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WHO's Global TB Report 2025: India Logged Highest Number of TB Cases in 2024 Despite Lower Incidence

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In November 2025, the World Health Organisation (WHO) released its latest Global Tuberculosis (TB) Report. As per the report, **India's TB incidence rate** (new cases emerging each year) declined by 21% i.e. from 237 per lakh population (in 2015) to **187 per lakh population** (in 2024), which is almost double the rate of decline observed globally (i.e. at 12%).

- Despite one of the largest global reductions in TB incidence, India has not yet reached the government's 2025 target of 77 cases per lakh population.

Highlights of Global TB Report 2025 :

Global Impact: As per the WHO's report, tuberculosis remains one of the world's deadliest infectious diseases, causing over 1.2 million deaths and affecting approximately 10.7 million people in 2024.

- The global TB incidence rate fell by 1.7% in 2024, reaching 131 cases per 1 lakh population compared to the 2023 rate.

Largest Contributors: The report further highlighted that together, **8 countries** accounted for **67%** of global TB cases in 2024, led by India (25%), followed by Indonesia (10%), the Philippines (6.8%), China (6.5%), Pakistan (6.3%), Nigeria (4.8%), the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) (3.9%), and Bangladesh (3.6%).

Region-wise: The report revealed that **South-East Asia (SEA)** region registered the highest rate of TB cases i.e. **34%** (in 2024) compared to all regions; followed by the Western Pacific (27%), Africa (25%), Eastern Mediterranean (8.6%), the Americas (3.3%) and Europe (1.9%).

Global Rate Falling Ill with TB: Globally, the number of people falling ill with TB decreased to **10.7 million** in 2024, marking an improvement of nearly **2%** compared to 2023.

Global Death Rate: As per the report, the global rate of deaths caused by TB also declined by **3%** i.e. from 1.27 million people (in 2023) to 1.23 million people (in 2024),

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