



# MEDICAL DEVICE INDUSTRY IN INDIA

Growth, Challenges & Policy Landscape



POLICY NOTE
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#### 1 Introduction

Medical devices are essential tools in modern healthcare, encompassing various instruments, apparatuses, machines, implants, reagents, and software used for diagnosing, preventing, monitoring, and treating medical conditions. These devices, classified based on their risk and intended use, play a critical role in improving patient outcomes and enhancing healthcare delivery. From simple consumables like syringes and catheters to complex implantable devices such as cardiac stents and orthopaedic implants, medical devices form the backbone of medical intervention and patient care.

The medical device sector is multi-disciplinary and broadly classified into five categories:

- 1. Electronic equipment
- 2. Implants
- 3. Consumables and disposables
- 4. Surgical instruments
- 5. In-vitro diagnostic reagents

The medical devices sector in India is an essential and integral constituent of the Indian healthcare sector, particularly for the prevention, diagnosis, treatment and management of all medical conditions, diseases, illnesses, and disabilities. It forms an important pillar in the healthcare delivery system along with healthcare providers, pharmaceuticals and the health insurance industry, thereby helping achieve the key values enshrined in the National Health Policy (NHP) 2017 in terms of the provision of good quality, affordable, and comprehensive healthcare to all citizens.

India's medical device sector, though rapidly growing, remains nascent and heavily dependent on imports, with nearly 80% of devices sourced from foreign markets. Despite being among the top 20 global medical device markets and the fourth largest in Asia, India faces key challenges such as high capital investment requirements, long gestation periods, regulatory barriers, limited infrastructure, and supply chain inefficiencies. The country also exhibits significant regional disparities, with a few states like Gujarat, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Haryana dominating the sector while others, particularly in the Northeast and Eastern regions, lack manufacturing ecosystems and policy support.

Recognising these challenges, the Indian government has introduced several initiatives, including the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme, medical device parks, and the National Medical Devices Policy 2023, to boost domestic manufacturing, reduce import dependency, and encourage research and innovation. The industry is also witnessing the growing adoption of digital health technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML), which are revolutionising diagnostics and surgical procedures. However, this technological advancement necessitates robust regulatory frameworks to ensure patient safety and compliance with global standards.

To establish itself as a global MedTech leader, India must address its infrastructure gaps, improve industry-academia collaboration, provide sufficient policy and financial support, and promote balanced regional development. By fostering innovation and strengthening its domestic manufacturing ecosystem, India can reduce its reliance on imports and position itself as a key player in the global medical device industry.



#### 2 Medical Device Sector: An Overview

#### 2.1 Global Scenario

The Medical Device sector is one of the sunrise sectors of the world, with an increasing focus on regulation, innovation and securing supply chains. The global medical devices market size was valued at US\$640.45 billion in 2024<sup>1</sup>, and Precedence Research calculates it to reach US\$678.88 billion this year, with projections to near US\$1.147 trillion by 2034, growing at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 6% during the forecast period. (Figure 1)

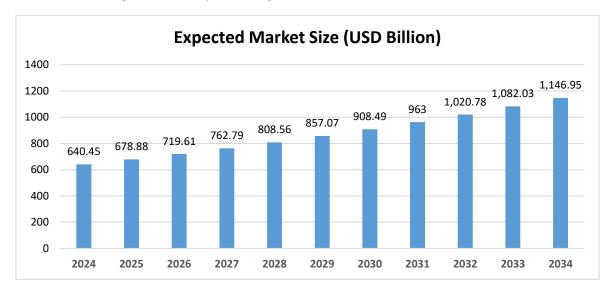


Figure 1: Expected Market Size of Medical Devices (2024-2034)

Source: Precedence Research

In North America, the medical devices market size reached US\$256.18 billion in 2024 and is expanding at a CAGR of 6.05% through 2034. North America captures the largest share in the world, with approximately 40% of the market share, followed by Europe and Asia (Figure 2). However, the Trump administration's recent tariff policy on China, Canada, and Mexico, where the US was a major exporter, has opened up new markets in these countries, especially Canada and Mexico.

