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Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India

# **OPPI Coverage Dossier**

## **GST Reforms 2025**

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Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India

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# Wires

<b>Publication</b>	PTI
<b>Date</b>	4 September
<b>Edition</b>	Online
<b>Headline</b>	<a href="#">GST cut on drugs, medical devices to provide relief to patients: Industry players</a>

Similarly, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) Director General Anil Matai said, "The decision to reduce GST on lifesaving medicines -- bringing 33 essential drugs from 12 per cent to nil and three critical drugs for cancer, rare diseases, and other severe chronic conditions from 5 per cent to nil -- is both historic and compassionate. This bold step will significantly reduce the financial strain on patients and families."

Equally impactful are the reductions in GST on all other medicines to 5 per cent and on a wide range of medical apparatus, diagnostic kits, surgical devices, and healthcare supplies, he added.



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<b>Publication</b>	IANIS
<b>Date</b>	4 September
<b>Edition</b>	Online
<b>Headline</b>	<a href="#"><u>Bold step: Industry experts hail GST reforms in health sector</u></a>

“We commend the government for the far-reaching GST reforms announced for healthcare. The decision to reduce GST on lifesaving medicines -- bringing 33 essential drugs from 12 per cent to nil and 3 critical drugs for cancer, rare diseases, and other severe chronic conditions from 5 per cent to nil-- is both historic and compassionate. This bold step will significantly reduce the financial strain on patients and families,” added Anil Matai, Director General, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI).

GST rates for spectacles and goggles for correcting vision have also been cut down to 5 per cent from 28 per cent. In addition, the GST revision will slash rates for health insurance, medical oxygen, and diagnostic kits such as glucometers.

GST on individual health and life insurance premiums has been reduced to nil (which currently stands at 18 per cent).

# Print

<b>Publication</b>	Millennium Post
<b>Date</b>	5 September
<b>Edition</b>	Online
<b>Headline</b>	GST cut on drugs and medical devices to provide relief to patients: Industry players

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## MILLENNIUM POST

Head Line: GST cut on drugs and medical devices to provide relief to patients: Industry players

<b>Date:</b> 05-Sep-2025	<b>Edition:</b> Delhi	<b>Page No:</b> 10
<b>Page Name:</b> Business	<b>By Line:</b>	<b>Keyword:</b> Company Specific News
<b>Circulation:</b> 84000	<b>Reader Ship:</b> 252000	<b>AVE:</b> 356400
<b>Width:</b> 18	<b>Height:</b> 10.77	<b>Area Sq cm:</b> 198

Text View
Icons
Opacity
Grayscale No

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## GST cut on drugs and medical devices to provide relief to patients: Industry players

**NEW DELHI:** The government's decision to slash GST on medicines and medical devices while exempting lifesaving drugs from the levy has been hailed as a landmark reform by the pharmaceutical and healthcare industry. Stakeholders said on Thursday that the move will bring direct relief to patients and families while substantially easing their financial burden.

Industry leaders noted that the reforms will improve affordability, expand access to quality healthcare, and align with the government's vision of universal healthcare. Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance Secretary General Sudarshan Jain said exempting cancer and lifesaving drugs



from GST will immediately ease costs for families. "Equally, the reduction in GST on a wide range of medicines from 12 per cent to 5 per cent will make essential therapies more affordable," he added.

Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) Director General Anil Matai described the reform as "historic and compassionate," pointing out that 33 essential drugs

have moved from 12 per cent GST to nil, while three critical medicines for cancer, rare diseases, and other severe conditions have shifted from 5 per cent to nil. He said the reductions on medicines, diagnostic kits, surgical devices, and healthcare supplies would make healthcare more accessible across households and hospitals.

"This move realigns the GST structure, prioritises patient well-being, and strengthens India's journey towards universal health coverage," Matai added.

NATHEALTH President and Metropolis Healthcare Executive Chairperson Ameera Shah said standardising GST

rates would support preventive, curative, and rehabilitative care. "By easing costs, the measure will enhance access to services, promote early disease detection, and ensure consistency across the healthcare ecosystem," she said.

Apollo Health Co Ltd Executive Chairperson Shobana Kamineni welcomed zero GST on health and life insurance, calling it "a masterstroke" that makes protection a right rather than a privilege.

Industry leaders unanimously called the reforms a transformative step toward building a patient-centric, equitable, and resilient healthcare system in India.

AGENCIES



# Online

<b>Publication</b>	The Economic Times
<b>Date</b>	5 September
<b>Edition</b>	Online
<b>Headline</b>	<a href="#">GST cut on drugs, medical devices to provide relief to patients: Industry players</a>

"This move will make healthcare more affordable and accessible at every level, from hospitals to households. By realigning the GST structure, the government has sent out a strong signal of prioritising patient well-being and strengthening India's journey towards universal health coverage," Matai said.

