

NATHEALTH[®]
Healthcare Federation of India

NEWSLETTER

June 2025



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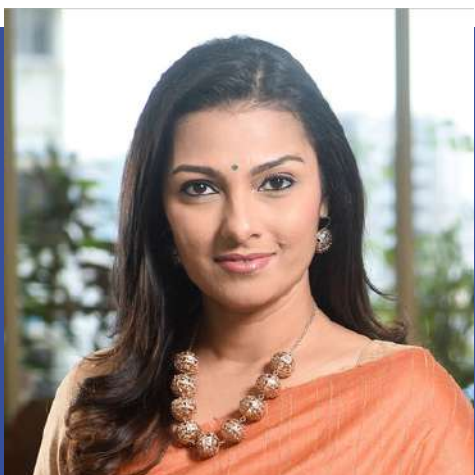


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From the President's Desk



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Together, let us channel our collective energy and collaborative spirit to deliver measurable impact across India's healthcare ecosystem.

Dear Members and Partners,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the second edition of NATHEALTH's newsletter for FY 2025–26. As we progress through the year, India's healthcare sector continues to undergo rapid and meaningful transformation. At NATHEALTH, we remain committed to advancing this change with clarity, collaboration, and purpose.

Our efforts are anchored around **4 strategic themes** that reflect the sector's evolving needs:

- **Sustainable long-term growth in healthcare:** Shaping a dialogue with public and private insurance to shape the future of health financing towards growth, sustainability, quality/patient safety and innovation.
- **Regulatory streamlining:** Removing compliance bottlenecks, adopting digital single window regulatory architecture and design a forward-looking regulatory architecture that is transparent and focused on standards.
- **Digital health adoption:** Bringing the ecosystem towards a convergent digital health agenda and build capacity among smaller providers through training, handholding and smart financing.
- **Proactive risk mitigation:** Align and shape progressive legislations and operating rules to ensure enhanced patient trust and collaboration between different healthcare stakeholders, while ushering predictable governance and a sustainable expansion of the healthcare eco system.

These themes are not just directional—they represent *active workstreams* that are already driving impact. Through focused task forces, policy dialogues, stakeholder whitepapers, and state-level engagements, we are steadily advancing our shared goals.

Under constant supervision of the LT, GC, and Past Presidents, and with an active secretariat project management, these tracks will see overarching participation and engagement with all sections of NATHEALTH across functional, regional and clinical forums.

Over the past month, we engaged with key stakeholders, including the Union Ministry of Health, State Governments, Department of Pharmaceuticals, Cabinet Secretariat, NITI Aayog, DGHS, DAPG, MOEA, MOHOA, and BIS. These conversations covered a wide spectrum—from state health priorities and medical device regulations, to hospital infrastructure, patient safety, digital health pathways, and compliance frameworks.

The true strength of NATHEALTH lies in the power of its members. I urge each of you to stay engaged—share your perspectives, lend your voice to the important conversations ahead, and actively participate in upcoming initiatives. Now is the time to shape the future of healthcare—together.

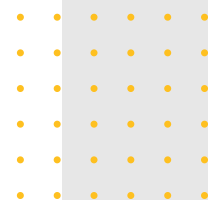
Let's keep the momentum going. Together, we will build a more resilient, inclusive, and innovation-led healthcare future for India.

Best Wishes,

Ameera Shah

President - NATHEALTH (Healthcare Federation of India)

Promoter & Executive Chairperson of Metropolis Healthcare Limited



NATHEALTH Advocacy Initiatives of the Month

Meeting with MoS Health on MVT, MedTech, CGHS, and more

NATHEALTH leadership team including Ameera Shah, President, NATHEALTH and Himanshu Baid, Vice President-NATHEALTH along with NATHEALTH Secretary General Siddhartha Bhattacharya, met Hon'ble MoS Health **Shri Prataprao Jadhav**.



The meeting discussed key proposals including Medical Value Travel (MVT), ease of doing business in the MedTech sector, and the need for CGHS price revision. The Minister shared that the CGHS price revision process is underway and currently under active discussion. NATHEALTH also proposed the setting up of reference labs to ensure quality standards in diagnostics. The Minister's office informed about the government's accreditation initiative for lab quality, and welcomed NATHEALTH's support in strengthening this effort.

Meeting with Hon. Minister of Public Health and Family Welfare, Government of Maharashtra

Ms. Ameera Shah, President, NATHEALTH met with **Shri Prakashrao Abitkar**, Hon. Minister of Public Health and Family Welfare, Government of Maharashtra to discuss key state priorities and the areas of convergence requiring industry partnership and collaboration.