Asia Pacific is emerging as the fastest-growing region due to the rising prevalence of chronic diseases, such as diabetes, cardiovascular diseases (CVDs), and high blood pressure. These diseases often require regular monitoring to manage conditions and reduce fatalities. This, in turn, boosts the demand for monitoring devices, as they allow patients to check vital health parameters at home. With the rising healthcare costs, people are shifting toward home healthcare, boosting the adoption of medical devices.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.precedenceresearch.com/medical-devices-market



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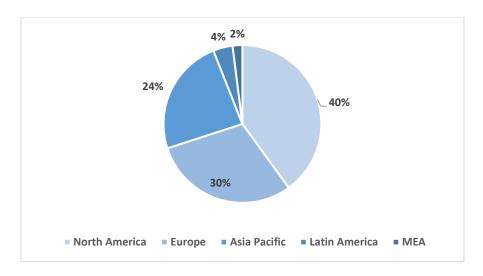


Figure 2: Market Share of the Medical Sector in the World (%)

Source: Precedence Research

India and China are expected to lead the Asia Pacific medical devices market. This is mainly due to the growing awareness about health and wellness, rising per capita income, and increasing ageing population. As the population ages, the need for medical intervention increases, supporting market growth. Moreover, governments of these countries are investing heavily to advance healthcare infrastructure, contributing to market growth.

The Chinese model is notable in the medical device sector. It has focused on securing the supply chains from raw materials to finished goods, decreasing its independence on imports. It has allowed foreign firms to obtain a domestic entity, which has drastically reduced registration complexities and increased efficiency, fair competition and employment. Moreover, the shift from enterprise-based registration to production-based registration under the Market Authorization Holder (MAH) allows any researcher, R&D organisation, or manufacturer to apply for their medical device to be registered. This has significantly lowered market entry barriers, increased manufacturing flexibility, localised supply chains and promoted just market competition.<sup>2</sup>

The market dynamics (Figure 3) of medical devices are being led by key drivers, which include the increasing adoption of 3D Printing of Medical Devices, the challenge of restraint-intricate regulatory requirements, and the opportunity for technological transformation in the devices by the companies. Regulatory reforms, such as the EU's General Data Protection Regulation and stricter device approval processes, are driving higher investments in new product development and patient services. The US FDA has extended marketing authorisation timelines by 55% over the past decade, requiring more clinical data for medical devices like endoscopic instruments. These stricter regulations lead to higher costs, delayed product launches, and potential sales losses, impacting market growth.

Medical device companies are shifting towards MedTech by integrating data and intelligence into their products to enhance user engagement. Unconventional partnerships and AI advancements improve chronic disease management and reduce hospital stays. Additionally, industries are increasingly

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://chinameddevice.com/made-in-china-policy/



focusing on robotic surgery, highlighting technology's growing role in medical treatment and prevention.

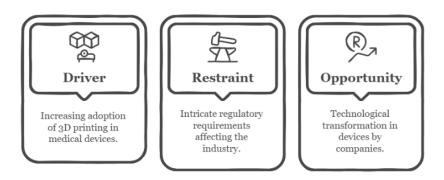


Figure 3: Market Dynamics of Medical Devices

On the demand side, though there is high consumption of medical devices with increasing age in the demography with the increase in democratisation of genAl, there is a complex relationship with the consumers and life science companies as many consumers are increasingly acting as CEOs of their health with some turning to gen Al when making decisions about their healthcare. Consumers are also becoming more selective about their HCPs, often demanding increased therapeutic personalisation, frictionless support services, and technologies.<sup>3</sup>

#### 2.2 Market of Medical Devices in India

India ranks among the top 20 global medical device markets and is the fourth largest in Asia after Japan, China, and South Korea<sup>4</sup>. However, the sector remains at a nascent stage, with around 80% of sales generated from imported medical devices, benefiting from multiple approvals, accredited certifications, and verified clinical trial records. The Indian government has taken proactive steps to increase domestic manufacturing, with the newly approved Medical Devices Policy aiming for a 10–12% global market share within 25 years.

