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Science Reporter



विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



MK Yadav Sir

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India fails to draw China+1 FDI flows

Ravi Dutta Mishra &
Rhik Kundu

NEW DELHI



India's manufacturing sector has failed to capitalize on multinational companies' efforts to diversify supply chains away from China, foreign direct investment (FDI) data shows, even as manufacturing continues to shrink at the northern neighbour.

Expectations of higher inflows into Indian manufacturing had taken root as China's purchasing managers' index (PMI) for manufacturing contracted in seven of the last 12 months, as Beijing struggles to reopen its economy after exiting its controversial zero-covid policy early this year.

India's PMI for manufacturing did not contract in the past year, but against expectations,

FDI inflows into the country's manufacturing sector fell 22% in FY23.

BLOOMBERG

FDI inflows fell 22% to \$46.03 billion in FY23 amid high inflation and recessionary trends in developed economies.

"The 'China plus one' story is not confirmed from the investment data. FDI is still pretty subdued," said Biswajit Dhar,

TURN TO PAGE 6

Context: India's manufacturing sector has failed to capitalize on multinational companies' efforts to diversify supply chains away from China, foreign direct investment (FDI) data shows, even as manufacturing continues to shrink at the northern neighbour.

- The 'China plus one' story is not confirmed from the investment data.

China-plus-one strategy

- **Origin:** Coined way back in 2013, it is a global business strategy.
- **China-Plus-One, or just Plus One:** It refers to a strategy in which companies avoid investing only in China and diversify their businesses to alternative destinations.
 - The "China, plus one" strategy is **about still using the resources allocated in China, but adding lower wages to the mix.**
 - **Due to rising labour cost in India, manufacturing firms are diverting some of the resources to low cost economies** while still using their facilities in China as shifting entire production at once is not possible.
- **Measures taken by the government:**
 - **Amalgamation of Labour laws:** into four codes will help expand manufacturing and attract investments
 - **Promotion of a culture of resolution:** with the **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code and Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Act, 2019.**
 - **Sector level manufacturing:** The government has launched **Production-Linked Incentive scheme** which proposes a financial incentive to boost domestic manufacturing and attract large investments in the White Goods manufacturing value chain.

Outshining China

In the past 12 months, India witnessed a more robust manufacturing recovery than China



Source: S&P Global

New trade expansion plan to woo 100 global companies across 30 countries

MUKESH JAGOTA
NEW DELHI, JULY 9

THE GOVERNMENT'S investment promotion plan that will now dovetail into its trade expansion strategy has identified more than 100 companies across 30 countries for outreach through roadshows and conferences.

Under the plan, 106 companies across 30 sectors in 30 countries have been identified for sharper focus and the list would expand further, a senior official said. For investments, roadshows have been planned in the US, Canada, Japan, Saudi Arabia, Germany, the UK, Sweden, Japan, Taiwan and South Korea. Meetings are also being set up with the leaderships of the identified companies to invite them to invest in India. The new plan takes



The trade part of the plan has identified 12 countries for export push. *File*

a different approach to investment promotion than what has been done traditionally. "It seeks to expand the space for Indian exports in world trade by aiming at becoming part of global value chains," the official said without

disclosing the name of the companies.

"World trade is happening in value chains and for that manufacturing is required. The focus of the plan is whatever we make in India should have an export ori-

entation," a senior official had said earlier. The investment part of the two-leg plan for making the country a bigger exporter also seeks to engage Indians living abroad. The pitch for investments would include recent policy initiatives like production-linked incentive scheme for 14 industry sectors, efforts to make doing business simpler through liberal foreign direct investment norms, size of growing local market and progress on reducing cost of doing business through logistics improvement.

The trade part of the plan has identified 12 countries for export push through marketing events. While the trade and investment push plan is looking at the medium term, it also seeks to address the concerns faced on both exports and investment fronts in the last financial year and in the past few months. **FE**

Context: The government's investment promotion plan that will now dovetail into its trade expansion strategy has identified more than 100 companies across 30 countries for outreach through roadshows and conferences.

