

## **Public Health Emergency Management Act (PHEMA)**

## Source: IE

An expert group constituted by **NITI Aayog** has recommended a new **Public Health Emergency Management Act (PHEMA)** to deal with the **public health crisis**.

- PHEMA aims to create health cadres at national and state levels and also empower public health agencies to take urgent action.
  - It would cover <u>epidemics</u>, <u>non-communicable diseases</u>, disasters, and <u>bio-terrorism</u>.
- Key Recommendations:
  - Formation of an Empowered Group of Secretaries (EGoS): It will
    coordinate pandemic preparedness and emergency response efforts and is proposed to
    be chaired by the <u>Cabinet Secretary</u>.
  - Implementation of a Scorecard Mechanism: A structured scorecard will track progress against key targets to ensure preparedness and responsiveness.
  - Pandemic Preparedness and Emergency Response Fund: To finance activities like genomic surveillance, vaccine development, and shared infrastructure.
  - Global Harmonisation: Advocates for aligning Indian regulatory norms with global standards to facilitate international acceptance of regulatory data.
  - **Development of a Clinical Trial Network:** To accelerate access to globally developed practices and enhance India's participation in international research efforts.

Read More: Public Health Emergency of International Concern

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