

International Epilepsy Day

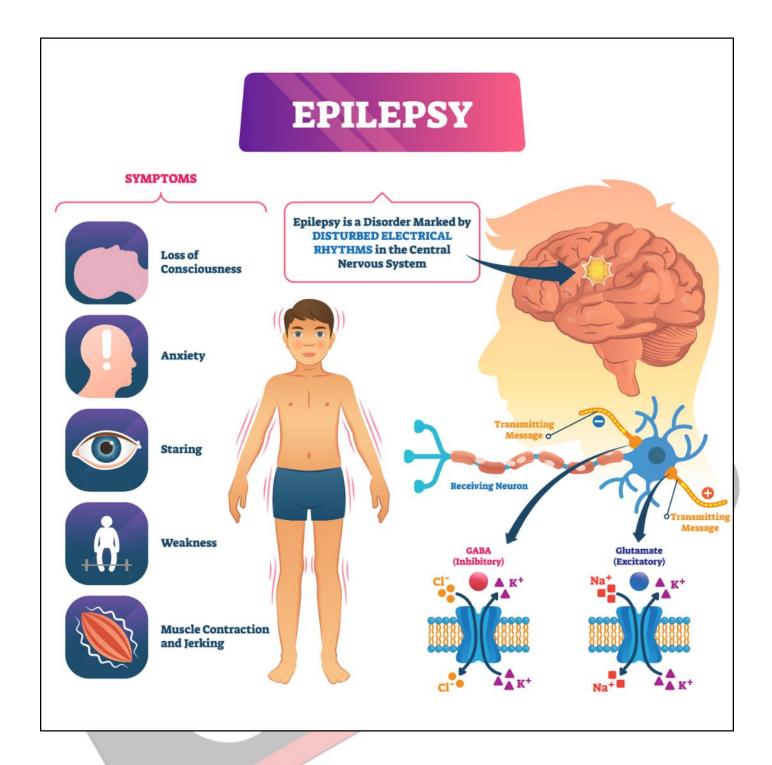
Source: PIB

The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment conducted nationwide **programs** on **International Epilepsy Day (2nd Monday of February)** to promote effective epilepsy management and treatment awareness.

National Epilepsy Day (India) is observed on 17th November.

Epilepsy

- About: Epilepsy is a chronic brain disorder caused by abnormal electrical activity in the brain, leading to seizures—brief episodes of involuntary movement and loss of consciousness.
 - It is recognised by the **WHO** as a **neurological disorder.**
- Causes: The disease has no identifiable cause in nearly 50% of the cases. However, it is linked to genetics, brain injuries, infections, stroke, tumors.
- **Symptoms:** It is varying with some losing awareness, some stare blankly, while others experience **convulsions** (twitching movements).
- Treatment Options:
 - First-line treatment for epilepsy includes anti-seizure medications, while a ketogenic diet (high-fat, low-carb) is effective for drug-resistant cases.
 - Surgical options include removing seizure-affected brain regions or corpus callosotomy to prevent seizure spread.
 - **DBS Brain Implant:** Implanting a medical device with electrodes to specific brain regions linked to seizures.
- Global Context: 50 million people worldwide have epilepsy, with 80% in low- and middle-income countries.
 - Proper diagnosis and timely treatment can manage 70% of cases, allowing seizurefree lives.



Read More: DBS Brain Implant Surgery for Epilepsy Treatment

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