

APPEAL TO POLITICAL PARTIES BY PEOPLES COMMITTEE FOR PREVENTION OF TB IN ODISHA

TB is an age old but invincible killer disease and India is contributing 27% of the global TB burden. It is the largest killer among all infectious diseases, killing more people than malaria, swine flu, dengue and HIV in the State. out of the ~ 100,000 estimated TB case , barely half of the cases are being notified in Odisha. . We have high prevalence of migration - both seasonal and throughout year - to and from other states. It is often seen that many migrant laborers return with this dreaded disease and unemployment.

Basis on the above background group of Civil Society representatives, public health experts, health activist, media personnel, TB Champions and their family members, affected individuals and communities would like to place the public demand before you to reflect the following lines in your "Political Party Manifesto":

- ▶ Ensure access to high-quality pro-patient treatment and care for all TB-affected people.
- ▶ Ensure free and full uninterrupted Anti-TB Drug Supply along with medicines for other co-morbidities in a single window system.
- ▶ Enhancement special nutritional package for all TB/Drug Resistant TB (DR-TB) patients under the government scheme in the state.
- ▶ Accord special focus on vulnerable groups for TB screening, diagnosis and treatment - especially in tribal and hard to reach areas, miners, homeless people, jails and others.
- ▶ Ensure the involvement of TB patient, survivors and advocates in the review of the health system and RNTCP functioning in their districts.
- ▶ Ensure review meetings at the constituency level and assess the gaps in access and implementation of health policy and institutions in their constituency.

We appeal to the Manifesto Committee to accept the above within the manifesto as a step towards ending TB in Odisha.