Key Points

- Under the plan, **106 companies across 30 sectors in 30 countries** have been identified for sharper focus and the list would expand further.
- The **pitch for investments** would include recent policy initiatives like production-linked incentive scheme for 14 industry sectors, efforts to make doing business simpler through liberal foreign direct investment norms, size of growing local market and progress on reducing cost of doing business through logistics improvement.
- The **trade part of the plan** has identified 12 countries for export push through marketing events.
- While the **trade and investment push plan** is looking at the medium term, it also seeks to address the concerns faced on both exports and investment fronts in the last financial year and in the past few months.
- The **FDI (equity) inflows in India** declined 22% on year in the last financial year to \$46 billion.
- The **decline in total FDI flows**, which also included other capital and reinvested earnings, was 16% to \$70.97 billion.
- **Exports have been in the negative territory** for the last five months.
- In May, the latest month for which data is available, exports contracted by 10.3% on-year to \$34.98 billion.
- The **decline led to an increase in trade deficit** during the month to a five-month high of \$22.12 billion.
- In the first two months for the fiscal 2023-24, exports were down 11.41% to \$69.72 billion.

Forget China, long way to go for India to catch up with Vietnam, Malaysia

THE CHALLENGE AHEAD

RANK AS GLOBAL ELECTRONICS EXPORTER (2021)



Source: ICTTrade map & TDM as reproduced in ICEA presentation

SURAJEET DAS GUPTA
New Delhi, 9 July

India's ambition to become a global hub for electronics faces tough challenges, not only from Vietnam, but a raft of other countries that have emerged as major exporters of electronics. Countries such as the Philippines, Thailand, Mexico, and Malaysia have exported electronics more than double that of India on an average, according to data available till 2021. In the year 2021, exports by Vietnam, Mexico, and Thailand were 9.2 times, 6.3 times, and 3.8 times respectively, that of India, according to estimates by the Indian Cellular and Electronics Association of India (ICEA).

among global electronics exporters was at 26 in 2021, that of Vietnam was far ahead at 8. In fact, the ICEA feels that it will be tough for India to reach even the target set by the government for FY26.

According to it, the export of electronics needs to grow at an average of 64.5 per cent to 76.6 per cent per annum to be able to achieve the magic number. Even if the highest growth rate achieved in 2015 is maintained in the next three fiscal years, India's electronics exports will be only \$89 billion by FY26, and that is nowhere near the government's target. So how have other countries performed so much better? They have, of course, been more savvy about taking advantage of the

Context: India's ambition to become a global hub for electronics faces tough challenges, not only from Vietnam, but a raft of other countries that have emerged as major exporters of electronics.

Key Points

- Countries such as the Philippines, Thailand, Mexico, and Malaysia have exported electronics more than double that of India on an average.
- In the year 2021, exports by Vietnam, Mexico, and Thailand were 9.2 times, 6.3 times, and 3.8 times respectively, that of India, according to estimates by the Indian Cellular and Electronics Association of India (ICEA).
- In FY23, India exported electronics to the tune of \$23.57 billion.
- While India's rank among global electronics exporters was at 26 in 2021, that of Vietnam was far ahead at 8.
- The export of electronics needs to grow at an average of 64.5 per cent to 76.6 per cent per annum to be able to achieve the magic number.
- Even if the highest growth rate achieved in 2015 is maintained in the next three fiscal years, India's electronics exports will be only \$89 billion by FY26, and that is nowhere near the government's target.
- Other countries have been more savvy about taking advantage of the free trade agreements (FTAs), kept import tariffs low - with many at zero levels - and ensured policy stability and incentives
- Malaysia, which has had a focused policy in semiconductor exports (a large number of OSAT and ATMP players are located in Penang, has become a force to reckon with.

Products under One District One Product programme onboarded and tagged on Groyyo's e-commerce platform

Context: **One District One Product (ODOP) programme** under Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce & Industry collaborated with an e-commerce player, Groyyo to onboard aggregators selling ODOP-identified products on its platform consisting of several categories such as home textiles, home décor etc.

- The tagging on this **one-stop online platform** is intended to strengthen each district's identity, while giving a greater visibility to ODOP products.
- This brings an **opportunity for the sellers** to learn more about product requirements from the buyers and make their products marketable at the global level.

One District One Product (ODOP)

- **About:** ODOP was launched by the state Government of Uttar Pradesh in **2018**, later it was adopted by the Union Government.
- It is a centrally sponsored scheme.
- **Nodal Ministry:** ODOP was launched by the **Ministry of Food Processing Industries** In 2018.
- **Objectives:** It aims to facilitate **balanced regional development across all districts of India**.
- **Identification of the food product:** The **State Government** would identify the food product from a district.
 - The product could be a **perishable Agri product, cereal-based product, or any food product produced in a district**.
- **Significance:** The programme helps the districts to attain their maximum potential, promotes economic growth, and creates more employment opportunities.
 - The core idea of the ODOP is to choose and **promote One Product from each District**.
 - Traditional and innovative products could be also supported under the Scheme.
 - It will **reduce wastage, and ensure proper storage and marketing**.

