



Public Health & Disease Control

- **Ongoing push against antimicrobial resistance (AMR)**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's *Mann Ki Baat* address highlighted the growing threat of **AMR — antimicrobial resistance** due to overuse and misuse of antibiotics. This warning was strongly supported by health experts advocating stricter stewardship, rational prescribing and stronger infection control systems to prevent drug-resistant infections that complicate common diseases like pneumonia and UTIs.

- **Rural breast cancer screening expansion via Sevak Project**

The **Sevak Project** is bringing *breast cancer awareness and early screening* directly to villages across Gujarat, Bihar and Tamil Nadu. By training rural women in self-examinations and basic health monitoring, the program has already detected cases requiring referral through public systems, and is also addressing anemia, diabetes and hypertension at the community level.

Healthcare System & Infrastructure

- **Government discussions on PPP medical colleges**

State authorities are **considering extending tenders for public-private partnership (PPP) medical colleges**, a step seen as part of broader efforts to expand medical education capacity and strengthen healthcare delivery infrastructure.

- **VIMS reports major service growth in 2025**

The *Visakha Institute of Medical Sciences (VIMS)* significantly increased its services last year — more than doubling outpatient footfall and performing ~2,800 surgeries, including expanded emergency care and free advanced procedures under state welfare schemes.

Medicine & Prevention

- **Malaria nearing elimination**

India has recorded an **estimated ~97 % reduction in malaria cases**, moving toward *near-elimination*, with corresponding declines in dengue mortality and maternal deaths — attributed to public health schemes like Ayushman Bharat, Mission Indradhanush, and expanded health budgets.

- **Rising respiratory health burden linked to pollution**

Doctors in major cities are reporting **increased respiratory cases** (cold, cough, breathlessness) likely tied to persistent air pollution — emphasizing the need for strengthened chest clinics and pollution-related disease preparedness in hospitals.

Policy & System Trends

- **Healthcare financing & insurance evolution**

Reports indicate **India's medical trend (employee plan costs)** is projected to grow ~11.5 % in 2026 — higher than global averages — underscoring shifts in healthcare cost structures and the need for smarter financing strategies.

- **Year-end reforms and coverage growth**

By late 2025, health reforms have accelerated infrastructure and coverage — including over *42 crore Ayushman Bharat cards issued*, expanded cashless treatment access, and digital record integrations that cover tens of crores of Indian residents.

Highlights to Watch (Contextual 2025 Trends)

- India's malaria and TB mortality have dropped sharply, reflecting strengthened public efforts.
- Health insurance behaviours and digital policy renewals are reshaping preventive care uptake.
- Broader shifts toward *digital health ID systems* (ABHA) and telemedicine continue to integrate clinical care nationwide.