The industry, valued at US\$12 billion in FY 2023-24<sup>5</sup>, has been growing at a robust 15% CAGR over the past three years, with projections estimating it will reach US\$50 billion by 2025. Despite this growth, India's per capita spending on medical devices is only US\$3, compared to the global average of US\$47, and significantly lower than the USA (US\$415) and Germany (US\$313.4). The sector's expansion is driven by government initiatives, regulatory reforms, skilled engineering talent, and precision manufacturing capabilities.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> https://www.india-briefing.com/news/indias-medical-devices-industry-investor-outlook-35779.html/



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://www.todaysmedicaldevelopments.com/article/2025-forecast-todays-medical-developments-industry-outlook/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> https://www.ibef.org/industry/medical-devices

The domestic industry primarily consists of low-cost, low-tech device manufacturers. 65% of players focus on consumables and disposables for local consumption, with limited exports. Meanwhile, exports have reached US\$3.8 billion, reflecting India's growing global competitiveness in medical technology.

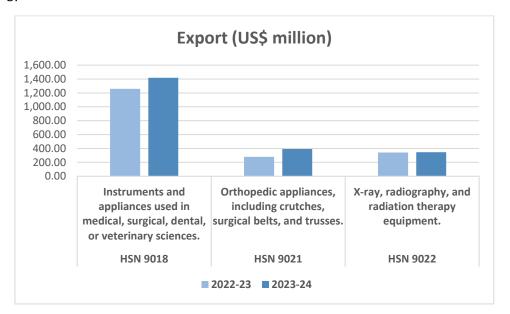


Figure 4: India's Exports of Optical, Medical, and Surgical Instruments (Value in US\$ Million)

Source: <u>System on Foreign Trade Performance Analysis (FTPA) Version 3.0</u>, Department of Commerce

India's imports of medical devices increased by 13% in FY 2023-24, with disposables seeing the highest growth at 17.6%, according to AiMeD (Association of Indian Medical Device Industry). Meanwhile, India's exports of optical, medical, and surgical instruments registered an overall growth of 5.74%, driven by:

- Surgical instrument exports rising by 5.44%
- Medical & scientific instruments increased by 14.61%
- Optical items (including lenses) declined sharply by 23.16%, possibly due to reduced global demand or increased competition



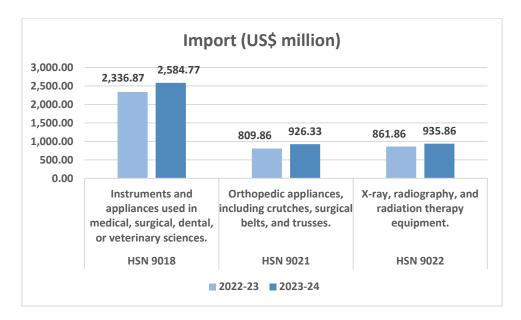


Figure 5: India's Import Growth in the Medical Sector (2022-23 vs. 2023-24)

Source: System on Foreign Trade Performance Analysis (FTPA) Version 3.0, Department of Commerce

These trends indicate a growing market for India's medical technology exports but also highlight challenges in the optical segment. The Indian government's push for a patient-centric approach and policies to encourage innovation and local manufacturing is expected to reduce dependency on imports and strengthen India's position as a global medical device hub.

### 3 Challenges and Bottlenecks

The Indian medical devices industry, despite its growth potential, faces several critical challenges that hinder its expansion and global competitiveness. These challenges range from capital-intensive requirements to regulatory constraints, supply chain inefficiencies, and lack of infrastructure. Addressing these hurdles is essential for India to reduce its 70% import dependency and establish itself as a global hub for medical device manufacturing.<sup>6</sup>

#### 3.1 High Capital Intensity and Long Gestation Periods

The medical devices industry is highly capital-intensive, requiring substantial research, development, and manufacturing investments. The industry also has long gestation periods<sup>7</sup>, meaning it takes years before companies can recover investments and generate profits. Continuous technological advancements demand ongoing investment in R&D, innovation, and training for healthcare professionals, making it difficult for new entrants and domestic players to compete with well-established global manufacturers.

#### 3.2 Regulatory and Compliance Barriers

Medical devices in India must meet stringent safety, quality, and efficacy standards before entering the market. However, India's regulatory framework for medical devices is still in its early stages, leading to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1863861



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> https://www.india-briefing.com/news/indias-medical-devices-industry-investor-outlook-35779.html/

uncertainty for manufacturers. Regulatory streamlining is crucial to ensure smooth approvals and market entry.<sup>8</sup> Without a well-structured regulatory pathway, domestic manufacturers struggle to comply with global standards, limiting their ability to scale operations and export products.

