

Silicosis Tragedy in Panna Mining Community

Why in News?

The devastating impact of mining continues to claim lives in Panna, with families grappling with silicosis misdiagnosed as <u>tuberculosis</u>.

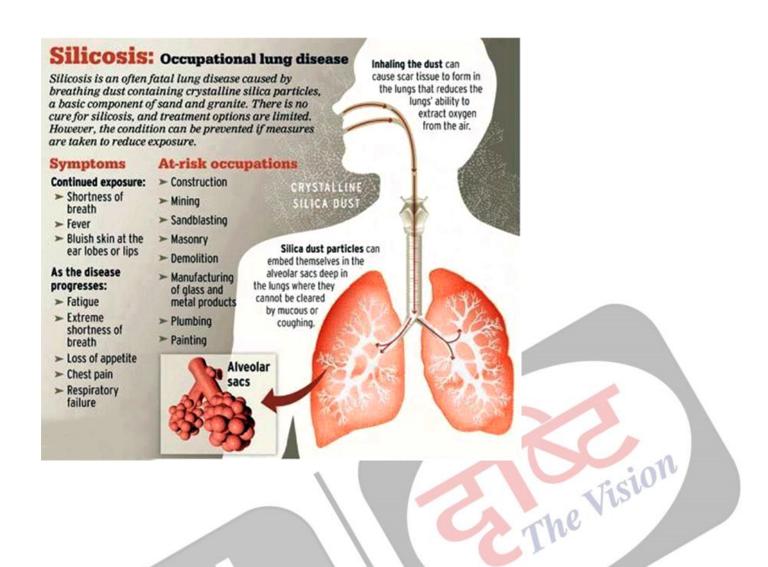
Key Points

Silicosis:

- A fatal lung disease caused by inhaling fine silica dust, common in mining industries.
- Symptoms include chronic cough, shortness of breath, and fatigue, often mistaken as tuberculosis.
- Since 2014, five family members have died, suspected from silicosis.

Tuberculosis (TB):

- TB is caused by a bacterium called <u>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</u>, belonging to the Mycobacteriaceae family consisting of about 200 members.
- Some of Mycobacteria cause diseases like TB and <u>Leprosy</u> in humans and others infect a wide range of animals.
- In humans, TB most commonly affects the lungs (pulmonary TB), but it can also affect other organs (extra-pulmonary TB).
- TB is a very ancient disease and has been documented to have existed in **Egypt as early** as **3000 BC.** It is a treatable and curable disease.



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