NITI Aayog to Examine Viability of UDAN Scheme

Monitoring body issues an RfP for evaluation of the scheme

Our Bureau

New Delhi: The Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO), an attached office of NITI Aayog, will evaluate the regional connectivity scheme popularly known as UDAN.

The monitoring body has issued an RfP for evaluation of the scheme which is expected to kick-start later this year.

UDAN is the government's regional airport development program and part of the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) of upgrading under-served air routes. Its goal is to make air travel affordable and improve economic development in India.

As per the RfP document, the evaluation study will include identifying gaps and challenges in issues related to operations, management and development of airports while providing research and economic perspectives on all aspects of the project.

"The Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO), National Institution for Transforming India (NITI

Aayog intends to engage a consultancy firm to support in the evaluation study of Regional Connectivity Scheme," it said in the document.

"DMEO, NITI Aayog invites proposals for this assignment, from national/international firms/organisations/institutions, which have requisite experience in this field," it added.

RCS-UDAN was formulated based on the review of The National Civil Aviation Policy (NCAP)-2016

and it was planned to remain in force for a period of 10 years. The scheme came into operation in 2017.

It has a self-financing mechanism with the development of Regional Connectivity Fund (RCF). Under this scheme, RCF was created, which funds the VGF requirements of the scheme through a levy on certain domestic flights. This way, funds generated from the sector themselves stimulate the growth and development of the sector.

The government targets to complete 220 destinations through airports, heliports, water aerodromes, by 2026 with 1,000 routes to provide air connectivity to unconnected destinations in the country.



Under UDAN, 954 routes have already been awarded to connect 156 airports

Context: The Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO), an attached office of NITI Aayog, will evaluate the regional connectivity scheme popularly known as UDAN.

- The monitoring body has issued an RfP for evaluation of the scheme which is expected to kick-start later this year.
- The evaluation study will include **identifying gaps and challenges in issues related to operations, management and development of airports** while providing research and economic perspectives on all aspects of the project.

Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik (UDAN)

- **About:** UDAN is a regional connectivity scheme spearheaded by the Government of India (GoI).
 - It aims to **develop smaller regional airports** to allow common citizens easier access to aviation services.
 - This scheme is a part of the **National Civil Aviation Policy (NCAP)** and is funded jointly by the GoI and the state governments.
- **Salient features:**
 - The scheme duration is **for 10 years**.
 - Airlines participating in UDAN are selected through a **competitive bidding process**.
- **UDAN 1.0:** Under this phase, **5 airlines companies were awarded 128 flight routes** to 70 airports (including 36 newly made operational airports)
- **UDAN 2.0:** In 2018, the Ministry of Civil Aviation announced **73 underserved and unserved airports**.
 - For the first time, helipads were also connected under phase 2 of UDAN scheme.
- **UDAN 3.0:** Inclusion of **Tourism Routes under UDAN 3** in coordination with the Ministry of Tourism.
 - Inclusion of **Seaplanes** for connecting Water Aerodromes.
 - Bringing in a number of routes in the North-East Region under the ambit of UDAN.
- **UDAN 4.0:** The 4th round of UDAN was launched in December 2019 with a special **focus on North-Eastern Regions, Hilly States, and Islands**.
 - The airports that had already been developed by the Airports Authority of India (AAI) are given higher priority for the award of **VGF (Viability Gap Funding) under the Scheme**.
 - Under UDAN 4, the operation of helicopters and seaplanes is also been incorporated.

Mobile App developed under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana for quick reporting of Fish Diseases and timely scientific advice to aqua-farmers

Context: The Government of India has implemented a flagship scheme “Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)” with investment of Rs. 20,050 crores, the highest ever investment in Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector in the country.

- Under the programme to further strengthen the farmer based reporting a “Report Fish Disease” App has been developed .
- Using the innovative app, the farmers can report disease cases in finfish, shrimps and molluscs on their farms to the field level-officers and fish health experts and get scientific advice for quickly addressing the disease problem on their farms.
- The app will be a central platform for connecting fish farmers, field-level officers and fish health experts.