Meeting with OSD to Health Minister, Government of Maharashtra

NATHEALTH had a meeting with **Dr. Nitin Devmane**, OSD to Health Minister, Government of Maharashtra, on the subjects of Medical Value Travel (MVT) and diagnostic labs. Attendees from NATHEALTH included Dr. Avinash Phadke, President & Mentor, Agilus Diagnostic; Mr. Vivek Talaulikar, Director & COO, Max Healthcare; Dr. Parag Rindani, CEO & VP, Wockhardt Hospitals; Dr. Nilesh Shah, President, Metropolis Healthcare; and Mr. Siddhartha Bhattacharya, Secretary General, NATHEALTH.

Along with discussing the future of MVT in India, the meeting also proposed to setup up to six state-of-the-art reference laboratories across Maharashtra in a phased manner. Each lab will serve as a hub for quality testing and capacity building in its respective region.

NATHEALTH Advocacy Initiatives of the Month

Meeting with Secretary, Department of Pharmaceuticals (DoP) for advancing India's healthcare

NATHEALTH's leadership team, including President Ms. Ameera Shah and Vice President Mr. Himanshu Baid, along with members of the NATHEALTH Secretariat, had a meaningful engagement with the Secretary, Department of Pharmaceuticals (DoP).

The discussion reflected a shared commitment to advancing India's healthcare through meaningful collaboration. Key highlights from the meeting are as follows:

- Fostering collaborative relationships with the United States, as the US is keen to retain its role in the final stages of the pharma value chain, while the rest of the value chain remains with India.
- Discussion regarding the exemption of raw materials used in medical devices from the scope of the Quality Control Order.
- Organizing focused workshops to provide clarity, detailed guidance, and address stakeholder queries related to the Uniform Code for Medical Device Marketing Practices (UCMPMD).


Meeting with Additional Cabinet Secretary to discuss Hospital Vertical Expansion

NATHEALTH had a constructive meeting with **Shri K.K. Pathak**, Additional Cabinet Secretary, to discuss NATHEALTH's recommendations regarding the vertical expansion of hospital buildings. The Cabinet Secretariat had reviewed the submission, after which, he invited NATHEALTH for a detailed discussion.

The healthcare sector was represented by Dr. Mradul Kaushik (Max Healthcare), Dr. V.P. Bhalla (Marengo Asia Hospitals), and Dr. Sunil Dagar (Yashoda Medicity), along with Mr. Sanjay Singh from ARCOP. Mr. Pathak engaged meaningfully with the inputs shared and indicated that this dialogue is expected to continue in subsequent meetings as the matter progresses.

NATHEALTH-EY Team presents Draft Compliance Paper to NITI Aayog

NATHEALTH has been working towards streamlining healthcare compliance frameworks in India. To further the cause, NATHEALTH and EY teams met with **Dr. Rajib Sen**, Senior Advisor at NITI Aayog, to present the draft of their joint compliance paper. Dr. Sen appreciated the quality and relevance of the work and recommended that the draft be presented to Dr. V.K. Paul, Member (Health), NITI Aayog, for final review and inputs.



NATHEALTH Advocacy Initiatives of the Month

Meeting with DGHS to discuss Key Policy Issues

A high-level delegation from NATHEALTH, led by President Ms. Ameera Shah, met **Dr. Atul Goyal**, Director General of Health Services (DGHS), to deliberate on critical regulatory concerns. The delegation included Dr. Mradul Kaushik, Mr. DN Suresh, Ms. Shobha Ghosh Mishra, and Mr. Siddhartha Bhattacharya. Key issues discussed during the meeting included challenges related to PCPNDT and restrictions concerning building height norms for healthcare facilities.

Meeting with DADG, Patient Safety Secretariat regarding the National Patient Safety Framework and MVT

NATHEALTH Secretary General, Mr. Siddhartha Bhattacharya, met **Dr. Avinash Santhlia**, Deputy Assistant Director General (DADG), Patient Safety Secretariat, at the DGHS office. Dr. Santhlia requested NATHEALTH's support in drafting the National Patient Safety Framework and suggested collaborating on issues such as Medical Value Travel (MVT), alongside other organizations currently working with the Secretariat.

Meeting with GIC to discuss Key Policy Issues

NATHEALTH had a meeting with the General Insurance Council, wherein senior officials of GIC such as **Inderjeet Singh**, Secretary General; **Segar Sampahthkumar**, Director, Health, among others, were present.

