



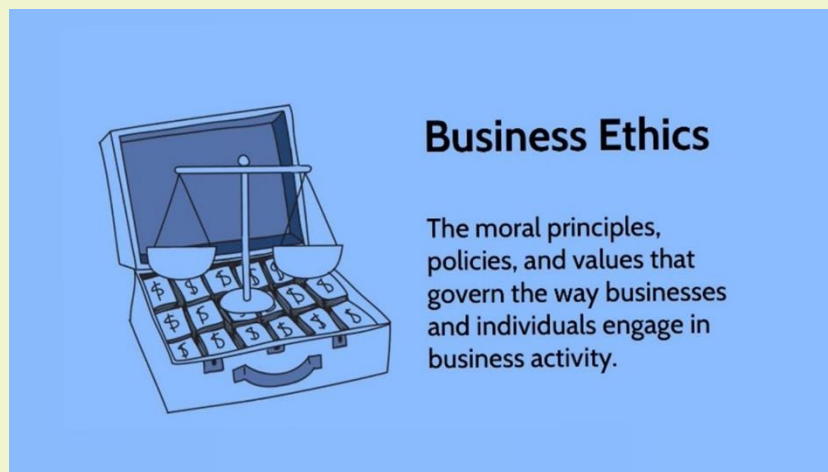
Multi-Stakeholders Roundtable Conference on Ethical Business Practices & Integrity in Healthcare Through Collective Action



BACKGROUND

Ethical business practice, multi-stakeholder engagement, and collective action are vital components in enhancing transparency and integrity across healthcare sectors and are instrumental in curbing corruption worldwide.

Ethical Business practices help uphold ethical standards within organizations and set the foundation for transparency and integrity. This involves adhering to moral principles, such as honesty, fairness, and accountability. Ethical conduct ensures that decisions are made in the best interest of stakeholders, including customers, employees, and the community, rather than for personal gain or at the expense of others, and implementing codes of conduct, ethics training programs, and whistleblower mechanisms can help reinforce ethical behavior and prevent corrupt practices.



Multi-Stakeholders engagement helps involve diverse stakeholders, including government agencies, businesses, civil society organizations, healthcare professionals, and patients, and fosters collaboration and accountability. Stakeholder engagement facilitates the sharing of information, resources, and expertise, enabling a more comprehensive understanding of the challenges and solutions related to transparency and integrity. Also, it helps promote dialogue, consensus-building, and collective decision-making, leading to the development of policies, regulations, and initiatives that address corruption risks and promote ethical standards.

Collective action involves coordinated efforts by multiple stakeholders to address common challenges, such as corruption, that cannot be effectively tackled by individual actors alone. Initiatives such as anti-corruption coalitions, industry partnerships, and multi-stakeholder initiatives bring together diverse stakeholders with a shared commitment to promoting transparency and integrity. Through collective action, stakeholders can pool resources, leverage their respective strengths, and implement joint strategies to prevent corruption, strengthen governance mechanisms, and promote ethical business practices.



By promoting ethical conduct, engaging stakeholders, and fostering collective action, healthcare organizations can enhance transparency, accountability, and integrity, ultimately improving the quality of care and building trust with patients and the public. Similarly, these principles are applicable across various sectors, contributing to broader efforts to combat corruption and promote sustainable development.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Multi-Stakeholders Roundtable Conference on Ethical Business Practices & Integrity in Healthcare Through Collective Action, hosted in collaboration with Kapiti Overseas Private Limited and The Telangana Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FTCCI) on 6th June 2024 at FTCCI, Hyderabad, marked a pivotal gathering of approximately 60-70 healthcare professionals from both the Public and Private sectors. Dr. Jaya Prakash Narayan, Retd IAS from the Ministry

of Health, Telangana, and General Secretary of the Foundation for Democratic Reforms, graced the occasion as the chief guest. The conference featured a distinguished lineup including Mr. Meela Dev, President of FTCCI, Mr. Shekhar Aggarwal, Convenor of Healthcare at FTCCI, Ms. Tarakeshwari Polaki, Founder & Director of KOPL Group, Dr. Suresh Kapiti from Kapiti Overseas Private Limited, Mr. Hitesh Sahni, Director of Population Services International (India), Mr. Ratnesh Jha, Executive Director of UN Global Compact Network India, and Dr. Somnath Singh, Deputy Director of UN Global Compact Network India. The event aimed to foster dialogue and collective strategies to enhance ethical standards and integrity within the healthcare sector, setting a collaborative tone for future initiatives and partnerships.

