



Pradhan Mantri TB Mukta Bharat Abhiyan

For Prelims: Pradhan Mantri TB Mukta Bharat Abhiyan, Tuberculosis (TB), Ayushman Bharat Digital Health Mission, Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

For Mains: Pradhan Mantri TB Mukta Bharat Abhiyan, Health, Government Policies & Interventions.

Why in News?

Recently, to speed up the country's fight against [tuberculosis \(TB\)](#) and achieve the target set by the Prime Minister of eliminating the disease by 2025, President launched the **Pradhan Mantri TB Mukta Bharat Abhiyan**.

What is 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.
- **Statistics:**
 - A total of 1.5 million people died from TB and an estimated 10 million people fell ill with tuberculosis (TB) worldwide **in 2020**.
 - **India** has the **world's highest tuberculosis (TB) burden**, with an estimated 26 lakh people contracting the disease and approximately 4 lakh people dying from the disease every year.
- **Challenges for India:**
 - Major challenges to control TB in India include **poor primary health-care infrastructure in rural areas** of many states; **unregulated private health care** leading to widespread **irrational use of first-line and second-line anti-TB drugs**; poverty; lack of political will; and, above all, corrupt administration.

What Pradhan Mantri TB Mukta Bharat Abhiyan?

- **About:**
 - **It's an initiative of 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.
- **Components:**

- **Ni-kshay Mitra Initiative:** It is to ensure **additional diagnostic, nutritional, and vocational support** to those on TB treatment.
 - **Ni-kshay Mitra** (Donor) are those who can support by adopting health facilities (for individual donor), blocks/urban wards/districts/states for accelerating response against TB to complement government efforts.
- **Ni-kshay Digital Portal:** It will provide a platform for community support for persons with TB.

What are the other related Initiatives Regarding Tuberculosis?

- **Global Efforts:**
 - The [WHO \(World Health Organisation\)](#) has launched a joint initiative “**Find. Treat. All. #EndTB**” with the [Global Fund](#) and [Stop TB Partnership](#).
 - WHO also releases the [Global Tuberculosis Report](#).
- **India's Efforts:**
 - India's **National TB Elimination Programme** is strengthened to meet the goal of ending the TB epidemic by 2025 from the country, five years ahead of the [Sustainable Development Goals \(SDG\) for 2030](#).
 - **National Strategic Plan (NSP)** for Tuberculosis Elimination (2017-2025), **The Nikshay Ecosystem** (National TB information system), **Nikshay Poshan Yojana (NPY-** financial support), **TB Harega Desh Jeetega Campaign**.
 - Currently, two vaccines **VPM (Vaccine Projekt Management) 1002** and **MIP (Mycobacterium Indicus Pranii)** have been developed and identified for TB, and are under [Phase-3 clinical trial](#).
 - **Ni-kshay Poshan Yojana:** It provides Rs 500 support through **direct benefit transfer to the patients**.
 - **Ayushman Bharat Digital Health Mission:** The government has also focused on utilising technology and creating digital health IDs for TB patients under the [Ayushman Bharat Digital Health Mission](#) to ensure proper diagnostics and treatment are available.

UPSC Civil Services Examination Previous Year Question (PYQ)

Prelims

Q 'Mission Indradhanush' launched by the Government of India pertains to (2016)

- (a) immunization of children and pregnant women
- (b) construction of smart cities across the country
- (c) India's own search for the Earth-like planets in outer space
- (d) New Educational Policy

Ans: (a)

- **Mission Indradhanush is an immunization scheme launched by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, GoI on 25th December, 2014.**
- Depicting seven colours of the rainbow, it aimed to cover all those children by 2020 who are either unvaccinated, or are partially vaccinated **against seven vaccine preventable diseases which include diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, polio, tuberculosis, measles and hepatitis B.**
- The mission is technically supported by WHO, UNICEF, Rotary International and other donor partners.

[Source: IE](#)

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