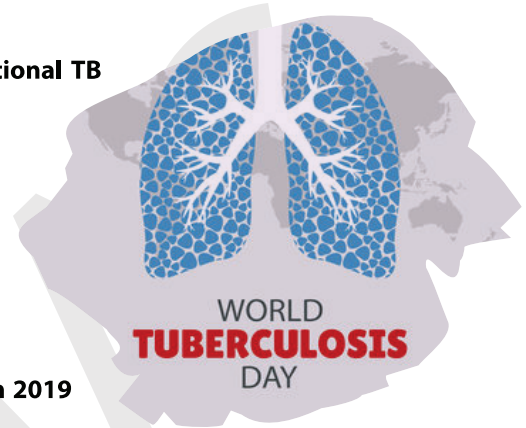


# NEWS TODAY

## WORLD TUBERCULOSIS DAY 2022 OBSERVED

- **India TB report on the theme 'Coming Together to End TB Altogether' and National TB Prevalence Survey Report** released in the backdrop of celebrations.
- **Key highlights of India TB report**
  - **2021 witnessed 19% increase** from previous year in **TB patients' notification**.
  - Vision of the National Strategic Plan for Elimination of Tuberculosis (NSP 2017- 25) permeated to state and district levels with **18 states having committed to Ending TB by 2025**.
  - In India, **childhood Tuberculosis** remains a staggering problem, **contributing to approximately 31% of the global burden**.
  - There has been an **increase in the mortality rate due to all forms of TB between 2019 and 2020 by 11% in India**.
- **Results of a National TB Prevalence Survey** were also released, which showed that the **majority (64%) of the symptomatic population did not seek healthcare services**.
  - Prevalence of all forms of TB for all ages in India was **312 per lakh population for the year 2021**.
- Government also launched "**Dare to Erade TB**" program for formation of a **Genome Sequencing Consortium for Whole Genome Sequencing, (WSG) TB surveillance based on the Indian Data**.



### About TB

- Caused by **bacterium - Mycobacterium tuberculosis**.
- It is a **communicable disease** which is spread from person to person through the air.
- **India's vision to end TB - Eliminating TB by 2025**, five years ahead of global target by World Health Organisation (WHO) i.e., 2030.
- Steps taken by government to check TB - **National Strategic Plan for Tuberculosis Elimination 2017-2025, National Tuberculosis Elimination Program (NTEP)**- Centrally Sponsored Scheme and **TB Harega Desh Jeetega Campaign**.

## ON COOPERATIVES, HOUSE PANEL TELLS GOVERNMENT: ENSURE FEDERAL FEATURES INTACT

- **Parliamentary standing Committee** has made following recommendations:
  - Exercise utmost prudence in chalking out **Activities / Schemes / Programmes at National Level** so that the **federal features** of country are not impinged upon.
  - **New National Cooperation Policy** shall be evolved after **wider consultations** with all the stakeholders.
  - Introduce necessary legal and institutional framework to protect the interests of the Members of all **Multi State Cooperative Societies (MSCS)**.
  - Formulate an **effective mechanism** to ensure that Cooperatives get **adequate opportunities / facilities** for existence, growth and development.
- **Cooperatives in India:**
  - 'Cooperative Societies' is a **State subject** under Seventh Schedule.
  - Through **97th constitution amendment act, Part IXB** was introduced in the Constitution.
    - Amendment set out **basic rules** such as a maximum of 21 directors in a society, a fixed term of five years for elected members etc.
    - However, Supreme Court in **Union of India v Rajendra Shah and Others (2021)**, has **partly struck down** the amendment as it **violated the powers of state legislatures** with respect to items in the state list.
      - It held that **Cooperatives are strictly within the domain of the state** and **only in matters of multistate cooperatives does Parliament have sanction to legislate**.

### Legislative framework for Cooperatives

- Various states have enacted **State Cooperation Societies Acts for governing the Co-operative Societies** operating in the respective States.
- For societies operating in more than one State, the **Central Government has enacted 'Multi State Co-operative Societies Act, 2002'**.

## USE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY FOR POWER GENERATION

- Present installed nuclear power capacity in the country is **6780 MW** comprising of **22 operational nuclear power reactors**.
- India has developed **comprehensive capabilities** in **all stages** of nuclear fuel cycle namely: Mining, uranium production, fuel fabrication, nuclear power production, spent fuel reprocessing and waste management.
- Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) for co-operation in **peaceful uses of nuclear energy** have been signed with the 18 countries: **Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Canada, Czech Republic, European Union, France, Japan, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, Namibia, Republic of Korea, Russia, Sri Lanka, United Kingdom, United States of America, Vietnam and Ghana**.
  - Currently there is **no collaboration** with **Israel** on nuclear energy.
- **Significance**
  - **Credibility** to its status as a **responsible nuclear power**.
  - Potential to sustain the **country's growing energy requirements**.
- **Challenges**
  - Barriers to India's acceptance **within the global non-proliferation regime** due to India's **nuclear weapons programme**, and its **strained relationship** with its neighbour Pakistan (also a nuclear weapons state).
  - **Domestic protests** due to concerns, such as diversion of water to the plants, environmental degradation, land acquisition etc.

## MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (MHA) EXTENDS FOREIGN CONTRIBUTION (REGULATION) ACT (FCRA) REGISTRATION OF NGOS

- MHA in public interest **extended the validity of FCRA registration of NGOs till June 30, revising its previous extended deadline of March 31**.
  - Also, FCRA entities whose 5-year validity period is expiring between April 1-June 30 and who have applied for renewal before expiry of registration will also stand extended.
- FCRA is meant to **ensure that foreign contribution is received from legitimate sources and utilised for legitimate purposes by any person**.
  - First enacted in 1976, it has been amended in 2010 and 2020.
  - To receive foreign funds, it is **imperative for NGOs to get themselves registered under the (FCRA) and certificates are renewed every 5 years**.
  - **NITI Aayog** is the nodal agency for registration and accreditation of NGOs seeking funding from the Government of India.
- **Provisions regarding Regulation of NGO in India**
  - **Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA), 1999** regulated by Ministry of Finance
  - **New rules under FCRA Amendment 2020**
    - Prohibition of transfer of funds from one NGO to another.
    - Decrease of administrative expenses through foreign funds from 50% to 20%.
    - Making Aadhaar mandatory for registration.








## INDIA'S APPROACH TO UKRAINE-RUSSIA SITUATION BASED ON 6 PRINCIPLES: EXTERNAL AFFAIR MINISTER

- India has had to **walk a diplomatic tightrope** over Ukraine in the past few days as it tried to **balance its ties with Russia and the West**.
- India has abstained on **two resolutions at the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)** related to the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine following the Russian invasion.
  - First abstention was on a draft resolution that held **Russia responsible** for the crisis.
  - Second was a **procedural vote**- on whether the **UNGA ought to take up a second resolution, for action** at all. This resolution **did not mention Russia**.
- Government has informed that **India's approach** was guided by its own national interest and was based on **six principles which espoused peaceful resolution through dialogue and diplomacy**.
- **Six principles are**
  - An **"immediate cessation of violence and end to hostilities."**
  - **Return to the path of dialogue and diplomacy**.
  - **Recognition that global order is anchored on international law, UN Charter** and respect for territorial integrity and sovereignty of all states.
  - **Call for Humanitarian Access to the conflict situation**.
  - India gives **humanitarian assistance**.
  - **Being in touch with leadership of both Russia and Ukraine**.

# NINE STATES WITHDRAW GENERAL CONSENT TO CENTRAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (CBI) TO INVESTIGATE CASES

- The 9 states include **Mizoram, West Bengal, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Kerala, Jharkhand, Punjab and Meghalaya.**
- **About General Consent to CBI**
  - Unlike National Investigation Agency (NIA), which is governed by its own NIA Act and has jurisdiction across the country, **CBI is governed by Delhi Special Police Establishment Act.**
  - This makes **consent of state government mandatory** for conducting investigation in that state. There are two kinds of consent: **case-specific and general.**
  - **"General consent" is normally given** to help CBI seamlessly conduct investigations smoothly across states.
  - **Section 6 of DSPE Act, 1946 empowers state government** to give or deny consent to CBI officer.
- **With withdrawal of General Consent, CBI will not be able to register any fresh case involving officials of the central government or a private person in the state** without the consent of the state government.
- However, Supreme Court and High Courts can order CBI to investigate such a crime anywhere in the country **without the consent of the State.**
- CBI is the main **investigation agency of the central government for cases relating to corruption and major criminal probes.**