The conference provided a platform for robust discussions and collaborative efforts aimed at advancing ethical standards and integrity within the healthcare sector. Key topics included regulatory compliance, transparency in operations, fostering a culture of integrity, and leveraging collective action to combat unethical practices. Participants engaged in constructive dialogues, shared best practices and identified actionable strategies to promote ethical business conduct across the healthcare industry.

The event concluded with a commitment to continued collaboration among stakeholders, emphasizing the importance of collective action in promoting a sustainable and ethically sound healthcare ecosystem. The insights gained from the conference are expected to drive future initiatives and partnerships that uphold integrity and ethical business practices in healthcare.

RATIONALE

Collective Action is born out of companies' need to foster more ethical, transparent, and less corrupt business environments while mitigating potential business risks. Collective Action can complement, enhance, and further develop current and future laws and regulations whenever the latter are weakly enforced or simply nonexistent. Collective Action is evolving toward a "hybrid co-regulation." Formal regulation efforts at a global and national level have increasingly been complemented by self-regulation efforts stemming from proactive cooperation between business actors from specific sectors. This often includes the participation of civil society, the public sector, corporations, and other organizations. These complementary approaches have reinforced one another, creating positive synergies required from businesses in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.



Businesses and societies face complex corruption challenges daily around the world, and Collective Action is a key approach to slowing the scale of this issue. Multi-stakeholder partnerships are indispensable to effectively tackle and solve the perennial sustainable development problems outlined in SDG 17. The evolution of Collective Action is also the overall evolution from Compliance to Integrity. It is not only about individually avoiding and mitigating the risks, pitfalls, and likely costs of corruption such as legal or financial, but above all seizing the opportunities and associated benefits of a robust culture of integrity that is fostered and implemented collectively by a committed group of like-minded stakeholders.

Multi-stakeholders' engagement in fighting corruption ultimately helps build a robust governance structure, transparent and ethical business practices, and integrity across the sectors.

OBJECTIVES

Collective action against corruption is crucial for fostering transparent and accountable governance. When individuals, communities, civil society organizations, and governments unite to combat corruption, they create a formidable force for change. By pooling resources, sharing information, and advocating for ethical standards, collective action can expose corrupt practices, hold perpetrators accountable, and enact systemic reforms. This collaborative effort not only strengthens institutions but also builds public trust in the integrity of governance structures. It empowers citizens to demand fairness, justice, and equality, ultimately paving the way for societies to thrive on principles of honesty and fairness. Thus, embracing collective action against corruption is pivotal in shaping a more just and equitable world for all.

The Multi-Stakeholder Roundtable conference held aiming the following objectives

1. **Promote Ethical Practices:** To foster a culture of ethical behavior and integrity within the healthcare sector, emphasizing transparency, honesty, and accountability.

2. **Build Awareness:** Raise awareness among stakeholders about the importance of ethical business practices in healthcare, highlighting the impact on patient care, public trust, and organizational reputation.
3. **Facilitate Dialogue:** Provide a platform for open dialogue and collaboration among stakeholders including healthcare providers, pharmaceutical companies, regulators, patient advocacy groups, and policymakers.
4. **Share Best Practices:** Share successful case studies, initiatives, and best practices from different stakeholders that have effectively promoted ethical business practices and integrity in healthcare.
5. **Identify Challenges:** Identify key challenges and barriers to ethical practices in healthcare, such as regulatory gaps, conflicts of interest, and inadequate enforcement mechanisms.
6. **Develop Solutions:** Generate actionable strategies and recommendations to address identified challenges and promote ethical conduct across the healthcare ecosystem.
7. **Commit to Collective Action:** Encourage stakeholders to commit to collective action toward implementing ethical guidelines, codes of conduct, and compliance measures within their organizations.
8. **Enhance Trust:** Enhance trust between stakeholders, healthcare professionals, patients, and the public by demonstrating a commitment to ethical standards and integrity in healthcare delivery and business practices.
9. **Educational Opportunities:** Provide educational opportunities through workshops, panels, and presentations to enhance understanding of ethical dilemmas and solutions in healthcare.
10. **Policy Advocacy:** Advocate for policies and regulations that support ethical business practices and integrity in healthcare, aiming for a regulatory framework that promotes transparency and accountability.
11. **Monitor Progress:** Establish mechanisms for monitoring progress and outcomes of initiatives aimed at promoting ethical business practices in healthcare, ensuring continuous improvement and adherence to standards.
12. **Sustainability:** Ensure the sustainability of efforts by fostering ongoing collaboration and engagement among stakeholders beyond the conference, possibly through the establishment of a working group or ongoing forum.

STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED

The Multi-Stakeholders Roundtable Conference on Ethical Business Practices & Integrity in Healthcare Through Collective Action convened a diverse array of stakeholders and participants on [date] at [venue]. Representing the Government, the Ministry of Health was actively engaged alongside Anti-Corruption bodies, healthcare organizations, hospitals, pharmaceutical companies, and other entities from the healthcare sector. Business Chambers, corporate entities, CSR initiatives, MSMEs, and Start-Ups contributed their perspectives on promoting ethical standards. Audit institutions provided insights into regulatory compliance and accountability. Parliamentarians, media representatives, and

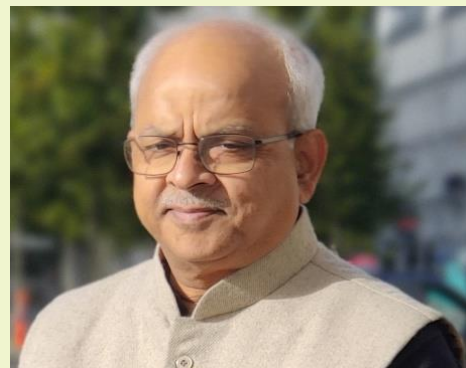
academic and research institutes brought their expertise to the table, fostering discussions on policy frameworks and research-driven approaches. Patient organizations, civil society organizations, NGOs, and UN organizations underscored the importance of patient rights, transparency, and collective action in combating unethical practices in healthcare. The conference served as a platform for robust dialogue, collaborative initiatives, and the forging of partnerships aimed at fostering integrity and ethical practices across the healthcare ecosystem.



KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Welcome Address:

Ladies and gentlemen, esteemed guests and participants, it is with great pleasure and honor that I welcome you to the Multi-Stakeholders Roundtable Conference on Ethical Business Practices & Integrity in Healthcare Through Collective Action, organized by UN Global Compact Network India. Today, we gather with a distinguished panel of experts and leaders in healthcare, governance, and corporate social responsibility. We are privileged to have with us Dr. Jaya Prakash Narayan, whose vast experience in the Ministry of Health, Telangana, and leadership at the Foundation for Democratic Reforms, brings invaluable insights into the ethical dimensions of healthcare. Alongside him is Mr. Meela Dev, President of FTCCI, a pivotal figure in advancing CSR initiatives, including those in healthcare. We are also honored by the presence of Dr. Suresh Kapiti, Managing Director, Kapiti Overseas Private Limited, Mr. Roger Latchman, Founder & Director, International Institute for Ethical Governance and Accountability (IIEGA), Ms. Ana Luiza Aranha Senior Manager- Anti-Corruption, United Nations Global Compact (UNGC), New York, , Dr. Anuradha Medoju, Sr. Regional Director MD (OSM), Regional Office for Health & Family Welfare, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, and Mr. Hitesh Sahni, Director, Population Services International (India) each bringing their expertise and commitment to ethical governance and healthcare integrity. Together, we aim to explore collaborative strategies to uphold ethical standards, foster transparency, and promote integrity across the healthcare sector in India. This conference marks a crucial step in harnessing collective action to drive positive change, and I look forward to the fruitful discussions and outcomes that will emerge from our deliberations today



**Mr. Ratnesh Jha, Executive Director,
UN Global Compact Network India**

Setting the tone for the conference:

As we commence the Multi-Stakeholders Roundtable Conference on Ethical Business Practices & Integrity in Healthcare Through Collective Action, organized by UN Global Compact Network India (UN GCNI), we are privileged to gather with distinguished leaders and experts from across sectors. This conference marks a significant step towards fostering collaboration and collective action to address critical issues of ethical governance in healthcare. With the esteemed presence of Dr. Jayaprakash Narayan, a stalwart in healthcare governance, Mr. Meela Dev, advocating for CSR initiatives, Dr. Suresh Kapiti emphasizing value-based healthcare, Mr. Roger Latchman promoting ethical governance through IIEGA, and Ms. Ana Luiza Aranha from UNGC highlighting anti-corruption efforts, among other esteemed speakers, we set the tone for robust discussions and collaborative initiatives. Together, we aim to explore innovative strategies and partnerships that uphold integrity, transparency, and accountability in healthcare delivery, ultimately contributing to sustainable development goals and the well-being of communities. This conference serves as a platform to catalyze impactful change and strengthen the ethical fabric of healthcare systems in India and beyond.



