

World Health Day (April 07)

Providing Affordable, Accessible and Quality Healthcare for All

(Ministry of Health & Family Welfare)

April 06, 2023

“Making medical treatment affordable has been the top most priority of our government”

- [Prime Minister Narendra Modi](#)

Introduction

[World Health Day \(WHD\)](#)¹ is observed every year on 7th April to mark the anniversary of the foundation day of World Health Organization (WHO).

The WHO was founded on 07 April 1948, with the principle that all people should be able to realize their right to the highest possible level of health. Every year a different theme is selected keeping in mind the global public health concern. World Health Day is a day to reaffirm our gratitude and



appreciation to all those who work day and night to keep our planet healthy. It's also a day to reiterate our commitment to supporting research and innovation in healthcare.

The theme for World Health Day 2023 is **Health for All**. Government of India is taking numerous steps to ensure people have access to quality and affordable healthcare services, where and when they are required, without suffering financial hardship and move towards building a Healthier India.

¹ https://www.nhp.gov.in/world-health-day-2021_pg

Various Initiatives by the Union Government to provide Affordable, Accessible, and Quality Healthcare for All:

Ayushman Bharat

India's commitment towards achieving Universal Health Coverage is clearly reflected in policies and institutional mechanism, which are directed towards increasing coverage and access to health services.

India launched [Ayushman Bharat - one of the most ambitious health missions](#)² ever to expand universal health coverage especially in rural and vulnerable population.³ Its aim is to provide essential health services throughout the country through the four pillars of this programme

I. [Ayushman Bharat Jan Aarogya Yojana](#) (as on April 05, 2023)

- More than **22.45 crore Ayushman cards** have been created
- **4.55 crore hospital admissions** worth **Rs. 54,988 crore** have been authorized through a network of **29,542 empaneled healthcare providers**, including 13,107 private hospitals

II. [Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Centers \(HWCs\)](#) (as on December 31, 2022)

- **1,57,698 HWCs operationalised** across the country (February 28, 2023)
- More than **135 Crore cumulative footfall**
- More than **87.0 Crore cumulative screening** of Non communicable diseases
- More than **1.6 crore Wellness Sessions**, including Yoga

III. Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (as April 05, 2023)

- **Over 37 Crore** Ayushman Bharat health account (ABHA) created
- Verified facilities on health facility registry: **2.02 lakh**
- [Verified healthcare](#) professionals on healthcare professional registry: **1.62 lakh**
- Health records linked: **26 crores**

IV. PM-Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission

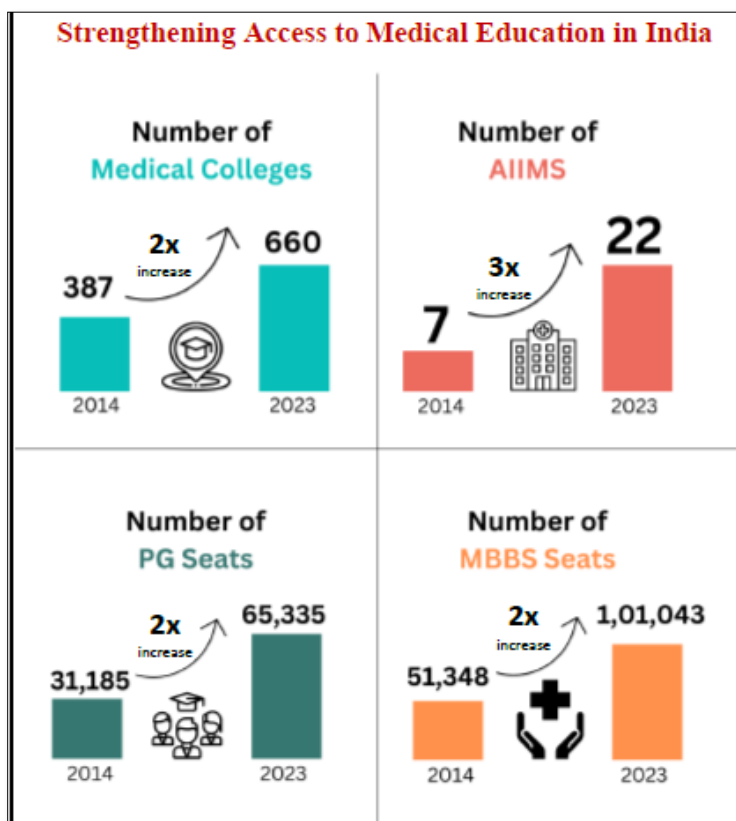
- **Rs 64,180 crore** sanctioned for health infrastructure

² <https://pib.gov.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=176049>
<https://dashboard.pmjay.gov.in/pmj/#/>
<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetailm.aspx?PRID=1894906>

