**PRESS RELEASE**

# The George Institute for Global Health in collaboration with AIIMS Delhi & UNICEF India to host 11th TAS Conference in India

*The conference is coming to India for the first time and will bring together global and regional stakeholders to advance conversations on mental health stigma, discrimination and access to care.*

**NEW DELHI, 4th November 2026:** The 11th edition of **Together Against Stigma (TAS) Conference will be held in India, marking the first time the conference is taking place in a low- and middle-income country.** The conference will bring together global and regional stakeholders to advance conversations on mental health stigma, discrimination and access to care.

The **conference will take place from 12th to 14th November 2026** at Jawaharlal Nehru Auditorium, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi.

**The conference is being organised by The George Institute for Global Health in collaboration with AIIMS New Delhi and UNICEF India**, with support from the World Psychiatric Association (WPA) and World Association of Social Psychiatry (WASP).

**Highlighting the important outcomes envisaged from the conference, Prof. Pallab Maulik, Director of Research, The George Institute for Global Health India, said,** *"For the first time in the history of the conference, this is being held in a LMIC and is particularly focused on highlighting the role of stigma affecting child and adolescent mental health. The need of doing so effectively in low resource settings is even more important. Learnings from different global research will help everyone to think about stigma in mental health and identify solutions that could be implemented in different settings."*

The conference will bring greater attention to the challenges faced by resource-constrained settings, where limited healthcare infrastructure, gaps in clinical capacity, and persistent social stigma continue to affect access to mental health services.

**Speaking on the contributions India can make to this field, Dr Pratap Sharan, Professor, Department of Psychiatry, AIIMS New Delhi said,** *"India can contribute by developing culturally relevant approaches, strengthening community based mental health services and generating research that reflects the realities of our diverse population. Equally important is the involvement of families, healthcare professionals, educators and policymakers in creating a more supportive environment. Our experiences and learnings, particularly in developing accessible and affordable models of mental health care, can offer valuable insights to the global community."*

**Ms. Jyothi Ravichandran, Specialist for Mental Health and Psychosocial Support, UNICEF India** said, "*India has important experience in bringing mental health support into schools, healthcare, child protection services, and communities that can contribute to global learning and best practices. We look forward to a dedicated learning exchange with BRICS countries to advance shared priorities. The focus on child and adolescent mental health is especially significant for UNICEF, in our work alongside the Government of India to strengthen a multisectoral response that promotes mental well-being, prevents distress, and including timely support and care for every child.*"

The recent edition will bring together more than 200 delegates from across the world and the region for multidisciplinary research presentations, posters, skill development sessions, and cross sectoral discussions to stimulate sustainable policy and public-private ownership of anti-stigma interventions at AIIMS, New Delhi.

Further information about conference tracks, abstract submissions, and registration can be obtained from the official website - https://tas-2026.com.

Following the success of the first ten international conferences, TAS 2026 will provide an open, cross-sector platform to connect rigorous scientific research with frontline practice. It brings together key clinicians, researchers, policymakers, advocates, and individuals with lived experience to explore how we can work practically to overcome discrimination and increase access to care.

TAS 2026 will reinforce the link between scientific insight and real-world implementation through public-private ownership, helping translate what works into action at international, national, and local levels to promote safe, inclusive, and equitable societies.

---

**NOTES TO EDITORS**

**About The George Institute for Global Health India**

The George Institute for Global Health is an independent medical research institute aiming to improve the health of millions of people worldwide by generating effective, evidence-based, and affordable solutions to the world's biggest health challenges. Established in Sydney, with major centres in India, the United Kingdom, and China it has projects in more than 45 countries and affiliations with world-class universities. In 2018, The George Institute was ranked the number one independent research institute in Australia by Times Higher Education.

**About UNICEF India**

UNICEF works to promote and protect the rights of every child in India, ensuring that children survive, thrive and reach their full potential. UNICEF has been working in India since 1949, partnering with the Government, civil society organisations and other stakeholders to address challenges affecting children and their families.

Its work spans health, nutrition, education, water, sanitation, child protection and adolescent development, with a focus on reaching the most vulnerable and disadvantaged children. UNICEF provides evidence-based technical expertise to inform policies, strengthen programmes and improve outcomes for children across the country.

**About All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi**

The All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi was established in 1956 through an Act of Parliament as an autonomous institution of national importance. It was established with the objective of setting high standards in medical education, research and healthcare in India. AIIMS New Delhi provides comprehensive facilities for medical education, advanced research and patient care, and offers undergraduate and postgraduate programmes across various medical and allied disciplines. The institute plays a significant role in advancing medical knowledge, strengthening healthcare delivery and developing skilled healthcare professionals.