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**Kochi ; Oxgen Supply , Diesel Stock
Major Concern For Hospitals**

Oxygen supply, diesel stock major concern for hospitals

Preetu.Nair@timesgroup.com

Kochi: The routine operations of hospitals in the state were also affected in the heavy rain and subsequent flooding. Many hospitals in Ernakulam cancelled routine operations and outpatient services on Thursday to cope with the surge in patients from neighbouring hospitals that were waterlogged amid severe staff shortage.

The staff strength in most Kochi hospitals was just about 30% to 35%, while the bed occupancy was almost 80% to 90%. Liquid oxygen supply and diesel stock were two major concerns of hospital authorities on Thursday.

Aster Medcity has shifted all its patients to nearby ho-

TRAFFIC DISRUPTION HITS SUPPLY

➤ Supply of liquid oxygen and limited diesel stock to run generators were among the concerns of hospital managements on Thursday

➤ Most hospitals source liquid oxygen from Bengaluru and it is refilled once in seven-eight days. The traffic disruption at Thrissur has

affected transportation of oxygen

➤ Select surgeries were postponed at Lisie Hospital owing to shortage of liquid oxygen

➤ Most hospitals in Kochi also faced severe staff shortage on the day. The strength was just about 30-35% as against 80-90% bed occupancy

spitals as a precautionary measure. CEO Dr Harish Pillai said the hospital was responding only to emergency cases now. Amrita Institute of

Medical Sciences was consolidating all medical and surgical patients on common floor to attend to emergency cases. **P 4**