

**Ministry of Urban Development**  
**Smart Cities Mission**

**Advisory No. 6**

**Subject: Strategy for Smart Health in Smart Cities Mission.**

1. One of the purposes of the Smart Cities Mission is to improve quality of life, especially of the poor, in order to make Smart Cities inclusive in nature (Guidelines 2.6). At present, private out of pocket expenses (OOPE) on health comprises 64% of total health spending in India. Generally, health related expenditure consists of – medicines, diagnostics and consultation. Compared to a rural household, an urban household spends 5 times more on diagnostics, 2.6 times more on medicines and 2.4 times more on doctors’ fees. Therefore, reducing high OOPE incurred by urban residents, especially the slum dwellers, leads to more inclusive cities.
  
2. The strategy of Smart Health is based on the providing cheaper doctor consultation, reasonably priced medicines and affordable diagnostics. This can be done by converging different schemes. The Figure 1 gives the convergence of three schemes of Government of India with programmes of State Governments:

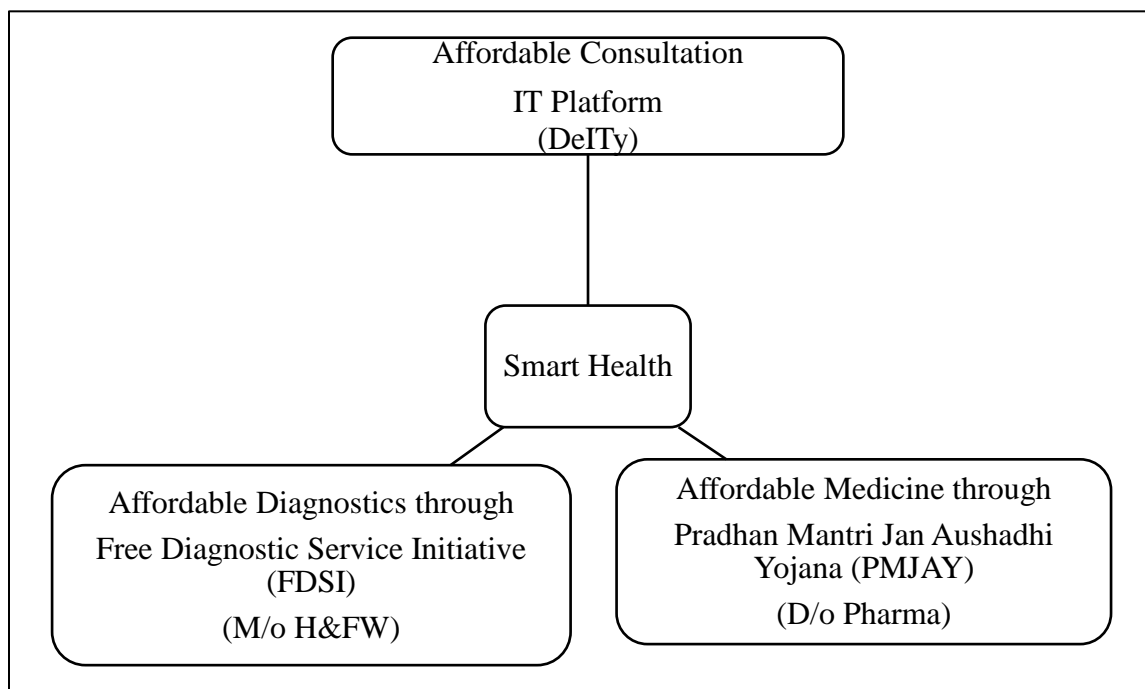


Figure 1. Smart Health convergence of programmes

- Consultation through IT Platforms: For instituting round-the-clock doctor consultations, a unique version of telemedicine can be designed by establishing an IT platform to match patients and doctors, bringing convenience to patient doorstep. Doctors volunteering for this programme, will provide services to patients on their mobile phones. For this purpose, the Smart Cities may develop special apps or use existing apps. The instituted apps and/or the IT platform will link general physicians and specialists in hospitals to patients in slum localities for online consultation. The app may have an instant messaging service for simple medical queries.
  - Delivering affordable quality medicines: Pradhan Mantri Jan Aushadhi Yojana (PMJAY) scheme of Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers can be used to provide affordable, quality generic medicines. Many States have their own schemes for giving free medicines also.
  - Delivering affordable Diagnostics: Complementing the free medicine scheme, free diagnostic services can also be made available under a hub-and-spoke model, floated by the Ministry of Health under the Free Diagnostics Service Initiative (FDSI). Under this scheme, a set of essential diagnostic services at each facility level has been identified. Diagnostic tests are allowed to be conducted by private providers (PPP model), empanelled by the Government.
  - In the hub-and-spoke model, samples are collected at peripheral facilities/collection centers (including Mobile Medical Units) and safely transported to a central laboratory which will act as the Hub, which can be a District Hospital Lab/Medical College/or a public or private laboratory set up for the purpose.
3. The broad scope of work, output and deliverables mentioned above are only indicative and given for facility of reference. Each city may customize as per their requirements.