**Dr. Somnath Singh, Deputy Director,
UN Global Compact Network India**



Dr. Jaya Prakash Narayan, with his extensive experience in governance and public service, addressed several crucial aspects aligned with the theme of "Ethical Business Practices & Integrity in Healthcare Through Collective Action" at the conference:

1. **Importance of Ethical Standards:** He emphasized the critical role of ethical standards in healthcare, highlighting how adherence to ethical principles forms the foundation of trust between stakeholders—patients, healthcare providers, and businesses.
2. **Challenges in Healthcare Integrity:** Dr. Narayan discussed the various challenges faced in maintaining integrity within the healthcare sector, such as corruption, conflicts of interest, and unethical practices, and their detrimental effects on patient care and public trust.
3. **Role of Collective Action:** Given his background in public policy and governance, he stressed the significance of collective action among stakeholders—government bodies, private sector entities, civil society organizations, and academia—in addressing these challenges. Collaboration, he argued, is essential for developing and implementing effective policies and practices that promote integrity and transparency.
4. **Policy Recommendations:** Dr. Narayan proposed specific policy recommendations aimed at enhancing ethical practices in healthcare, including regulatory reforms, transparency measures, and capacity-building initiatives. These recommendations might be grounded in his practical experience and research through the Foundation for Democratic Reforms.
5. **Education and Awareness:** He underscored the importance of education and awareness among healthcare professionals and the public about ethical norms and the consequences of unethical behavior. This included advocating for training programs, workshops, and awareness campaigns.
6. **Global Perspective:** Being part of a global initiative like the UN Global Compact Network India, Dr. Narayan provided insights from international best practices and standards in promoting ethical business practices in healthcare. This inspired local stakeholders to adopt and adapt successful approaches from around the world.

Overall, Dr. Jayaprakash Narayan's address blended theoretical insights with practical recommendations, aiming to inspire action and commitment among all stakeholders towards fostering a healthcare environment characterized by integrity, ethics, and transparency.



Dr. Jaya Prakash Narayan, Retd IAS from the Ministry of Health, Telangana, and General Secretary of the Foundation for Democratic Reforms,

Mr. Meela Dev, as President of the Foundation of Telangana Chamber of Commerce (FTCCI) and a key figure in business development and CSR initiatives, delivered a speech at the conference focusing on fostering ethical business practices and promoting integrity in healthcare through collaborative efforts. He emphasized the role of businesses in upholding ethical standards, particularly within the healthcare sector, and highlighted FTCCI's commitment to corporate social responsibility, including healthcare initiatives. Mr. Dev proposed strategies for businesses to integrate ethical considerations into their operations, such as transparent procurement practices, ethical marketing, and responsible supply chain management. Moreover, he discussed the potential for a symbiotic partnership between FTCCI and UN Global Compact Network India (UN GCNI) to leverage each other's strengths in promoting healthcare integrity across India. This collaboration involved joint initiatives, knowledge sharing, and advocacy efforts aimed at advancing ethical business practices and enhancing healthcare outcomes through collective action.



**Mr. Meela Dev, President
The Foundation of
Telangana Chamber of
Commerce and Industry
(FTCCI)**

As the Managing Director of Kapiti Overseas Private Limited (KOPL) said, I am privileged to address this esteemed gathering at the Multi-Stakeholders Roundtable Conference on Ethical Business Practices & Integrity in Healthcare Through Collective Action, hosted by UN Global Compact Network India. Today, we convene with a shared commitment to advancing ethical standards and integrity within India's healthcare landscape. At KOPL, we recognize the critical importance of collaboration between government entities, private sector stakeholders, and health institutes to enhance value-based healthcare delivery. Together, through collective action and synergistic partnerships, we can foster a healthcare environment rooted in transparency, ethical governance, and patient-centric care. Our focus must be on aligning our efforts to uphold the highest standards of integrity, thereby ensuring equitable access to quality healthcare for all. I look forward to engaging in insightful discussions and forging meaningful collaborations that will drive sustainable change in the healthcare



