



Research Unit  
Press Information Bureau  
Ministry of Information and Broadcasting  
Government of India



## **WORLD TUBERCULOSIS DAY (March 23)**

*India Leading the Way Towards Ending TB Globally*

***TB Patient Registrations: Up from 15.5 lakh (2014) to 24.22 lakh (2022); 56 per cent increase***

***More than Rs. 2,012 Crore disbursed to over 79 lakh TB patients***

***18 per cent decline in incidence of TB in India in 2021 compared to 2015***

***More than 71,000 Ni-kshay Mitras supporting over 10 lakh TB patients***

(Ministry of Health and Family Welfare)

March 24, 2023

*“India is now working on the target of ending TB by the year 2025”*

- [Prime Minister Narendra Modi](#)

On the occasion of World Tuberculosis Day - 2023, Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the One World TB Summit. Speaking on the occasion, said that the commitment and determination with which India dedicated itself to tackling TB after 2014 is unprecedented.

During the event, Prime Minister launched various initiatives, including the **TB-Mukt Panchayat initiative**; official pan-India rollout of a **shorter TB Preventive Treatment (TPT)** and **Family-centric care model for TB** and release of **India’s Annual TB Report 2023**. The Prime Minister also laid the foundation stone of the National Centre for Disease Control & High Containment Laboratory and inaugurated the site for the Metropolitan Public Health Surveillance Unit in Varanasi.<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1910287>

## **Introduction:**

Tuberculosis (TB) is a communicable disease that is a major cause of ill health and one of the leading causes of death worldwide. TB is caused by the bacillus *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, which is spread when people who are sick with TB expel bacteria into the air (e.g. by coughing).<sup>2</sup>

World TB Day 2023, with the theme '**Yes! We can end TB!**', aims to inspire hope and encourage high-level leadership, increased investments, faster uptake of new WHO recommendations, adoption of innovations, accelerated action, and multisectoral collaboration to combat the TB epidemic.<sup>3</sup>

## **National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme (NTEP)**

The National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme (NTEP), previously known as Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme (RNTCP), aims to strategically reduce TB burden in India by 2025, five years ahead of the Sustainable Development Goals. This vision was first articulated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the Delhi End TB Summit in March 2018.

In 2020, the RNTCP was renamed as the National TB Elimination Program (NTEP) to emphasize the aim of the Government of India to eliminate TB in India by 2025. It reached over a billion people in 632 districts/reporting units and is responsible for carrying out the Government of India's five-year National Strategic Plans for TB elimination along with the States/UTs.

The National Strategic Plan for TB Elimination was launched to achieve the target of ending TB by 2025 in a mission mode. It is a multi-pronged approach that aims to detect all TB patients with an emphasis on reaching TB patients seeking care from private providers and undiagnosed TB in high-risk populations.

Universal Drug Susceptibility Testing (UDST) is implemented under the NTEP to ensure every diagnosed TB patient is tested to rule out drug resistance before or at the time of treatment initiation itself.

With the goal of achieving Sustainable Development Goals related to TB by 2025, five years ahead of the global targets, the National TB Elimination programme implements key activities as under:

- State and District Specific Strategic plan for targeted interventions in high-burden areas.
- Provision of free drugs and diagnostics to TB patients including for drug-resistant TB.
- Active TB case-finding campaign in key vulnerable and co-morbid populations.
- Integration with Ayushman Bharat - Health & Wellness Centres to decentralize screening and treatment services closer to the community.

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.who.int/teams/global-tuberculosis-programme/tb-reports/global-tuberculosis-report-2022>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.who.int/campaigns/world-tb-day/2023>

- Private sector engagement including incentives for notification and management of TB cases.
- Scale-up of molecular diagnostic laboratories to sub-district levels.
- Ni-kshay Poshan Yojana for nutritional support to TB patients.
- Intensified IEC campaigns to reduce stigma, raise community awareness and improve health-seeking behaviour.
- Multi-sectoral response with involvement of line ministries.
- Scale up TB preventive therapy to contacts of pulmonary TB.
- Tracking of notified TB cases through a case-based web-based portal - [Ni-kshay](#).