- Critical Care Blocks in every district hospital

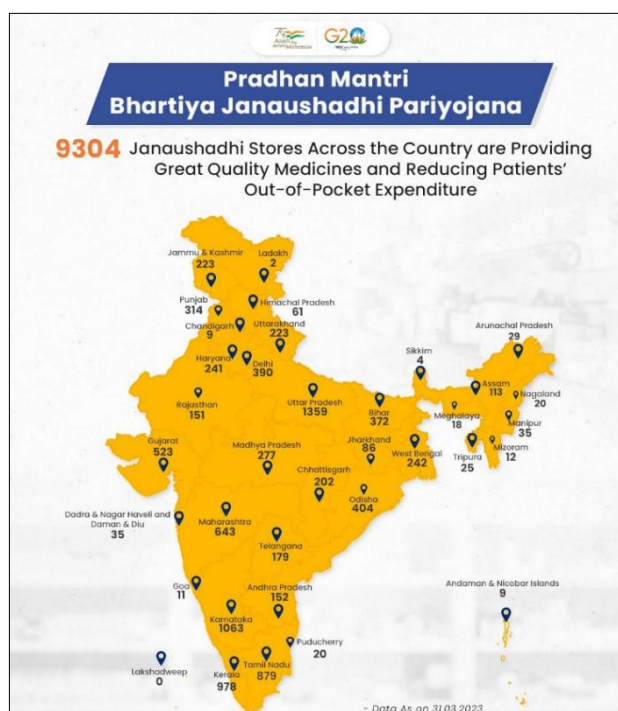
Strengthening Medical Education across India

- In the last 9 years, the number of **AIIMS** has increased from 07 in 2014 to **22 in 2023**, which is an **three times increase**.
- The number of **Medical Colleges** has increased from 387 in 2014 to **660 in 2023**, which is an **increase of 70 per cent**
- The number of **MBBS seats** has increased from 51,348 in 2014 to **1,01,043 in 2023**, which is an **increase of 97%**.
- The number of **Post Graduate seats** has increased from 31,185 seats in 2014 to **65,335 seats in 2023**, which is an **increase of 110%**.



Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana

Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) is a campaign launched in November, 2008 by the Department of Pharmaceuticals in association with Central Pharma Public Sector Undertakings, to provide quality medicines at affordable prices to the masses through dedicated outlets known as Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras (PMBJK). They provide generic medicines at much lesser price.



Progress:

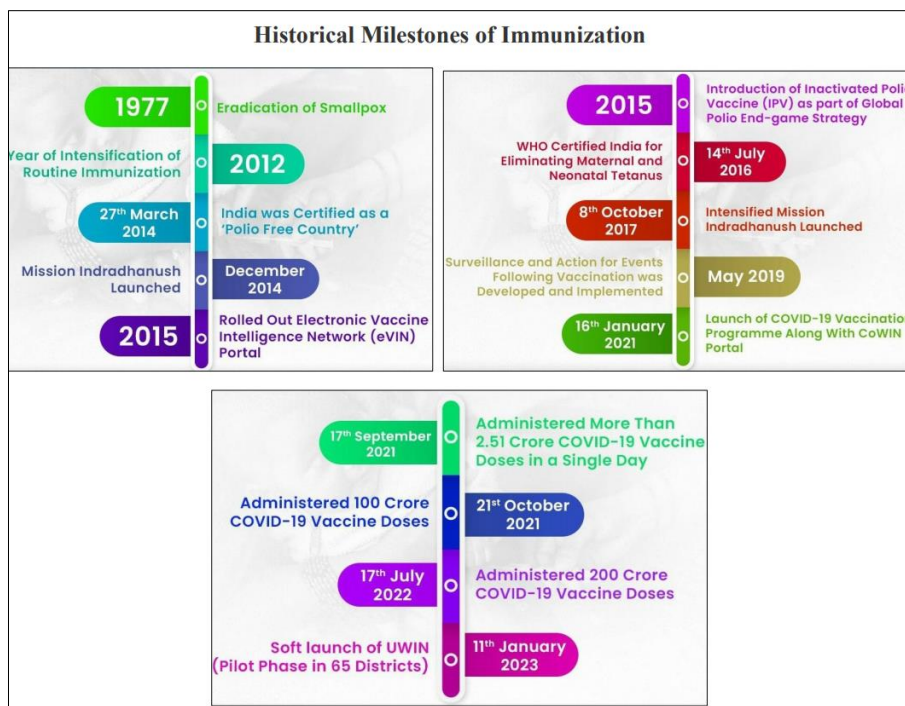
- The number of Janaushadhi stores has increased from 80 in 2014 to **9,304** in March, 2023.
- Savings of more than **Rs. 20000 crores** for citizens in last 8 year
- Under the PMBJP, **743 districts** out of 764 districts of the nation have been covered
- Basket of medicines & Stock position – Product basket of PMBJP comprises **1759 drugs and 280 surgical instruments**.
- Sanitary pads are sold at just Rs. 1 at more than 9000 PMBJP stores. These pads are comfortable & environment-friendly. **Over 34.71 crore Janaushadhi Suvidha Sanitary pads** have been sold till February 18, 2023.

