

## Govt launches Pradhan Mantri TB Mukht Bharat Abhiyaan

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### President calls everyone to make the campaign a mass movement



The President of India, Droupadi Murmu, virtually launched the Pradhan Mantri TB Mukht Bharat Abhiyaan. Speaking on the occasion, the President said that all citizens must give high priority to 'Pradhan Mantri TB-Mukht Bharat Abhiyaan' and make this campaign a mass movement. It is because tuberculosis (TB) causes the largest number of deaths among all other infectious diseases in our country.

The President also launched the Ni-kshay Mitra initiative to ensure additional diagnostic, nutritional, and vocational support to those on TB treatment.

She noted that India has a little less than 20 per cent of the world's population, but has more than 25 per cent of the total TB patients in the world. This is a matter of concern. She also noted that most of the people affected by TB come from the poor section of society.

The virtual launch event also showcased India's accelerated progress through the National TB Elimination Programme (NTEP).

The National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme (NTEP), previously known as Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme (RNTCP), aims to strategically reduce TB burden in India by 2025, five years ahead of the Sustainable Development Goals. In 2020, the RNTCP was renamed as the National TB Elimination Program (NTEP) to emphasize the aim of the Government of India to eliminate TB in India by 2025.