Some of the important highlights of the NSPAAD over the period of 9 years:

- Developing a strong network of aquatic animal health laboratories in the country.
- Developing diagnostic capability for detection of World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH)-listed and emerging aquatic animal pathogens.
- Strengthening of passive disease surveillance in the country , iv} providing scientific advice to the farmers for management of disease.
- Detection of nine new pathogens for the first time from the country.
- Establishing mechanisms for first-time confirmation of exotic and emerging diseases and sending alerts/advisories to stakeholders following suspicion of a new disease to prevent spread of the disease, vii) successful dispelling of the speculations regarding occurrence of the Acute Hepatopancreatic Necrosis Disease (AHPND) (now an WOAH-listed disease) which has huge implications in shrimp trade.
- Establishing a transparent reporting system and increasing the credibility of the country in terms of reporting of aquatic animal diseases to international organizations, namely World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA).

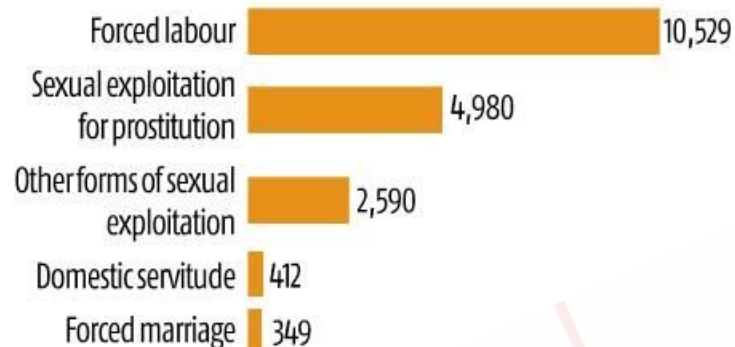
Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)

- **About:** It is a flagship scheme for focused and sustainable development of the fisheries sector in the country with an estimated investment of 20,050 crore for its implementation during 2020-21 to 2024-25 as part of Atma Nirbhar Bharat package.
- **Nodal Ministry:** Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying.
- **Aims:** To bring about a blue revolution through sustainable and responsible development of the fisheries sector in India.
 - To double the incomes of fishers and fish farmers, reducing post-harvest losses from 20-25% to about 10% and the generation of gainful employment opportunities in the sector.
- **Implementation:** It is implemented as an umbrella scheme with two separate components namely:
 - **Central Sector Scheme:** The project cost will be borne by the Central government. The entire project/unit cost will be funded by the Government of India (GoI) (i.e., 100% GoI Funding).
 - **Centrally Sponsored Scheme:** All the sub-components/activities will be implemented by the States/UTs and the cost will be shared between Centre and State.
 - **North Eastern & Himalayan States:** 90% Central share and 10% State share.
 - **Other States:** 60% Central share and 40% State share.
- **Approach:** ‘Cluster or Area based approaches and many new interventions such as fishing vessel insurance, Aquaculture in saline/alkaline areas, Sagar Mitras, FFPOs, Nucleus Breeding Centres, etc.

Over half of world's child trafficking victims trafficked within own country: Report

Analysis recommends engagement in special cooperative measures on counter-trafficking and climate change, as well as on crisis preparedness and response

Top five purposes of human trafficking



Prevalence in India

- According to the NCRB, **8 children were trafficked every day in India in 2021** for labour, begging and sexual exploitation.
- **95% of the reported cases in 2019** were of internal trafficking.
- The **sale of children happens across borders too**, with key routes being India to Gulf States (for 'khadama' to work as housemaids) and South East Asian countries.
- **Most vulnerable: Minor girls** in the age bracket 15-18 years, as they are in greater demand for the sex trade industry and domestic labour.

Article 23 and 24 of the Constitution of India

- **Article 23** prohibits human trafficking and begar (forced labour without payment).
- **Article 24** forbids employment of children below the age of 14 years in dangerous jobs like factories and mines

Context: Over half of **child trafficking victims** across the world are trafficked within their own country, according to a new report, titled **From Evidence to Action: Twenty Years of IOM Child Trafficking Data to Inform Policy and Programming**, prepared by International Organization for Migration (IOM) and François-Xavier Bagnoud Center for Health and Human Rights at Harvard University.

- It is based on the analysis of extensive, globally sourced data, using the IOM **Victims of Trafficking Database (VoTD)**.
- The VoTD is the **largest available international database** of individual victims of trafficking. It contains primary data collected from approximately 69,000 victims of human trafficking.

