

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 403
TO BE ANSWERED ON 6th FEBRUARY 2024**

INCREASE IN TB CASES IN PRISONS

**403. SHRI M. SHANMUGAM:
SHRI VAIKO**

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

- (a) whether prisoners in India are five times more at risk of developing tuberculosis (TB) than the general population, as per WHO report;
- (b) if so, whether any study has been made to address the issue;
- (c) whether it is a fact that a number of prisoners who develop TB remains undiagnosed for long periods, resulting in increasing the incidence of TB and deaths of many jail-mates; and
- (d) if so, the efforts made to detect, treat and prevent TB in prisons in the country?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) The government has developed & issued guidelines titled “The Operational Guidelines on HIV/TB Intervention in Prisons and other Closed Settings”, to address the challenge of TB in prisons and provide TB prevention, screening and treatment services for all inmates living in prisons and other closed settings. Under the National TB Elimination Programme (NTEP) periodic screening for TB is conducted in prisons and free diagnostic and treatment services are provided to those prison inmates detected with TB. The details of TB cases notified among general population and among prison inmates over the last 3 years are as under:

Type of Population	2021 (Jan-Dec)	2022 (Jan-Dec)	2023 (Jan-Dec)
General population	2136690	2425974	2545782
Among prison inmates	1370	1296	1209
Deaths reported among prisoners with TB	52	28	31

(Data source: Ni-kshay).
