



HEALTH WRAP

SEPT - OCT 2023



75
Azadi Ka
Amrit Mahotsav



Happy Diwali



Best Wishes
FICCI Health Team

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Key Sectoral Highlights

Government & Policy

[Govt launches Rs 5K cr scheme to boost innovation in pharma-medtech sector](#)

Government launched the Rs 5,000 crore Promotion of Research and Innovation in Pharma and MedTech sector (PRIP) scheme, which aims to transform India's pharma medtech industry from a cost-based one to innovation-based. The scheme aims to strengthen research infrastructure in India.

[Now, Indian medical graduates can practise in the US, Australia, Canada](#)

The National Medical Commission of India (NMC) has been awarded the coveted World Federation for Medical Education (WFME) recognition status for ten years. The ministry said in a release that the recognition will allow Indian medical graduates to pursue postgraduate training and practise in countries requiring WFME recognition, such as the US, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand.

[NEET-PG, 2023 cut-off reduced to 'zero' percentile](#)

The Health Ministry has directed the National Medical Commission (NMC) to reduce the cut-off for qualifying percentile for National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET)-Post Graduate (PG) 2023 to "zero" across all categories. The move comes as a major relief to postgraduate medical student aspirants this year and makes medical aspirants who have become eligible after reduction of percentile to edit their choices also.

[Medical device makers get six-month extension for imports](#)

Existing manufacturers and importers of high-risk medical devices can continue to import and manufacture the devices for another six months if they have applied for licences. The Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) had set the October 1 deadline for bringing 'class C' and 'class D' medical devices under regulation as part of quality control efforts.

[ICMR releases National List of Essential Assistive Products](#)

The NLEAP is a list of 21 assistive products and technologies that are deemed essential for individuals with functional impairments to improve their quality of life and participation in the society.

Key Sectoral Highlights

Government & Policy

[AIIMS adds 63 drugs to free medicine list](#)

Sixty-three medicines have been added to the existing list," Dr M Srinivas said. Palbociclib, Dasatinib, Methotrexate, Trimazet, Magersterol Acetate and Leucovorin are among the medicines added to the list. Besides, injection regular insulin, injection NPH Insulin and injection Insulin Premix 30/70 will also be available free of cost.

[DCGI initiates review of pharma manufacturing standards to ensure drug quality and safety](#)

India's drug regulator, the Drug Controller General of India (DCGI), plans to review pharmaceutical manufacturing standards in order to ensure the quality, safety, and efficacy of drugs. The DCGI will meet with pharma industry associations to discuss reviewing Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) for pharma companies. The government aims to upgrade Schedule M, which lays down GMP, to international standards

[Centre launches Global Health Innovation Fellowships to promote MedTech Startups](#)

Union Minister for Science and Technology, Dr Jitendra Singh presided over the launch of The DBT and World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) supported Global Health Innovation Fellowship to promote MedTech StartUps and innovators among youth.

COVID-19

[ICMR findings soon on Covid-heart attack link](#)

The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) is on the verge of unveiling the outcomes of a comprehensive study aimed at understanding the unexpected surge in cardiac events following Covid-19 infections.

Key Sectoral Highlights

Research

[ICMR worried over rising resistance to last-resort antibiotics in India](#)

A latest study by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has found that the resistance to last-resort antibiotics is rising in India, ToI reported on September 24. ICMR has found the abuse of antimicrobials (antibiotics, antivirals or antifungals) to be the reason for this, which it says has led to widespread resistance among people. The study was based on data from 21 tertiary-level hospitals across India. For example, carbapenem, an antibiotic that effectively treated pneumonia and septicemia until a decade ago, may not help Indian patients anymore. According to the report, if eight out of 10 patients with a drug-resistant E-coli infection responded to carbapenem in 2017, only six responded in 2022.

