

1. Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) Rising Sharply in India

A leading nephrologist has cautioned that India is on the verge of a CKD epidemic due to the rising prevalence of diabetes, hypertension, and environmental exposures. Around two lakh Indians develop severe kidney failure each year, with many more affected by milder disease. Though access to dialysis and specialists has improved, cost and prevention remain major challenges.

2. India's Medical Education and Healthcare System Expanding

A recent article in *The Lancet* highlighted India's strong focus on expanding medical education and healthcare infrastructure. The country now has nearly 780 medical colleges with over 1.18 lakh annual MBBS seats. The National Medical Commission's regulatory reforms aim to strengthen the health workforce, improve access to care, and enhance the quality of medical education across the nation.

3. Himachal Pradesh to Upgrade Diagnostic Facilities

The Himachal Pradesh government has sanctioned ₹213.75 crore for installing high-end diagnostic equipment such as MRI and CT scanners, digital mammography units, and advanced X-ray systems in government hospitals and medical colleges. This initiative aims to reduce patient travel for diagnostic services and improve early disease detection in the state.

4. India Sends Medical Aid to Afghanistan

India has dispatched more than 16 tonnes of medicines and diagnostic kits to Afghanistan to help control vector-borne diseases such as malaria, dengue, and leishmaniasis. The move highlights India's continued commitment to regional health cooperation and humanitarian assistance.

5. Doctors' Protests and Policy Developments

In Kerala, government medical college doctors have announced intensified protests starting November 11 over pending pay revision issues. In Maharashtra, doctors in state-run medical colleges have launched an indefinite strike, shutting down OPDs in protest against safety lapses and demanding a fair investigation into a recent doctor's death. Meanwhile, the central government plans to implement a unified quality checklist system across over 800 medical colleges to ensure consistent standards in education and patient safety.