

Today's Prelims Topics

India imposes anti-dumping duty on Chinese goods

Context

To protect domestic manufacturers from cheap imports, India has imposed **anti-dumping duties** on five products imported from China.

What is Anti-Dumping Duty?

- Anti-dumping duty is a protectionist tariff imposed by a country on foreign imports that are priced below fair market value.
- It prevents **unfair trade practices** and **protects domestic industries** from economic harm caused by cheaper imported goods.
- In India, anti-dumping measures are implemented by the **Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) under the Ministry of Commerce & Industry**.
- **What is Dumping?**
 - **Dumping** occurs when a foreign company **exports a product at a price lower than its domestic market price or production cost**.
- **Most Favored Nation (MFN) Status:** It is a trade principle under WTO agreements requiring countries to offer equal trade terms to all WTO members .
 - India grants **MFN status** to China, but can still impose anti-dumping duties under WTO rules.

Countervailing Duty (CVD)

- It is imposed on imports that receive **subsidies from their home government**.
- It ensures a **level playing field** for domestic producers.

Customs Duty

- It is a tax imposed on the transportation of goods across international borders.
- India's tariff system is based on the **Harmonised System of Nomenclature (HSN)** of the **Customs Co-operation Council**.
- Custom duty in India is defined under the **Customs Act, 1962**, and all matters related to it fall under the **Central Board of Indirect tax & Customs (CBIC)**
 - **CBIC** operates under the **Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, Government of India**.

Source:

- [The Hindu - Anti-Dumping duty](#)

Miyawaki Method

Context

During the recently concluded Maha Kumbh in Prayagraj, **Uttar Pradesh government** implemented the **Miyawaki technique** for afforestation & to create “**oxygen banks**” and increase green cover.

About Miyawaki Method

- It is a **dense afforestation technique** developed by **Japanese botanist Akira Miyawaki** in the **1970s**.
- It helps create **self-sustaining forests** in a short period by mimicking **natural ecosystems**.
- The method is particularly effective in **urban areas** where space is limited and is used to combat **deforestation, climate change and urban pollution**.

Key Features of the Miyawaki Method

- **Focus on Native Species:**
 - Only **indigenous tree species** are planted to ensure **high survival rates**.
 - These trees require **less water, fertilizers and maintenance** after the initial phase.
- **High-Density Plantation:**
 - Plants are placed **3-5 saplings per square meter**, creating **dense green cover**.
 - The close spacing forces trees to **compete for sunlight**, resulting in **rapid vertical growth**.
- **Fast Growth & Self-Sustaining Forests:**
 - Trees grow **10 times faster** than in traditional afforestation methods.
 - A fully developed forest can be achieved in **20-30 years instead of 100-200 years**.
 - After **3 years**, forests become **self-sustaining**, requiring minimal human intervention.
- **Multi-Layered Forest Structure:** It mimics a **natural forest** with **four layers** of vegetation:
 - **Shrubs** (small bushes and plants)
 - **Sub-trees** (medium-sized trees)
 - **Canopy trees** (tall trees forming a dense upper cover)
 - **Emergent trees** (the tallest trees extending beyond the canopy).

UPSC PYQ

Q. The “Miyawaki method” is well known for the: **(2022)**

- (a) Promotion of commercial farming in arid and semi-arid areas.
- (b) Development of gardens using genetically modified flora .
- (c) Creation of mini forests in urban areas.
- (d) Harvesting wind energy on coastal areas and on sea surfaces

Answer: C

Source:

- [The Hindu - Miyawaki](#)

Places in News

Mount Lewotobi Laki-Laki

- Recently Lewotobi Laki-Laki volcano erupted, spewing ash clouds over 8 km high, prompting the highest alert level and flight disruptions.

Facts

- Indonesia has the most volcanoes in the world, including 120 active volcanoes and 126 total volcanoes, including six submarine volcanoes.
- Most of Indonesia's volcanoes are located on the **Sunda Arc, a 3,000 km long chain**.
- The volcanoes were created by the **subduction of the Indian Ocean crust under the Asian Plate**.

