Dear Reader,

Emphasizing on the importance of more beds, health personnel and facilities across rural as well as urban landscape, Sangeeta Reddy, Joint MD, Apollo Hospitals highlight the role that Apollo has played in implementation of Universal Health Coverage in India. With ever increasing burden on resources, PM Modi highlighted the issue of rising Population in India.

The dialogue revolved around the viable implementation of UHC as there exists a huge shortage of medical professionals with a meagre 20 doctors available for every 10000 citizens. Medical devices forum came in spotlight with syringes, needles and global injection market set to grow by 2023.

While Insurance forum witnessing a rise in new generation takers, the sector which has grown at 12-15% in the last few years is set to grow further. Coming up with innovative solutions, medical technology sector is rapidly witnessing a rise in tech startups.

Check out the newsletter to know how diagnostics sector witnessed India’s first commercial biobank that helps develop novel diagnostic tests and cures and other news updates. Follow us on twitter, LinkedIn and Facebook for real times updates.

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NATHEALTH Leadership Series

- Committed to spreading advanced care by adding more beds, clinics: Sangita Reddy
  Ayushman Bharat is a bold move by the govt. Apollo has been batting for universal health coverage for 20 years, says Sangita Reddy, joint MD of Apollo Hospitals Enterprise

- FICCI gives out Healthcare Excellence Awards
  Dr Kiran Mazumdar Shaw, Managing Director of biotech firm Biocon Ltd, received the Lifetime Achievement award and Dr Ranjan Pai, Chairman, Manipal Education and Medical Group bagged the Healthcare Personality of the Year award at FICCI Healthcare Excellence Awards 2019.

- Private hospitals write to FM for recovery of government dues
  Govt owes about ₹1,400 crore to hospitals for free treatment under health schemes. Fortis Healthcare has outstanding dues of ₹60 cr under CGHS and ₹151 crore under ECHS

Healthcare Policy Updates

- Population: Should India worry?
The debate over population growth has once again surfaced as a result of Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s concern over “population explosion” in the country.

- **Gaps in government’s sweeping reforms in medical education**
  The Centre has now increased the number of members in the NMC to 22 from 14, giving more representation to the states in the body which could replace the scam-tainted Medical Commission of India.

- **What can help in controlling population in India—society or law?**
  The population explosion has major impacts on the country ranging from health, social, environmental and economic. Gender preferences are also contributing to the population explosion in India fast.

- **Massive job losses reveal India is failing to reap its demographic dividend**
  With unemployment at a 45-year high, poor health and low levels of education, India's demographic dividend is at risk.

- **'Healthcare for Have-nots': SC Upholds States’ Policies on Compulsory Service of Doctors in Rural Areas**
  Compulsory bonds bind doctors with conditions to serve in their respective states for a certain fixed period, in rural areas. The doctors’ original documents are also usually retained by the state authorities after the completion of the speciality courses.

**Healthcare Industry Overview**

- **With 20 medical professionals for every 10,000 citizens, can India provide universal healthcare?**
  A new study has pointed out that the country’s healthcare system is understaffed, does not meet global standards and is largely unqualified to meet rural health needs.

- **GE Healthcare launches start-up collaboration project**
  GE Healthcare unveiled ‘Edison – Start-ups powered by GE Healthcare’ its first start-up collaboration programme centred on the Edison platform, in Bengaluru on Wednesday.

- **Think big to reach goal of a $5 trillion economy, boost healthcare for all**
  Two goals of the Narendra Modi government make for an interesting comparison. One is of course the overarching goal of taking the Indian economy to the level of $5 trillion by 2024-25 and the other is doubling the share of public health spending to 2.5 per cent of GDP by 2024-25.

- **At AWS HealthTech Day, the focus is on healthcare and life sciences trends shaping the industry**
  According to State of Startup Ecosystem 2018, there are around 4,892 health tech startups in India. By 2022, the healthcare market in India is estimated to grow to $370 billion, and is attracting investors, who are eyeing potential returns of up to 35-40%.

