



Global TB Report 2023

For Prelims: Global TB Report 2023, [Tuberculosis \(TB\)](#), Covid-19, Multidrug-Resistant TB (MDR-TB), United Nations (UN), [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#), Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

For Mains: Global TB Report 2023, Welfare schemes for vulnerable sections of the population by the Centre and States and the performance of these schemes.

[Source: IE](#)

Why in News?

Recently, the [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#) has released the Global [Tuberculosis \(TB\)](#) report 2023, highlighting the high burden of TB worldwide in 2022.

- India accounted for the highest number of TB cases in the world in 2022, with 2.8 million TB cases, representing 27% of the global burden.

What are the Key Findings of the Global TB Report 2023?

- **Burden of TB:**
 - It was the world's second leading cause of death from a single infectious agent in 2022, following [Covid-19](#).
 - TB caused almost twice as many deaths as [Human Immunodeficiency Virus \(HIV\)/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome stage \(AIDS\)](#). More than 10 million people continue to fall ill with TB every year.
 - 30 high burden TB countries collectively accounted for 87% of the world's TB cases in 2022.
 - Among the top eight high burden countries, in addition to India, are Indonesia, China, the Philippines, Pakistan, Nigeria, Bangladesh, and the Democratic Republic of Congo.
- **Increase in TB Diagnosis:**
 - In 2022, 7.5 million people were diagnosed with TB, marking the highest figure recorded since WHO began global TB monitoring in 1995.
- **High Mortality Without Treatment:**
 - Without treatment, the death rate from TB disease is high, at about 50%.
 - However, with treatments currently recommended by WHO (a 4–6 months course of anti-TB drugs), about **85% of people with TB can be cured**.
- **Global Recovery in TB Diagnosis and Treatment:**
 - There is a **positive global recovery in the number of people diagnosed with TB** and treated in 2022, following two years of Covid-19-related disruptions.
 - Countries like India, Indonesia, and the Philippines, accounted for over 60% of the global reductions.
- **TB Incidence Rate:**
 - The TB incidence rate, which measures new cases per 100,000 population per year, increased by 3.9% between 2020 and 2022.

- This increase **reversed the declining trend of about 2% per year** that had been observed for most of the past two decades.

What are the Findings Related to India?

- **TB Case Fatality Ratio in India:**
 - India reported a case **fatality ratio of 12%, indicating that 12% of TB cases** in the country resulted in death.
 - The report estimates that **3,42,000 TB-related deaths occurred in India in 2022**, with 3,31,000 among HIV-negative individuals and 11,000 among those with HIV.
- **Multidrug-Resistant TB (MDR-TB):**
 - India recorded 1.1 lakh cases of multidrug-resistant TB (MDR-TB) in 2022, highlighting the continued challenge of MDR-TB as a public health crisis.

What are the Recommendations of the Report?

- Urgent action is required to end the global TB epidemic by 2030, a goal that has been adopted by all Member States of the [United Nations \(UN\)](#) and the WHO.
- [Universal Health Coverage \(UHC\)](#) is essential to ensure that all people who need treatment for TB disease or infection can access these treatments.
- Multisectoral action is **also needed to address TB determinants such as poverty, undernourishment, HIV infection, smoking, and diabetes** to reduce the number of people acquiring infection and developing TB disease.

What is Tuberculosis?

- **About:**
 - Tuberculosis is **an infection caused by Mycobacterium tuberculosis**. It can practically affect any organ of the body. The most common ones are lungs, pleura (lining around the lungs), lymph nodes, intestines, spine, and brain.
- **Transmission:**
 - It is an airborne infection that spreads through close contact with the infected, especially in densely populated spaces with poor ventilation.
- **Symptoms:**
 - Common symptoms of active lung TB are cough with sputum and blood at times, chest pains, weakness, weight loss, fever and night sweats.
- **Treatment:**
 - TB is a treatable and curable disease. It is treated with a standard 6-month course of 4 antimicrobial drugs that are provided with information, supervision and support to the patient by a health worker or trained volunteer.
 - Anti-TB medicines have been used for decades and strains that are resistant to 1 or more of the medicines have been documented in every country surveyed.
- **Multidrug-Resistant Tuberculosis (MDR-TB):**
 - It is a form of TB caused by bacteria that do not respond to isoniazid and rifampicin, the 2 most powerful, first-line anti-TB drugs.
 - MDR-TB is treatable and curable by using second-line drugs such as Bedaquiline.
 - Extensively **drug-resistant TB (XDR-TB)** is a more serious form of MDR-TB caused by bacteria that **do not respond to the most effective second-line anti-TB drugs**, often leaving patients without any further treatment options.

What are the Initiatives to Combat TB?

- **Global Efforts:**
 - The WHO 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:**
 - [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.
 - In 2018 [Nikshay Poshan Yojna](#) was launched, which aimed to support every Tuberculosis (TB) Patient by providing a Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) of Rs 500 per month for nutritional needs.

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