**Dr. Suresh Kapiti from
Kapiti Overseas Private
Limited (KOPL)**

It is an honor to address this esteemed gathering at the Multi-Stakeholders Roundtable Conference on Ethical Business Practices & Integrity in Healthcare Through Collective Action, organized by UN Global Compact Network India. As Founder & Director of the International Institute for Ethical Governance and Accountability (IIEGA), our mission resonates deeply with the theme of today's conference. At IIEGA, we are dedicated to promoting ethical governance and accountability across sectors, including healthcare, to tackle the pervasive challenges posed by corruption. Our efforts focus on fostering a culture of transparency, integrity, and responsible governance practices. In the healthcare sector particularly, these principles are indispensable for ensuring equitable access to healthcare services and safeguarding public trust. Through collaborative efforts with stakeholders from government, private sector, and civil society, we can collectively mitigate corruption risks and uphold ethical standards that are fundamental to sustainable development and societal well-being. I look forward to productive discussions and outcomes that will advance our shared commitment to ethical business practices and integrity in healthcare.



Mr. Roger Latchman, Founder & Director, International Institute for Ethical Governance and Accountability (IIEGA)



Ms. Ana Luiza Aranha, Senior Manager- Anti-Corruption, United Nations Global Compact (UNGC), New York

It is my privilege to address this esteemed gathering at the Multi-Stakeholders Roundtable Conference on Ethical Business Practices & Integrity in Healthcare Through Collective Action, hosted by UN Global Compact Network India (UN GCNI). As Senior Manager for Anti-Corruption at the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) in New York, I am deeply committed to advancing the principles of transparency and integrity across vulnerable sectors including the healthcare sector. UNGC serves as the custodian of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and advocates for the UN 10th Principle on Anti-Corruption, underlining our collective responsibility to combat corruption in all its forms. Through our collaboration with UN GCNI on Anti-Corruption Collective Action Projects and initiatives, we aim to foster a culture of ethical governance and accountability among businesses, governments, and civil society organizations. UN GCNI, together with its active stakeholders can strengthen the integrity of healthcare systems, enhance access to quality healthcare, and contribute to sustainable development goals.

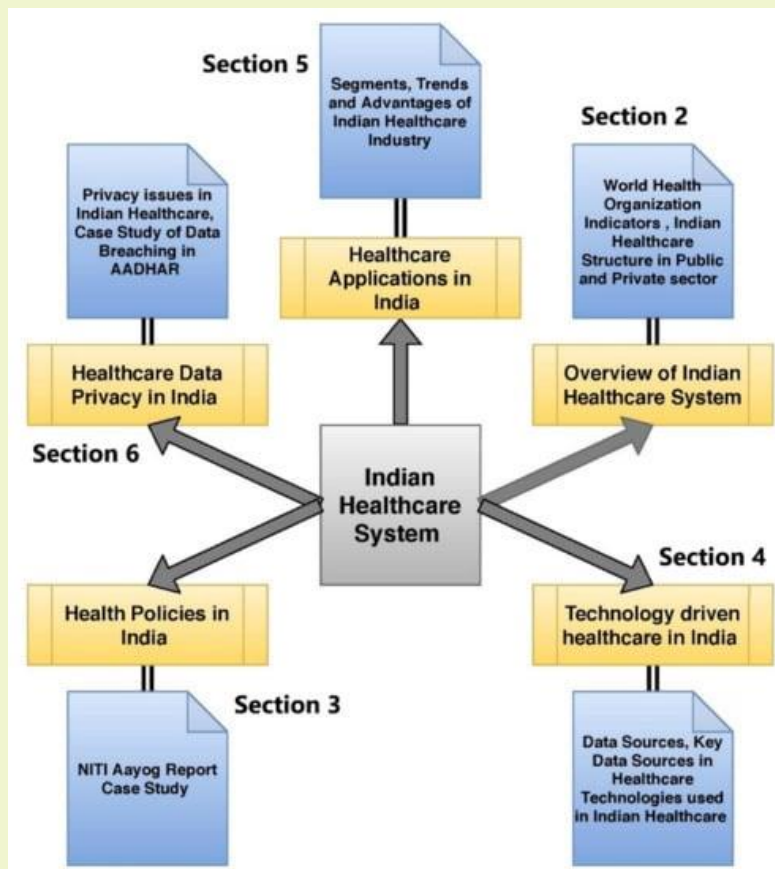
TECHNICAL DISCUSSION: KEY AREAS OF CONCERN IN INDIAN HEALTHCARE

Dr. Anuradha Medoju, Sr. Regional Director at the Regional Office for Health & Family Welfare, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, took on the role of moderator at the roundtable conference on Ethical Business Practices & Integrity in Healthcare Through Collective Action, hosted by UN Global Compact Network India (UN GCNI).