#### 3.3 Low Per Capita Medical Device Spending

Despite India's large population and growing healthcare needs, per capita spending on medical devices remains extremely low at just US\$3, compared to US\$47 globally, US\$415 in the United States, and US\$313 in Germany. This highlights the lack of accessibility and affordability of medical technology for Indian consumers. Low spending also discourages private sector investment, further slowing the sector's growth and innovation.<sup>9</sup>

#### 3.4 Lack of Infrastructure and Manufacturing Ecosystem

India's domestic medical device manufacturing is hindered by several infrastructure-related issues, including:

- Inadequate domestic supply chain and logistics
- High cost of finance
- Limited availability of quality power
- Lack of advanced design capabilities
- Low investments in R&D and skill development

Additionally, studies indicate that Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) and Common Logistics Centres are absent in most medical device clusters, making it difficult for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) to scale up production. This creates a cost disadvantage for domestic manufacturers, making imported devices more competitive in terms of price and quality.

#### 3.5 Supply Chain Vulnerabilities and Import Dependence

The global supply chain for medical devices has faced significant disruptions in recent years. While some challenges have eased, supply chain struggles persist, forcing companies to diversify suppliers, manage inventory efficiently, and explore reshoring or near-shoring strategies to mitigate risks. Potential tariff hikes on raw materials and finished devices could further strain manufacturers, making it costlier to produce medical devices in India.

#### 4 Policies and Initiatives of the Indian Government

India's medical devices sector has witnessed significant policy interventions to boost domestic manufacturing, reduce import dependence, and foster innovation over the years. The government has introduced multiple schemes, financial incentives, and regulatory reforms to strengthen this sector.

#### 4.1 Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme (2020)

To promote indigenous medical device manufacturing, the government introduced the PLI Scheme for Medical Devices in 2020. The scheme aims to reduce import dependency and enhance India's

 $<sup>\</sup>frac{9}{\text{https://www.india-briefing.com/news/indias-medical-devices-industry-investor-outlook-}}{35779.\text{html/#:}^:\text{text=Moreover}\%2C\%20\text{despite}\%20\text{India}'s\%20\text{immense}\%20\text{potential,focused}\%20\text{on}\%20\text{consumables}\%20\text{and}\%20\text{disposables.}}$ 



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC8815674/

production capabilities. Initially launched with an outlay of ₹3,300 crore, the financial allocation has been increased to ₹5,200 crore in FY25.

Under this scheme, selected companies receive a 5% incentive for incremental domestically manufactured medical device sales. The production tenure from FY 2022-23 to FY 2026-27 allows manufacturers to scale up operations. So far, the scheme has led to the commissioning of 19 greenfield projects, resulting in the local production of 44 high-end medical devices, such as MRI machines, CT scans, linear accelerators, and mammograms, which were previously imported.¹⁰ By September 2024, cumulative sales under this scheme had reached ₹8,039.63 crore, including exports worth ₹3,844.01 crore.

#### 4.2 Promotion of Medical Device Parks (2020-2023)

Recognising the need for shared infrastructure, the government launched the "Assistance to Medical Device Industry for Common Facility Centre", which was later revised in March 2020 as the "Promotion of Medical Device Parks". This initiative aims to reduce manufacturing costs and improve the industry's competitiveness.

Under this scheme, four medical device parks have been established in Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Himachal Pradesh, and Uttar Pradesh. These parks provide shared infrastructure such as testing labs, prototyping centers, and quality certification facilities, allowing domestic manufacturers to scale up without bearing high capital costs.<sup>11</sup>

#### 4.3 National Medical Devices Policy (2023)

The National Medical Devices Policy 2023 is a strategic initiative designed to position India as a global medical device manufacturing and innovation hub. It aligns with PM Gati Shakti to improve infrastructure, logistics, and shared facilities essential for industry growth. The policy envisions increasing India's global market share from 1-2% to 10-12% over the next 25 years.

