



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

**This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is signed on
10th day of October 2022**

Between

National Highways Authority of India

And

**Central TB Division,
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**

Government of India

INTRODUCTION

India has the world's highest Tuberculosis (TB) burden with an estimated 26 lakh people contracting the disease and 4.2 lakh people dying from the disease every year. Moreover, there are almost a million missing patients every year in India which are unregistered or undetected, and who need to be brought under the public health system for ensuring quality diagnosis and treatment.

The economic burden of TB in terms of lives, income and workdays is also substantial. TB usually affects most economically productive age group of the society resulting in a substantial loss of working days and pushing the TB patients further into the vortex of poverty. In the absence of welfare support and mounting catastrophic out-of-pocket expenditures therefore result in patients leaving the treatment prematurely. This jeopardizes not only patients' lives but also the health of the community at large. As per the global estimate, reducing TB incidence could generate benefits of \$43 per dollar spent, and therefore it's in the interest of the country to provide quality care to those with or affected by tuberculosis.

TB is not only a medical disease but a social problem. Even though anyone can be affected by TB, the worse hit are the marginalized population who battle poverty, malnutrition, poor hygiene, stigma, loss of wages, poor housing and working conditions etc. Such multi-faceted issues are beyond the efforts of health sector alone and call for comprehensive solutions by meaningful involvement of non-health sectors. Convergent actions by various Government Ministries are therefore imperative for realization of country's goal of Ending TB by 2025.

Central TB Division (CTD), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) are hereinafter referred to together as "the parties".

Article 1

1. CENTRAL TB DIVISION (CTD)

- 1.1 Central TB Division (CTD) under The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW) is the nodal agency for coordinating response with respect to tuberculosis in India. It implements Revised National TB Control Program (RNTCP) across the country.
- 1.2 The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has developed a National Strategic Plan (2017-25) for elimination of TB in the Country by 2025.
- 1.3 Through Inter-ministerial Coordination, MoHFW aims to reach key populations served by various ministries such as workers, miners, migrants, tribal population, women and children etc.

Article 2

2. National Highways Authority of India

- 2.1 National Highways Authority of India was set up by an act of the Parliament, NHA Act, 1988 "An Act to provide for the constitution of an Authority for the development, maintenance and management of national highways and for matter connected therewith or incidental thereto".
- 2.2 The National Highways are the arterial roads of the country for inter-state movement of passengers and goods. They traverse the length and width of the country connecting the National and State capitals, major ports and rail junctions and link up with border roads and foreign highways.

Article 3

3. OBJECTIVE

- 3.1 To forge convergence at policy, programme and implementation levels across the ministries of the Government of India for a multi-sectoral and accelerated response towards TB-Free India

Article 4

4. SCOPE OF COLLABORATION

- 4.1 The thematic areas for collaboration are listed below –
- a) Awareness generation to boost the TB-Free India campaign
 - b) Screening of construction workers for TB and linkages for diagnosis and treatment of TB to the National TB Elimination Programme.
 - c) Provide nutritional support to the identified TB patients through community adoption (Ni-Kshay Mitra)
 - d) Provide easy referral transport to TB patients for timely treatment and management.
 - e) Promote TB-Free workplaces (Adoption of inclusive workplace policies and best practices at the NHAI HQ/ ROs /PIUs and all attached offices)
 - f) Display IEC material at the offices of National Highways Authority of India and the National Highways
- 4.2 The discretion lies with the Nodal Officers from the parties in terms of amendment to or expansion of the scope of collaboration.

AI

S. Prakash

Article 5

5. ROLE OF CENTRAL TB DIVISION

- 5.1 Provide technical assistance to NHAI for development of annual work plan for TB related activities.
- 5.2 Provide support for implementation of activities under the scope of collaboration.
- 5.3 Share relevant IEC material / training modules/NTEP Guidelines with NHAI.
- 5.4 Provide technical support for capacity building of nodal officers/concerned officials/ divisions under the purview of NHAI.
- 5.5 NTEP will provide drugs, diagnosis, patient support and monitoring support to all patients referred by department, autonomous institutions, offices, establishments of NHAI.

Article 6

6. EXECUTION OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

- 6.1 Both the parties will nominate one Nodal Officer each who will act as a focal point for their respective Ministry. The Nodal Officers will be responsible for
 - a) Finalization of the scope of collaboration between the parties and any subsequent modification to it
 - b) Development of implementation plan / strategies and indicators

- c) Facilitation for the effective execution of the implementation plan
- d) Regular monitoring of the indicators and course correction
- e) Periodic reporting of outputs and outcomes
- f) Any other relevant activity agreed upon by both the parties

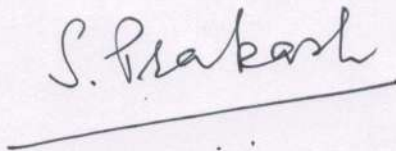
6.2 The modalities for operationalization of the MoU would be decided in accordance with the recommendation of the Nodal Officers.

6.3 Nodal Officers would meet on the quarterly basis. The parties can prescribe any modification or extension to the said frequency or period.

6.4 The MoU would be effective from the date 10th October, 2022 and any modification to the MoU is to be carried out by written agreement of both the parties.

The parties herein have appended their respective signatures on the day and the year stated below

SIGNED FOR AND ON BEHALF OF
NATIONAL HIGHWAYS AUTHORITY OF INDIA



SHRI SUNIL PRAKASH BHARDWAJ
CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER
NATIONAL HIGHWAY AUTHORITY OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND
HIGHWAYS
GOVERNEMENT OF INDIA
DATE: 10TH OCTOBER, 2022

SIGNED FOR AND ON BEHALF OF
CENTRAL TB DIVISION, MINISTRY OF HEALTH
AND FAMILY WELFARE



DR RAJENDRA P JOSHI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL (TB),
CENTRAL TB DIVISION,
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
GOVERNEMENT OF INDIA
DATE: 10TH OCTOBER, 2022

Acronyms

CTD	Central Tuberculosis Division
IEC	Information Education and Communication
MoH&FW	Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MoRTH	Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
NHAI	National Highways Authority of India
NTEP	National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme
PIU	Project Implementation Unit
RO	Regional Offices
TB	Tuberculosis
UTs	Union Territories

