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The budget on medical devices has given very confusing signals: Transasia-Erba International Group of Companies

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Suresh Vazirani, Founder Chairman, Transasia-Erba International Group of Companies



"For the healthcare sector, the budget emphasised creating an open platform for the National Digital Health Ecosystem, consisting of digital registries of health providers and health facilities, unique health identity and universal access to health facilities. In the long run, it will bridge the gap between physicians and patients or between two physicians, especially in remote areas. The medical devices industry was looking forward to some crucial reforms to encourage Make in India efforts for affordable healthcare at these times of the pandemic. In that respect, this budget has given very confusing signals. On several medical devices, the import duty has been reduced. That will surely kill the local manufacturers. I had expected more emphasis to be given to the healthcare sector in the Union Budget and some reforms to be made such as reduction in GST, the introduction of a Development Linked Incentive (DLI) to encourage R&D and reduction in the import duty on raw materials."