

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1875  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2023**

**TARGETS FOR TUBERCULOSIS**

**1875 SMT. SULATA DEO:**

Will the Minister of **HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that India still accounts for the highest TB burden in the world;
- (b) if so, the details of the measures taken thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether according to the WHO TB report, India fell significantly short of its target with insufficient success, if so, the steps Government has taken or plans to take to enhance India's situation; and
- (d) the catastrophic health expenditure for TB exceeding 20 per cent in the country, the details of the measures Government is taking to enhance the affordability of healthcare for TB patients nationwide?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)**

- (a) to (c) As per Global TB Report 2023, published by the World Health Organisation, the estimated incidence of TB in India for 2022 was 28 lakh cases. The incidence rate of TB in India has shown a 16% decline from 237 per 100,000 population in 2015 to 199 per 100,000 population in 2022. During the same period, the TB mortality rate has shown a 18% decline from 28 per lakh population in 2015 to 23 per lakh population in 2022. With the goal of achieving Sustainable Development Goals related to TB by 2025, five years ahead of the global targets, the programme is implemented with the following objectives:-
  - Early diagnosis of TB patients, prompt treatment with quality assured drugs and treatment regimens.
  - To engage with the patients seeking care in the private sector.
  - Prevention strategies including active case finding and contact tracing in high risk /vulnerable population.
  - Airborne infection control.
  - Multi-sectoral response for addressing social determinants.

Further, to achieve SDGs related to TB by 2025, the National TB Elimination Programme (NTEP) implements key activities as under:

- 1) State and District Specific Strategic plan for targeted interventions in high-burden areas.
  - 2) Provision of free drugs and diagnostics to TB patients including for drug-resistant TB.
  - 3) Active TB case-finding campaign in key vulnerable and co-morbid populations.
  - 4) Integration with Ayushman Arogya Mandir to decentralize screening and treatment services closer to the community.
  - 5) Screening of vulnerable population during Ayushman Bhavah health camps through Ayushman Arogya Mandir.
  - 6) Private sector engagement including incentives for notification and management of TB cases.
  - 7) Scale up of molecular diagnostic laboratories to sub-district levels.
  - 8) Ni-kshay Poshan Yojana for nutritional support to TB patients.
  - 9) Intensified IEC campaigns to reduce stigma, raise community awareness and improve health seeking behaviour.
  - 10) Multi-sectoral response with involvement of line ministries.
  - 11) Scale up TB preventive therapy to contacts of pulmonary TB.
  - 12) Track notified TB cases through a case-based web-based portal namely Ni-kshay
  - 13) Pradhan Mantri TB Mukh Bharat Abhiyan (PMTBMBA):
    - Launched by the Ministry on 9th September 2022 for community support to TB patients with the objective to provide people with TB with additional nutritional, diagnostic and vocational support
    - Ni-kshay 2.0 portal has been developed and made available in public domain for facilitating the community to register as Ni-kshay Mitra
    - Guidance documents have been developed and shared with all State/UTs to implement the initiative
    - Periodic reviews are done to monitor the progress of the initiative at National and State/UT levels
- (d) As per the Global TB Report 2023, the catastrophic costs due to TB is 18% in India. To enhance the affordability of healthcare for TB patients, under the programme, free screening, free diagnostics/tests, and free drugs, are provided to the patients at all public health facilities in the country. Further, the Government provides financial support of Rs. 500/- per month for nutrition to the people who are receiving treatment for TB disease under Nikshay Poshan Yojana (NPY).

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