The meeting highlighted NATHEALTH's commitment to the evolution of healthcare in India, developing a digitally-driven healthcare system, and more. Below are the key discussion points:

- Role of GIC in making healthcare and by extension, health insurance, more affordable and accessible.
- Rationale behind Common Empanelment initiated by the General Insurance Council as advised by IRDAI.
- Expanding coverage to expenses beyond hospitalisation.
- Cashless access to be widened to provide reach to all geographies.
- Enhancing customer experience and removing pain points.
- Standardising the healthcare processes and evolve a stable pricing framework.

Meeting with BIS Committee, to discuss recommendations on vertical expansion of hospital buildings

NATHEALTH team, along with Mr. DN Suresh, Senior Vice President, Infrastructure, Max Healthcare Institute, met with **Mr. Sandeep Goel**, a member of the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) Committee, to discuss NATHEALTH's recommendations on the vertical expansion of hospital buildings. Mr. Goel appreciated the inputs and advised NATHEALTH to submit detailed comments and proposed changes to the National Building Code (NBC) for consideration by the BIS Committee.

NATHEALTH In-House Updates

NATHEALTH Governing Council Meeting

NATHEALTH held its first GC meeting at the Leela Hotel, Mumbai. The session saw active participation and engaging discussions, along with sharing of valuable insights by the members.

The meeting's key highlights include:

- Update on FY 2025-26 NATHEALTH Key Priorities & Roadmap Ahead
- NATHEALTH Foundation: Update on Key Initiatives
- Campaign Proposal on Patient Safety and Quality Care-Phase 2
- Treasurer Budget Presentation

The meeting also discussed important inputs from NATHEALTH Past Presidents, the Leadership Team, Governing Council Members and Special Invitees.



NATHEALTH In-House Updates

Western Leaders Networking Session

NATHEALTH organized a networking meeting for its Western Region Leaders at The Leela Mumbai Sahar. The dinner session was graciously attended by NATHEALTH Governing Council Members. This meeting aimed to unite key stakeholders for discussing and deliberating on NATHEALTH's future priorities.



Welcoming Mr. Gautam Khanna to the NATHEALTH Foundation Board



The NATHEALTH Foundation is delighted to announce the appointment of Mr. Gautam Khanna to its Board. A distinguished industry leader and General Council Member of NATHEALTH, Mr. Khanna brings with him a wealth of expertise in healthcare operations, strategic leadership, and cross-sectoral partnerships. His appointment marks a significant step forward in the Foundation's ongoing efforts to build a resilient, inclusive, and innovation-led healthcare ecosystem in India.

Welcoming Mr. Prashant Sharma into the new Governing Council



NATHEALTH is pleased to welcome **Mr. Prashant Sharma, MD**, Charnock Hospitals Private Limited into the newly-elected Governing Council (GC) member for the next two years. His leadership will guide NATHEALTH to even greater heights, and NATHEALTH is confident that his expertise and vision will drive the Federation's success.

NATHEALTH In-House Updates

Meeting with Dr. Prathap C Reddy, Founder President of NATHEALTH

NATHEALTH Secretary General, Mr. Siddhartha Bhattacharya had the pleasure to meet with Dr. Prathap C Reddy, Founder President of NATHEALTH and Founder-Chairman of the Apollo Hospitals Group. The meeting with Dr. Reddy is a regular initiative that the Federation takes. Wherein, the progress of NATHEALTH is shared with Dr. Reddy, while he shares guidance for the future of the Federation. This time as well, pertinent subjects relevant to NATHEALTH's key agenda items were discussed in the said meeting.



NATHEALTH Priority Themes Announcement

NATHEALTH has announced its key priorities that are collated through internal forum discussions and segmented into priority themes. The priority document features 3 broad themes and 12 sub themes.

NATHEALTH has prepared a cadence to drive this priority, which was also discussed in the Governing Council meeting. Each of these areas will have an integrated advocacy and communications plan that includes the broader NATHEALTH community. Through this document, NATHEALTH has picked up important convergent areas with cross functional participation, with a clear outline and mid-term KPIs.