[WHO expert panel recommends Oxford University-Serum Institute's anti-malaria vaccine](#)

The R21/Matrix-M™ malaria vaccine is an easily deployable vaccine that can be manufactured at mass scale and modest cost, enabling as many as hundreds of millions of doses to be supplied to countries which are suffering a significant malaria burden.

Other

[India signs two MoUs in medical product regulation with Dominican Republic](#)

India signed two Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) in ocean sciences and medical product regulation with Dominican Republic. The MoUs were signed during a meeting between Raquel Pena Rodriguez, the Vice President of Dominican Republic, and India's Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar. The two leaders also held discussions focused on enhancing cooperation in diverse sectors including trade, pharmaceuticals, Information and Communications Technology (ICT), agriculture, food processing, space, higher education, capacity building, Ayurveda and Yoga.

Medical Education: Are we future ready?

The recent notification stating that 40% is sufficient for MBBS students to pass in Theory/ Practical/ Viva is being viewed as a double-edged weapon. With the emphasis on competency and individual portfolios, it is argued that reducing academic pressure will foster a healthier learning environment leading to the development of more resilient and well-rounded medical professionals. Others feel that lowering the passing bar might compromise the quality of medical education. The importance of maintaining stringent academic standards is stressed.

Volumes have been published on the contents of the “new” curriculum and what students need to be taught. There is some discussion on how they should be taught, when and where. I am not aware of sufficient importance being given to the qualities of the medical teacher in the next decade. It is true that factual information is available on the internet. ChatGPT, Med-PaLM 2 and a host of similar medical large language models, or LLM will compete with the decades old Grey’s Anatomy, Bailey and Love and Harrison. Immersive VR, AVR, XVR, and Simulation Laboratories will help tomorrow’s students acquire knowledge in ways unfathomable to his teachers.

However, what is the primary purpose of medical education in the third decade of the 21st century?



Dr K Ganapathy

Director, Apollo Telemedicine
Networking Foundation & Apollo Tele
Health Services; Distinguished Visiting
Professor, IIT Kanpur; Distinguished
Professor, Tamil Nadu Dr MGR Medical
University; Emeritus Professor, NAMS

“Medical Education: Are we future ready?”



Will knowledge of an all-encompassing Digital Health, developing super skills in technology-enabled procedures, promoting preventive and personalised healthcare, and knowing how to access evidence-based medicine in real-time, including drug interactions suffice. As one trained in the late sixties, I strongly feel that there is still a necessity to teach to empathise and sympathise with one’s patient. As Theodore Roosevelt once remarked “People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care”.

We need to pay equal if not more importance, on developing guidelines to recognise one as a medical teacher. An MD, MS MCh or DM alone is not enough. Like the student, medical teachers should undergo as much training and constant re-evaluation. An individual, inspiring, role model teacher, sharing his/her personal experiences can have more influence than the internet.

We continue to be inspired by our teachers. Why should a surgeon with a busy private practice come at 6:30 am every Sunday to take classes for 90 minutes for two of us? With the proliferation of medical colleges, it is my fervent desire that the NMC give equal importance to producing future-ready medical teachers who still practice TLC with their patients.

“Cracking the Weight Loss Plateau: Strategies for Success”

Are you diligently following your weight-loss program, only to find that your weight has stubbornly stalled? Imagine hitting a roadblock on your weight loss journey, feeling like you've given it your all, yet the scale refuses to budge. Don't panic; you might have reached a weight loss plateau. Your body could be adapting to your new exercise and diet routines.

Why do Plateaus Happen?

Many individuals experience a phase in their weight loss journey where they witness no change on the scale. However, hitting a plateau during weight loss is entirely common. An "Obesity" study indicates that the average duration of a weight loss plateau is approximately 12 weeks. Several factors can contribute to this weight loss slowdown:

- **Reduced calories = Slower metabolic rate-** Cutting calories can lead to a slower metabolism as your body enters "starvation mode" to conserve energy. Muscle loss, contributing to a slower metabolism, might have occurred alongside fat loss.
- **Set point theory** Genetics largely dictates your body's weight and fat range. Your body strives to maintain its comfort zone. A high set point could lead to being overweight, while a low set point naturally keeps you slim. The hunger hormone ghrelin also tends to surge after weight loss, increasing food intake by about 30%.



