Dear Reader,

Last week we had disappointing news emerged from the release of National Health Profile 2019 which highlighted rapid increase in chronic non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in the country. The profile 2019 calls for more commitment of the sector towards creating a robust healthcare delivery system with focus prevention and wellness. However, this week the Registrar General of India released a special bulletin on Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) which shows a decline of 8%. It is promising to note that India is on track to achieve SDG target of MMR.

We are all set to brainstorm on several issues pertaining to the Indian Healthcare sector. As we are nearing towards our 6th Annual Summit, responses from various segments for participation are overwhelming. We will be sharing with you the details of all the sessions with names of speakers and panelists that will unfold during the summit. To remind you, *NATHEALTH Annual Summit 2019 – Reimagining Collaboration to Strengthen India’s Healthcare Growth Trajectory* is being organized on 28th & 29th November at Lalit Hotel, New Delhi.

Strengthening the four pillars for Healthcare - Investments, Digital Health, Skill Development and Innovations would be the main focus areas. We are getting confirmations from all stakeholders including the government for the summit. Check this space for more.

Last week started with a bang as NATHEALTH’s President’s views on Quality and Skilling was prominently covered by Business World online. In this article our president highlighted core issues related to quality and skilling.

This week’s newsletter features some interesting breakthroughs from both the government as well as the private sector as the new propositions.

The most promising is the Special Bulletin of The Registrar of India on MMR which was released by the Health Ministry on November 8. The Bulletin finds that MMR declined by 8% in one year and 11 states achieved National Health Policy target of MMR 100/ lakh live births.

On policy front, the government for the first time is considering revising the National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM) based on therapies

Bilateral talks with countries like New Zealand and Brazil would help India in dealing with some of the problems that our very own Indian Healthcare System is grappling with.

Check out the newsletter to know how Bahrain-based alternative investment manager Investcorp aims to grow its business in India to $1.5 billion in assets under management over the next five years with focus on Healthcare sector as well. Follow other news updates also.

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Check out our previous newsletters Here

**NATHEALTH ANNUAL SUMMIT 2019: COUNTDOWN BEGINS!**

Register Here (Scroll down for the cool poster!)

You can also reach out to us at 011 407 69 956
Healthcare Policy Updates

India on track to achieve MMR targets for SDG

Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) of India has declined by 8 points in one year as per the latest Special Bulletin on MMR released by the Registrar General of India. This decline is important as it translates to nearly 2000 additional pregnant women saved annually. 11 States have achieved the ambitious target of MMR of 100/1 lakh Live Births by 2020 set under the National Health Policy 2017.

Govt may expand essential meds list, cut price of drugs

The government for the first time is considering revising the National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM) based on therapies like oncology, anti-infectives, diabetes, cardiology, respiratory etc. to expand the purview of "essential medicines" that can be accessible and affordable to all.

MCI to draft guidelines for fess structure at private medical colleges

Union Health Ministry has asked the Board of Governors (BoG) to prepare draft guidelines for the fee structure in private medical colleges and deemed universities from the next academic session. The BoG has now initiated consultations with states and sought their suggestions for framing draft guidelines for the fee structure.

Vice President calls for providing timely and high-quality Emergency Health Services in the country

Inaugurating the 10th Asian Conference of Emergency Medicine Vice President of India M. Venkaiah Naidu called for stepping up investments to provide timely and high-quality Emergency Health Services in India.

Cabinet approves MoU between India and Brazil on Cooperation in the field of Health & Medicine

The bilateral MoU between India and Brazil will encourage cooperation between the two countries through joint initiatives, technology development in the health sector and development of research in the health sector. It will facilitate in improving the public health status of people of both the countries.

Healthcare Industry Overview

Investcorp aims to expand India business to $1.5 bn in five year

Bahrain-based alternative investment manager Investcorp aims to grow its business in India to $1.5 billion in assets under management over the next five years. The investment would go into sectors like healthcare, financial services, mass-market
consumption, and consumer-tech

**India-New Zealand held bilateral discussion on Biosecurity and food safety**

Ashwini Kumar Choubey, Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare and Damien O’Connor, Minister of Agriculture, Minister for Biosecurity, Food Safety and Rural Communities and Minister of State for Trade and Export Growth Government of the New Zealand held bilateral discussions in New Delhi.

**Singapore bank files case against medical technology firm**

Singapore-based multinational bank DBS has registered a complaint with Ulsoor police station against Bengaluru-headquartered Opto Circuits (India) Limited, a medical technology company, alleging the latter defaulted on a Rs 178 crore loan and also falsified information in its audit.

**Medtech & Diagnostic Forums**

**C-CAMP to set up prototyping facility for medtech startups**

Centre for Cellular and Molecular Platforms (C-CAMP) with support from National BioPharma Mission, BIRAC and DBT, will soon launch National Medtech Rapid Prototyping Facility for Microfluidic Medical Devices.

**Make in India holds the key to ensuring affordable diagnostic services**

In an interview to Express Healthcare Suresh Vazirani, MD and CEO, Transasia Bio-Medicals shares his perspective on the ever-changing business environment in Indian diagnostics with

**Diagnostic industry needs an autonomous body for quality regulations**

CEO, SRL Diagnostics Arindam Haldar highlights the challenges that the unauthorised diagnostic labs create in the healthcare ecosystem and how government intervention by strict implementation of regulation can play a crucial role.

**Insurance Forum**

**Insurance watchdog wants insurers to promote wellness, yoga**

Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has issued draft guidelines on ‘Wellness and Preventive Features’ IRDAI has issued the exposure draft and has sought comments of stakeholders by November 18, 2019.

**Ludhiana tops in making of health cards under ayushman bharat-sarbat sehat bima yojana**

Under the scheme, 358556 golden cards have been made till date, which is the highest in the state. Over 2300 patients in government hospitals and 902 in private hospitals have got their treatment done under this scheme.

**Insurance Regulator bars Reliance Health Insurance from Selling Policies**

Insurance sector regulator has barred Anil Ambani-led Reliance Health Insurance Ltd (RHICL) from selling new policies due to its weak financial health. The regulator has also asked RHICL to transfer the entire policyholders’ liabilities along with financial assets to Reliance General Insurance Co Ltd (RGICL), which in turn will settle claims of the existing policyholders.

**Upcoming Awards & Events**

- **Future Healthcare Summit (Thu, 28 – Sat, 30 Nov, New Delhi)**
- **International Telemedicine Conference of Telemedicine Society of India (Fri, 29 Nov – Sun, 1 Dec New Delhi)**
The Countdown has Begun

Integration. Collaboration. Re-Imagination

Keynote Address by Dr Harsh Vardhan, Hon. Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare

Save the Date
November 28 & 29, 2019
Lalit Hotel, New Delhi

Register Now