# News Analysis (18 Oct, 2019)

## Global Tuberculosis Report 2019: WHO

The **World Health Organization (WHO)** has recently released its **2019 edition of the Global Tuberculosis (TB) Report.**

- The report provides a comprehensive and up-to-date assessment of the TB epidemic and progress in the response at global, regional and country levels for India.
- WHO has been publishing **global TB report every year since 1997.**

Key Findings



**On the decline**

India has performed better in countering tuberculosis, according to the World Health Organization's 2019 edition of the Global Tuberculosis Report

|  | 2017 | 2018 |
|---|---|---|
| Total TB incidence | 27.4 lakh | 26.9 lakh |
| TB incidence per 100,000 population | 204 | 199 |
| % of cases tested for rifampicin resistance among new patients | 32% | 46% |
| % of cases tested for rifampicin resistance among previously treated patients | 91% | 82% |

- **TB remains the top infectious killer** in the world claiming over 4,000 lives a day.
- **Number of TB Cases:**
    - Geographically, most TB cases in 2018 were in the WHO regions of South-East Asia (44%), Africa (24%) and the Western Pacific (18%).

- **High TB Burden Countries:**
  - Eight countries that accounted for **two thirds of the global total include India** (27%), China (9%) and Indonesia (8%).
  - The above countries are also in **WHO's list of 30 high TB burden countries** that accounted for 87% of the world's cases in 2018.
- **MultiDrug Resistant TB:**
  - In 2018, there were about half a million new cases of rifampicin-resistant TB (of which 78% had multidrug resistant TB).
  - The **three countries with the largest share of the global burden were India (27%),** China (14%) and the Russian Federation (9%).
- **TB Diagnosis:**
  - Globally, 7.0 million new cases of TB were notified in 2018 – an increase from 6.4 million in 2017.
  - Most of the increase in global notifications of TB cases since 2013 is **explained by trends in India and Indonesia,** the two countries that rank first and third worldwide in terms of estimated incident cases per year.
      - In India, notifications of new cases rose from 1.2 million to 2.0 million between 2013 and 2018 (+60%).
- **Concerns:**
  - Despite increases in TB notifications, there is **still a large gap** between the number of new cases reported (7.0 million) and the estimated 10.0 million incident cases in 2018.
  - This gap is due to a combination of **underreporting of detected cases** and **underdiagnosis** (i.e. people with TB do not access health care or are not diagnosed when they do).
  - **Ten countries accounted for about 80% of the gap, with India (25%),** Nigeria (12%), Indonesia (10%) and the Philippines (8%) accounting for more than half of the total.
- **TB Treatment Outcomes:**
    The latest treatment outcome data for new cases of TB show a global treatment **success rate of 85%** in 2017, an increase from 81% in 2016. The **improvement was mainly due to progress in India.**
- **Financing for TB Prevention:**
  - Funding for the provision of TB prevention, diagnostic and treatment services has doubled since 2006.
  - **In India, domestic funding quadrupled between 2016 and 2019.**

- **Suggestions:**
  - Annual financing for TB prevention and care and for TB research needs to approximately double.
  - **Access to TB care** and preventive treatment needs to be expanded.
  - Substantial costs faced by TB patients and their households should be mitigated.
  - Multisectoral action on the broader determinants of the TB epidemic needs to be intensified.
  - **Intensified research and development** is required to meet the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** and End TB Strategy targets set for 2030.
  - The End TB Strategy milestones for 2020 and 2025 can only be achieved if TB diagnosis, treatment and prevention services are provided within the context of progress towards **Universal Health Coverage (UHC).**
    - UHC means that everyone can obtain the health services they need without suffering financial hardship.
    - SDG Target 3.8 is to achieve UHC by 2030.

**WHO End TB Strategy**

- The strategy **aims to end the global TB epidemic,** with targets to reduce TB deaths by 95% and to cut new cases by 90% between 2015 and 2035, and to ensure that no family is burdened with catastrophic expenses due to TB.
- It **sets interim milestones** for 2020, 2025, and 2030.

**Source: TH**
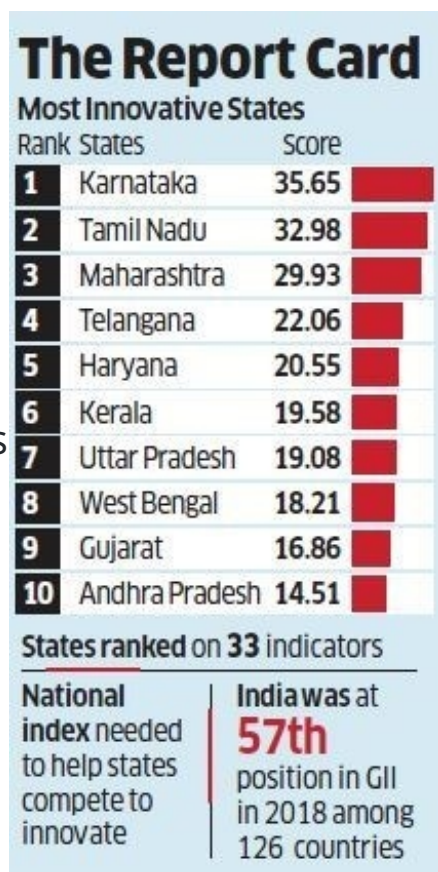
## India Innovation Index 2019

**NITI (National Institution for Transforming India) Ayog** with the **Institute for Competitiveness** has released the India Innovation Index 2019.

