



सत्यमेव जयते

**NITI Aayog**

Development Dialogues

# Health System for A New India: Building Blocks

New Delhi, India  
November 30, 2018



# Development Dialogues:

## Need for conversations

The National Institution for Transforming India (NITI Aayog), Government of India, through this dialogue, brings together diverse stakeholders from across the health care ecosystem to foster a vibrant discussion towards strengthening the building blocks of the health system of a new India.

India, over the years, has made significant improvements in increasing life expectancy, reducing child and maternal mortality and tackling other existing and emerging health priorities. Further, there is a strong political commitment towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals of Good Health and Well-being for all Indians by 2030, which is articulated and strategized in the National Health Policy of 2017.

In line with the SDG framework for achieving universal health coverage, financial risk protection, and access to essential quality health care services, the Government of India has initiated several reforms within its health system. The recently launched AYUSHMAN Bharat program envisions providing comprehensive health care to reduce out-of-pocket expenditure and to promote overall health and well-being of the population. This bold reform aims to strengthen access to integrated and high-quality secondary and tertiary health care while also focusing on preventive and primary health services.

Other major programs like Transformation of Aspirational Districts, National Nutrition Mission (POSHAN Abhiyan), and the Swachh Bharat Mission are playing an important role in meeting the Sustainable Development Goals.



To implement these reforms well, there is a need for continuous engagement between the government and different stakeholders from across the health care ecosystem to realize a long-term vision towards building strong supporting institutional systems.

NITI Aayog, the policy think-tank of the Government of India, in keeping with its mandate to foster stakeholder involvement and coordinate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, has initiated a series of consultations called the 'Development Dialogues'. As a part of its health agenda, NITI Aayog has, over last one year, facilitated several dialogues and conversations amongst Indian and global academia and researchers to provide an in-depth analysis and diagnosis and reflections on the key building blocks of the Indian health system.

For the first development dialogue on November 30, 2018 the following key themes are prioritized for deliberations.



Better risk pooling of existing resources for health to maximize the fiscal space for the health care needs of the people of India, in an equitable and inclusive manner.



An effective and strategic purchasing mechanism for provisioning health care.



Leveraging information technology in improving the design and delivery of health care.



Achieving standardized delivery of health care services across primary, secondary, and tertiary levels of care in India's mixed health care system.

## Dialogue focus

Building on the key themes, this dialogue aims to discuss the existing challenges, successes, and opportunities and to arrive at actionable solutions that will shape the journey of health system transformation in India. For a more meaningful dialogue and discussion, deliberations will focus on the following key questions:

### **1. In a fiscally constrained environment, how can health care funds (public and private) be mobilized effectively and efficiently?**

As India consolidates its position in the world as a leading economic power, much is yet to be done with regard to vital social and health indicators. One such thrust area which has become a policy priority in recent times is ensuring adequate funding for health care. Currently, close to seventy percent of all spending on health in India is borne by the households directly, predominantly through out-of-pocket expenditure. It is imperative that India moves to a better system for risk pooling health resources and understand how fiscal space can be maximized for serving the vast needs of its denizens in an equitable and inclusive manner. The introduction of Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojna (PMJAY) is a clear step in the right direction. However, additional critical steps are needed to achieve Universal Health Coverage over the next decade.

### **2. How can existing pooled resources for health care be used more efficiently?**

India faces several challenges in assuring the value for resources invested in health. There are opportunities to drive efficiency and accountability and separating the purchasing and direct provisioning of health care. To move towards greater purchasing efficiency in the system India will need to ensure that important levers of strategic purchasing are addressed and better aligned across the public and private sector. This will help in leveling the playing field for providers and states and help build an equitable, inclusive and efficient health system for India.