The reduction in GST would be passed down to patients, helping reduce the cost of treatment, while also improving access and creating greater demand for quality healthcare, he added.



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<b>Publication</b>	New Indian Express
<b>Date</b>	4 September
<b>Edition</b>	Online
<b>Headline</b>	<a href="#"><u>Big win for public health, says Nadda after GST cut on life-saving drugs, medical devices</u></a>

Anil Matai, Director General, the Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI), said that the decision to reduce GST on lifesaving medicines - bringing 33 essential drugs from 12 per cent to nil and three critical drugs for cancer, rare diseases, and other severe chronic conditions from five per cent to nil - is both historic and compassionate.





<b>Publication</b>	Deccan Herald
<b>Date</b>	5 September
<b>Edition</b>	Online
<b>Headline</b>	<a href="#"><u>GST cut on drugs, medical devices to provide relief to patients: Industry players</u></a>

Similarly, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) Director General Anil Matai said, "The decision to reduce GST on lifesaving medicines -- bringing 33 essential drugs from 12 per cent to nil and three critical drugs for cancer, rare diseases, and other severe chronic conditions from 5 per cent to nil -- is both historic and compassionate. This bold step will significantly reduce the financial strain on patients and families."


Equally impactful are the reductions in GST on all other medicines to 5 per cent and on a wide range of medical apparatus, diagnostic kits, surgical devices, and healthcare supplies, he added.

"This move will make healthcare more affordable and accessible at every level, from hospitals to households. By realigning the GST structure, the government has sent out a strong signal of prioritising patient well-being and strengthening India's journey towards universal health coverage," Matai said.

The reduction in GST would be passed down to patients, helping reduce the cost of treatment, while also improving access and creating greater demand for quality healthcare, he added.

<b>Publication</b>	The Print
<b>Date</b>	4 September
<b>Edition</b>	Online
<b>Headline</b>	<u><a href="#">Drug costs form chunk of out-of-pocket spending on health in India. This could change with GST reforms</a></u>

Anil Matai, the director-general of the Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI), a network of foreign drugmakers, called the restructuring of the GST framework a historic and compassionate step for reducing the financial strain patients and their families experience.

“By realigning the GST structure, the government has sent out a strong signal of prioritising patient well-being and strengthening India’s journey towards universal health coverage. The reduction in GST would be passed down to patients, helping reduce the cost of treatment, while also improving access and creating greater demand for quality healthcare,” Matai underlined. 

<b>Publication</b>	The Week
<b>Date</b>	5 September
<b>Edition</b>	Online
<b>Headline</b>	<a href="#">GST cut on drugs medical devices to provide relief to patients Industry players</a>

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Equally impactful are the reductions in GST on all other medicines to 5 per cent and on a wide range of medical apparatus, diagnostic kits, surgical devices, and healthcare supplies, he added.

"This move will make healthcare more affordable and accessible at every level, from hospitals to households. By realigning the GST structure, the government has sent out a strong signal of prioritising patient well-being and strengthening India's journey towards universal health coverage," Matai said.

<b>Publication</b>	News18
<b>Date</b>	5 September
<b>Edition</b>	Online
<b>Headline</b>	<a href="#"><u>Govt Slashes GST On Medicines, Devices &amp; Diagnostics, Industry Hails Relief For Patients</u></a>

Anil Matai, director general, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI)—lobby of foreign drugmakers such as MSD, Sanofi, Eli Lilly, Novo Nordisk among others—commended the government for the far-reaching GST reforms announced for healthcare. “The decision to reduce GST on lifesaving medicines—bringing 33 essential drugs from 12 per cent to NIL and 3 critical drugs for cancer, rare diseases, and other severe chronic conditions from 5 per cent to NIL is both historic and compassionate.”

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<b>Publication</b>	Free Press Journal
<b>Date</b>	5 September
<b>Edition</b>	Online
<b>Headline</b>	<a href="#"><u>GST Cuts On Medicines A Game Changer, Healthcare To Become More Affordable: Industry Players</u></a>

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<b>Publication</b>	Rediff
<b>Date</b>	5 September
<b>Edition</b>	Online
<b>Headline</b>	<a href="#">GST cut on drugs, medical devices to help patients</a>

Similarly, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) Director General Anil Matai said, "The decision to reduce GST on lifesaving medicines -- bringing 33 essential drugs from 12 per cent to nil and three critical drugs for cancer, rare diseases, and other severe chronic conditions from 5 per cent to nil -- is both historic and compassionate. This bold step will significantly reduce the financial strain on patients and families."