Key provisions of this policy include streamlining regulatory frameworks through single-window clearance, enhancing trade margin capping, and standardising price disclosures for medical devices. It also emphasises developing medical device clusters, R&D validation centres, and shared infrastructure through public-private partnerships (PPP). The policy further aims to align Indian quality standards with global benchmarks, making the industry more attractive for investors.<sup>12</sup>

#### 4.4 Union Budget 2025: Industry's Concerns and Expectations

The 2025 Union Budget saw increased allocations for MSMEs, startups, and R&D; however, the medical devices industry expressed disappointment due to the lack of specific investment promotion measures. The industry had high expectations regarding tariff protection, tax benefits, and import regulations, but these were largely unaddressed.<sup>13</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> https://www.theweek.in/news/health/2025/02/01/union-budget-2025-whats-in-store-for-medical-devices-industry.html



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup>https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2085344#:~:text=The%20Government%20of%20India%20launched,2023%20to%20FY%202026%2D27

<sup>11</sup> https://pharma-

dept.gov.in/sites/default/files/Public%20Notice%20and%20Approch%20paper%20on%20draft%20NMDP%202 022.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> https://pharma-dept.gov.in/sites/default/files/Strategy%20Document%20on%20NMDP%202023 0.pdf

Key demands from the industry included<sup>14</sup>:

- Increase customs duty on imported medical devices to 10-15% to protect domestic manufacturers.
- Correction of Inverted Duty Structure, including a 5% Health Cess on pending HS codes.
- Trade margin capping to prevent excessive pricing on imported medical devices.
- Standardized 12% GST across all medical devices for tax simplification.
- Income tax benefits for CAPEX and R&D investments to boost innovation.

The industry criticised the lack of specific measures for the 70% import-dependent medical devices sector, highlighting concerns over rising import bills, inadequate tariff protection, and regulatory gaps.

#### 4.5 Government's Vision for MedTech Innovation and Investment

At MedTekon 2025, Hon'ble Minister Smt. Anupriya Patel highlighted the importance of greater investment, regulatory support, and structured incubation for India's 4,000+ health-tech startups. She emphasised that harmonising Indian regulatory standards with global benchmarks is critical for investor confidence and long-term sectoral growth.<sup>15</sup>

#### 4.6 Central schemes

The government has taken several measures to make healthcare more affordable, including ensuring access to medical devices at lower prices. Under the Pradhan Mantri Bharatiya Jan Aushadhi Pariyojana, over 8,800 Jan Aushadhi Kendras now offer 250 types of surgical supplies at highly subsidised rates.

Additionally, the Ayushman Bharat Program has equipped Health & Wellness Centres with diagnostic medical devices, enabling early disease detection and improving primary healthcare services across rural and urban India.<sup>16</sup>

#### 4.7 Suspension of Refurbished Medical Device Imports (January 2025)

In January 2025, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) suspended all imports of refurbished medical devices until a formal policy framework is established. This decision aims to protect domestic manufacturers from unfair competition and ensure that only high-quality medical devices enter the Indian market. However, concerns remain over accessibility and affordability, particularly for hospitals that rely on cost-effective refurbished equipment.<sup>17</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> https://www.bwhealthcareworld.com/article/government-halts-imports-of-refurbished-medical-devices-pending-policy-framework-545160



 $<sup>^{14}</sup>$ .  $\underline{\text{https://www.expresshealthcare.in/news/disappointing-budget-for-med-devices-sector-rajiv-nath-aimed/447853/}$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> https://medicalbuyer.co.in/indias-4000-healthtech-startups-need-greater-investment-regulatory-support/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> https://ddnews.gov.in/en/jan-aushadhi-diwas-2025-advancing-affordable-healthcare-and-access-to-quality-medicines/

#### 5 Regional and State-wise Analysis

Analysing the medical device sector regionally and state-wise, it was found that 5 states, namely Gujarat, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Haryana, collectively represent 62% of all licensed medical device manufacturing sites in India (Figure 6).<sup>18</sup> There is a clear lack of implementation across different regions of India. Only a few states, especially the northeastern states, have implemented policies and have Manufacturing Licenses. Except for Assam and Manipur, this region has a limited presence in medical device manufacturing units.

