

2023  
APRIL  
**NEWS  
LETTER**

Shaping India's health system by owning and contributing to strategic healthcare agenda



NEWS

# LETTER

## Impact in the last 30 days

**Government Engagement:** Meeting with Shri. N. Nawin Sona, Principal Secretary of Health Maharashtra

**Government Engagement:** NATHEALTH invited at NITI Aayog's IMPF Roundtable

**Government Engagement:** First meeting of Advisory Council for Adoption of Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) held

**Government Engagement:** Meeting held with Dr. Siddharth Singh from the Assam Government

**Government Engagement:** Meeting with Ms. Sherry from North Eastern Council (NEC)

**Infrastructure Development:** Submission of Representation on E- Pharmacy

**Infrastructure Development:** Representation on SEIS submitted to the Government

**Thought Leadership:** NATHEALTH organizes its 2nd Western Roundtable

**Thought Leadership:** NATHEALTH's representation at Symbiosis Annual Conference

**Regional movement:** Invitation to participate in the North East Global Investor Summit

**Regional movement:** Coffee meet with NATHEALTH's Pune members

**Stakeholder engagement:** Meeting with the new Johnson & Johnson leadership Ms. Yoo Jin Chey

**Stakeholder engagement:** NATHEALTH organizes member meet at Bengaluru

**Stakeholder engagement:** NATHEALTH organizes its first Leadership Team meet for new FY

## Building and Enhancing Public & Government Trust

### Meeting with Shri. N. Nawin Sona, Principal Secretary of Health Maharashtra

NATHEALTH Leadership had a meeting with the Principal Secretary of Health, Shri.N. Nawin Sona to understand the healthcare priorities of the Government of Maharashtra and to carve out a collaborative approach on addressing the public health issues of Maharashtra.

Key thematic areas discussed:

- Digital health adoption
- Medical Value Travel
- Health financing
- Skilling and capacity building
- Preventive healthcare
- NCD disease surveillance



The Principal Secretary has shown keen interest on the above 5 thematic areas and has asked the NATHEALTH team to draft an implementation plan for the same. This draft can be further curated into a Memorandum of Understanding between the Government and NATHEALTH.

### NATHEALTH invited at NITI Aayog's IMPF Roundtable

NATHEALTH was invited to the NITI Aayog-Indian Medical Parliamentarians' Forum Roundtable on Ensuring Equitable Access to Critical Medical Technologies for Indian Citizens. The roundtable marked the 2nd edition of



the "MedTech4All because #EveryLifeMatters" discussion series, and was co-hosted by the NITI Aayog and Indian Medical Parliamentarians' Forum (IMPF). The event was held in the presence of Dr. V.K Paul, Hon'ble Member, Health for NITI Aayog.



## Building and Enhancing Public & Government Trust

The roundtable deliberated on:

- How to ensure equitable access to critical care medical devices
- Build evidence-based pathways for policy makers and other key stakeholders in the
- ecosystem to realise this goal

### First meeting of Advisory Council for Adoption of Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) held



NATHEALTH was a part of the first meeting of the Advisory Council for Adoption of Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) organized by the NHA. With various digital building blocks of ADBM already developed and proved to work on scale, the NHA has now felt the need to create an advisory council for ABDM's mass scale adoption. The target profile covers all stakeholders of ecosystem like state governments, citizens, healthcare providers, healthcare facilities, NGOs etc.

Charter for the Advisory Council includes:

- To suggest any modifications to current policies and strategies
- To provide recommendation on digital health roadmap
- To recommend national/international best practices
- Undertake mentorship of specific adoption pilots and research activities
- Suggest and explore ways and means for large scale adoption of abdm



## Building and Enhancing Public & Government Trust

### Meeting held with Dr. Siddharth Singh from the Government of Assam

NATHEALTH held a meeting with Dr. Siddharth Singh, IAS, Commissioner & Secretary, Health & Family Welfare, Medical Education & Research, Government of Assam to understand the current projects of the State and the scope and vision of collaboration and healthcare priorities of the State. The meeting deliberated on the current strengths, opportunities and also future strategies.



### Meeting with Ms. Sherry, Economic Advisor, North Eastern Council (NEC)

NATHEALTH recently conducted a meeting with Ms. Sherry, Economic Advisor, North Eastern Council (NEC) to get an idea of the healthcare economics of the State and the thrust areas. Ms. Sherry expressed interest in further



collaborating with NATHEALTH for the growth of the healthcare sector in the region. The discussions also steered towards understanding the gaps in the North East healthcare sector, and the possible solutions for the same.