Dr Aman Priya Khanna

Co-founder & Medical Director,
HexaHealth & General, Laser,
Bariatric, and Minimal Access
Surgeon

“Cracking the Weight Loss Plateau: Strategies for Success”

- **Metabolic Adaptation-** Initially, when you begin a new exercise or diet regimen, your body responds by burning more calories and shedding weight. However, with time, your body becomes more efficient at these activities, resulting in fewer calories burned for the same effort.

Strategies to Break a Plateau-

Approximately 80% of people who lose weight on a low-calorie diet experience a plateau within six months. Some effective strategies to break through this barrier and achieve your weight loss goals:

1. Re-evaluate your diet and portion sizes. Ensure you are in a calorie deficit and haven't overindulged in larger portions or processed foods.
2. Reduce daily calorie intake, but don't go below 1,200 calories. For keto dieters facing plateaus, intermittent fasting can help break through.
3. Modify your exercise routine by changing intensity, frequency, and duration. Introduce occasional high-calorie days with increased exercise for a breakthrough.
4. Increase overall physical activity. Opt for walking over driving when possible, as any extra movement helps burn calories.

“Cracking the Weight Loss Plateau: Strategies for Success”

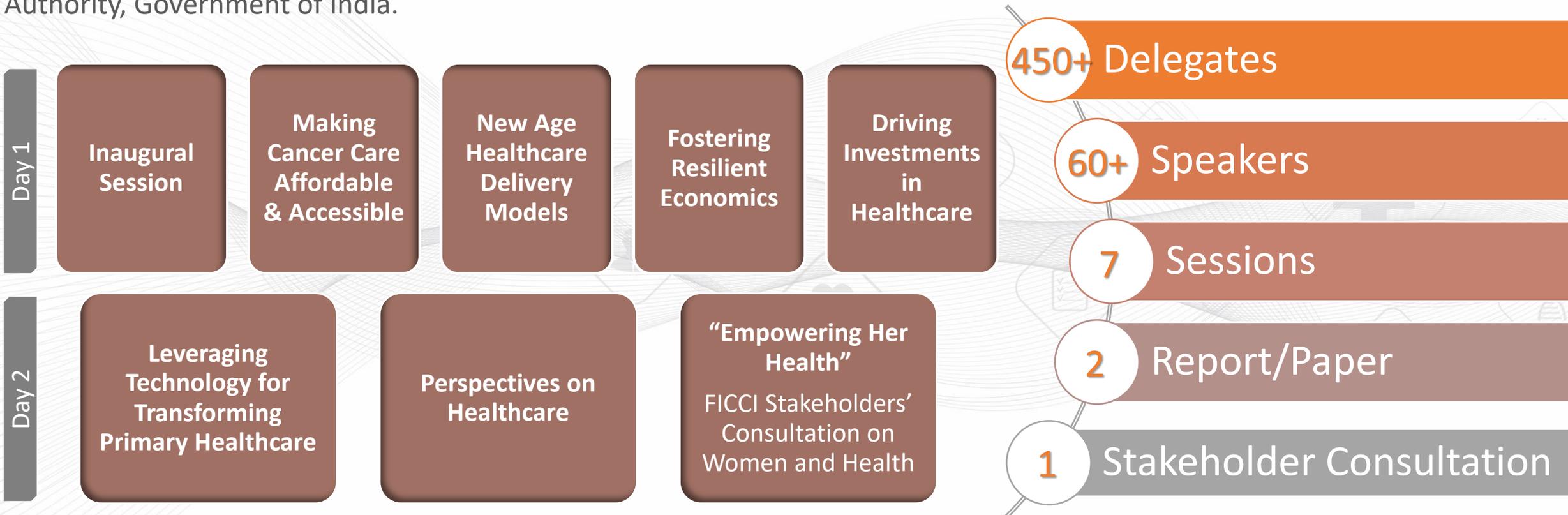


The Bottom Line

If you find yourself stuck despite these strategies, consulting a healthcare provider or registered dietitian can provide personalised guidance tailored to your unique situation. Your journey to success may only be a conversation away.