Indonesia volcano

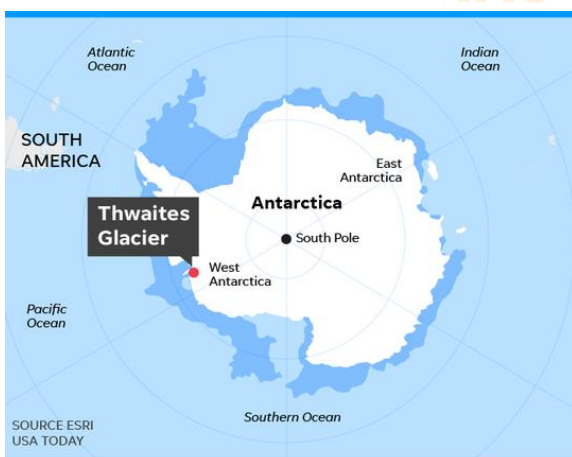


- Location:** Flores Island, southeastern Indonesia.
- It is part of the **Lewotobi twin volcano complex**, comprising Lewotobi Laki-Laki (Male) and Lewotobi Perempuan (Female) stratovolcanoes.
- Strato volcano:** It is a large, steep-sided volcano that's formed by layers of hardened lava, ash, and other volcanic debris. They are known for their steep sides, **explosive eruptions and high viscosity magma**.

Source:

- [The Hindu - Lewotobi](#)

Thwaites Glacier



- Location:** West Antarctica, Part of the **West Antarctic Ice Sheet**.
- Nickname: Doomsday Glacier** (due to its potential to significantly raise sea levels)
- It acts as a **natural barrier**, preventing inland glaciers from rapidly flowing into the ocean.
- It **holds enough ice to raise global sea levels by ~3-5 meters** if fully melted.
- It covers an area roughly the **size of Great Britain**.

Source:

- [The Hindu - Thwaites](#)

News in Shorts

National e-Vidhan Application (NeVA) Platform

- Recently Delhi Becomes **28th Legislature** to Join National e-Vidhan Application (NeVA) Platform.

What is e-Vidhan?

- **e-Vidhan is a digital platform** designed to transform **India's legislative assemblies into paperless institutions**.
- It is developed under the **National e-Governance Plan (NeGP)** by the **Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (MoPA)**.
- It is aimed at **digitizing the entire legislative process** to improve efficiency, transparency and accountability.

NeVA (National e-Vidhan Application)

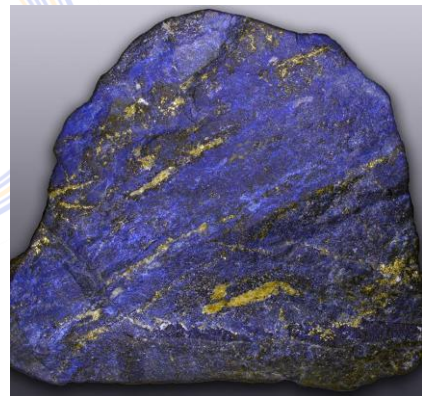
- **NeVA is a cloud-based platform** for managing legislative operations **paperlessly**.
- **It is developed by MoPA**, it integrates **various legislative functions** into a single digital interface.
- It supports **real-time access to bills, debates, question lists, reports and other legislative documents**.

Source:

- [PIB - NEVA](#)

Lapis Lazuli: The Vivid Blue Gemstone

- Lapis Lazuli is a **deep blue metamorphic rock** composed of **25-40% lazurite**, which gives it its vivid blue color.
- **Mineral Content:** It contains calcite (which can reduce its blueness), pyrites (adding a golden sparkle), diopside and sodalite in smaller amounts.
- **Mining:** It is found in Chile, Russia and Afghanistan.
 - **Highest quality:** Found in **Badakhshan province, Afghanistan**, where mining has continued for over **6,000 years**.
- **Historical Significance:**
 - **India:** Traders imported lapis lazuli from Badakhshan as early as **1000 BC**.
 - **Indus Valley Civilization (Mohenjo-daro & Harappa):** Used for **ornamental jewellery**.



Source:

- [The Hindu - Lapis Lazuli](#)

Editorial Summary

Migration After Covid

Context

There has been a significant shift in India's migration landscape five years after the pandemic.

More in News

- Government estimates indicate a net reverse migration of 44.13 million individuals during the first lockdown and 26.3 million during the second lockdown.
- This movement primarily involved low-wage, low-skilled, seasonal, and short-term migrants.