<b>Publication</b>	Udayavani
<b>Date</b>	5 September
<b>Edition</b>	Online
<b>Headline</b>	<a href="#"><u>GST cut on drugs, medical devices to provide relief to patients: Industry players</u></a>

Similarly, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) Director General Anil Matai said, "The decision to reduce GST on lifesaving medicines -- bringing 33 essential drugs from 12 per cent to nil and three critical drugs for cancer, rare diseases, and other severe chronic conditions from 5 per cent to nil -- is both historic and compassionate. This bold step will significantly reduce the financial strain on patients and families."

Equally impactful are the reductions in GST on all other medicines to 5 per cent and on a wide range of medical apparatus, diagnostic kits, surgical devices, and healthcare supplies, he added.

"This move will make healthcare more affordable and accessible at every level, from hospitals to households. By realigning the GST structure, the government has sent out a strong signal of prioritising patient well-being and strengthening India's journey towards universal health coverage," Matai said.



<b>Publication</b>	Newsdrum
<b>Date</b>	5 September
<b>Edition</b>	Online
<b>Headline</b>	<a href="#">_GST cut on drugs, medical devices to provide relief to patients: Industry players</a>

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Equally impactful are the reductions in GST on all other medicines to 5 per cent and on a wide range of medical apparatus, diagnostic kits, surgical devices, and healthcare supplies, he added.



<b>Publication</b>	Newsarenaindia
<b>Date</b>	5 September
<b>Edition</b>	Online
<b>Headline</b>	<a href="#">Pharma industry terms GST cut on drugs, medical supplies 'historic'</a>

"The decision to reduce GST on lifesaving medicines – bringing 33 essential drugs from 12 per cent to nil and three critical drugs for cancer, rare diseases, and other severe chronic conditions from 5 per cent to nil – is both historic and compassionate. This bold step will significantly reduce the financial strain on patients and families," said Anil Matai, Director General, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI).

"This move will make healthcare more affordable and accessible at every level, from hospitals to households. By realigning the GST structure, the government has sent out a strong signal of prioritising patient well-being and strengthening India's journey towards universal health coverage," Matai added.



<b>Publication</b>	New Kerala
<b>Date</b>	5 September
<b>Edition</b>	Online
<b>Headline</b>	<a href="#"><u>Bold step: Industry experts hail GST reforms in health sector</u></a>

“We commend the government for the far-reaching GST reforms announced for healthcare. The decision to reduce GST on lifesaving medicines -- bringing 33 essential drugs from 12 per cent to nil and 3 critical drugs for cancer, rare diseases, and other severe chronic conditions from 5 per cent to nil-- is both historic and compassionate. This bold step will significantly reduce the financial strain on patients and families,” added Anil Matai, Director General, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI).

GST rates for spectacles and goggles for correcting vision have also been cut down to 5 per cent from 28 per cent. In addition, the GST revision will slash rates for health insurance, medical oxygen, and diagnostic kits such as glucometers.



<b>Publication</b>	Tennews
<b>Date</b>	5 September
<b>Edition</b>	Online
<b>Headline</b>	<a href="#"><u>Bold step: Industry experts hail GST reforms in health sector</u></a>

“We commend the government for the far-reaching GST reforms announced for healthcare. The decision to reduce GST on lifesaving medicines — bringing 33 essential drugs from 12 per cent to nil and 3 critical drugs for cancer, rare diseases, and other severe chronic conditions from 5 per cent to nil- is both historic and compassionate. This bold step will significantly reduce the financial strain on patients and families,” added Anil Matai, Director General, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI).

GST rates for spectacles and goggles for correcting vision have also been cut down to 5 per cent from 28 per cent. In addition, the GST revision will slash rates for health insurance, medical oxygen, and diagnostic kits such as glucometers.

GST on individual health and life insurance premiums has been reduced to nil (which currently stands at 18 per cent).

<b>Publication</b>	Lokmat
<b>Date</b>	5 September
<b>Edition</b>	Online
<b>Headline</b>	<a href="#"><u>Bold step: Industry experts hail GST reforms in health sector</u></a>

“We commend the government for the far-reaching GST reforms announced for healthcare. The decision to reduce GST on lifesaving medicines -- bringing 33 essential drugs from 12 per cent to nil and 3 critical drugs for cancer, rare diseases, and other severe chronic conditions from 5 per cent to nil-- is both historic and compassionate. This bold step will significantly reduce the financial strain on patients and families,” added Anil Matai, Director General, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI).