

1. AMRIT Pharmacy Expansion

- Union Health Minister **J.P. Nadda** inaugurated **10 new AMRIT pharmacies** across India as part of the 10th anniversary of the AMRIT programme.
- According to him, these pharmacies have served **6.85 crore patients** so far, dispensing medicines worth ~₹17,000 crore (MRP) at significant discounts, leading to a cumulative saving of ~₹8,500 crore for patients.
- He also outlined a vision to expand the AMRIT network to **500 outlets**, targeting coverage in every medical college and district hospital.

2. MedTech Boost at AMTZ

- **Piyush Goyal**, Union Minister of Commerce & Industry, inaugurated a **3i MedTech** facility at the Andhra Pradesh MedTech Zone (AMTZ) in Visakhapatnam.
- Alongside, a **Cath-lab (catheterisation laboratory) manufacturing unit** under Innovation Imaging Technologies Pvt Ltd (IITPL) was launched.
- The aim is to build more self-reliance in medical device manufacturing and produce affordable, advanced diagnostic-imaging equipment.

Why These Matter

- The expansion of **AMRIT pharmacies** strengthens access to **affordable medicines and implants**, which is important for reducing out-of-pocket medical expenses, especially for chronic disease patients.
- The **AMTZ MedTech development** represents a push toward **Make in India** for high-end medical devices — potentially reducing import dependence and making advanced diagnostics more accessible in India.