Challenges faced by Reverse Migrants

- Wage theft.
- Acute food insecurity.
- Lack of access to healthcare and education.
- Discrimination and stigma.
- Economic strain on families reliant on remittances.

Post-Pandemic Migration

- Most reverse migrants have likely returned to urban areas because of Rural economy's limitations, such as:
 - MGNREGA provided only partial and temporary relief.
 - Lack of economic opportunities, rural distress, and low rural wages persist.
 - **Urban aspirations** continue to drive migration back to cities.
 - **Climate change** is significantly impacting agriculture and allied activities.
 - Contributing to distress and aspirational out-migration.

Urban migration projections: 40% of India's population will reside in cities by 2026, driven by initiatives like the Smart Cities Mission, which aims to develop urban hubs that rely heavily on migrant labor.

- **International Migration Shifts:** Post-pandemic, international migration patterns have shifted:
 - Migration to Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries remains strong.
 - Indians were the top beneficiaries of the **EU Blue Card programme in 2023** (work visa for highly qualified professionals).
 - An increase in migration to non-traditional European destinations such as Malta and Georgia has been noted.
 - Indian migrants are also moving to Africa for opportunities in sectors like IT and healthcare.

Challenges in Migration Governance

- **Data Gaps:** Delay in the **2021 Census** hampers accurate assessment of migration patterns and the pandemic's long-term impact.
 - **Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) 2020-21** recorded a migration rate of **28.9%** (slightly higher than 28.5% in 2007-08), but the data reflects temporary disruptions rather than long-term trends.
 - Lack of comprehensive data on **Indian emigrants** — Ministry of External Affairs' count is likely an underestimate.

- **Lack of Coordination Between States and Centre:** Migration governance is fragmented between central and state governments.
 - Inadequate coordination leads to inconsistent policies and implementation gaps.
- **Lack of Migrant Support in Non-Traditional Destinations:** Increasing migration to Europe (e.g., Malta, Georgia) and Africa has not been matched by sufficient support networks for Indian migrants in these regions.
- **Inadequate Social Security for Migrants:**
 - **e-Shram portal** (2021) aimed to provide social security to unorganised workers, but registrations have plateaued due to:
 - Lack of awareness.
 - Digital access barriers.
 - **One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC)** scheme (2018) faces challenges in reaching a large segment of migrants, leaving many without food security.

What Needs to be Done

- **Strengthen Data Collection and Analysis**
 - Complete the **2021 Census** and update migration data.
 - Establish a **comprehensive database of Indian emigrants** under the Ministry of External Affairs.
 - Expand the **Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS)** to capture migration trends more accurately.
- **Expand and Improve Social Security Schemes**
 - Increase awareness and digital access for the **e-Shram portal**.
 - Improve portability and inclusiveness of the **ONORC** scheme to ensure broader coverage of migrants.
- **Establish Migrant Support Networks in New Destinations**
 - Create support infrastructure for migrants in non-traditional destinations like Eastern Europe and Africa.
 - Provide legal and financial guidance for migrant workers abroad.
- **Enhance Rural Employment Opportunities**
 - Strengthen **MGNREGA** with higher wage rates and longer work periods. Promote rural industrialisation and skill development to create non-farm employment opportunities.
- **Integrate Climate Resilience into Migration Policy**
 - Develop targeted programs to address climate-induced migration.
 - Provide financial and infrastructural support to climate-affected regions.
- **Improve Coordination Between Centre and States**
 - Establish a **National Migration Council** to ensure uniform policy implementation.
 - Encourage state-specific migration surveys, similar to the **Kerala Migration Survey** model.

Source: [Indian Express: Migration, After Covid](#)

Path for India to Achieve Net Zero Target

Context

Much needs to be achieved in India in the near term to reach that net zero emission goal.

- **Net-Zero Target:** India aims to reach **net-zero emissions by 2070**.
- **Key 2030 Targets:**
 - **50% reduction** in emissions intensity.
 - **500 GW** of fuel capacity from renewable sources.
 - **US \$290 billion** in investments in new wind and solar energy sources.