- **India proposes ban on e-cigarettes, with jail terms for offenders**
  This weekly series explores breaking news and developments in the US health care industry, examines key issues facing life sciences and health care companies, and provides updates and insights on policy, regulatory, and legislative changes.

**Medtech Forum**

- **Is 5G technology bad for our health?**
As 5G wireless technology is slowly making its way across the globe, many government agencies and organizations advise that there is no reason to be alarmed about the effects of radiofrequency waves on our health. But some experts strongly disagree.

- **How medical technology is making a big difference for your health**
  Technology is an integral part of daily life, from constant entertainment at the fingertips to the ability to communicate with family and friends across the globe with the touch of a button.

- **Digital Health Technology can revolutionize healthcare in India: Report**
  Around 76% of healthcare professionals in the country already use digital health records in their practice: Future Health Index 2019. India meets the 15-country average when it comes to the usage of artificial intelligence within healthcare at 46%.

  Technological advances and improvements in medical care are nearly synonymous and some of the latest trends in care this year appear to be coming of age.

- **The Need For Safer Needles, Syringes Will Drive Global Injection Devices Market Growth By 2023**
  The combined global market for injection devices and related products is expected to climb from $2.7bn in 2018 to $4bn in 2023, driven in large part by technological innovation to create safer devices as well as legislative and reimbursement changes.

- **AI in the Pharmaceutical Landscape**
  Artificial Intelligence (AI) has enormous potential in changing the delivery of health care and improving patient outcomes, with applications in pattern detection, patient monitoring, disease diagnosis and treatment selection.

**Insurance Forum**

- **LIC told to pay Rs. 2.78L for misleading man over health insurance**
  LIC has also been asked to pay Rs. 2.78 lakh — Rs. 1.83 lakh towards medical expenses incurred by the consumer’s wife, and Rs. 95,000 towards harassment and litigation cost.

- **Now, insurance products to get innovative**
  The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has invited applications to make use of the ‘Regulatory Sandbox Approach’ to foster innovation and growth in the insurance sector.

- **No solvency issues in DHFL insurance arms: IRDAI chief**
  The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India on Thursday said it will ensure that there are no solvency issues for insurance subsidiaries of troubled Dewan Housing Finance Corporation.

- **With the insurance industry maturing over the years, focus has shifted to profitability and valuations**
  The insurance industry has been growing at 12-15 per cent in the last few years. The private sector has been growing faster than LIC lately.

**Diagnostics Forum**

- **Opinion | Why doctors worry about locally made medical devices**
  The big question is: What is the quality of care we are offering our patients?
Dissecting the future of diagnostics
The first edition of Dx Summit brought together the best minds to deliberate and debate on the right strategies to shape a sustainable future for diagnostics business in India.

Panel discussion: Building a quality conscious diagnostic sector for India
Quality is paramount for every diagnostic lab. It ensures both reliability and accuracy of test results in order to provide the best possible patient care.

Trust deficit increasing among Indian patients: EY-FICCI report
The survey findings also state that the key gaps in patient experience which have contributed trust deficit are – poor hospital responsiveness and waiting times as stated by 63% patients, and no concern for feedback as stated by 59% patients.

Upcoming Awards & Events
- PharmaTech Expo (Pharma & Lab Expo) (Tue, 20 - Thu, 22 Aug 2019, Ahmedabad)
- LabTech Expo (Tue, 20 - Thu, 22 Aug 2019, Ahmedabad)
- FICCI Heal Conference (Tue, 20 - Wed, 21 Aug 2019)
- Medical Device Regulatory and Quality Summit (Thu, 22 - Fri, 23 Aug 2019, New Delhi)
- Fortis Annual Psychology Conference (Fri, 13 - Sun, 15 Sep 2019, Gurugram)
- World Dental & Oral Health Congress (Sat, 31 Aug - Sun, 01 Sep 2019, Chennai)
- Hope Asia Kolkata (Fri, 23 - Sun, 25 Aug 2019, Kolkata)