Key Suggestions and recommendations

- The report recommended engagement in special **cooperative measures** on counter-trafficking and climate change, as well as on crisis preparedness and response.
- **Integrating counter-trafficking into climate change, environmental and disaster risk reduction** policies and programmes, including during preparedness and response to disasters, with tailored programmes to address the vulnerability of children to trafficking.
- **Empowering communities** affected by climate change, environmental degradation and disasters to develop community-based mitigation strategies aimed at reducing human trafficking.

Is open defecation back in India?

The latest WHO-UNICEF data shows at least one-sixth of India's rural population still defecate in the open and a quarter doesn't have even basic sanitation access



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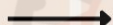
By Richard Mahapatra
Published: Sunday 09 July 2023



STATUS

MEANING

ODF



Not a single person found defecating in Open

ODF+



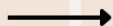
No one defecating in open and well maintained community and public toilets

ODF++



All conditions of ODF+ and toilets with sludge and septage management

Water+



All waste-water is being treated as per CPCB norms before release.

Context: The latest WHO-UNICEF data shows at least one-sixth of India's rural population still **defecate in the open** and a quarter doesn't have even basic sanitation access .

- **Open defecation** is the human practice of defecating outside ("in the open") rather than using a **toilet**.
- Ending open defecation is an indicator being used to measure progress towards the Sustainable Development Goal Number 6 "Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all."

Key Points

- **17 percent of the rural population** in India still defecated in the open in 2022.
- **One quarter of the rural population** didn't have even "at least basic" sanitation facilities.
- **22 per cent of India's rural population** practiced open defecation.
- India has **recorded significant progress**: in 2015 some 41 per cent of its rural population defecated in the open (17 per cent in 2022) while 51 per cent households (75 per cent in 2022) had at least the basic sanitation facility.
- Based on this progress, India has **registered an annual average of 3.39 per cent decline in open defecation**. If one applies this decline rate to the base figure of 2022, it would take another four to five years to be ODF.
- This **mismatch between claims of the government of India and the WHO-UNICEF data** is often explained in clinical and technical terms.
- Officials involved in **India's sanitation programme** say that the government of India didn't declare India ODF; rather it was the villages who self-certified themselves ODF thus enabling the country to declare so.

Objections overruled, Forest Bill goes to House unchanged

Parliamentary committee endorses proposed amendments to Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in its entirety; Environment Ministry denies charge that changes dilute various protections in the law

Jacob Koshy
Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI

A parliamentary committee, set up to examine the controversial proposed amendments to the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, has endorsed the amendment Bill in its entirety.

The Hindu has viewed a draft copy of the report prepared by the 31-member joint committee on the Forest (Conservation) Amendment Bill, 2023, which is expected to be tabled in Parliament during the Monsoon Session starting on July 20.

The Bill seeks to amend the pivotal 1980 law which was enacted to ensure that India's forest land is not wantonly usurped for non-forestry purposes.

Touching a raw nerve

The proposed amendments to the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 have attracted objections on various grounds:

- 'Dilution' of the Supreme Court's 1996 judgment in the Godavaran case that extended protection to wide tracts of forests, even if they were not recorded as forests

- In geographically sensitive areas within 100 km of the International Borders or the Line of Control, no forest

clearance required to construct highways, hydel power projects and so on

- No Central protection for vast tracts of so-called 'deemed forest' (forests not officially recorded as forests) and permitting activities such as tourism, compromising their integrity



The report states that the joint committee, chaired by BJP MP Rajendra Agrawal, analysed the Bill "clause by clause" and invited representations from 10 Union Ministries and views from Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra and Telangana governments and from experts, individuals and representatives of public sector units.

It notes that objections were raised to various aspects of the Bill, including complaints that the proposed amendments "diluted" the Supreme Court's 1996 judgment in the Godavaran case that extended protection to wide tracts of forests, even if they were not recorded as forests.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 10

Context: Parliamentary committee endorses proposed amendments to Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 in its entirety; Environment Ministry denies charge that changes dilute various protections in the law.

- **Forest (Conservation) Amendment Bill, 2023** seeks to amend the pivotal 1980 law which was enacted to ensure that India's forest land is not wantonly usurped for non-forestry purposes.
- The Act empowers the Centre to require that **any forest land diverted for non-forestry purposes** be duly compensated.
- It also extends its remit to land which is not officially classified as 'forest' in State or Central government records.