- The index, developed **on the lines of the Global Innovation Index,** would help the innovation ecosystem of Indian states and Union Territories (UTs) to design policies to drive innovation across regions.
  - For a country as large as India, the state of innovation needs to be understood at the regional level for effective policy formulation.
  - Based on the index each state needs to formulate its own policy, based on its unique resources and strengths and which caters to its specific needs.
- The index goes **beyond traditional approaches** for measuring innovation such as patents per million of population, publication in scientific journals, percentage of GDP spending on research and **adds parameters that are specific to the Indian economy (eg. Demographic dividend),** to give it a more **holistic coverage.**

- The India Innovation Index 2019 is calculated as the **average of the scores** of its two dimensions - **Enablers and Performance.**
  - The **Enablers** examine innovative capacities: Human Capital, Investment, Knowledge Workers, Business Environment, and Safety and Legal Environment.
    - The **Performance** captures benefits that a nation derives from the inputs: Knowledge Output and Knowledge Diffusion.

Key Findings

**The Report Card**

**Most Innovative States**

| Rank | States | Score | |
|------|--------|-------|---|
| 1 | Karnataka | 35.65 | |
| 2 | Tamil Nadu | 32.98 | |
| 3 | Maharashtra | 29.93 | |
| 4 | Telangana | 22.06 | |
| 5 | Haryana | 20.55 | |
| 6 | Kerala | 19.58 | |
| 7 | Uttar Pradesh | 19.08 | |
| 8 | West Bengal | 18.21 | |
| 9 | Gujarat | 16.86 | |
| 10 | Andhra Pradesh | 14.51 | |

**States ranked** on **33** indicators

| **National index** needed to help states compete to innovate | **India was** at **57th** position in GII in 2018 among 126 countries |
|---|---|

- The states have been bifurcated into three categories:
  - Major states,
  - North-east and hill states,
  - Union territories/Small states
- **Karnataka** emerged **topper in the overall rankings** in the **category of major states.** with Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra in the second and third positions.
  - Karnataka's top position is partly attributed to its top rank in the Performance dimension.
  - It is also among the top performers in Infrastructure, Knowledge Workers, Knowledge Output and Business Environment.
- **Maharashtra** performs the **best** in the **dimension of Enablers.**
  - This implies that it has the best enabling environment for innovation, even though the state comes in at the third position in the overall innovation index.
- The top ten major states are **majorly concentrated in southern and western India.**

- Among the **North-Eastern states and Union territories, Sikkim and Delhi** occupy the top spots respectively.
- **Delhi, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Telangana,** and **Uttar Pradesh** are the **most efficient states** in translating inputs into output.
- In terms of **attracting investment, Karnataka** topped the index among major states, followed by Maharashtra, Haryana, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Telangana, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh.
    - **Bihar, Jharkhand, and Punjab** were the **least attractive states** for investment.
    - Among **North East and the Hill States, Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh, and Tripura** were the top three states; while among the **UTs, Lakshadweep, Delhi and Goa were the top three regions.**

## Way Forward

- There is a need to broaden and improve the capability of top rung educational institutions in the country to produce greater innovation outputs.
- Increased spending on research and development with greater collaboration between the industry and educational institutions may help to enhance innovation capability.
- A collaborative platform consisting of all the stakeholders of innovation - innovators, researchers, and investors from the industry should be developed.
    - It will help to strengthen the industry-academia linkages and will ease the process of technology transfer by providing a platform for innovators to showcase their inventions.

**Source: PIB**

# EX-EASTERN BRIDGE-V

Indian Air Force (IAF) is participating in the joint bilateral exercise **EX EASTERN BRIDGE V** with Royal Air Force Oman (RAFO).

The exercise is being held at the **Air Force Base Masirah, Oman.**

## About Exercise

- IAF contingent comprises of MiG-29 and C-17 aircraft. It would be the first time that MIG-29 fighter aircraft will be participating in an International Exercise outside India.
- The last **EX EASTERN BRIDGE-IV** exercise was conducted in 2017 at Jamnagar, India.

## Significance

- The exercise will enhance interoperability during mutual cooperation between two Air Force.
- The exercise will also promote exchange of experience and operational knowledge, and will promote professional interaction.

**Other Exercises Between India and Oman**

- **Naseem Al-Bahr** is the **naval exercise** conducted between both the countries.
- **AL Nagah** is the joint bilateral exercise between the armies of two countries.

## GOAL (Going Online as Leaders)

The second phase of GOAL (Going Online as Leaders) has been jointly launched by the **Ministry of Tribal Affairs and Facebook to digitally mentor 5000 young women** in India's **tribal-dominated districts.**

- The GOAL is a **Facebook program** aimed at guiding and encouraging **tribal girls from across India** to become **village-level digital young leaders** for their communities
  - The programme will help to connect underprivileged young tribal women with senior expert mentors in the areas of business, fashion and arts to learn digital and life skills.
  - It will also provide economically and socially marginalized young women with the tools and guidance for the development of livelihood skills.

- It will help **to close the digital gender gap** by enabling more women to get online and access digital services.

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# Dar es Salaam and Zanzibar

As part of the Indian Navy's Overseas Deployment, **four indigenously built ships** of the Indian Navy are visiting the ports at **Dar es Salaam** and **Zanzibar** located in Tanzania.

Zanzibar

- Zanzibar an island in the Indian Ocean, is located **off the coast of east-central Africa.**
    - In **1964** Zanzibar, Pemba Island and some other smaller islands joined to form the **United Republic of Tanzania.**
- It is located on the Indian Ocean trade routes making it accessible to both traders and colonists from Arabia, South Asia, and the African mainland.
- Zanzibar and Pemba are believed to have once formed part of the **African continent.**
    - The raised sands and sandstones with varied residual deposits are found on Zanzibar and Pemba islands which are similar to the alluvial deposits present on the African mainland

## Dar es Salaam

- It is the **largest city and economic capital of Tanzania.**
- It is located in a bay off the **Indian Ocean coast.**
- The city has developed into the **economic importance of the entire East African region.**

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