



REIMAGINING INDIA'S HEALTH SYSTEM TOWARDS VIKSIT BHARAT @ 2047

A POLICY DIALOGUE ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE LANCET COMMISSION ON A CITIZEN-CENTRED HEALTH SYSTEM FOR INDIA

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Overview

India is at a critical juncture in its growth story towards 'Viksit Bharat', and achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC) is indispensable to this objective. The Lancet Commission on a Citizen-Centred Health System for India was established in December 2020 to identify the reforms needed to realise UHC. The Commission encompasses a diverse spectrum of expertise and has drawn on existing and new research to suggest a bold set of reform options that could potentially transform the health system to deliver accessible, affordable, high-quality healthcare to its population.

To translate these proposals into implementable policy, it is essential to bring together policymakers, technical experts and practitioners in a structured policy dialogue. This convening will foster a shared understanding, surface implementation challenges, and build consensus on the priority actions required to further propel India's transformative journey toward equitable, efficient, and people-centred health systems.

DIALOGUE 1 Financing, governance and service delivery reforms in the public sector and the role of citizen participation

This discussion is premised on the indispensable role of public sector services in the provision of UHC. In this session, the Commission's proposals for reforming public sector health services to improve quality and efficiency will be deliberated. A crucial perspective to consider in this discussion is the context of states at varying levels of health system performance. Different methods of allocating health budgets, increasing finances, organising purchasing and paying providers will be discussed. Structural reforms to ensure that citizens receive a continuum of care from the public system, which is designed to do so, but may not always be able to deliver accordingly, will be debated for their acceptability and feasibility. The central role of citizen participation in planning and governance of health services will be a key component of these discussions.

DIALOGUE 2 Engaging the private sector to align with UHC goals and leveraging digital technologies to reimagine healthcare delivery

Bringing together industry practitioners from hospitals, health insurance, health technology platforms and others, this conversation will discuss the Commission's proposals on engaging the private sector to decrease the fragmentation of care and improve patients' access and experiences with privately financed and delivered healthcare. Alternative models of organising financing and provision to ensure a better alignment of incentives between payers, providers, and patients, as well as the supporting factors



needed to implement such models while protecting access and affordability, will be debated. India's strength in the rapid development and deployment of technologies will form a basis for these discussions.

DIALOGUE 3 Promoting a learning health system through peer learning, collaboration and transparency

'Health system policy must be evidence-based': while most agree with this statement, there is a paucity of embedded mechanisms that connect data, practice experiences, research and policy/programmatic processes with each other. This discussion will centre on ways to foster a culture of openness to learning within the health system, including within the individual product and service delivery organisations, to better align performance with the broader goals of UHC, and to explore new ways of collaboration towards building a responsive health system.

This policy dialogue is organised by the [Centre for Health Systems Design and Management](#) at the [Goa Institute of Management](#). For more information on the Lancet Commission on a Citizen-Centred Health System for India, please see the [website](#). The Commission report will be released on January 21st, 2026, in New Delhi.

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