

# Towards a **Progressive,** **Preventive** and **Prescriptive** Healthcare Platform

**argus**  
**ODISHA**  
**HEALTH**  
**CONNECT**  
**SEASON-4**

20<sup>th</sup> December 2025 | Bhubaneswar

POWERED BY



**Public Health Challenges of Odisha:**  
Strategies for Disease Prevention, Healthcare  
Access, and Tribal Health Inclusion

Hotel Mayfair Convention, Jaydev Vihar, Bhubaneswar, Odisha.



# Healthcare transformation in India is being increasingly recognised as a major pillar of national development.

In a post on X, Shri. Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India has quoted the renowned cardiac surgeon, Dr. Devi Prasad Shetty, saying, "India's healthcare is now a key driver of economic growth. Initiatives like Ayushman Bharat, POSHAN Abhiyaan and Swachh Bharat are reducing disease, protecting household savings, and building human capital. Seeing health as an investment, not a cost, is boosting governance and prosperity." Indeed, India's healthcare policies have shifted from a purely welfare-oriented approach to becoming a driver of economic development.



## ARGUS NEWS, THE TRUE VOICE OF ODISHA

Argus News is Odisha's fastest growing News Channel. With a belief in the power of a responsible, reliable and responsive presence in the world of news, it is backed by state-of-the-art technology and a network of over 300 professionals spread across the state. Argus reaches out to every corner of Odisha and the Odia diaspora around the country and the world. It is fast becoming Odisha's true voice.

Argus News has successfully conducted events like Pride of Odisha & Nari Shakti. It has also organised conclaves in the fields of Tourism, Agriculture and Education. It is now undertaking its fourth season of Health Connect.



## ODISHA AND HEALTH – THE MILESTONES

Healthcare in Odisha has been steadily evolving, with significant improvements achieved over the years. However, certain challenges remain on the path toward comprehensive health and wellbeing. Factors such as **economic constraints, social disparities, literacy levels, and gaps in infrastructure** continue to impact access to quality healthcare, especially in the management of communicable diseases. Socio-cultural factors, limited awareness, and uneven service distribution also influence the effectiveness of public health delivery.

# ODISHA HEALTH CONNECT SEASON 4

Argus Odisha Health Connect will seek to identify and address the key challenges and concerns across different aspects of healthcare in Odisha.

The Conclave will be held on 20 December 2025. It will strive to outline a comprehensive Health Roadmap for the state leading up to the year 2036.

## GLIMPSES OF THE EARLIER SEASONS

### SEASON-1

Dr. Bharati Pravin Pawar, Former Minister of State, Health and Family Welfare, Government of India addressing the session.



### SEASON-2

Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Former Union Minister of Ayush Ports, Shipping and Waterways addressing the session.



### SEASON-3

Shri Prithviraj Harichandan, Hon'ble Minister of Law, Works and Excise, Government of Odisha, addressing the session.



## SPEAKERS SPEAK

### Dr. Bharati Praveen Pawar

Chief Guest, Season 1

Dr. Bharati Praveen Pawar highlights India's strong COVID-19 response, Odisha's growing health infrastructure, and priorities like Ayush integration and stronger primary healthcare.

She stresses the role of the health conclave, digital progress through ABHA ID, and major investments under Ayushman Bharat to enhance labs, ICUs, and preparedness.

### Shri Sarbananda Sonowal

Hon'ble Union Minister of Ayush and Ports, Shipping & Waterways, Government of India, New Delhi

Chief Guest, Season 2

He highlights PM Narendra Modi's efforts since 2014 to promote AYUSH globally and within India. He calls for modern medicine and traditional systems to work together to ensure public health and safety. India is the first among 170 countries to receive WHO recognition for traditional medicine, reflecting national pride.



## CHIEF GUEST

### Dr. Mukesh Mahaling

Hon'ble Minister, Health & Family Welfare, Parliamentary Affairs, Electronics & Information Technology.

### Shri Satyananda Mishra

Executive Director, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, Delhi  
NCR Retd. IAS & Former Chief Information Commissioner

Guest of Honour, Season 2

Healthcare should be approached as both a physical and social phenomenon requiring cultural change. Media and civil society have key roles in promoting accessible, integrated, and affordable healthcare.

### Shri Prithviraj Harichandan

Hon'ble Minister, Law, Works and Excise, Govt. of Odisha

Guest of Honour, Season 3

He highlights continuous efforts over three years to make Odisha a major health destination and praises Argus TV. By 2036, projections show Odisha's elderly population will surpass its youth population. Geriatric care will be a major challenge, requiring multidisciplinary coordination across several medical specialties.

### Smt. Aswathy S., IAS

Commissioner-cum-Secretary, Department of Health & Family Welfare, Government of Odisha

Guest of Honour, Season 3

Odisha has progressed in the health sector but still has a long way to go, requiring long-term planning. The government is planning a vision for Viksit Odisha 2036 aligned with Viksit Bharat 2047. Key focus areas for future planning include major demographic shifts, especially the rise of an ageing population.

### Shri Gautam Khanna

CEO, PD Hinduja Hospital & Medical Research, Mumbai

Guest of Honour, Season 3

He outlines three major healthcare challenges: access, affordability, and availability of professionals. Even with infrastructure and affordability, care fails without doctors and nurses to deliver services. He acknowledges ongoing initiatives such as primary health centre rejuvenation in Odisha and India.

### Dr. Sanghamitra Pati

Director, ICMR-RMRC, Bhubaneswar ADG, ICMR  
New Delhi

Guest of Honour, Season 3

She stresses that patients must participate in their own health and be empowered with knowledge. Around 60-70% of minor illnesses can be managed through self-care, supported by point-of-care diagnostics. Covid-19 showed how information empowers citizens, with media playing a crucial role in spreading health awareness.



# SESSIONS

"Public Health Challenges of Odisha: Strategies for Disease Prevention, Healthcare Access, and Tribal Health Inclusion"

01

SESSION

**Public Health Challenges  
of Odisha**

02

SESSION

**Tribal and Rural Health  
interventions towards universal  
health coverage**

03

SESSION

**Odisha Healthcare  
Infrastructure- "Purvodaya"  
from East to Global Map**

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