

## 1. Insurance gaps for persons with disabilities

A national survey shows that about **80% of persons with disabilities in India do not have health insurance**, and of those who apply, **53% face rejection** of their claims.

**Why it matters:** This highlights a major equity issue in India's health system — people with disabilities often have higher health-care needs but lack financial protection.

**Implications:** Policy makers may need to review insurance eligibility criteria, outreach and claim processes to ensure inclusive coverage.

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## 2. Antimicrobial-resistance (AMR) awareness efforts by Institute of Medical Sciences, Banaras Hindu University (IMS-BHU)

IMS-BHU organised events during World Antimicrobial Awareness Week (18–24 Nov 2025) to promote responsible use of antibiotics and infection-prevention. They ran a health-mela and street-play for local communities.

**Why it matters:** AMR is a growing global public-health threat, and community-level awareness is an important part of combating it.

**Take-away:** Such outreach can help curb misuse of antimicrobials, delay resistance, and protect future effectiveness of medicines.

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## 3. Advanced diagnostics at Government Medical College & Hospital, Sector 32, Chandigarh

GMCH-Sector 32 in Chandigarh inaugurated a new **LC-MS/MS (liquid chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry)** system. It will enable extended newborn metabolic screening (detecting over 40 inherited disorders), and therapeutic-drug-monitoring of anti-epileptic medications.

**Why this is notable:** Such technology brings high-precision diagnostics into the public hospital sector in India, potentially improving early detection & outcomes.

**For patients/families:** Early detection of metabolic disorders gives more treatment options; drug-monitoring helps personalise therapy.

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#### **4. Andhra Pradesh forms a global expert panel for its ‘Arogya Andhra’ health vision**

The state government has set up a panel of 10 global health experts (including names like Soumya Swaminathan, Gagandeep Kang) to guide the “Arogya Andhra” initiative aiming for full health-security by 2047. They will advise on disease-burden reduction, innovation in maternal & child health, technology integration etc.

**Why it matters:** State-level health reforms backed by expert advice can accelerate improvements in infrastructure, care delivery and prevention.

**What to watch:** Implementation over the next years — how many of their recommendations translate into real changes at district/hospital level.

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#### **5. Major regulatory directive for medical devices in India**

The national regulator Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) has issued a circular stating that **no medical device** may be sold or procured in India without a valid Indian licence issued under the Medical Devices Rules, 2017. Certifications like US FDA/CE alone are insufficient.

**Significance:** Strengthens local regulatory oversight of medical-devices (manufacture/import/sale) to ensure safety, quality and performance.

**Considerations:** Hospitals, manufacturers, importers must comply; may affect procurement timelines & costs.

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#### **6. Labour-law reform includes health check-ups for workers**

Under the newly enforced labour codes (e.g., Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020), employers in India must provide **free annual health check-ups** to workers aged over 40.

**Why this is important:** Preventive health care at the workplace can detect non-communicable diseases (NCDs) early, reduce complications and healthcare costs.

**What to keep in mind:** Implementation will be key — ensuring quality of check-ups, follow-up care, and coverage across formal & informal sectors.

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## 7. India's biopharma innovation leap

Under the National Biopharma Mission (supported by the World Bank), India is making strides in biotechnology/medical-devices: e.g., a Bangalore start-up developed a low-cost MRI scanner; a Chennai firm produced a biosimilar for Type-2 diabetes costing a third of imported version.

**Implication:** India is shifting from being a manufacturing hub (“pharmacy of the world”) to innovator-producer — this could improve access & lower cost of advanced care.

**Note:** Regulatory, manufacturing, talent-pipeline and funding-ecosystem issues must still be addressed.