NATHEALTH Welcomes its New Members

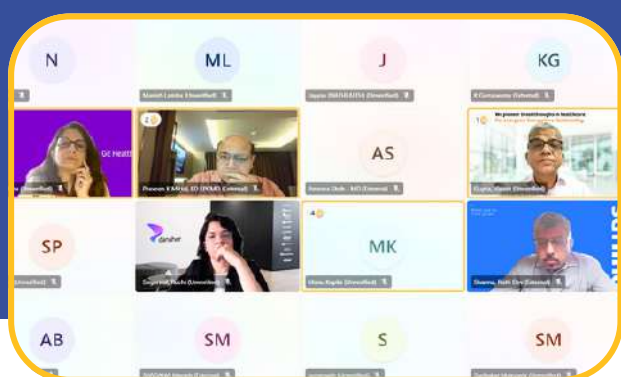
Talent Shark HR Consultancy	Ms. Jannat Singh / Mr. Sanjeet Singh	Founder & Managing Director	Consultancy
Rewind Healthcare Pvt. Ltd. (Nivaan Care)	Mr Nivesh Khandelwal	Co-founder & CEO	Healthcare Provider
Nishith Desai Associate	Dr Milind Antani	Lead, Pharma, Life Science and Healthcare Practice	Consultancy
GMVT Technologies Pvt. Ltd.	Ms Anamika Sikri	Chief Operations Officer	Medical Tourism

NATHEALTH In-House Updates

NATHEALTH MedTech Forum Meeting

The MedTech Forum met to discuss the core areas of work for the MedTech sector. The discussion mainly revolved around the following:

- Refurbished medical devices – ensuring access to care in tier II/tier III cities
- Capacity building via training in tier II/III cities for new MedTech devices
- Timely price revision
- UCPMP
- Insurance for new MedTech devices
- Compliance and Regulation issues
- Social Media amplification of MedTech innovations



Senior Care, Home Care, and Education Forum Meeting

A virtual meeting was held by NATHEALTH to discuss key thematic areas of senior care forum, home care forum and education forum. Attendees included Ms. Ameera Shah, Mr. Himanshu Baid, Dr. Gaurav Thukral, Dr. Hari Thallapalli, Dr. Karthik, Dr. Ravi Gaur, Mr. Hitesh Sardana, Mr. Jagjit Singh, Mr. Prabhdeep Singh, Mr. Shawnn Coutinho, Mr. Suraj Sharma, Mr. Vaibhav Tewari, Mr. Vikram Verma, and the Secretariat team.

Key discussion areas include:

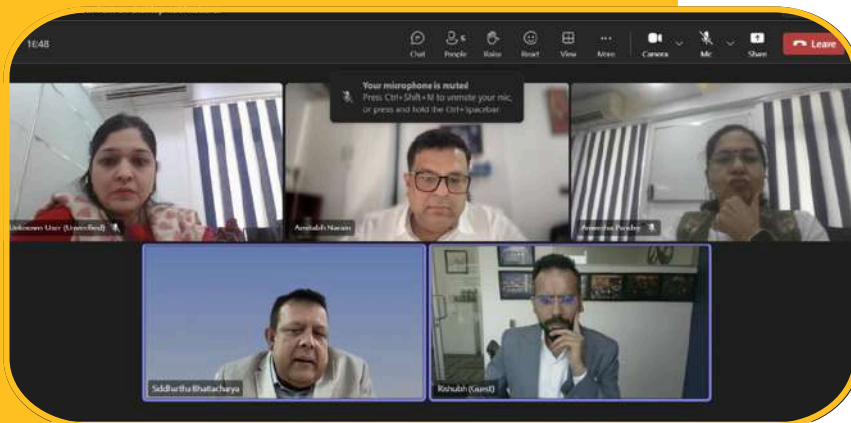
- Accreditation Framework
- Policy Recommendations Update
- Workforce Skilling & Training
- PPP and Collaboration Strategy



NATHEALTH In-House Updates

NATHEALTH Treasurer Meeting

NATHEALTH held its Treasurer meeting to understand the strategy for the new year. The team discussed key focus areas and the thematic areas that need further push and support from the Treasurer.



Representation at the Rising Northeast Investors Summit 2025

Recently, NATHEALTH Secretary General Mr. Siddhartha Bhattacharya moderated a panel discussion on 'Advancing Healthcare Delivery in Northeast', at Rising Northeast Investors Summit 2025, held at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. The Summit, **inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi** was organised by the Ministry of DoNER, Government of India.

The panel discussion featured eminent personalities like Ms. Anupriya Patel, Hon'ble Minister of State (Health) and Hon'ble Minister of Health, Sikkim; Mr. Thavaseelan K, Commissioner and Secretary, Rural Development Department & CEO, Nagaland Health Protection Society (NHPS), Department of Health & Family Welfare, Government of Nagaland; Prof. Ashok Puranik, Executive Director, AIIMS Guwahati; Dr. Bibhuti Borthakur, Director of B. Booroah Cancer Institute (BBCI); and Dr. Srinivasa Rao Pulijala, CEO, Apollo MedSkills Limited.