Union Budget 2025 – Key Green Initiatives

- **100 GW of nuclear capacity by 2047.**
- **Support for:**
 - **Solar equipment** manufacturing.
 - **Grid-scale batteries.**
 - Incentives for **scrap materials** and **critical mineral recycling.**

More In News

- Research by **The Fletcher School (Tufts University)** and **Worley** highlights that India's **development (Viksit Bharat)** and **net-zero journey** are interconnected.
- The topic was discussed at the **2025 Raisina Dialogue** in the context of the changing "global green deal."

Challenges in Balancing Fast and Green Growth

- **High Dependence on Carbon-Intensive Activities:** Coal accounts for **55–60%** of India's power generation.
 - Demand for coal is expected to peak only between **2030 and 2035**.
- **Economic Costs of Climate Risks:** Climate-related risks could cause a loss of **2.8% of GDP by 2030**.
 - Extreme heat could reduce GDP by **2.5%–4.5% by 2030** and **up to 10% by 2050**.
 - Lost labour productivity due to extreme heat could cost **\$220 billion by 2030**.
 - Carbon cost penalties imposed by importers of Indian goods could lead to **\$150 billion** in lost export revenues annually by **2040** if industries are not decarbonised.
 - Dependence on imported fossil fuels (**85% of crude oil** and **50% of natural gas**) exposes the economy to price volatility and geopolitical risks.

Potential Benefits of Green Growth

- **Job Creation:** Green growth could create **50 million new jobs** in India by **2070** (World Economic Forum's Mission 2070 report).
 - Could generate **\$1 trillion** in additional economic value by **2030** and up to **\$15 trillion** by **2070**.
- **Innovation and Manufacturing:** Promotes manufacturing and technological innovation with spillover effects on productivity and growth.
- **Health Benefits:** Improves health, which enhances productivity and economic output.
- **Energy Security:** Strengthens India's resilience to global shocks and geopolitical pressures.

Strategies for Holistic Green Growth

- **Comprehensive Renewables Plan:**
 - Combine investments in renewable capacity with climate adaptation.
 - Develop supportive infrastructure:

- **Transmission and storage systems.**
- **Public-private collaborations.**
- **Carbon capture and storage.**
- **Demand-Side Measures:** Farmers (45% of the workforce) need access to:
 - Affordable **climate-resilient infrastructure.**
 - **Drought-resistant crops and farming practices.**
 - MSMEs (contribute **30% of GDP**) need access to:
 - **Sustainable technologies.**
 - **Green finance.**
 - **Education and subsidies.**
 - Tools like **carbon pricing** and **green finance schemes** could be expanded.
- **Managing Transition Risks:** Support coal-dependent states by:
 - **Reskilling workers.**
 - **Rebuilding economies.**
 - **Cross-subsidisation** from states benefiting from green transition.
- **Global Partnerships and Collaboration:** Collaboration with **international players** can enhance:
 - Technical expertise.
 - Project management.
 - Innovative financing (e.g., green bonds, blended finance).
 - Multilateral development banks could offer guarantees to encourage private sector participation.

Conclusion

- A **holistic and strategic approach** to green growth is essential for India to achieve both its Viksit Bharat (2047) and Net-Zero (2070) goals.
- Balancing fast growth with green growth requires:
 - Strong infrastructure and technology investments.
 - Policy reforms.
 - Global collaboration.
 - Strategic adaptation to economic disruptions.

Source: **Indian Express: The Green Path to Growth**

Opportunity for India and Canada in Mark Carney's Leadership

Context

Mark Carney's rise as Canada's new leader marks a shift from Justin Trudeau's tenure, offering India a chance to reset diplomatic ties and strengthen trade, security, and strategic cooperation.

