

## Media Coverage Update

### <u>October</u>



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# ONLINE AND TRADE



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#### Anil Matai, Director General, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI):

"We commend the government's far-reaching steps, led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, to strengthen India's healthcare infrastructure through a series of transformative projects. These initiatives reflect a commitment to ensuring that quality healthcare is accessible across the country and underscore the critical role that health plays in building a resilient and prosperous nation.

A key development in this vision is the expansion of Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY), which now includes health coverage for all senior citizens aged 70 and above, irrespective of income. This extension is a monumental step in providing India's elderly population with financial protection and healthcare support, reducing the healthcare burden on families and enhancing the country's commitment to inclusive care.

In support of a robust healthcare ecosystem, the launch of a Central Drugs Testing Laboratory in Bhubaneswar, along with several projects under the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme for medical devices and bulk drugs, marks another milestone. These initiatives are set to strengthen India's R&D and testing infrastructure, as well as its manufacturing capabilities for high and medical devices and critical care equipment. They are capabilities for high and medical devices and critical care equipment.

manufacturing capabilities for high-end medical devices and critical care equipment. They are essential to promoting self-reliance and fostering growth within the healthcare sector under the Make in India initiative.

Notably, the launch of the U-WIN portal to digitalize immunization services represents a transformative step for preventive healthcare. By providing timely access to vaccines for nearly 2.9 crore pregnant women and 2.6 crore infants annually, it will lead to saving countless lives and will advance India's public health objectives. Such an approach, focused on early intervention and preventative care, is instrumental in reducing healthcare burdens before they arise.

OPPI remains dedicated to supporting these transformative efforts, which stand to make lasting contributions to India's healthcare landscape, promoting a healthier, more resilient, and self-sustaining nation."