Events Update

NATHEALTH Pune Roundtable held with Astounding Success

The Pune Roundtable, held at the Lavale campus of Symbiosis Institute of Health Sciences, Symbiosis International University, saw an engaging participation from more than 45 senior leaders from the Western region.

Key focus areas of the event included:

- Discussion on regional focus, challenges and opportunities in West India
- Steps to bridge the healthcare skill gap and understanding the role of academia in building employable talent
- NATHEALTH priorities and progress update
- Focussed discussions on subjects like Health Financing, Governance, Digital Health, Delivery



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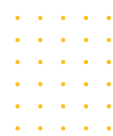


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NATHEALTH in News

Media presence as the unified voice of healthcare



High Quality Diagnostics: First Step to Achieve Safe, Efficient Healthcare

Strengthening diagnostic infrastructure and governance is not just about improving care quality, it's about building trust, reducing healthcare costs, and enabling early, life-saving interventions. Without it, the goal of equitable, efficient healthcare for all remains distant.

By J.V.R. Prasad Rao
Updated On May 28, 2025 at 07:36 AM IST



An diagnostic play a central role in disease prevention, diagnosis, and treatment, ensuring quality and compliance is not optional—it's essential for strengthening quality and compliance of the industry.

Saroj, a patient from a remote area, travels 30–60 km to the nearest diagnostic facility just to get a basic test done. He spends an entire day, pays ₹200–350 on travel, and makes two trips—first to submit the sample and then to collect the report. In the process,



ThePrint

Pvt hospitals want change in National Building Code as country needs 4-5 million more hospital beds

In letter to DGHS, NATHEALTH, a consortium of private players, seeks NBC provision tweaked to relax height of hospitals from 40 metres to 45m for adding additional 4.5 million beds.



Disastrous diagnostics

All States must enforce Clinical Establishments Act

By J.V.R. Prasad Rao
Updated - May 27, 2025 at 08:19 PM



Improving diagnostics is key to ensuring equitable healthcare | Photo Credit: Mayur Khabade

Saroj, a patient from a remote area, travels 30–60 km to the nearest diagnostic facility just to get a basic test done. He spends an entire day, pays ₹200–350 on travel, and makes two trips

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Human cost of poor-quality testing in India

By NK Ganguly

Jun 08, 2025 01:43 PM IST

This article is authored by NK Ganguly, former director general, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).



TB (AFP)

Ramesh, a 32-year-old construction worker, first visited his local clinic when he was having persistent cough and it In situations like Ramesh's, the need is not for centralised,

NATHEALTH - Healthcare Federation of India

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NATHEALTH Secretary General Mr. Siddhartha Bhattacharya moderated a panel discussion on opportunities in healthcare in Northeast India in the esteemed presence of Ms. Aaupriya Patel, Hon'ble Minister of State (Health) & Hon'ble Minister of ...more



Government

When Diagnostics Fail: The Human Cost of Poor-Quality Testing in India

Diagnostics are not just support tools; they are central to effective healthcare delivery. Without timely, accurate testing, even the best clinical decisions can fail. As India aspires toward Universal Health Coverage and a USD 5 trillion economy, strengthening diagnostic services, particularly at the last mile, is not optional. It's an urgent public health imperative.

Prof. NK Ganguly - #Government
Published On Jun 10, 2025 at 05:54 AM IST



Diagnostics can not just support tools; they are central to effective healthcare delivery. Without timely, accurate testing, even the best clinical decisions can fail.

Ramesh, a 32-year-old construction worker, first visited his local clinic when he was having persistent cough and it refused to go away. For over two months, he had been suffering from coughing, recurring fever, and unexplained weight loss.



The case for taller hospitals

While vertical expansion allows hospitals to maximize utilization of land, ultimately bringing down the cost of healthcare delivery, do we have strong enough monitoring mechanisms to check that enhanced safety norms are being followed in hospital and more beds?



Speaking at FICCI's recent Health Medical India: Trust Conference, NTA's board member Prof. Vimal K. Paul called for a robust regulatory and monitoring compliance burden for healthcare facilities. A news release posted by Paul stating, "We are systematically building a how compliance burden for creation of facilities in cities, towns, and Tier 2 cities can

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The article authored by Shri JVR Prasad Rao, Former Health Secretary and Former UN Secretary General Special Envoy on AIDS, highlights acute need for quality diagnostic services, lack of standards, outdated equipment, and limited access to ...more

Disastrous diagnostics

All States must enforce Clinical Establishments Act

Shri Prasad Rao
Saroj, a patient from a remote area, travels 30–60 km to the nearest diagnostic facility just to get a basic test done. He spends an entire day, pays ₹200–350 on travel, and makes two trips



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