India-Canada Relations Over the Years

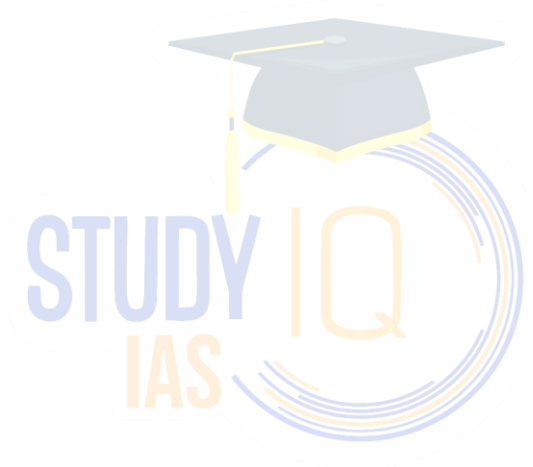
- **Early Diplomatic Ties (1947–1974)**
 - India and Canada established diplomatic relations in 1947, shortly after India's independence.
 - Canadian PM Louis St. Laurent visited India in 1954, strengthening bilateral ties.
 - Relations were positive, focusing on development cooperation and Commonwealth ties.
- **Strain Over Nuclear Issues (1974–1998)**
 - Canada halted nuclear cooperation after India's nuclear test in 1974 (Pokhran-I).
 - Tensions increased further after India's nuclear tests in 1998 (Pokhran-II).
- **Renewed Engagement (2000–2010)**
 - Relations improved with growing trade and investment ties.
 - The India-Canada Nuclear Cooperation Agreement (2010) allowed uranium exports to India for civilian use.
- **Strengthening Strategic Ties (2010–2018)**
 - PM Stephen Harper (2012) and PM Narendra Modi (2015) visited each other's countries.
 - Bilateral trade and defense cooperation grew.
 - Canada recognised India as a strategic partner in the Indo-Pacific region.
- **Challenges Under Trudeau (2018–2023)**
 - Tensions over Khalistani separatism affected diplomatic relations.
 - The killing of Hardeep Singh Nijjar (2023) strained ties, leading to a diplomatic fallout.

Potential Improvements and Opportunities for India After Trudeau's Exit

- **Restoration of Diplomatic Ties:** India can reappoint its High Commissioner to Canada, signaling a normalization of diplomatic relations.
 - The removal of Trudeau, who was seen as influenced by Khalistani elements, opens the door for more pragmatic engagement.
- **Trade and Economic Cooperation:** Resumption of stalled **Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)** negotiations can boost bilateral trade.
 - Canada's focus on clean energy, agri-tech, and pharma presents new trade opportunities for India.
 - India can leverage its growing market and skilled workforce to attract Canadian investments.
- **Strategic and Security Collaboration:** Both countries can deepen cooperation on Indo-Pacific security, maritime domain awareness, and counterterrorism.
 - India and Canada share a common stance on ensuring a free and open Indo-Pacific, especially in light of China's growing influence.
- **Diaspora Engagement and Immigration:** Improved political climate can strengthen the role of the Indian diaspora in Canada as a bridge for deeper ties.
 - India can push for easier work and student visas to facilitate people-to-people exchanges.
- **Energy and Climate Cooperation:** India and Canada can collaborate on green energy transitions, including clean hydrogen and renewable energy.
 - Shifting the carbon tax burden from consumers to corporations can create business opportunities for Indian firms.

- **Reduced Khalistani Influence:** With Trudeau's departure, the influence of Khalistani elements in Canadian politics may decline.
 - A less hostile political environment will allow India to address its security concerns more effectively.
- **Multilateral Cooperation:** India and Canada can align their strategies at international platforms like the **UN, WTO, and G20** on issues like global trade, climate action, and geopolitical stability.
 - Canada's recognition of India as a key partner in its Indo-Pacific policy enhances India's strategic importance.

Source: [Indian Express: After Trudeau, An Opening](#)



Detailed Coverage

Tuberculosis Control and Issues

Context

World Tuberculosis Day is observed on 24th March annually.

About Tuberculosis (TB)

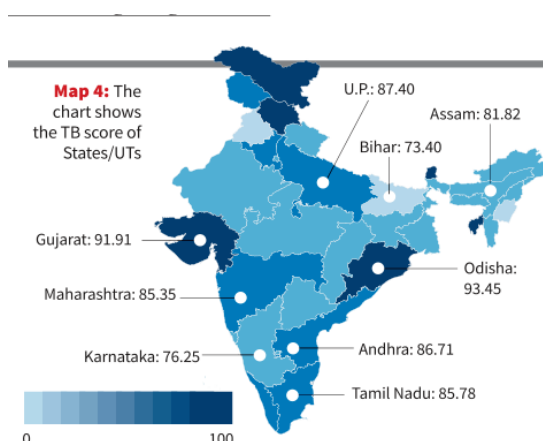
- It is a **bacterial infection** spread through inhaling tiny droplets from the coughs or sneezes of an infected person.
- **Caused by:** a bacterium called **Mycobacterium tuberculosis**, belonging to the Mycobacteriaceae family.
- **Transmission:** Person to person through the air.
 - When people with lung TB cough, sneeze or spit, they propel the TB germs into the air.
- **Affects:** In humans, TB most commonly affects the **lungs (pulmonary TB)**, but it can also affect other organs (extra-pulmonary TB).
- **Curable?:** Treatable and curable disease.