Mission Indradhanush

Mission Indradhanush (MI) was launched in December 2014 and aims at rapidly increase the full immunization coverage to 90%. Under this drive focus is given on pockets of low immunization coverage and hard to reach areas where the proportion of unvaccinated and partially vaccinated children is highest. A total of **eleven phases** of Mission Indradhanush have been completed covering **701 districts** across the country.

Progress (as February 2023):

- **4.45 Crore Children and 1.2 Crore Pregnant Women Vaccinated**
- First two phases of Mission Indradhanush resulted in **6.7% increase** in full immunization coverage in a year

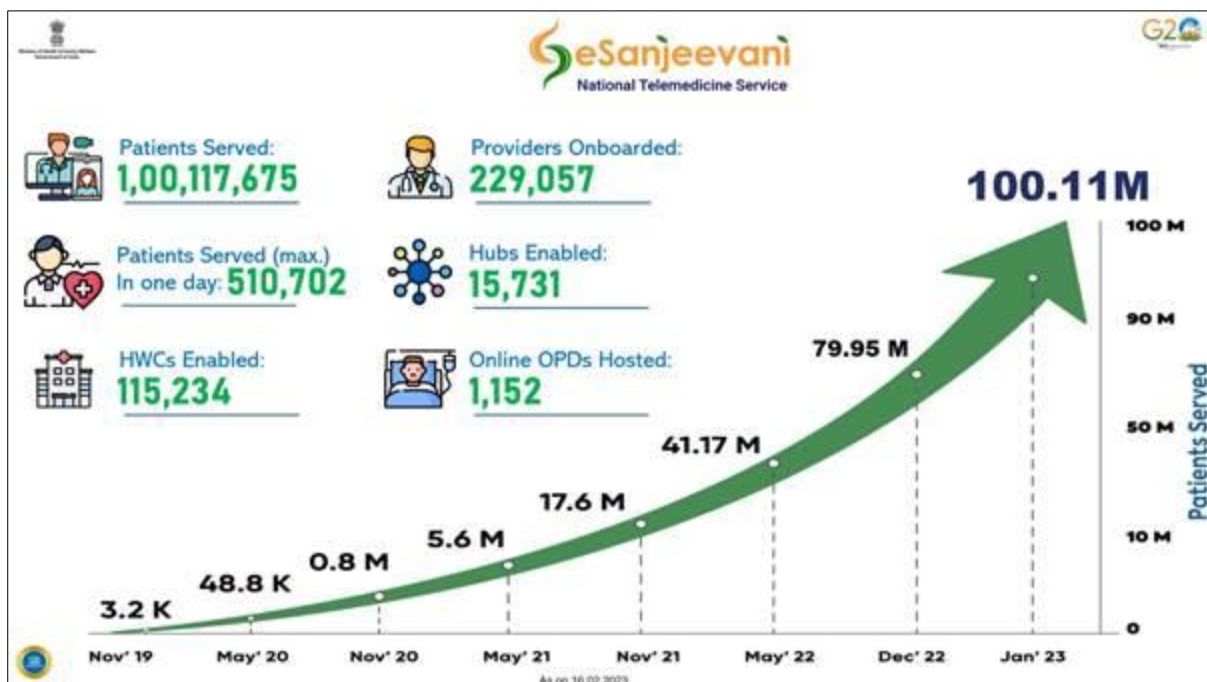


eSanjeevani (National Telemedicine Service)

eSanjeevani is a technological intervention conceptualized by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and designed, implemented and operationalized by C-DAC which leverages Information Technology to enable remote doctor consultations. eSanjeevani has led to massive improvement in access to specialised health services, particularly in rural areas. This service has come in handy for the patients in urban areas as well, especially during the second wave of the ongoing pandemic that has burdened the healthcare services delivery system in the country.

