Director Probal Ghosal**. “By partnering with ADB, we will be able to further strengthen our network of hospitals and build upon our focus on environmental, social, and governance practices in our growth plans.”



The financial infusion from ADB will enable Cygnus to embark on plans to establish up to six new hospitals in tier-2 and tier-3 cities. Additionally, the funding will be utilized to enhance and upgrade existing hospitals by incorporating specialty departments and increasing bed capacity. By 2026, this expansion initiative is expected to raise the total bed capacity from 1,622 to 2,560. These new healthcare facilities will play a crucial role in supporting the Indian government's national social health insurance program, the Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY).

“India faces a significant geographic inequity in the distribution of quality health care, with most private hospitals concentrated in tier-1 cities. This makes it challenging for people in tier-2 and tier-3 cities to access quality preventive and curative health services and poses long-term risks to public health,” said **ADB Director General for Private Sector Operations Suzanne Gaboury**. “Cygnus’ mission to provide health care services where they are needed most aligns with ADB’s focus on improving health care infrastructure particularly in underserved states in India, and supporting health care providers that work with government social health insurance programs.”