## ALSO IN NEWS

 <p><b>Vacancies in Tribunals</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supreme Court has <b>expressed concerns over the inability of the Government to fill up the staggering vacancies in Tribunals.</b></li> <li>• Tribunals are <b>established for discharging judicial or quasi-judicial duties with the objective of reducing case load</b> of the judiciary or <b>bringing in subject expertise</b> for technical matters. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Article 323A empowered Parliament to constitute administrative Tribunals</b> (both at central and state level) for adjudication of matters related to recruitment and conditions of service of public servants.</li> <li>➤ <b>Article 323B specified certain subjects (such as taxation and land reforms) for which Parliament or state legislatures may constitute tribunals</b> by enacting a law.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
 <p><b>Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It has been <b>inaugurated in Bengaluru.</b></li> <li>• Set up as a Section 8 company under Companies Act, 2013, with an <b>initial capital contribution of Rs 100 crore</b></li> <li>• RBIH aims <b>to encourage and nurture financial innovation in a sustainable manner through an institutional set-up.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ It create an ecosystem <b>that focuses on promoting access to financial services and products for the low-income population in the country.</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• Hub would bring convergence among various stakeholders (BFSI Sector, Start-up ecosystem, Regulators and Academia) in the financial innovation space.</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Government e Marketplace (GeM)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Government e-Marketplace (GeM) achieved annual procurement of <b>Rs. 1 lakh crore</b> in Financial Year 2021-22</li> <li>• <b>About GeM:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>One stop portal</b> to facilitate <b>online procurement of common use Goods &amp; Services</b> required by various Government Departments / Organizations / PSUs.</li> <li>➤ <b>Launch Year:</b> 2016</li> <li>➤ <b>Hosted by:</b> Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals (<b>DGS&amp;D</b>) under <b>Ministry of Commerce and Industry.</b></li> <li>➤ <b>Benefits:</b> Transparency, efficiency and speed in public procurement.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
 <p><b>Polar Science and Cryosphere Research (PACER) scheme</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>PACER</b> scheme has been approved for continuation <b>during 2021-2026.</b></li> <li>• <b>About PACER scheme:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Comprises the <b>Antarctic program, Indian Arctic program, Southern Ocean program and Cryosphere and Climate</b> program.</li> <li>➤ Implemented through <b>National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR)</b>, an autonomous institute under the <b>Ministry of Earth Sciences.</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Achievements:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Executed <b>39th &amp; 40th Indian Scientific Expedition to Antarctica</b> (41st ongoing).</li> <li>➤ <b>Automatic Weather Station (AWS)</b> systems installed at Baralacha La, in the <b>Spiti region.</b></li> <li>➤ <b>IndARC</b> mooring system was deployed in <b>Kongsfjorden, Svalbard.</b></li> <li>➤ Executed <b>11th Indian Southern Ocean Expedition.</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
 <p><b>BrahMos missile</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DRDO successfully test fired the <b>surface to surface BrahMos supersonic cruise missile</b> in the Andaman and Nicobar islands. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The <b>extended range missile</b> hit its target with <b>pinpoint accuracy.</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>The extended range missile</b> hit its target with pinpoint accuracy. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ BrahMos variants can be launched from <b>land, air, sea and under water.</b></li> <li>➤ The range was <b>originally capped at 290 km</b> as per obligations of the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



	<p>➤ Following India's entry in MTCR in 2016, it was <b>decided to extend the range to 450 km and to 600 km at a later stage.</b></p>
 <p><b>Project UNNATI under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recently, Minister of Rural Development &amp; Panchayati <b>felicited 75 trained candidates of Project UNNATI under MGNREGA.</b></li> <li><b>About Project UNNATI:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ A Skilling project to <b>upgrade the skill base of the MGNREGA beneficiaries</b>, enabling them to <b>move from the current partial employment to full-time employment</b> and reduce their dependence on MGNREGS.</li> <li>➤ <b>Provides training for one adult member</b> (age 18-45 years) of a household who has <b>completed 100 days of work</b> under MGNREGA.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
 <p><b>Assam Kaji Nemu</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The government is set to give a renewed thrust to use of geographical indications (GI) tag for promotion of unique agricultural products with high commercial potential in the global markets. One of selected product is <b>Assam Kaji Nemu.</b></li> <li>Also known as the Assam Lemon, it is a <b>sour citrus fruit and is exclusively used for appetizing, drinks, industries and medicinal uses.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ It is <b>comparatively larger than the regular lemon.</b></li> <li>➤ Produced all-round the year, it is cultivated on Loamy and fertile soil.</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>Other significant GI of Assam - Joha Rice, Chokuwa rice.</b></li> </ul>
 <p><b>Places in News</b></p>	<p><b>Solomon Island</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Solomon has signed an agreement with China</b> which could allow Chinese soldiers and police to be deployed in the Pacific nation.</li> <li><b>About Solomon Islands-</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ It is an <b>archipelagic state in Melanesia, located in southwest Pacific Ocean.</b> It is geographically positioned in the Southern and Eastern hemispheres of the Earth.</li> <li>➤ <b>Neighborhood:</b> Located to the southeast of Papua New Guinea and to the northwest of Vanuatu.</li> <li>➤ <b>Geographical Features:</b> A wide-spread archipelago of mountainous, heavily forested volcanic islands (some active) and a few low-lying coral atolls.</li> <li>➤ The <b>highest point</b> in the Solomon Islands is Mount Popomanaseu and <b>lowest point</b> is the Pacific Ocean.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>  <p><b>Ethiopia</b> (Capital: Addis Ababa)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ethiopia's government <b>announced an "indefinite humanitarian truce" to allow relief supplies into the war-ravaged Tigray region.</b></li> <li><b>Political &amp; Boundaries:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Situated at the Horn of Africa, it is a <b>landlocked country.</b></li> <li>➤ <b>Bordering nations:</b> Eritrea to the north, Djibouti to the northeast, Somalia to the east, Kenya to the south, and South Sudan and Sudan to the west.</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>Geographical features:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Climate:</b> Varies from temperate in the highlands to hot in the lowlands</li> <li>➤ <b>Highest point:</b> Mount Ras Dejen</li> <li>➤ <b>Biggest Lake:</b> Lake Tana (Source of the Blue Nile)</li> <li>➤ <b>Major rivers:</b> Blue Nile, Omo, Awash etc.</li> </ul> </li> <li>African Union and UN Economic Commission for Africa have their headquarters in Addis Ababa.</li> </ul> 