### **3. How can standardized delivery of health services be achieved across primary, secondary, and tertiary levels of care in India's mixed health care system.**

While India has made great strides over the last two decades in reducing the disease burden from communicable diseases and improving health outcomes for women and children, there is a need to reduce fragmentation and inefficiency and increase quality. India needs a paradigm shift in the organization and provision of care. There is a need to explore models and avenues through which public and private sectors work together to develop a delivery system based on strong preventive and primary care, continuous support to individuals and families, and strong linkages among providers at the community, primary and hospital levels. The PMJAY and Health and Wellness Centers can be building blocks to achieve a more organized and effective delivery system.

### **4. How can information technology be leveraged to improve health outcomes?**

Health care is an information-intensive industry. Information is needed to improve the management of the health system-clinically, financially and administratively. Digital Health has the opportunity to transform how health care is delivered, how it is paid for, and to place the patient back in the center of the health care experience.

# Participation

Participating in the deliberations will be a group of over 150 national and international academicians, researchers, policy makers and practitioners, health care providers, civil society organizations, donors, corporations, and opinion leaders.



## Our Speakers

### Inaugural Session

- Dr. Vinod K. Paul, Member, NITI Aayog
- Mr. Amitabh Kant, Chief Executive Officer, NITI Aayog
- Ms. Preeti Sudan, Secretary, Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- Mr. Alok Kumar, Adviser, Health, NITI Aayog
- Dr. Suwit Wibulpolprasert, Global Health Adviser, Ministry of Public Health, Government of Thailand

### Technical Plenary 1: In a fiscally constrained environment, how can health care funds (public and private) be mobilized effectively and efficiently?

- Mr. Joseph Kutzin, Coordinator, Health Financing Policy, World Health Organization
- Mr. Ratan Watal, Principal Adviser, NITI Aayog (TBC)
- Mr. Shaktikanta Das, Member, Fifteenth Finance Commission (TBC)
- Mr. Rajiv Kumar, Secretary, Department of Financial Services, Union Ministry of Finance (TBC)
- Mr. Subhash Chandra Khuntia, Chairperson, Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (TBC)
- Dr. Cristian Baeza, Executive Director, International Center for Health Systems Strengthening, USA
- Dr. Eduardo P. Banzon, Principal Health Specialist, Asian Development Bank, Philippines
- Mr. Thomas Pellathy, Executive Vice President, Highmark Health, USA

### Technical Plenary 2: How can existing pooled resources for health care be used more efficiently?

- Dr. Indu Bhushan, Chief Executive Officer, Ayushman Bharat National Health Agency
- Mr. John Langenbrunner, Senior Advisor in Financing and Health Insurance, Indonesia
- Prof. Chi-Man (Winnie) Yip, Professor of Global Health Policy and Economics, TH Chan School of Public Health, Harvard University
- Mr. Mauricio Bailón, Consultant, Inter American Conference in Social Security, Mexico
- Ms. Preetha Reddy, Vice Chairperson, Apollo Hospitals Group
- Mr. Girish Rao, Chairman and Managing Director, Vidal Healthcare Services Private Limited
- Dr. Sonalini Khetrpal, Health Specialist, Asian Development Bank, Philippines

### Special Session: Leveraging information technology for health

- Dr. Dennis Streveler, Professor, Medical Informatics, University of Hawaii, USA

### Technical Plenary 3: How can standardized delivery of health services be achieved across primary, secondary, and tertiary levels of care in India's mixed health care system?

- Mr. Adil Zainulbhai, Chairman, Quality Council of India
- Mr. Manoj Jhalani, Additional Secretary, Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- Dr. Devi Shetty, Chairman, Narayana Health
- Dr. Henk Bekedam, WHO Representative to India
- Mr. Jongsu Ryu, Commissioner, Health Insurance Review and Assessment Service International Group, South Korea
- Dr. Jerry La Forgia, Chief Technical Officer, Aceso Global, USA

### Closing Plenary

- Dr. Vinod K. Paul, Member, NITI Aayog
- Dr. Rajiv Kumar, Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog
- Mr. N.K. Singh, Chairman, Fifteenth Finance Commission (TBC)
- Ms. Preeti Sudan, Secretary, Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- Mr. Alok Kumar, Adviser, Health, NITI Aayog