

ADB approves \$170 M worth support to strengthen health systems in India

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To help manage integrated public health laboratories in five states and district critical care hospital blocks

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The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a \$170 million policy-based loan to improve India's health system preparedness and capacity to respond to future pandemics.

The Strengthened and Measurable Actions for Resilient and Transformative Health Systems (Subprogram 1) will support the government's National Health Policy 2017, which aims to provide quality health care services to all.

The programme will strengthen disease surveillance systems to effectively respond to public health threats. It will set up laboratory networks for infectious disease surveillance at the state, union, and metropolitan levels. It will also support the establishment of robust data systems to monitor and coordinate national health programmes for the poor, women, and other vulnerable groups. The programme will improve the governance and coordination of India's One Health approach, its multisector response to emerging infectious diseases.

ADB will support policy reforms that will ensure there are adequate and competent health professionals and workers. This includes legislation that will regulate and maintain standards of education, services and professional conduct of nurses, midwives, allied workers, and doctors. The program will help public health and health management teams deployed in some states to support public health functions and improve service delivery.