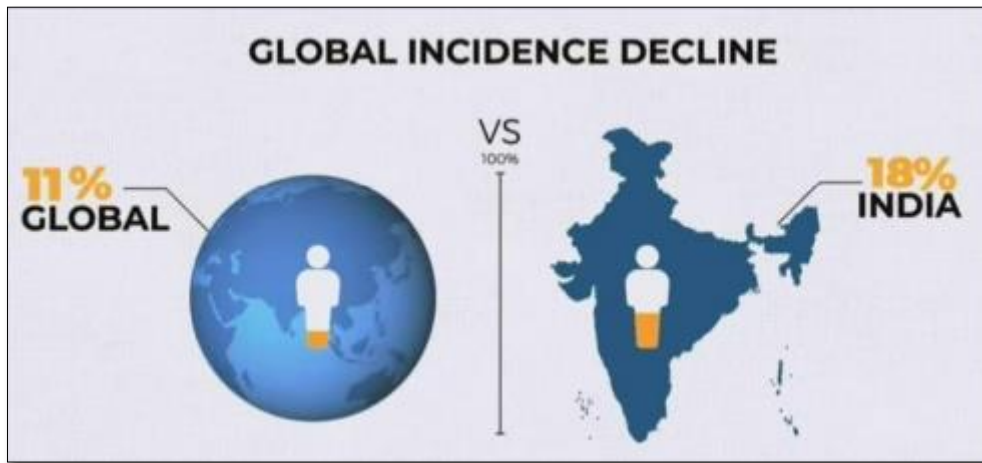
Progress (as on February 2023):

- Teleconsultations provided to more than **10 Crore beneficiaries**.
- **Over 57% of Sanjeevani beneficiaries are women**; around 12% beneficiaries are senior citizens
- More than 1,15,234 Health & Wellness Centres operational as spokes in the country
- More than 5 lakh patients provided teleconsultation services in a day



TB MukT Bharat by 2025

India is determined and committed to achieve our Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision of **eliminating TB by 2025**, five years ahead of the target for TB set by SDG 2030. The sustained efforts of the **National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme** have led to an unprecedented increase in TB notifications and significant improvements in timely diagnosis, adherence, and treatment outcomes.



Progress:

- **Lakshadweep (UT)** and the **district of Budgam (J&K)** first in the country to be declared TB-Free
- TB patient registration has improved by 56 per cent, from 15.5 lakh in 2014 to 24.22 lakh in 2022.
- From April 2018 till date, around Rs. 2,102 crore has been disbursed to over 79 lakh people on TB treatment across the country via Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).
- As per the Global TB Report, 2022, the incidence of TB in India has reduced by 18% from 256/lakh population in 2015 to 210/lakh population in 2021, which is 7 percentage points better than the global average of 11%.
- More than 71,000 Ni-kshay Mitras supporting over 10 lakh TB patient

Polio Free India

India has been certified Polio free by the Regional Polio Certification Commission on the 27th March 2014.

Progress:

- India reported its last polio case from district Howrah, West Bengal on 13th January, 2011.
- WHO on 24th February 2012 removed India from the list of “endemic countries with active polio virus transmission”.

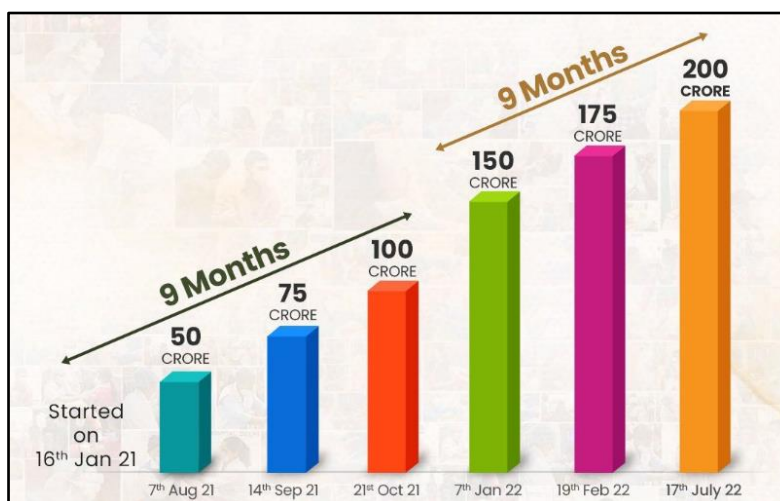
Combating Covid-19

The first case of COVID-19 was detected in December, 2019 in China and it soon spread across the world. The outbreak was declared a Public Health Emergency of International concern in January, 2020 and a pandemic in March, 2020.

Owing to Government of India's **five-fold strategy of test-track-treat-vaccinate and COVID appropriate behavior** through a **Whole of Government & Whole of Society approach**, India was able to maintain **lowest positivity and mortality rates** coupled with one of the **highest recovery rates** globally during the pandemic. The country's public health efforts were strongly supported by its research and development capacity in developing vaccines against COVID19. The planning of the vaccination drive started well in advance based on scientific evidence and global best practices.

Progress (as on April 05, 2023):

- **Over 220 crore Vaccine doses** administered so far under Nationwide Vaccination Drive



- In the world's fastest vaccination drive, India administered 100 crore doses in merely 9 months, on October 21, 2021.

Significant Rise in Exports of Pharmaceutical Products

- The export of pharmaceutical products increased from Rs. 60,602 Crore (April-February, 2013-14) to **Rs. 1,43,771 Crore** (April-February, 2022-23).
- This is an increase of more than **two times**.



References:

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