### **Pradhan Mantri TB Mukat Bharat Abhiyan (PMTBMBA)** (Ni-kshay Mitra Initiative)

On September 09, 2022, Hon'ble President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu launched the Pradhan Mantri TB Mukat Bharat Abhiyaan to urge citizens to work collectively towards TB elimination in spirit of Jan Bhaagidari on a war footing.

The President also launched the Ni-kshay Mitra initiative to ensure additional diagnostic, nutritional, and vocational support to those on TB treatment, and encouraged elected representatives, corporates, NGOs, and individuals to come forward as donors to help the patients complete their journey towards recovery.

The Ni-kshay 2.0 portal (<https://communitysupport.nikshay.in/>) facilitates in providing additional patient support to improve the treatment outcome of TB patients, augmenting community involvement in meeting India's commitment to end TB by 2025 and leveraging Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) opportunities.

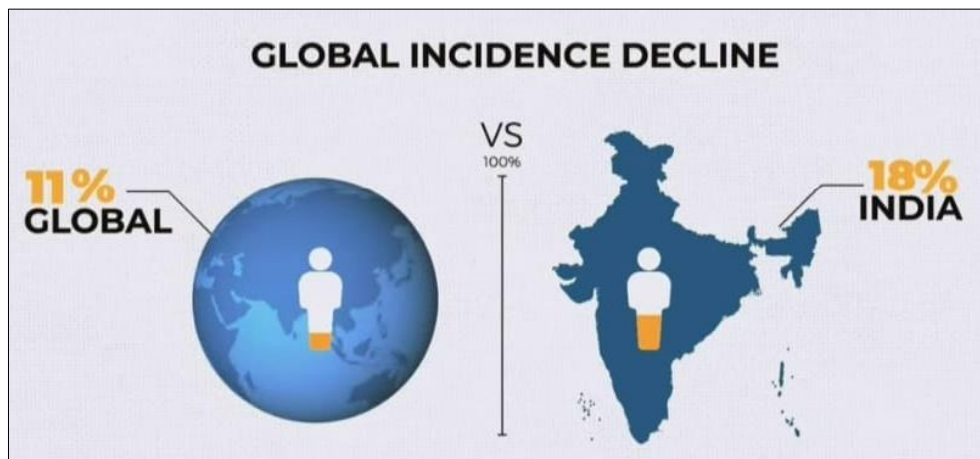
### **TB Mukat Bharat: Progress So Far**

- **TB patient registration has improved by 56 per cent**, from 15.5 lakh in 2014 to **24.22 lakh** in 2022.



- **7.3 lakh TB cases**, highest ever registration from the private Sector in 2022.

- From April 2018 till date, around **Rs. 2,102 crore** has been disbursed to **over 79 lakh people on TB treatment** across the country via Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).
- As on March 09, 2023, **9.55 lakh** out of the 9.69 lakh consented TB patients across the country have been adopted by Ni-kshay Mitra.
- More than **74,000 Ni-kshay Mitras** have come forward to support **over 10 lakh TB patients** across the country.
- **Rapid Molecular Diagnostic Machines** scaled up from 40 in 2014 to **5,090** in 2022
- The estimates of **Drug Resistant TB in India** have reduced by **20%** from 1.49 lakh in 2015 to 1.19 lakh in 2021.
- Over **1.5 lakh Ayushman Bharat - Health and Wellness Centres** are providing decentralized comprehensive primary healthcare, including TB care services at the grassroots level.
- As per the Global TB Report, 2022, the **incidence of TB in India has reduced by 18%** from 256/lakh population in 2015 to **210/lakh population in 2021**, which is 7 percentage points better than the global average of 11%.<sup>4</sup>



- A range of forward-looking policies have been implemented including critical schemes such as *Ni-kshay* Poshan Yojana (NPY), which helped meet the nutritional requirements of TB patients, especially the underserved.

#### References:

- <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1910287>
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- <https://pqals.nic.in/annex/1711/AU2936.pdf>
- <https://www.who.int/campaigns/world-tb-day/2023>
- [Global Tuberculosis Report 2022](https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/global-tuberculosis-report-2022)

#### Video References:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ulCtyxsZk>

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<sup>4</sup> <https://pqals.nic.in/annex/1711/AU2936.pdf>