Key features of the bill

- **Restrictions on activities in forest:** The Bill adds more activities to the list of activities that will be excluded from non-forest purposes such as
 - Zoos and safaris under the **Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972** in forest areas other than protected areas:
 - Eco-tourism facilities.
 - Silvicultural operations.
 - Any other purpose specified by the central government.
 - The central government may **specify exclusion** of any survey.
- **Land under the purview of the Act:** The bill provides for 2 types of land to be under the purview of the Act:
 - Land declared/notified as a forest under the **Indian Forest Act, 1927** or any law
 - Land not covered in the first category but notified as a **forest on or after October 25, 1980** in a government record.
- **Exempted land:** The Bill exempts:
 - **Forest land along a rail line or a public road** maintained by the government up to a maximum size of 0.10 hectare
 - **Land situated within 100 km** along the international borders, Line of Control, or Line of Actual Control
 - **Land proposed to be used for constructing security infrastructure** and defence related projects (not exceeding 5 hectares in a left wing extremism affected area)
- **Assigning Forest land:** Requires **prior approval** of the central government to direct the assigning of forest land to any organisation not owned by the government.
- **Delegation of power:** The **Central government** may issue directions for the implementation of the Act to any other authority/ organisation.

In India, prisoners 5 times more at risk of developing TB: Study

DurgeshNandan.Jha@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Prisoners in India are five times more at risk of developing tuberculosis (TB) than the general population, a first-of-its-kind study to assess prevalence of the communicable disease in prisons across the world has found.

According to the study, published in The Lancet Public Health, the incidence of TB in Indian prisons is 1,076 cases per

100,000 inmates. In the general population, TB incidence is 210 per 100,000 population, according to WHO TB report 2022.

“Overcrowding and lack of ventilation is a known cause of high incidence of TB in prisons. To prevent this, authorities should conduct regular health screening,” Dr Raj Kumar, director, Vallabhbhai Patel Chest Institute, University of Delhi, said.

In the latest study, which looked at the incidence of TB among prisoners in 193

countries, researchers found that 125,105 of the 11 million people incarcerated globally developed TB in 2019 — a rate of 1,148 cases per 100,000 people per year; significantly higher than the global incidence rate among all persons, 127 cases per 100,000 people per year. However, the case detection rate was just 53% of all TB cases in prisons globally, the study published in The Lancet Public Health found. Furthermore, the researchers found a

strong relationship between country-level tuberculosis incidence rates and overcrowding in prisons.

Leonardo Martinez, study lead from the School of Public Health, Boston University, US, said, “This connection between TB and overcrowding suggests that efforts to limit the number of people who are detained may be one potential public health tool to combat the TB epidemic in prisons.”

Context: Prisoners in India are five times more at risk of developing tuberculosis (TB) than the general population, according to the study, published in The Lancet Public Health.

- The incidence of TB in Indian prisons is **1,076 cases per 100,000 inmates**.
- In the general population, **TB incidence is 210 per 100,000 population**, according to WHO TB report 2022.
- **Overcrowding and lack of ventilation** is a known cause of high incidence of TB in prisons.

Tuberculosis

- **About:** It is caused by **Mycobacterium tuberculosis (bacteria)** and it most often affects the lungs.
- **Transmission:** TB is **spread through the air** when people with lung TB cough, sneeze or spit. A person needs to inhale only a few germs to become infected.
 - With TB infection, a person gets infected with TB bacteria that lie inactive in the body. This infection **can develop into TB disease if their immune system weakens**.
- **Symptoms:** Prolonged cough, chest pain, weakness/fatigue, weight loss, fever, etc.
 - Often, these symptoms will be mild for many months, thus leading to delays in seeking care and increasing the risk of **spreading the infection to others**.
- **Diagnosis:** In the case of **suspected lung TB disease**, a sputum sample is collected for testing for TB bacteria.
 - For **non-lung TB disease**, samples of affected body fluids and tissue can be tested.
 - WHO recommends **rapid molecular diagnostic tests** as initial tests for people showing signs and symptoms of TB.
 - Other diagnostic tools can include **sputum smear microscopy** and chest X-rays.
- **Treatment:** Bedaquiline for **multidrug-resistant (MDR) TB**.
 - Both TB infection and disease are curable using antibiotics.
 - It is treated by the standard 6-month course of 4 antibiotics. Common drugs include **rifampicin and isoniazid**.
 - In drug-resistant TB, the **TB bacteria do not respond to the standard drugs**. Its treatment is longer and more complex.
 - In case of infection (where the patient is infected with TB bacteria but not ill), **TB preventive treatment** can be given to stop the onset of disease. This treatment uses the same drugs for a shorter time.

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