



Panchayats in Jharkhand Declared TB Free

Why in News?

According to the sources, a total of **38 panchayats across Jharkhand** have been **declared Tuberculosis (TB)-free** under the [National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme \(NTEP\)](#).

Key Points

- The information was declared by the **State Tuberculosis Cell Jharkhand and the Resource Group for Education and Advocacy for Community Health (REACH)**.
- The NTEP in Jharkhand aims to eradicate tuberculosis (TB) by the year 2025 through diverse initiatives, including the [Pradhan Mantri TB Mukht Bharat Abhiyan](#) and the [adult BCG vaccination program](#).

Tuberculosis

- **About:**
 - Tuberculosis (TB) is an infectious disease **caused by Mycobacterium tuberculosis**.
 - It **commonly affects the lungs**, but can also affect other parts of the body.
 - It is a **treatable and curable disease**.
- **Transmission:**
 - TB is **spread from person to person through the air**. When people with lung TB cough, sneeze or spit, they propel the TB germs into the air.
- **Symptoms:**
 - Common symptoms of active lung TB are cough with sputum and blood at times, chest pains, weakness, weight loss, fever and night sweats.
- **Vaccine:**
 - **Bacille Calmette-Guérin (BCG)** is a vaccine for TB disease.

Pradhan Mantri TB Mukht Bharat Abhiyan

- **About:**
 - It's an initiative of **the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MOHFW)** to accelerate the country's progress towards **TB elimination by 2025**.
- **Objectives:**
 - Provide additional patient support to improve treatment outcomes of TB patients
 - Augment community involvement in meeting India's commitment to end TB by 2025.
 - Leverage [Corporate Social Responsibility \(CSR\)](#) activities.