

Edition 51 | January 30, 2026



Dear Friends,

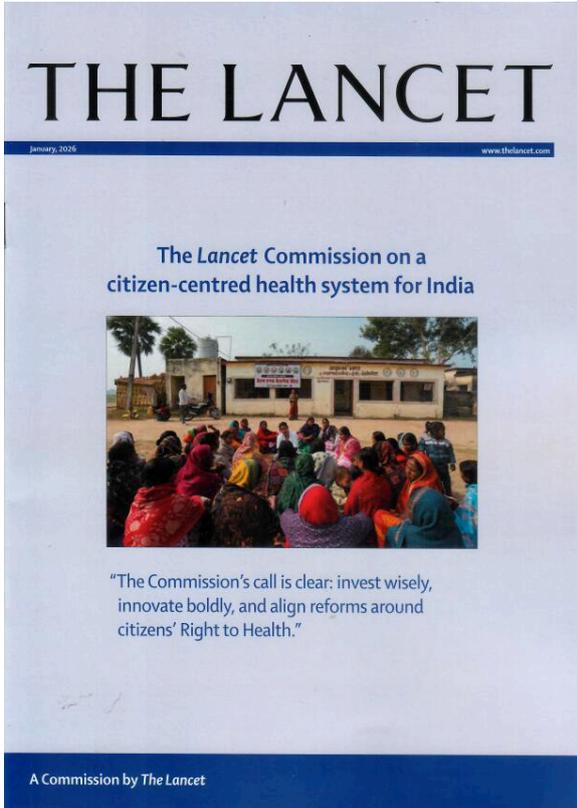
We are delighted to present to you the **51st edition** of the monthly newsletter by [The Lancet Commission on a Citizen-Centred Health System for India](#). This month's newsletter marks a major milestone: **the launch of the Commission's report**, the culmination of five years of rigorous research and collaboration. This edition brings together key resources from the launch, including the full report and executive summary, highlights from the launch event, and selected press coverage reflecting the report's reception and relevance.

Visit our Website

Report Launched!

After 5 years of extensive research, [The Lancet Commission on a Citizen-Centred Health System for India report](#) is here!

Read the report here!



The report proposes a transformative approach to India's health system by placing the needs of citizens front and centre. The report's authors emphasise the urgent need to strengthen India's public healthcare and identify a several health system reforms needed to advance Universal Health Coverage. The Commission advocates for a rights-based, citizen-centred model that promotes community participation, transparency, and equity—key principles of UHC—aimed at ensuring high-quality, affordable care for all.

[Executive Summary \(English\)](#)

[Executive Summary \(Hindi\)](#)

Report Launch Highlights



[Watch the whole event here](#)

In the Media



[Lancet experts call for a 'citizen-centric' healthcare delivery and use of technology](#)

The commission said that hurdles in insurance legislation needing large amounts of capital and preventing insurers and providers from incorporating integrated care principles need to be addressed. The deployment of digital technologies can catalyse many of the reforms proposed by the commission, for example to facilitate the integration of diverse, registered healthcare providers with multiple types of payers and patients, facilitating health data exchange, structured care coordination, and communication among them, *writes Jacob Koshy*.



[India has made great strides in healthcare, challenge now is to improve service quality](#)

The Lancet, the storied medical journal whose pages have been home to publications which have transformed health policy and practice for 200 years, published its first Commission devoted to India on January 21. The Commission was launched in December 2020, a year into the pandemic and just months before the devastating Delta wave ripped through communities, killing hundreds of thousands of people, reminding us of the fragility of our health system, *writes Vikram Patel*.



[India's universal health coverage is within reach but needs accountability: Lancet report on what needs fixing](#)

Although there has been a shift in executing universal health coverage (UHC) in India in terms of political will, funding and public awareness, challenges remain with uneven quality of care, inefficiencies in spending, fragmented delivery, inadequate design and implementation of financial protection programmes. These are the findings of the latest Lancet Commission report on India's public health infrastructure, *writes Anuradha Mascarenhas*.