Drug-Resistant TB:

- Drug-resistant TB occurs when bacteria become resistant to the drugs used to treat TB. This means that the drug can no longer kill the TB bacteria.
- DR-TB is spread the same way that drug-susceptible TB is spread.
- DR-TB can also occur when the drugs used to treat TB are misused or mismanaged.
- **MDR TB:** MDR-TB does not respond to at least isoniazid and rifampicin, the 2 most powerful anti-TB drugs.
- **XDR TB:** People who are resistant to **isoniazid** and **rifampicin**, plus any fluoroquinolone and at least one of three injectable second-line drugs (amikacin, kanamycin, capreomycin) are said to have XDR-TB.

Facts on Tuberculosis (TB) in India

- **Incidence and Mortality:** TB incidence in India fell below **200 per lakh** in **2022**, down from **over 237 per lakh** in **2015** — a **16% decline**.
 - TB mortality in India was **23 per lakh** in **2022** — an **18% decline** compared to **2015**.
- **Treatment Success Rates (2021): Severely Drug-Resistant TB** – Lowest success rate at **45%**.
 - **MDR/RR-TB** (resistant to rifampicin) – Success rate at **74%**.
 - **Pre-XDR-TB** (MDR-TB resistant to fluoroquinolones) – Success rate at **68%**.
- **State Performance (TB Index):**
 - **Top Performing States:** Himachal Pradesh, Odisha, Gujarat.
 - **Bottom Performing States:** Punjab, Bihar, Karnataka.
- **Health Expenditure and Coverage**



- Over **10% of India's population** faces **catastrophic health expenditure** — 3rd highest among **14 lower-middle-income countries** with a high TB burden.
- Health expenditure is catastrophic if it exceeds **10% of a household's income** or consumption.
- Just over **60% of India's population** has health coverage — 3rd highest among lower-middle-income countries.

India's Efforts in Eliminating TB

- **Strengthening**

- **Diagnosis and Treatment:**

- Expansion of **molecular testing** for rapid detection of TB and drug resistance.

- Introduction of the shorter, all-oral **BPaLM regimen**

(Bedaquiline,

Pretomanid, Linezolid, and Moxifloxacin) for drug-resistant TB.

- Launch of the **100 Days' campaign** for intensive case finding.
 - Establishment of a **diagnostics network** to optimise sample collection and transportation.

- **Nutritional and Financial Support:**

- **Ni-kshay Poshan Yojana (NPY)** entitlement doubled to ₹1,000 per month for nutritional support.
 - **AB-PMJAY** offers full insurance coverage for TB care in both public and private sectors.
 - Efforts to reduce **out-of-pocket expenditure (OOPE)** through social protection schemes.

- **Decentralisation of TB Care:** TB services integrated within **Ayushman Bharat** under:

- **Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY)** – for secondary and tertiary care.
 - **Ayushman Arogya Mandirs (AAMs)** – for primary care, including sputum collection and referral services.

- Training of community health officers at AAMs to handle TB cases at the grassroots level.

- **Community Engagement and Support:** Involvement of **TB Champions** (TB survivors) for patient counselling and support.

- Community-based interventions like **Tamil Nadu Kasanoi Erappila Thittam (TN-KET)** for early referral and reduced TB mortality.

- **Equity and Targeted Interventions:** Adoption of a **gender-responsive approach** to TB care under NTEP.

- Targeted outreach to vulnerable groups like tribal communities, migrants, and homeless populations.
 - Early work to address **TB and disability** through improved understanding of health vulnerabilities.

- **Awareness and Public Engagement:** Strengthened public awareness campaigns to address TB stigma and misinformation.