### Submission of Representation on E- Pharmacy

In a written communication, NATHEALTH has submitted its representation on the current e-pharmacy debacle. The letter sent to Shri Mansukh Mandaviya Ji, Hon'ble Union Minister, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Chemical and Fertilizers of India, Government of India included collective industry feedback and comments

## Building and Enhancing Public & Government Trust

### The background

NATHEALTH ecosystem represents pharmacy distributors and retailers both online and offline. With the recent notices to many, there have been concerns and questions in the way they operate. During COVID, when the country was reckoning with the pandemic, e-pharmacies played a crucial role in ensuring that most cities are well served for their healthcare needs. This model proved to be a good example of for digital health, an area where large scale user adoption is required for ABDM success.

### Current concern:

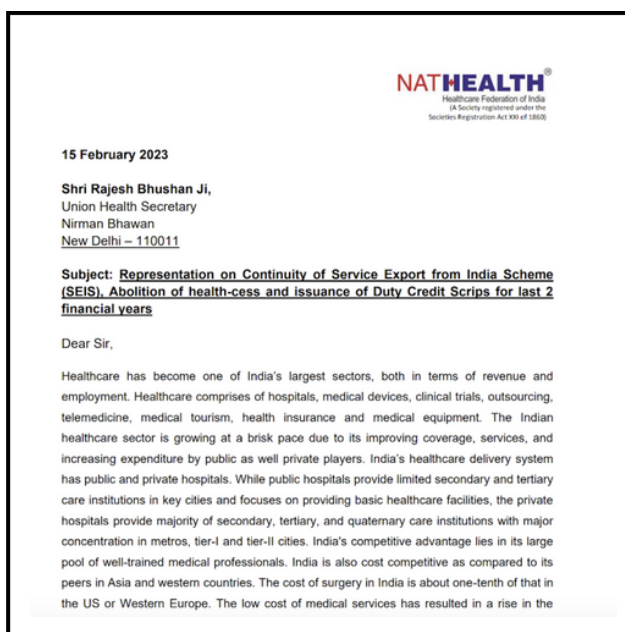
After multiple consultations and sets of representations, the enabling regulation remains an area that requires much-needed attention.

### NATHEALTH's joint sectorial request:

Towards this, NATHEALTH has requested for further deliberations to put some thoughts across along with online and offline key players. The intent being to address any concerns that impact the sector, as well as offer support in formalising and adopting the long pending rules of e-pharmacies.

## Representation on SEIS submitted to the Government

In a letter, NATHEALTH has submitted its joint industry representation on SEIS to Shri Rajesh Bhushan Ji, Union Health Secretary, Government of India. The documents discusses the Continuity of Service Export from India Scheme (SEIS), Abolition of health-cess and issuance of Duty Credit Scrips for last 2 financial years.



## Building and Enhancing Public & Government Trust

### Key points covered:

- MVT and India
- Continued investment in advanced technologies
- Seeking international accreditation
- Managing cost of treatment despite cost inflation
- Scout for skilled manpower and medical talent

### NATHEALTH has requested for:

- Immediate notification for SEIS Incentives for FY 2020-21 and 2021-22
- Continue SEIS Scheme in the next Five-Year FTP which is due to be announced on April 1, 2023
- Exempt all imports of medical devices under EPCG Scheme from levy of Health-cess.

## NATHEALTH welcomes its newest members

NATHEALTH is happy to share that new members are joining the Federation on a consistent basis. Most recent members are:

- Mr. Ganesh Prasad, Founder, MD & CEO, Genworks Health Pvt. Ltd. (MedTech)
- Mr. Anindya Chowdhury, President & CEO, Happiest Health Pvt. Ltd. (Healthcare-Wellness)
- Mr. Anuj Chandalia, Founder & CEO, Manentia (MedTech)
- Mr. Ratul Lahiri, Founder & CEO, PurpleRibbon Healthcare Services Pvt. Ltd. (Healthcare Provider)
- Mr. Jignesh Patel, Founder & CEO, Jivika Health Care (Mobile Healthcare)
- Mr. Abhinav Dixit, Vice President, Newtech Medical Devices Pvt. Ltd. (MedTech)
- Dr Pratim Sengupta, Director, Nephrocare India Pvt. Ltd. (Healthcare Provider)



