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The budget has not addressed many of the issues: MTaI

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Pavan Choudary, Chairman, Medical Technology Association of India (MTaI)



"A 35.4 per cent increase in CAPEX is a significant boost, even if we were to discount some of this delta which would not apply. We do hope that the benefit is also received by the healthcare sector which needs a big boost. We expect a good part of it will be spent on building healthcare infrastructure, as per the aspirations stated while enunciating the National Infrastructure pipeline. The budget has not addressed many of the issues highlighted by large parts of the healthcare industry like streamlining of GST and reduction of customs duty. The rolling back of the health cess is our other demand which will help us preserve jobs, jobs which are instrumental in making the healthcare workers patient ready. The budget is reflective of the realisation that healthcare is a vital sector and hope these issues are taken up by the relevant departments at the earliest."