[With public trust and political capital, India must seize the moment for health reforms](#)

India has a rare chance to reform healthcare for its 1.4 billion citizens, with PM Modi urged to act on rising public trust and economic growth. [...] Richard Horton's direct appeal to the Prime Minister comes as he released a major commission report identifying poor quality care, fragmented delivery and governance failures as the main barriers to universal health coverage — barriers that have created conditions where hundreds of thousands are estimated to die from substandard healthcare by some estimates, *writes Binayak Dasgupta*.



[Why healthcare still fails millions— and how India can fix it: Lancet Commission's citizen-centred roadmap](#)

For millions of Indians, healthcare still means long queues, distant hospitals, repeated tests, and paying out of pocket for medicines and diagnostics—even when they are officially "covered". Families drain savings to manage chronic illness, elderly patients struggle across multiple providers, and those in rural or marginalised communities face delays or poor-quality care. Universal Health Coverage (UHC) exists on paper, but for many, it remains fragmented in practice, *writes Anuja Jaiswal*.



[Advancing health care: the engine of India's ambitions](#)

Today, *The Lancet* publishes *The Lancet Commission on a citizen-centred health system for India* that lays out a path to achieving universal health coverage in India—a vital foundation for the country's ambitions. The Commission, which began amid the COVID-19 pandemic, was written by a team of Indian experts both in-country and from the diaspora across diverse sectors of health care. What sets this effort apart from previous endeavours is the consultative and participatory inclusion of those who provide health care as well as the Indian citizenry who receive it. This report has been led by Indians for Indians, *writes Pamela Das*.



[Lancet panel says India can be "strong global voice" for health as power shifts globally](#)

A major report by the Lancet Commission on a Citizen-Centred Health System for India was launched in New Delhi on January 21, 2026. It lays out a roadmap for transforming India's health system to be more accessible, reliable and responsive to citizens, especially as the country aims for universal health coverage (UHC). The Commission's recommendations come after five years of work, including a large household survey across states to understand how people experience healthcare, *writes Vaishnavi Parashar*.



[Delivering on a citizen-centred health system for India](#)

The Lancet Commission on a Citizen-Centred Health System for India offers a compelling framework to reorient the country's health architecture around universality, accountability, and trust. This vision builds on decades of policy evolution—from the Bhore Committee's (1946) call for comprehensive primary health care to Ayushman Bharat's (2018) reforms expanding access to health care through health and wellness centres and the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana, *write Soumya Swaminathan and Roubitha David*.



[A pathway to implementing universal health care in India](#)

The Lancet Commission on a Citizen-Centred Health System for India presents a timely and comprehensive assessment of India's health system. Although noting India's progress in reducing infant and maternal mortality and increasing life expectancy, the report also highlights persistent gaps in health-care delivery, and identifies that the main challenges are fragmented governance, poorly coordinated delivery, and a system organised around facilities rather than patients, writes Karthik Muralidharan.

[India Needs To Strengthen Public Sector Healthcare System To Achieve National Health Goal, Says Lancet Report](#)

The goal to achieve universal health coverage by 2047 will be possible when there is a strong publicly provided healthcare system, a report by Lancet has said. Titled The Lancet Commission on a citizen-centred health system for India, the report is based on a survey conducted on 50,000 households in 29 states and provides a comprehensive roadmap for achieving universal health coverage (UHC) and says that a paradigm shift is required for achieving this objective, writes Versha Jain.




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



<p>Date: 6th February 2026</p> <p>Contact: chsdm@gim.ac.in kheya.furtado@gim.ac.in</p>	<p>Time: 9:30 am onwards</p> <p>Location: Goa Institute of Management, India</p>	<p>Scan to Register</p> 
---	--	---

Upcoming Event

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

Friday, 6 February 2026 | 9:30 a.m. IST | Goa Institute of Management

RSVP





Help us develop a roadmap to achieve universal health coverage in India by visiting our website: <https://www.citizenshealth.in/>

[#ReimaginingIndiasHealth](#) [#HealthcareForAll](#) [#CitizensHealthIndia](#)

We love hearing back from you! Please send your comments, suggestions, and contributions for these newsletters, including research highlights and published features to citizenhealthin@gmail.com

Subscribe to our newsletter



Copyright © 2021 The Lakshmi Mittal and Family South Asia Institute, Harvard University. | B-Block, 43, First Floor, Middle Circle, Connaught Place | Delhi, DL 110001 IN

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!