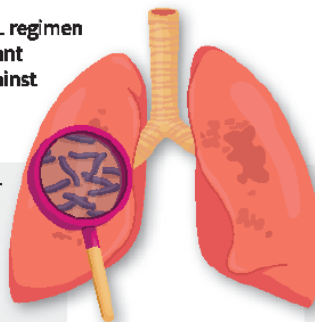
- Focus on drug-resistant TB and antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

- **100-day Intensified TB Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan (Launched on December 7, 2024):**

New era for TB treatment

The upcoming BPaL regimen promises a significant shift in the fight against drug-resistant tuberculosis

1 BPaL is a new all-oral combination of drugs consisting of bedaquiline (B), pretomanid (Pa) and linezolid (L)



2 It brings down treatment time to around six months from the earlier duration of 18 to 24 months

3 It has been found to be cheaper for both health systems and patients

4 The new drug regimen has indicated good results in countries like Pakistan, South Africa, and Ukraine



5 The older regimen includes nearly 14 different anti-TB drugs. With BPaL, it may come down to just three

- **Targeted Screening:** Portable X-ray machines targeted high-risk groups like diabetics, smokers, alcohol consumers, HIV patients, the elderly, and TB patient contacts.
- **AI-Powered Diagnosis:** AI-based X-rays flagged suspected cases instantly, confirmed through Nucleic Acid Amplification Tests (NAAT).
- **Widespread Reach:** The campaign screened 12.97 crore vulnerable individuals, identifying 7.19 lakh TB cases, including 2.85 lakh asymptomatic cases.

Challenges That Still Persist

- **High Burden and Slow Decline in Incidence:** TB incidence declined from **237 per 100,000 (2015) to 195 per 100,000 (2023)** – but this pace is inadequate to meet the target of TB elimination by **2025**.
- **Delayed Diagnosis and Treatment:** Over **50% of TB patients** still seek care in the **private sector** with uneven standards of care.
 - Diagnostic delays, improper treatment, and mismanagement in the private sector contribute to drug resistance.
- **Out-of-Pocket Expenditure (OOPE):** Despite AB-PMJAY and NPY, indirect costs like wage loss, transport, and caregiver support remain high.
 - Financial burden increases the risk of **treatment non-compliance** and relapse.
- **Poor Health System Integration:** Lack of integrated screening for other diseases (e.g., COPD, diabetes) in TB patients.
 - Weak referral linkages between private and public health systems.
- **Stigma and Social Barriers:** TB patients continue to face social stigma, especially women and vulnerable groups.
 - Stigma discourages people from seeking care and completing treatment.
- **Limited Outreach to Marginalised Groups:** Tribal, migrant, and homeless populations remain underserved due to geographical and socio-economic barriers.
 - Health-seeking behavior among marginalised groups is influenced by cultural and logistical challenges.

What Needs to be Done

- **Strengthen Early Detection and Diagnosis:** Scale up rapid molecular testing at **primary health centres (PHCs)**.
 - Expand AI-based chest X-rays and upfront molecular testing.
 - Introduce incentives for early reporting and diagnosis in the private sector.
- **Ensure Complete Financial Protection:** Expand AB-PMJAY coverage to include **all indirect costs** like wage loss, transport, and caregiver support.
 - Pilot **livelihood programmes** for TB survivors.
 - Increase NPY entitlement for those from economically weaker backgrounds.
- **Improve Private Sector Engagement:** Introduce a standardised TB treatment protocol for the private sector.
 - Establish a **mandatory referral system** for TB cases detected in private facilities.
 - Offer incentives to private healthcare providers for compliance with NTEP guidelines.
- **Strengthen Decentralisation and Integration:** Improve diagnostic, treatment, and referral systems at **Ayushman Arogya Mandirs**.
 - Train community health workers to handle co-morbidities like COPD, diabetes, and depression.
 - Ensure uniform standards of care across rural and urban centres.
- **Address Stigma and Awareness Gaps:** Launch a targeted TB awareness campaign using the successful **COVID-19 communication model**.
 - Promote community-led engagement to reduce stigma and misinformation.
 - Encourage TB Champions to lead awareness drives at the grassroots level.

- **Targeted Support for Vulnerable Groups:** Develop tailored strategies for tribal and migrant communities.
 - Provide mobile TB care units in remote and underserved areas.
 - Ensure gender-sensitive and culturally appropriate TB care delivery.

Sources:

- [The Hindu: The need for universal and equitable health coverage](#)
- [The Hindu: Imagining a 360° and comprehensive TB care response](#)
- [The Hindu: TB treatment success rates are improving gradually in India](#)

