

World Health Day, 2026

Prelims: Current events of national and international importance | Health

Why in News?

World Health Day 2026, Prime Minister extended greetings and reaffirmed India's commitment to building a healthier society.

- **Aim** - To raise awareness about **global health challenges and promote collective action for universal well-being** through science-based collaboration.
- **Celebrated on** - 7th April (marking the founding day of the World Health Organization (WHO) in 1948).
- **Coordinating Body** - World Health Organization (WHO).
- **Associated SDG** - Sustainable Development Goal 3 to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.

Highlights, 2026

- **Theme, 2026** - Together for health. Stand with science.
- **Slogan** - Under the campaign slogan "**Evidence-led action for a healthier world**".
- **Focus** - It addresses the critical role of scientific evidence and global collaboration in protecting the health of people, animals, and the planet.
- The campaign prioritizes rebuilding trust in medical science to combat the rising spread of health misinformation and unproven medical fads.
- It highlights the "**One Health**" approach, acknowledging that human well-being is inseparable from the health of the surrounding ecosystem and animal populations.

Major Initiatives in India related to health

Ayushman Bharat (PM-JAY)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The world's largest health insurance scheme providing <i>Rs.5 lakh annual coverage</i> for secondary and tertiary care. • A 2026 expansion includes the Ayushman Vay Vandana Card, offering this free cover to all citizens aged 70+.
Ayushman Arogya Mandir (AAM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formerly known as Health and Wellness Centres, these units provide comprehensive primary healthcare and free diagnostics. • They focus on science-led preventive screenings for non-communicable diseases like diabetes and hypertension.
Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creates a seamless digital health ecosystem through the ABHA ID to link records across providers. • It ensures evidence-based, paperless treatment and real-time medical history access for patients and doctors.
Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides high-quality, science-tested generic medicines at 50–90% lower costs than branded versions. • Jan Aushadhi Kendras make essential healthcare affordable for the common man.

References

1. [PIB | World Health Day](#)
2. [WHO | World Health Day](#)