The 17th edition of FICCI HEAL on the theme, ‘Healthcare METAmorphosis’ was organized on October 26 & 27, 2023, at FICCI, New Delhi. The conference was supported by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, NITI Aayog, and National Health Authority, Government of India.

View the conference sessions on  **YouTube** Day 1: <https://bit.ly/HEAL2023-Day1>
 Day 2: <https://bit.ly/HEAL2023-Day2>
 Awards: <https://youtu.be/29H2LDN1cSA>



Prof SP Singh Baghel, Hon'ble Minister of State for Health & Family Welfare, Government of India inaugurated FICCI HEAL 2023 on October 26th, and emphasized that the government is working towards providing last mile coverage to provide health services to remote areas in the country. He further added that there is a need to address the healthcare concerns of Indians who are not able to access quality healthcare. He also He stressed on the need to promote organ donation and blood donation through massive campaign and urged the industry to come forward to play a lead role in promoting these across the country.



FICCI-KPMG Knowledge Paper on 'New Age Healthcare Delivery Models in India- 20 plus models to redefine healthcare landscape', was released during the event. The report highlights the key factors and systemic issues that are shaping the trends in the industry and resulting in the emergence of new age delivery models.

[Click here to download the Report](#)

#FICCIHEAL2023

Glimpses of Day 1



Dr Ajay K Singh, Senior Associate Dean for Postgraduate Medical Education; Director, MMSCI, Harvard Medical School gave the Keynote Address during the Inaugural Session.



Presentations were made by Healthcare Experts on various aspects of 'Fostering Resilient Economics'

Ms Indrani Kaushal, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India Chaired the Session on Roadmap for Making Cancer Care Affordable and Accessible in India



Fireside Chat- 'Driving Investments in Healthcare'



Glimpses of Day 2



Dr Vinod K Paul, Hon'ble Member, NITI Aayog, Government of India, graced the Session on 'Perspectives on Healthcare' and addressed the audience. He reaffirmed the commitment to strengthen the primary healthcare system in the country and called for support from the private sector to deliver quality healthcare.

Panel on **Leveraging Technology for Transforming Primary Healthcare** focused on Smart HWCs. Dr Akshay Jain, Jt Director, NHA also shared his perspectives.



Ms Roli Singh, AS & DG (CGHS), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, GoI

FICCI launched 'Empowering Her Health' initiative in partnership with UNWomen, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and Apollo Hospitals Group. A Position Paper was also released during the Stakeholder Consultation that focused on various issues concerning women's health and need for a gender-responsive healthcare system.

[Click here to download the Paper](#)



Awards Categories 2023:



