



INDIA
भारत

73rd Session of UNGA

**Third high-level meeting
on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases**

Statement by

Minister of Health & Family Welfare Shri J.P. NADDA

27 September 2018

Madam President,

Thank you for convening this meeting.

India aligns with the statement by G-77.

We made commitments at the UN to address the challenges posed by Non-Communicable diseases, in 2011 and 2014. The 2030 Agenda aims to reduce premature deaths by NCDs by one third by 2030.

Today we reaffirm our collective resolve to accelerate action to fulfill these commitments.

Madam President,

As spelt out in our new National Health Policy, we are engaged in multi-sectoral action for **early detection and effective disease management of NCDs through strengthening of health systems** with focus on addressing the social and economic determinants of the diseases.

Under the recently launched '*Ayushman Bharat*' (Long Live India) Programme, we have adopted a "Continuum of Care Approach", for providing universal access to primary care including prevention and health promotion through 150,000 Health & Wellness Centers, and through financial protection for secondary and tertiary care to more than half a billion poor people. We have started universal screening and management of NCDs for population above 30 years to cover nearly 500 million people.

Cancer care facilities are being strengthened and free dialysis services are provided through Public Private Partnerships.

To address mental health issues, we are focusing on awareness generation, early diagnosis and management.

Madam President,

Our focus on promoting **holistic wellness through practice of Yoga** has wide resonance. Interventions based on **Yoga and promotion healthy lifestyles are critical both for reducing the risk of NCDs and for their effective management.**

We are providing clean fuel and lighting source to reduce the risk of **Indoor air pollution that affects women and children.**

The National Tobacco Control Program discourages tobacco usage and combats adverse effects.

Madam President,

Facilitating access to affordable medicines and other health technologies is a priority. India's innovations in health technologies leading to affordable care are recognized internationally.

We must address barriers restricting access to affordable medicines, including through the use of flexibilities contained in the TRIPS Agreement and the Doha Declaration.

We thank the co-facilitators, for guiding the negotiating process. The Political Declaration being adopted today addresses our concerns and priorities in a balanced manner.

We are committed to the cause of prevention and control of NCDs globally demonstrating strong leadership, innovative interventions and holistic care approach.

I thank you.