

INDIA'S VULNERABILITY TO TB

- India is home to at least 3.4 million TB patients, one-fifth of the global figure. According to the WHO report, 229 out of every 100,000 Indians are infected with TB, and the mortality rate is 28 per 100,000.
- TB is the most common HIV-related opportunistic infection in India.
- Recent research has shown diabetes increases the risk of TB threefold, compounding the problem for India, which has the largest population of diabetics in the world.
- India is home to the largest pool of partially-treated patients; half of all 150,000 multi-drug resistant, or MDR, TB cases in south-east Asia are reported in India.
- According to WHO, MDR TB has reached the highest ever levels; the response to it so far has been inadequate and could slow the global progress in combating TB.
- Extremely drug-resistant TB, almost an untreatable form, has been reported in 45 countries, including India.