Supported by Ms. Tarakeshwari Polaki, Founder & Director of KOPL Group, and Mr. Hitesh Sahni, Director of Population Services International (India), Dr. Medoju skillfully guided an open and interactive discussion among participants. Her deep understanding of regional health dynamics and commitment to ethical governance provided invaluable insights during the deliberations. Dr. Medoju effectively responded to queries from stakeholders, fostering a dialogue that explored practical strategies for enhancing transparency and integrity in healthcare practices. This collaborative effort underlines the importance of collective action in addressing ethical challenges and promoting sustainable healthcare solutions across the region.



Dr. Anuradha Medoju, Sr. Regional Director MD (OSM), Regional Office for Health & Family Welfare, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana



DISCUSSION POINTS

- How can stakeholders, including healthcare professionals, patients, and civil society organizations, actively participate in shaping policies and initiatives to promote integrity in healthcare?
- What role does the government see in public-private partnerships in promoting ethical business practices in healthcare?
- How does the government promote transparency in financial relationships between healthcare providers and industry stakeholders?
- How do the private sector/ businesses prioritize ethical considerations in their healthcare operations and interactions with stakeholders?
- What steps does a company take to prevent corruption and unethical practices in its healthcare-related activities?
- How does a company collaborate with other stakeholders, including government agencies and NGOs, to collectively promote ethical business practices and integrity in the healthcare sector?
- What mechanisms does a healthcare organization have in place for employees to report unethical behavior or concerns within the organization?
- What are the primary ethical challenges or concerns you perceive within the healthcare industry including Government health programmes/initiatives?
- Major challenges and solutions in healthcare in India?
- What opportunities exist for multi-stakeholder initiatives to promote ethical business practices and integrity in healthcare?



CONCLUSION

In his concluding remarks at the roundtable conference on Ethical Business Practices & Integrity in Healthcare Through Collective Action, organized by UN Global Compact Network India (UN GCNI), Dr. Somnath Singh, Deputy Director, eloquently summarized the key outcomes and insights garnered throughout the day's discussions. He emphasized the critical importance of collaborative efforts by government bodies, private sector entities, and civil society organizations to foster a culture of integrity and transparency in the healthcare sector.

Dr. Singh highlighted the shared commitment among participants to uphold ethical standards and promote responsible business practices that prioritize patient welfare and societal well-being. He expressed heartfelt gratitude to all speakers, including luminaries such as Dr. Jaya Prakash Narayan, Mr. Meela Dev, Dr. Anuradha Medoju, Mr. Hitesh Sahni, and other esteemed contributors, whose expertise and dedication enriched the conference. Dr. Singh also extended his appreciation to the participants for their active engagement and valuable contributions, underscoring their role in driving forward actionable initiatives that will positively impact healthcare integrity in India.

PLEDGE FOR ETHICAL PRACTICES AND INTEGRITY IN HEALTHCARE SIGNED BY THE SPEAKERS AND AUDIENCES

We, the undersigned stakeholders from across the healthcare spectrum, hereby pledge our unwavering commitment to fostering ethical healthcare practices and upholding integrity to combat corruption. Recognizing the detrimental effects of corruption on patient care, public trust, and the healthcare system as a whole, we stand united in our resolve to prioritize transparency, accountability, and zero tolerance for corrupt practices. Through collaborative efforts, we will develop and enforce robust policies, enhance training and capacity-building initiatives, raise public awareness, and strengthen partnerships to prevent and address corruption effectively. By adhering to the highest standards of ethics and integrity, we aim to restore trust, safeguard patient well-being, and ensure the integrity of healthcare delivery for all.

We this pledge, we assure full support to the Anti-Corruption Collective Action initiatives of UN Global Compact Network India to strengthen transparency, accountability, and value-based healthcare in India.



GLIMPSES FROM THE MULTI-STAKEHOLDERS ROUNDTABLE CONFERENCE ON ETHICAL PRACTICES AND INTEGRITY