Excellence in Patient Safety & Care



Excellence in Patient Service Delivery



Excellence in Community Engagement



Training & Skill Development Initiative of the Year



Digital Transformation Initiative of the Year



Chief Guest: Ms Sharmila Tagore
Film Personality

Guest of Honor: Mr CK Mishra
Former Secretary, MoHFW & MoEFCC, GoI



*Congratulations
Winners!*



Excellence in Patient Safety & Care	
Private Hospitals	Zydus Hospital , Ahmedabad
Public Hospitals	Civil Hospital Ahmedabad
Other Healthcare Providers	Dr. Dangs Lab LLP
	Venus Remedies Limited
Excellence in Patient Service Delivery	
Private Hospitals	Padval Women's Superspeciality Hospital
	Bai Jerbai Wadia Hospital For Children (Special Jury Recognition)
Public Hospitals	King George's Medical University
Other Healthcare Providers	Care Health Insurance Limited
Start-ups	TechEagle Innovations Pvt Ltd
Training & Skill Development Initiative of the Year	
Hospitals/Health-tech/Other healthcare providers	Alcon Laboratories India Pvt LTD
Medical Institutes/Colleges	Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Institute of Medical Sciences, Lucknow,
Excellence in Community Engagement	
NGOs/Not for profit organisations	Genesis Foundation
For Profit Organisations	Ganga Medical Centre And Hospitals Pvt Ltd - Project Shakti
Digital Transformation Initiative of the Year	
Hospitals/ Other Healthcare Providers	Civil Hospital Ahmedabad
Start-Ups	ANH Technologies Private Ltd - ClaimTherapist

Healthcare Personality of the Year



Dr Vikram Shah, Chairman & Managing Director, Shalby Limited

Lifetime Achievement in Healthcare Industry



Dr Yash Paul Bhatia, Chairman & Managing Director, Astron Group

Healthcare Humanitarian



Dr Ravi Kannan, Director, Cachar Cancer Hospital and Research Center

Chairman's Award for Outstanding Leadership in Healthcare



Dr Bishnu Prasad Panigrahi, Group Head, Medical Strategy & Operations, Fortis Healthcare



Ms Gracy Mathai, CEO, Baby Memorial Hospital, Calicut



GRAND JURY



Jury Chair



Mr C K Mishra

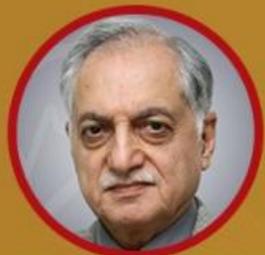
Former Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and
Ministry of Environment Forest & Climate Change
Government of India

Jury Co-Chair



Dr Harsh Mahajan

Chair-FICCI Health Services Committee;
Founder & Chief Radiologist, Mahajan Imaging & Labs



Dr Narottam Puri

Principal Advisor-QCI; Board Member &
Former Chairman- NABH; Advisor- FICCI Health Services
Advisor- Medical Operations, Fortis Healthcare Ltd.



(Hony) Brig Dr Arvind Lal

Chair-FICCI Swasth Bharat TF, Executive
Chairman, Dr Lal PathLabs Ltd and
Managing Trustee, ALVL Foundation



Dr Nandakumar Jairam

Chairman- Medica Group of Hospitals;
Advisor- Sheares India; Former Chairman
NABH and Columbia Asia Hospitals India



Dr Y P Bhatia

Chair- Awards Core Group & Chairman and
Managing Director, Astron Group



Dr Alok Roy

Past Chair- FICCI Health Services Committee
& Senior Healthpreneur



Mr Gautam Khanna

Immd. Past Chair- FICCI Health Services Committee
and CEO, PD Hinduja Hospital & MRC



Dr Bishnu Prasad Panigrahi

Group Head- Medical Strategy & Operations
Fortis Healthcare



Dr Neeru Bhatia

Executive Director
Astron Group



GRAND JURY



Dr Sharad Agarwal

National President
Indian Medical Association



Dr Arun Agarwal

Co-Chair- FICCI Swasth Bharat TF &
Medical Advisor- Innovation, Education &
Clinical Excellence, Apollo Hospitals Group



Dr Om Manchanda

Managing Director
Dr Lal PathLabs Ltd



Dr K Madan Gopal

Senior Consultant
National Health Systems Resource Centre
Government of India



Dr Ravi Gaur

Co-Chair Awards Core Group;
Founder DRG PATH Labs, Partner &
Director UniDRG Specialty Labs, Delhi



