

1. Weight-loss drug market likely to expand in India

The expected **patent expiry of the diabetes/weight-loss drug semaglutide (Ozempic)** could trigger a major boom in India's obesity-treatment market. Doctors report rising demand for anti-obesity therapies, and domestic pharmaceutical companies are preparing to launch more affordable versions once patents expire.

2. Major hospital fire tragedy in Odisha

A **fire in the Trauma Care ICU of SCB Medical College and Hospital in Cuttack** reportedly killed around **10 patients** and injured several others. Authorities launched an investigation into safety lapses and emergency response at the government hospital.

3. ₹2,000+ crore healthcare projects announced in Northeast

The central government announced **₹2,092-crore healthcare infrastructure projects in Assam**, including new cancer centres, a medical college, and hospital upgrades. The aim is to make the region a **major medical hub for Northeast India** and improve tertiary care access.

4. Expansion of diagnostic infrastructure in Tamil Nadu

A leading imaging company has installed **advanced diagnostic equipment at Porunai Hospitals in Tamil Nadu**, strengthening radiology and diagnostic capabilities. This move is expected to improve early disease detection and advanced imaging services in the region.

5. Study highlights large cancer-care funding gap in India

A new report estimates that **₹33,000 crore per year is required** to adequately fund cancer care under government schemes. Experts recommend reforms such as **earlier diagnosis, improved funding models, and better treatment access**.

6. India strengthening its medical tourism sector

India continues to attract international patients due to **high-quality yet affordable treatment, skilled doctors, and modern hospitals**. The government and private sector are working to expand medical tourism infrastructure and services.

7. Public health push for HPV vaccination

Health authorities in Karnataka have started awareness campaigns encouraging **HPV vaccination for adolescent girls** to prevent cervical cancer, with free vaccination offered at government health facilities for a limited period.