## Building and Enhancing Public & Government Trust

### NATHEALTH shares feedback on new Med Tech Policy

NATHEALTH and its stakeholders have lauded the government's approval of the National Medical Devices Policy and has tagged it as a "much awaited decision". NATHEALTH has shared the collective member responses with the Government that include comments like:

- Dedicated body to understand nuances of electronics, home health & single time use (consumables) medical devices will help make the right decision; will be key to building the Med Devices sector.
- It will bring simplicity and speed.
- Regulatory simplification and consolidation are welcome changes.
- Technology Partnership with foreign academic institutes and Med Tech organizations with the support of GOI will help immensely for Make in India.
- Welcome decision of State & Central government's support in exporting Indian made products to countries where currently it is tough.
- The Policy will drive increased consumption, spur innovation and R&D activities, enhance affordability, and promote accessibility.

### NATHEALTH's presence at the G20 India Summit

NATHEALTH secretariat was privileged to be part a of the discussions at the G20 India Summit held at Goa. The event featured powerful conversations in the health track discussion around Climate Change & Health Resilience. These are defining issues of our times and the private health sector in India stands committed to supporting this major G20 initiative.



## Thought Leadership Initiatives

### NATHEALTH organizes its 2nd Western Roundtable

In the presence of key industry stakeholders, NATHEALTH arranged its 2nd Western Region Roundtable meeting. The objective of this roundtable was to bring in stakeholders of the Western region of India and understand the priorities of the Western chapter.



#### Key thematic areas discussed:

- Promotion of ABDM-Digital health adoption
- Skilling and capacity building
- Prioritization of skilling and capacity building of the allied healthcare workers by working closely working with the State governments, (Andhra Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh)
- Health financing
- Promoting active participation with the Government, both central and state stakeholders.

### NATHEALTH's representation at Symbiosis Annual Conference

NATHEALTH's Secretary General, Mr. Siddhartha Bhattacharya was invited as a guest speaker at the 'National Conference on Stakeholder Engagement for Integrated Healthcare - Futuristic Approach' hosted at Symbiosis International University, Lavale-Pune.

This annual mega event with a legacy of 23 years attracts over 1200 delegates from all verticals of healthcare such as doctors, medico legal experts, insurance & IT professionals, NGOs, hospital administrators & clinical research professionals from all over India and abroad. Officials of institutional / corporate hospitals, government officials & representatives of the health care sector also mark their attendance for this event.

## Thought Leadership Initiatives

The event boasts of stalwart speakers, contemporary topics and provides an opportunity for professional upgradation, paper presentation, master classes, liaison and networking.

### Key points deliberated by NATHEALTH:

- Opportunities for integrated care in India
- Key initiatives in public sector
- Private sector case studies
- NCDs and Preventive Healthcare
- Digital healthcare becoming a keystone in health delivery
- Key priorities for India: Vision 2035



## Invitation to participate in the North East Global Investor Summit

NATHEALTH has been invited to be a key part of an event series to be held by the Ministry of Development of Northeast Region (MDoNER), Government of India, under the name 'North East Global Investors Summit (NEGIS)'. Invest India is engaged as the Investment Facilitation Partner and FICCI as the Industry Partner for the summit.

The summit will be preceded by a series of activities including road shows in Mumbai (May), Dhaka, Bangladesh (June), Hyderabad (June) and Kolkata (June). The agenda of the roadshows will include structured B2B and B2G meetings, roundtable conferences, and panel discussions focusing on the investment opportunities in the eight North Eastern states of India.

The Global Investors Summit is intended to provide a platform for an immersive dialogue between select embassies, the business community, financial institutions, and relevant government stakeholders for forging mutually beneficial partnerships.



## Thought Leadership Initiatives

### NATHEALTH's participation in the Assam State Roundtable

NATHEALTH East Chapter team was a crucial part of an Investment Readiness Workshop was organized by the state of Assam in the presence of Dr. Lakshmanan S, IAS, Secretary to the Government of Assam, Industries, Commerce and PE Department.

The session covered:

- Strengthening a regional investment ecosystem
- Discussions on investable projects, investment preparedness
- Investment & trade opportunities in the state



## Continuous Stakeholder Engagement

### NATHEALTH organizes member meet at Bengaluru

NATHEALTH held a meeting in Bengaluru with its key members to chart out strategies for future growth of the healthcare sector.

The meeting focussed on key areas of priority like:

- Digital Health Initiatives
- Geriatric healthcare in the context of demographic shifts
- Ways for startups to showcase their technology, work with the Government
- Role of health insurance in healthcare growth & reach
- Role of NATHEALTH to support regulatory and Government bodies for adoption of new age medical devices with AI and Digital business models
- Ultrasound advocacy's way forward initiatives



## CSR Charter Update

### NATHEALTH is dedicating May month to Patient Safety

NATHEALTH has dedicated the month of May for Patient Safety, as an initiative under the CSR Charter. Under the same, there would be a campaign run on the social media which will provide holistic and authentic information to the patients and caregivers. The "Choose Safer Healthcare" campaign shall include: Industry leaders' videos, Articles on patient safety, Reels & Podcasts.

**Themes include:** Medicine Safety, Diagnostics Safety, and Hospital Safety



## Continuous Stakeholder Engagement

### NATHEALTH survey reveals multi-fold progress in member perceptions

NATHEALTH recently concluded its Dipstick Survey 2023 conducted by Bain & Co. In 2019, NATHEALTH's NPS was around 9%, which has now increased to 55% in 2023. Also, ~79% respondents believe NATHEALTH has made progress on its Vision 3.0, and believe the Secretariat & Leadership will achieve their expected vision in the coming year too.

Driving innovation and digitization, widening membership, and a focus on skilling are pitched to be the topmost priorities for the next 2 years.

Additionally, NATHEALTH's 9th Annual Summit event feedback report shows that ~96% of the participants rated the event as Good/Excellent.

# NATHEALTH announces new Leadership Team & Governing Council

## NATHEALTH's new Leadership Team



**Dr. Ashutosh Raghuvanshi**  
President, NATHEALTH  
Managing Director & CEO, Fortis Healthcare



**Ms. Ameera Shah**  
Senior Vice President,  
NATHEALTH  
Managing Director,  
Metropolis Healthcare



**Mr. Abhay Soi**  
Vice President - NATHEALTH  
Chairman & Managing  
Director, Max Healthcare  
Institute Limited



**Mr. Shishir Agarwal**  
Secretary - NATHEALTH  
Managing Director, Terumo  
India Private Limited



**Ms. Visalakshi Chandramouli**  
Treasurer - NATHEALTH  
Managing Partner, Tata  
Capital Healthcare Fund

## NATHEALTH's new Governing Council Members

<p><b>Dr. Ashutosh Raghuvanshi</b></p> <p>President NATHEALTH (Healthcare Federation of India)</p> <p>Managing Director &amp; CEO, Fortis Healthcare</p>	<p><b>Ms. Ameera Shah</b></p> <p>Senior Vice President - NATHEALTH</p> <p>Managing Director, Metropolis Healthcare</p>	<p><b>Mr. Abhay Soi</b></p> <p>Vice President - NATHEALTH</p> <p>Chairman &amp; Managing Director, Max Healthcare Institute Limited</p>	<p><b>Mr. Shishir Agarwal</b></p> <p>Secretary - NATHEALTH</p> <p>Managing Director, Terumo India Private Limited</p>
<p><b>Ms. Visalakshi Chandramouli</b></p> <p>Treasurer - NATHEALTH</p> <p>Managing Partner, Tata Capital Healthcare Fund</p>	<p><b>Mr. Sunil Thakur</b></p> <p>Taskforce Leader - NATHEALTH</p> <p>Partner, Quadria Capital</p>	<p><b>Mr. Amol R. Naikawadi</b></p> <p>Jt Managing Director, Indus Health Pvt Ltd</p>	<p><b>Mr. Kabir Mahajan</b></p> <p>Associate Director, Mahajan Imaging Pvt Ltd</p>
<p><b>Mr. Sanjiv Navangul</b></p> <p>MD &amp; CEO, Bharat Serums and Vaccines Limited</p>	<p><b>Dr. Gangadi Madhukar Reddy</b></p> <p>Managing Director, Medplus Health Services Limited</p>	<p><b>Mr. Ashwajit Singh</b></p> <p>Managing Director, IPE Global (P) Ltd</p>	<p><b>Mr. Chaitanya Sarawate</b></p> <p>MD, Wipro GE Healthcare Pvt Ltd</p>
<p><b>Mr. Amit Mookim</b></p> <p>Managing Director, Iqvia Consulting &amp; Information Services (I) Pvt Ltd</p>	<p><b>Mr. Anish Vanraj Bafna</b></p> <p>Chief Executive Officer &amp; Managing Director, Helthium Medtech Ltd</p>	<p><b>Mr. Deepak Saluja</b></p> <p>Vice President Sales, Vygon India Pvt Ltd</p>	<p><b>Mr. Manu Kapila</b></p> <p>Head Of Corporate Affairs, CSR &amp; Asset Protection, Fortis Healthcare Ltd.</p>
<p><b>Mr. Himanshu Baid</b></p> <p>Managing Director, Poly Medicure Limited</p>	<p><b>Ms. Yoo Jin Chey</b></p> <p>Johnson &amp; Johnson Medtech India</p>	<p><b>Dr. K Hari Prasad</b></p> <p>President of Hospitals Division - Apollo Hospitals Enterprise Ltd</p>	<p><b>Mr. Mohit Khullar</b></p> <p>O3 Capital Global Advisory Pvt Ltd</p>
<p><b>Mr. Chhitiz Kumar</b></p> <p>Vice President, Philips India Limited</p>	<p><b>Mr. Sanjay Prasad</b></p> <p>Chairman and Managing Director Max Healthcare Institute Limited</p>	<p><b>Mr. Gautam Khanna</b></p> <p>P D Hinduja Hospital</p>	<p><b>Dr. Rishub Gupta</b></p> <p>General Manager, Baxter India Private Limited</p>
<p><b>Mr. Om Prakash Manchanda</b></p> <p>MD, Dr. Lal Pathlabs Limited</p>	<p><b>Dr. Mahesh Joshi</b></p> <p>President &amp; Chief Executive Officer, Apollo Home healthcare Limited</p>	<p><b>Mr. Arpan Malhotra</b></p> <p>Senior Vice President, Siemens Healthineers India - Strategy and Business Development Siemens Healthcare Pvt Ltd</p>	<p><b>Dr. Anupam Sibal</b></p> <p>Group Medical Director, Apollo Health and Lifestyle Limited</p>
			<p><b>Mr. Yash P Mutha</b></p> <p>Executive Director, Krsnaa Diagnostics Limited</p>



## Continuous Stakeholder Engagement

### NATHEALTH organizes its first Leadership Team meet for FY 2023-24

The first LT meeting of the new NATHEALTH leadership team was held recently.

The key focus areas of the meeting were:

- Reflections from Annual Summit Arogya Bharat 2023
- NATHEALTH strategic priorities
- Restructuring the leadership of different forums/initiative groups
- Key Findings from NATHEALTH Member Feedback survey

The new LT looks forward to yet another successful year for NATHEALTH's growth trajectory that is a reflection of Indian healthcare's growth as well.

### Coffee meet with NATHEALTH's Pune members

NATHEALTH held a meeting in Pune with the primary objective to understand the healthcare priorities of Pune, district and to connect with the Pune members.



#### Key thematic areas discussed:

- Equal prioritization of preventative and curative healthcare
- Government interaction and policies
- Health care infrastructure
- Skilling and capacity building
- Understanding Indian and the global healthcare better
- Collaborative CSR
- Digital health

### Meeting with the new Johnson & Johnson leadership Ms. Yoo Jin Chey

NATHEALTH held a meeting with Ms. Yoo Jin Chey for a brief introduction of NATHEALTH and to discuss collaborative key healthcare priorities of 2023. The discussion also covered opportunities to collaborate and contribute on Skilling, Digital health, and Health financing. As also the opportunities on Government collaboration.

# A GLIMPSE AT THE NATHEALTH ANNUAL SUMMIT AROGYA BHARAT 2023



KEEP A LOOKOUT FOR: Upcoming 9th Annual Summit Report



# Proactive Communications & PR Campaigns

## Ring in the right to health, a signal for other States to follow

**WHO WILL PAY?** Clear rules needed for Rajasthan's landmark bill, even as activists hope more States follow suit

**CLARITY NEEDED** The Rajasthan Right to Health Bill, 2022, has been passed by the Rajasthan Legislative Assembly. The bill aims to ensure that every citizen has access to affordable and quality healthcare. It also seeks to regulate the private healthcare sector and ensure that it operates in the public interest. The bill is expected to be passed by the Rajasthan Legislative Council in the next few days. The bill is a landmark step towards ensuring that every citizen has access to affordable and quality healthcare. It also seeks to regulate the private healthcare sector and ensure that it operates in the public interest. The bill is expected to be passed by the Rajasthan Legislative Council in the next few days.