Mr Neeraj Jain

Country Director- India
PATH



Dr Tavpritesh Sethi

Associate Professor
IIIT Delhi



INTERIM JURY



Dr Bishnu Prasad Panigrahi

Group Head- Medical Strategy & Operations, Fortis Healthcare



Dr Y P Bhatia

Chair- Awards Core Group & Chairman and Managing Director, Astron Group



Dr Ravi Gaur

Co-Chair Awards Core Group; Founder DRG PATH Labs, Partner & Director UniDRG Specialty Labs, Delhi



Cdr Navneet Bali

Senior Vice President & Group Head - Advocacy & Strategic Relations, Narayana Hrudayalaya



Dr Arati Verma

Sr Vice President - Medical Quality, Max Healthcare



Prof Arnab K Laha

Chairperson, Center for Management of Health Services, IIM Ahmedabad



Dr Ramachandran Balaji

Director - Advisory Services
Libra Social Research Foundation



Dr JK Das

Former Director
NIHFW, Gol



Lt. Gen. (Dr) A K Das

Group Medical Director
Marengo Asia Healthcare



Dr Atul Kochhar

CEO
NABH



Dr Sameer Gupta

Director, Umkal Hospital & Director
Cardiac Cathlab, Metro Hospital & Heart Institute



Dr Sajal Sen

COO
Assam Cancer Care Foundation



INTERIM JURY



Mr Ayanabh Debgupta

Co-Founder & Group President
Medica Hospitals



Dr Garima Singh

Founder & CEO, Axia Health Assist
Pvt Ltd and Axia Health Services



Ms Harmala Gupta

Founder-President
CanSupport



Lt (Gen) Dr Rajeev Mohan Gupta

HoD Microbiology
ESI Medical College & Hospital, Faridabad



Dr Vikrant Mohanty

Prof & HOD- Public Health
Dentistry, MAIDS



Mr Ashish Jain

CEO
Healthcare Sector Skill Council



Dr SB Bhattacharyya

Founder & CEO, Bhattacharyyas Clinical
Records Research & Informatics



Dr Vikas Malhotra

Director- Professor & Head - Department of
ENT, Baba Saheb Ambedkar Medical College



Mr Manish Jain

Director
Yes2Treatment



Dr Sanjay Sood

Associate Director & HoD
Health Informatics, CDAC



Ms Anamika Sikri

COO
Pericia Healthcare



Dr Punam Bajaj

Director
NABH



Dr Sanghita Bhattacharya

Professor- Community Health
& Engagement, PHFI

About FICCI Health Services



FICCI Health Services Committee constituted in 2006, has been pivotal in facilitating interaction among stakeholders to jointly work towards creating the building blocks for achieving quality healthcare through initiatives like:

- Standard Treatment Guidelines (STGs) for tertiary, secondary and primary care
- National Costing Guidelines
- Categorization of healthcare providers
- National Electronic Health Records
- Innovations in Healthcare
- Tackling Non-communicable diseases
- Bridging the skill gaps and augmenting healthcare workforce
- Recommendations on recent programs and policies include **National Health Policy 2017, Ayushman Bharat- PMJAY and H&WCs, National Medical Commission, Personal Data Protection Bill, Augmenting Healthcare Infrastructure, Strengthening Healthcare Workforce, Nursing Reforms, Cancer Care, Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission, etc.**

For COVID-19, FICCI was actively engaged with various government departments at multiple levels through:

- ✓ **Policy intervention-** through **Advocacy, Representations and Reports**
- ✓ **Strategic support-** government-industry tie-ups; surveys for identifying resources, facilitating logistics, supplies & mobility
- ✓ **Information, education and communication**
- ✓ Collaborate with Industry and State Governments for **Crisis Management** as well as COVID Vaccination
- ✓ Support to FICCI members for **Vaccination of their Employees**

FICCI Health Sector Committees-

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- **MedTech**
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- **Medical Value Travel**
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- **Swasth Bharat** (*Public Health*)
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- **AYUSH**
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