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The Lakshmi Mittal and Family  
**SOUTH ASIA INSTITUTE**  
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## The Lancet Commission on a Citizen-Centred Health System for India

### Newsletter

Dear Friends,

We are delighted to present to you the November edition of the monthly newsletter by [The Lancet Commission on a Citizen-Centred Health System for India](#). This month's newsletter highlights publications from the Commission that trace India's journey toward Universal Health Coverage (UHC)—from the health-system lessons of COVID-19 to district-level monitoring frameworks and the role of citizen engagement. These pieces are a part of a [larger body of work](#) that collectively underscore the urgency, complexity, and historic opportunity within India's health-system reform agenda. We are also excited to announce an upcoming milestone: the **Commission's flagship report** will be released in **January 2026**. Please save the date; additional information will be shared soon.

Visit our Website

## Save the Date

### The Lancet Commission on a Citizen-Centred Health System for India: Report Launch

A milestone five years in the making is here. The Commission's landmark report on Universal Health Care in India is ready for release. This publication presents a key shift in the conventional narrative of the barriers to realising

## Universal Health Care in India.

We are pleased to announce that the report will be officially launched in **New Delhi on January 21, 2026**, with additional events planned across India.

Mark your calendar. More details will follow shortly.

[Click to receive updates as we release more information](#)

## Work from the Commission



### [Reimagining India's health system: a Lancet Citizens' Commission](#)

The COVID-19 pandemic and response are having profound impacts on India's people, leading to myriad health-care challenges, a looming economic recession, and humanitarian crises. The long-standing need for universal health coverage (UHC) in India has been brought into sharp focus by the pandemic. The mission of the Lancet Citizens' Commission on reimagining India's health system is to lay out the path to achieving UHC in India in the coming decade.



### [India's resurgence of COVID-19: urgent actions needed](#)

As of May, 2021, the resurgent wave of COVID-19 in India has been spreading to rural populations and other countries in the region. The pandemic has foregrounded the long-standing need for universal health coverage (UHC) in India. The Lancet Citizens' Commission on Reimagining India's Health System was launched in December, 2020, to map the pathway to achieving UHC in the coming decade through a participatory, solutions-driven approach.

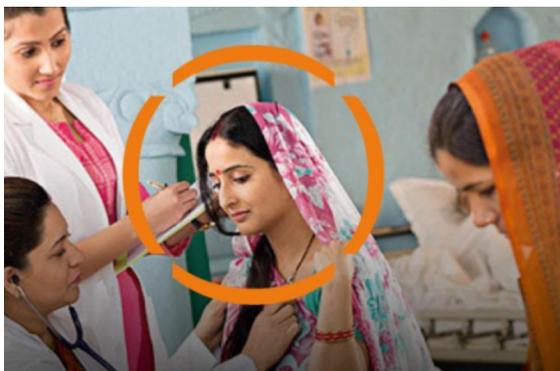


### [A historic opportunity for universal health coverage in India](#)



### [District-level monitoring of universal health coverage, India](#)

The milestone of India's 75th anniversary of independence on Aug 15, 2022, offers an opportunity to reassert the country's commitment to realising universal health coverage (UHC). The first such effort predates independence, with the 1946 Bhore Committee report.<sup>1</sup> India's colonial ruler, the UK Government, had simultaneously commissioned the Beveridge Report (1942), which led to the birth of the UK National Health Service in 1948.



### Healthcare for all must be built on the voices of all

The state of health care in India is far from optimal, a statement with which few of its 1.3 billion citizens would disagree. Even prior to the pandemic, reforming the health system was overdue, evidenced by poor health indicators, unequal delivery of quality care and inadequate protection from financial risk. Despite significant improvements in areas like antenatal care, infant mortality and life expectancy, structural reform was hampered by nominal attempts to make health care a policy priority or to tell a story of success of implementation at scale.

Universal health coverage (UHC) has emerged as a major goal in global health within the post-2015 millennium development agenda. The objectives of UHC are typically defined by three dimensions: the population that is covered by pooled funds; the proportion of direct health costs covered by pooled funds; and the health services covered by those funds.<sup>2</sup> While these dimensions provide a framework for a country's aspirations for its health system, the path to UHC varies from one country to another.



### Citizen's engagement is the backbone of Universal Health Coverage

Covid-19 is a grim reminder of the fact that a robust health system is a necessity, not an option. The pandemic has brought to the forefront the need to reimagine India's healthcare system – one that offers comprehensive, accountable, accessible, inclusive, affordable, and quality health care to all. To achieve Universal Health Coverage (UHC) goals, it is imperative to include the voices of communities, across sociocultural contexts, recognising the differential healthcare needs of people.



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

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

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