## Pvt healthcare providers want Rajasthan's 'Right to Health' law to be kept in abeyance

The healthcare industry body also expressed fears of increased legal and criminal cases that could be lodged against doctors as a result of the new law.

**By JOEL MATHEW, Apr 3, 2022 | 3 min read**

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Image: Getty Images

## Amidst CGHS Package Rate Hike, Pricing Of Diagnostics, Surgical Packages Unchanged

The decision will result in an increase in spending for the government from Rs 240 crore to Rs 300 crore

**By JOEL MATHEW, Apr 3, 2022 | 3 min read**

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Patient patient with a doctor

## Roll back Rajasthan's 'Right to Health Bill' until consensus is achieved: NATHEALTH President

The bill raises significant questions that weigh in on private providers around operational viability, financial sustainability, patient privacy and the increased legal and criminal cases that will be lodged against doctors who are already victims of physical violence: Dr Ashutosh Raghuvanshi.

**By JOEL MATHEW, Apr 3, 2022 | 3 min read**

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**New Delhi: India in the year 2017, unveiled the intent to enact a universal health policy The National Health Policy 2017. The aim was to inform, clarify, strengthen and prioritise the role of the government in shaming**

## 'Consolidation is in the offing for diagnostics industry'

**bl.interview**

**Rutan Vora**  
Ahmedabad

About two years ago, India's diagnostics space was seen as an attractive bet for investors looking for healthy returns. This was mostly driven by an increased diagnostics requirement following the Covid pandemic and related health issues. But within a year and a half, the cost pressures are more

The diagnostics industry remains one of the industries with minimum entry barriers. There is no minimum standard of care or regulations to operate. This has led to the industry becoming highly fragmented. We are witnessing a consolidation in the space and this will happen in the long run. Human capital, reagents and consumables are the key cost elements that impact profitability in the diagnostic sector.

The diagnostic industry operates at one of the lowest price points in the world, primarily driven by volume-based efficiencies, which also drives affordability and accessibility

**AMND K**  
CEO, SRL Diagnostics

customer in a tier-2 town or a tier-1 city can access tests at the same price because legacy players have strengthened their network and built logistics capabilities. At SRL Diagnostics, the last price revision was five years ago.

**What do you see impacting the company's profitability this fiscal? Is it hampering expansion plans? We have been able to expand our network significantly while also reinforcing our test**



**HEALTHCARE**

## Dire Diagnosis

Healthcare Federation of India has released a whitepaper titled 'Enabling an Accessible, Equitable, and Affordable Health Coverage for 1.4 Bn Indian Citizen'. The whitepaper focuses on achieving healthcare access and affordability for every Indian citizen. Discover more insightful reports like this at <https://nkd.in/qV7Mav6g#HealthcareForAll>

**BY NEETU CHANDRA SHARMA**

The whitepaper is a landmark step towards ensuring that every citizen has access to affordable and quality healthcare. It also seeks to regulate the private healthcare sector and ensure that it operates in the public interest. The whitepaper is expected to be passed by the Rajasthan Legislative Council in the next few days.

**Healthcare Federation of India**  
Published by Kirti Anuja | 3 d | 0

Every year NATHEALTH aims to further the dev of the #Healthcare sector under the aegis of industry experts elected to be the governing council of the federation. Our recently elected President, Dr. Ashutosh Raghuvanshi, MD & CEO Fortis Healthcare has shared his vision for this year.

Check out the entire President's Address here: <https://nathealthindia.org/presidents-message/>

**NATHEALTH**

**Dr. Ashutosh Raghuvanshi**  
President, NATHEALTH,  
Managing Director & CEO,  
Fortis Healthcare  
[www.nathealthindia.org](http://www.nathealthindia.org)

Dear NATHEALTH Members,

These are exciting times for our country. As we witness India's breathtaking transformation into a vibrant and technology-driven modern nation, it is important to stay focused on ensuring good health and quality life for our people. As private sector healthcare players, we all have a constructive role to play in the sector since the country depends on us for close to 75% of its healthcare needs. Besides, the private healthcare sector is one of the largest employers in the country and contributes significantly to the economy by way of inter-national medical value trade. The sector, undoubtedly, has vast potential for growth. Many untapped areas need to be explored and some of our common challenges need to be overcome in order to unleash our full potential.