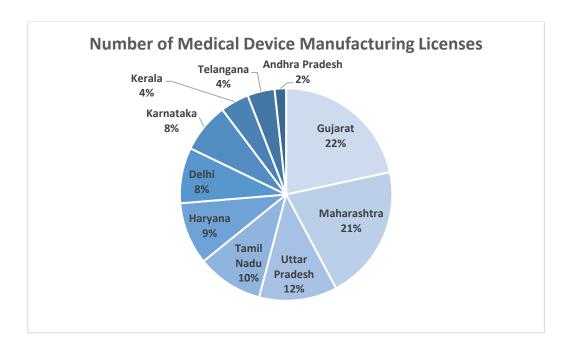


Figure 6: Number of Medical Device Manufacturing Licenses

**Source: The Health Master** 

The following table also illustrates the states wise policy formulation in medical device sector underscoring the lack of policies, regulations, and execution by the states.

STATES/UTs	Policy Initiated	Features
Arunachal Pradesh	X	No specific medical device policy
Assam	Х	No specific medical device policy
Bihar	X	No specific medical device policy
Chhattisgarh	X	No specific medical device policy
Goa	X	No specific medical device policy
Gujarat	<b>√</b>	Significant number of licensed medical device manufacturing sites; development of medical device parks to create a robust ecosystem.

<sup>18</sup>https://thehealthmaster.com/2025/02/18/medical-device-manufacturing-hubs-in-india/



Haryana 🗸		Significant number of licensed medical device manufacturing sites; development of medical device parks to create a robust ecosystem.				
Himachal Pradesh		Development of a medical devices park to promote manufacturing and create a robust ecosystem.				
Jharkhand X		No specific medical device policy				
Karnataka	Х	No specific medical device policy				
Kerala	Х	No specific medical device policy				
Madhya Pradesh	<b>√</b>	Development of a medical devices park to promote manufacturing and create a robust ecosystem.				
Maharashtra	<b>√</b>	Significant number of licensed medical device manufacturing sites; development of medical device parks to create a robust ecosystem. 19				
Manipur	Х	No specific medical device policy				
Meghalaya	Х	No specific medical device policy				
Mizoram	Х	No specific medical device policy				
Nagaland	Х	No specific medical device policy				
Odisha	Х	No specific medical device policy				
Punjab	Х	No specific medical device policy				
Rajasthan	✓	Procurement of Equipment <sup>20</sup>				
Sikkim	Х	No specific medical device policy				
Tamil Nadu	1	Development of a medical devices park to promote manufacturing and create a robust ecosystem. <sup>21</sup>				
Telangana	<b>√</b>	In process. <sup>22</sup>				
Tripura	Х	No specific medical device policy				
Uttar Pradesh	1	Significant number of licensed medical device manufacturing sites; development of medical device parks to create a robust ecosystem				
Uttarakhand	Х	No specific medical device policy				
West Bengal	Х	No specific medical device policy				
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Х	No specific medical device policy				
Chandigarh	X	No specific medical device policy				
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	Х	No specific medical device policy				
Daman and Diu	Х	No specific medical device policy				
Lakshadweep <b>X</b>		No specific medical device policy				
Delhi	X	No specific medical device policy				

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup>https://thehealthmaster.com/2025/02/18/medical-device-manufacturing-hubs-in-india/



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> https://thehealthmaster.com/2025/02/18/medical-device-manufacturing-hubs-in-india/

 $<sup>^{20}\, \</sup>underline{\text{http://rmsc.health.rajasthan.gov.in/content/raj/medical/rajasthan-medical-services-corporation-ltd-/en/services/Equipments.html}$ 

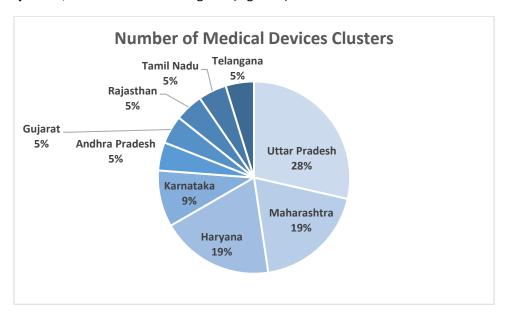
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> https://pharma-dept.gov.in/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> https://telanganatoday.com/telangana-medical-equipment-policy-for-government-hospitals-launched#:~:text=here%20on%20Saturday.-

<sup>,</sup> The %20 medical %20 equipment %20 policy %20 is %20 a imed %20 at %20 ensuring %20 vital %20 health, expenditure %20 at %20 private %20 diagnostic %20 services.

