

## Healthcare & Public Health

- **India delivers critical cancer medicines to Afghanistan**

India shipped 7.5 tonnes of *life-saving cancer drugs* to Afghanistan as humanitarian support for patients there.

- **Health spending priorities ahead of Union Budget**

Healthcare stakeholders, including Medical Technology Associations of India (MTA), have outlined priority areas for health sector funding looking toward the **Union Budget 2026–27** — focusing on strengthening infrastructure and innovation.

- **Affordable cancer drug launched in India**

Zydus Lifesciences announced the launch of a *cost-effective biosimilar cancer medication* intended to make advanced cancer treatment more accessible to patients across the country.

- **Jharkhand to build new Block Public Health Units**

The Jharkhand government announced plans to establish 245 *Block Public Health Units* with about ₹203 crore investment to strengthen district-level health services.

- **NMC extends deadline for MBBS admissions reporting**

The *National Medical Commission (NMC)* has extended the deadline for medical colleges to submit data on MBBS admissions — easing administrative pressure during counselling season.

- **Punjab launches major free-treatment scheme**

The Punjab government introduced a health initiative guaranteeing *up to ₹10 lakh* of free medical treatment per family under a new welfare scheme.

- **Healthcare hub development in Nava Raipur**

A ₹680 crore investment agreement was signed to develop a *central healthcare hub* in Nava Raipur with a 300-bed facility, aiming to boost jobs and health services.

- **New Ayurvedic medical college approved in Jharkhand**

The Union Health Ministry approved establishment of an **Ayurvedic Medical College and Hospital** in Jharkhand to expand traditional medicine education and services.

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### **Other Important Medical Developments (Context)**

- **India is now 2nd globally to integrate Mobile Stroke Units**

ICMR reported India *became the second country worldwide* to integrate Mobile Stroke Units (MSUs) into emergency medical services, aiming to improve urgent care access in rural/remote areas.

- **Online AI training for doctors gains traction**

Over 42,000 doctors have enrolled in India's new *online artificial intelligence in healthcare* training programme to enhance clinical decision-making and diagnostics.

- **AIIMS Delhi surpasses 1,000 robotic surgeries**

AIIMS Delhi has performed over 1,000 *robotic surgeries* in about 13 months, indicating rapid adoption of advanced surgical technologies in public healthcare.

- **PG medical seats & counselling update**

There remain over 10,000 *vacant postgraduate medical seats*, and NEET-PG counselling developments are ongoing.

- **J&K medical students get relief**

Fifty MBBS students from a revoked medical college will be accommodated in other government colleges via *fresh counselling on 24 January*.