**NATHEALTH - Healthcare Federation of India**  
7,374 followers

Big news from #NATHEALTHAnnualSummit! We're proud to present our latest whitepaper, 'Enabling an Accessible, Equitable, and Affordable Health Coverage for 1.4 Bn Indian Citizen', in partnership with PwC India. This whitepaper focuses on achieving healthcare access and affordability for every Indian citizen. Discover more insightful reports like this at <https://nkd.in/qV7Mav6g#HealthcareForAll>

**NATHEALTH**

**New Launch**  
Enabling an Accessible, Equitable, and Affordable health coverage for 1.4 Bn Indian citizen

The paper focuses on identifying ways to solve the problems of healthcare affordability, long queues, health coverage and moderate focus on outcomes

Learn more at the Summit [www.nathealthindia.org](http://www.nathealthindia.org)

1 report

Diagnosics - 6 Min Read

## Digital Pathology, Eyesight to AI sight - Transforming lab workflows digitally through artificial intelligence

India is also grappling with a shortage of pathologists and microbiologists. It takes immense effort to diagnose samples without the aid of technology which underlines the need to use the latest technology like Artificial Intelligence (AI) to speed up diagnosis and increase its scale. India has about 3 lakh medical testing laboratories but only 5,500 qualified MD pathologists.

**by Guruprasad S**

Across the world, an acute shortage of pathologists is dogging diagnostics and treatment of a range of diseases. According to one

## Industry players welcome National Medical Devices Policy

**Chaitanyam**  
New Delhi

The just-announced National Medical Devices Policy 2022 will give the country a chance to capture 10-12 per cent market share globally, industry participants say.

The policy, announced by the Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandavkar, envisages the sector to grow to \$50 billion by 2026 from \$11 billion now, enable significant gains in research and development and reduce import bill.

**FOCUS AREAS**

"While India is only 1.5 per cent of the global medical device market, it has 8 per cent share of the medical R&D work force already. This is a proven area to focus on and we are encouraged that by the focus on R&D," said Pawan Choudhary, Chairman, Medical Technology Association of India, an association of medical technology companies.

The policy has called for setting up of a dedicated export promotion council and push for greater market access which Choudhary said was perhaps a first of its kind systematic brand positioning and awareness creation in the sector.

According to Shashir Agarwal, Secretary, NATHEALTH and MD, Terumo India Pvt Ltd, the policy - which he calls "progressive" - will drive consumption apart from spurring innovation.

The policy calls for creation of a Single Window Clearance System for Licensing of Medical Devices, co-opting all the stakeholder departments and organisations and enhancing the role of Indian Standards like BIS, apart from designing a coherent pricing regulation.

"Dedicated body to understand nuances of electronics, home health and single time use (consumables) will be key to build medical devices sector and (the policy) is not looking from the (perspective of) Pharma (company) lenses," Sunil Khanna, CEO and MD, BPL Medical Technologies, said. The policy calls for establishing large medical device parks, clusters equipped with world class common infra in proximity to economic zones with required connectivity.

It encourages private investments, funding from VCs and push for PwPs. "Investors can now look at the sector with more confidence and push new age tech like AI and machine learning tools," said Raghavendra Goud Vanga, Global CEO, Sharma, Co-founder & CEO, MedGen, says, with affordability of medical devices, treatment costs come down. "This promotes adoption of new tech and creating conducive environment for start-up medical devices sector. All these in turn will lead to well equipped hospitals and labs," he said.

**NATHEALTH #WeStandWithIndia** @nathealthindia · Apr 7

This #WorldHealthDay we would like to re-emphasize that #UHC includes all types of care & is based on the principles of partnership & access to quality health, ensuring that we continue to invest in public health across India.

**NATHEALTH**

Universal Health Coverage to ensure #HealthForAll includes:

- Preventive Care
- Palliative Care
- Promotion
- Rehabilitation
- Treatment

**WORLD Health Day**



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