Puducherry	X	No specific medical device policy
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A survey by the Centre for Market Research & Social Development and the Government of India Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers Department of Pharmaceuticals found 21 medical device clusters in the country, spread over 9 states. The highest number of 6 medical clusters are in Uttar Pradesh, followed by 4 each in Maharashtra and Haryana, 2 in Karnataka, and one each in Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Telangana. (Figure 7)



**Figure 7: Number of Medical Devices Clusters** 

Source: Field Survey by CMRSD

Geographically, region-wise findings (Figure 8) illustrate that there are 10 (48%) medical devices clusters in the North and Central regions, 6 (28%) clusters in the West region, and 5 (24%) clusters in the South region. There is no medical devices cluster in the East and North-East regions of the country.

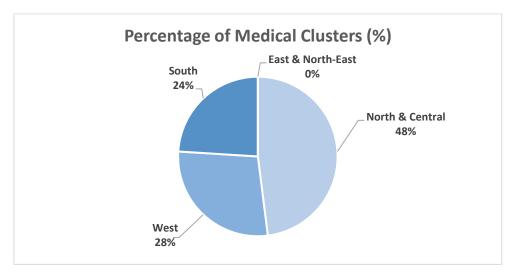


Figure 8: Percentage of Medical Clusters (%)

Source: Field Survey by CMRSD



The medical device clusters have "Medical Device Parks" developing around them. States have committed to setting up dedicated industrial parks where efficient domestic manufacturing is at lower costs. The State Governments of Himachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh developing Medical Devices Parks to create a robust ecosystem for medical device manufacturing in the country

During the survey of 21 medical device clusters, it was observed that 736 industries are in operation, with an average of 35 units per cluster. Some big medical device clusters are Gurugram and Bhiwani in Haryana, Kanpur in Uttar Pradesh, and Hyderabad in Telangana.

In conclusion, while some states are developing and integrating the National mission of the medical device sector, there is a clear lack and regional imbalance in infrastructure, regulation and policy formulation by many states/UTs where there should be a serious consideration.

#### 6 Way Forward

India's medical device industry holds immense potential but faces critical challenges, including high production costs, infrastructure gaps, and regional disparities in manufacturing. While states like Gujarat, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Haryana collectively account for 62% of all licensed medical device manufacturing sites, many others, particularly in the Northeast and Eastern regions, lack policy frameworks, dedicated clusters, and essential infrastructure. This imbalance limits investment, job creation, and access to advanced healthcare technologies across the country.

To bridge this gap, targeted interventions are essential, including the establishment of Common Logistics Centres in underdeveloped regions to streamline transportation, warehousing, and distribution, ultimately reducing operational costs. Strengthening industry-academia collaboration for research and development (R&D) will drive innovation and improve product quality, making Indian medical devices globally competitive.

Additionally, sufficient policy encouragement, such as financial incentives, tax breaks, and low-interest loans, can support domestic manufacturing and reduce import dependency. Raising awareness among industry stakeholders about government schemes will further enable better utilisation of available resources. A strong funding mechanism, including venture capital and public-private partnerships, is necessary to accelerate sectoral expansion.

Furthermore, adopting a collaborative approach with international regulatory bodies will help ensure compliance with global standards, facilitating exports. The increasing integration of digital technologies like artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) in diagnostics and treatment also requires clear regulatory frameworks to balance innovation with patient safety. By addressing these challenges holistically, India can strengthen its medical device ecosystem, ensure balanced regional development, improve affordability, and establish itself as a global leader in MedTech innovation.



#### 7 Annexure

		Export (US\$ million)			Import (US\$ million)		
HSN Code	Description	2022-23	2023-24	Top countries	2022-23	2023-24	Top countries
9018	Instruments and appliances used in medical, surgical, dental, or veterinary sciences.	1,258.67	1,417.98	USA, Netherlands, UAE, Germany, Brazil	2,336.87	2,584.77	USA, China, Germany, Singapore, Netherlands
9021	Orthopaedic appliances, including crutches, surgical belts, and trusses.	280.21	393.52	USA, Russia, Germany, UAE, Turkey	809.86	926.33	USA, Belgium, Netherlands, Singapore, Switzerland
9022	X-ray, radiography, and radiation therapy equipment.	341.01	345.86	USA, China, Singapore, France, Germany	861.86	935.86	China, USA, Germany, Netherlands, Japan





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