

## **Healthcare System & Policy**

### **Uneven MBBS seat distribution stresses rural care**

A Parliamentary panel has again raised concerns about the uneven distribution of MBBS seats and medical infrastructure, especially impacting access in rural and underserved areas.

### **India engages with Afghanistan on health cooperation**

Officials from India and Afghanistan discussed creating a joint health working group to strengthen collaboration in healthcare services and systems.

## **Technology & Innovation**

### **Smartwatches evolving with certified medical capabilities**

Wearable tech is transitioning from lifestyle to legitimate medical devices, with emerging certification standards enabling broader clinical use.

## **Public Health Awareness**

### **Men's breast cancer awareness push**

Doctors are urging men not to overlook breast cancer symptoms — calling attention to preventive tips and early detection importance.

## **Health Impact of Pollution**

### **COPD cases surge in Ludhiana amid winter smog**

A sharp rise in severe respiratory distress patients at Ludhiana hospitals highlights smog's worsening impact on lung health.

## **Conferences & Collaboration**

### **AMR 360° Conclave on drug resistance kicks off**

A major event in Nagpur began addressing the growing public health crisis around antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

## **Global Health Partnerships**

### **WHO & Ayush Ministry work on traditional medicine integration**

Technical discussions between the World Health Organization and India's Ministry of Ayush aim to increase integration of traditional medicine into broader health frameworks.

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## **Additional Important Health-Related Developments (Recent)**

### **Medical Research & Regulation**

**Centre considers new law to regulate medical research** — A proposed bill would create a comprehensive framework for health research oversight, establish ethics committees and standardize research practices nationwide.

### **AI in Healthcare**

**AI-based screening for diabetic retinopathy launched** — India has introduced a national programme using artificial intelligence to screen for diabetes-related eye disease at the community level.

### **Medical Advances**

**Biocon Biologics gains global rights to biosimilar adalimumab** — This could help expand access to an important biologic for autoimmune conditions worldwide.

### **Regulatory & Student Safety**

Indian medical students in Bangladesh are the subject of safety concerns amid protests — Jammu & Kashmir students' group has petitioned the Prime Minister for protection and support.