

NEWS AT A GLANCE

REACH is working relentlessly since 1999 to eradicate Tuberculosis from India. Our mandate is to provide support, care and treatment for TB patients as well as to become a pioneer in Tuberculosis research, advocacy, public education and communication.



REACH focuses on Paediatric TB

Chennai, 2017: In this quarter, REACH broadened its vision to tackle the issue of Paediatric TB. The EQUIP Initiative collaborated with a leading multi-specialty children's hospital – Kanchi Kamakoti Child Trust Hospital – with the aim to facilitate early diagnosis and treatment of TB in Children. REACH officials conducted a sensitization event for doctors at the hospital. Read the full report [here](#).

REACH woman champion empowers community

Chennai, 2017: Woman Champion, Manjula Devi, honoured by the State and District TB Cells for her contribution and service in TB control is working tirelessly with REACH to empower the community. Devi runs a pharmacy in Chennai and has been a part of the Pharmacy Initiative since 2013. In this quarter, Devi organised three community meetings in her area and sensitized around 85 people. She has referred many patients and has been acting as DOTS provider to several others. Devi has been an advocate of the pharmacy initiative and has encouraged many women pharmacists in her area to be involved in the project.



Local football clubs join hands to spread TB awareness

Villupuram, 2017: Rotary club and District TB forum jointly organised the state's sports meet in collaboration with the local football club to spread awareness about TB. Project Axshya community volunteers and Villupuram TB forum utilised the opportunity to disseminate information on TB through the event and initiate a mass awareness campaign, which caught the attention of the local media. Forum members collected local funds and developed flex boards containing TB information. The District TB officer Dr. Sudhakar was invited as the chief guest of the event. As many as 20 clubs from across the state participated in the week-long-event. A football tournament was organised for football clubs with players under 14 years of age across Tamil Nadu.



Contact tracing initiative begins integration with RNTCP

Chennai, 2017: REACH has begun integration of active contact screening initiative to the RNTCP program. Under the initiative, the REACH team supports in the screening of patients' household contacts registered with the Chennai Corporation. REACH team along with the District TB Officer held the transition meeting for the health visitors in the program.



REACH sensitizes TB patients under private sector on their roles and responsibilities

Chennai, 2017: Project Axshya held its first-ever Patient Charter Sensitization meeting for those undergoing treatment in the private sector. District TB officer, Dr Suber khan facilitated the meet, in which the participants were sensitized about the roles and responsibilities of TB patients. After the meeting, REACH conducted patient profiling, which resulted in seven patients being referred to undergo diagnosis. Nutritional supplements were provided to the patients as part of the initiative. Axshya's earlier Patient Charter Sensitization meetings focused on the patients under the public sector.



REACH conducts regional capacity-building workshop for TB Survivors and Advocates from six countries

New Delhi, April 2017: TB survivors and advocates from India, Indonesia, Vietnam, the Philippines, Cambodia and Bangladesh met in New Delhi from April 10-13 to take part in a first-of-its-kind capacity building workshop. The four-day workshop organised by REACH, in partnership with USAID and the Stop TB Partnership, brought together 32 people from six countries. The participants shared personal stories and experiences on TB, documented the systemic and societal barriers they faced, transformed the barriers they faced into concrete advocacy strategies and goals, and discussed the power of community-driven advocacy to change the status quo in TB. You can [download the workshop in detail here](#). You can also [download and read](#) the full narrative report of the workshop.



'Touched by TB' - the coalition of TB people in India formed

New Delhi, 2017: During the Regional Capacity-Building Workshop for TB Survivors, participants from India held several discussions on the urgent need for a network or coalition of those affected by TB. This has since resulted in the formation of Touched by TB-The Coalition of TB People in India. Click [here](#) to read the full report.

Six-month advocacy mentorship programme rolled out

New Delhi, June 2017: In keeping with REACH's mandate to facilitate a greater role for trained, committed TB advocates, an advocacy mentorship programme has been launched. This mentorship programme is open to TB survivors and those who have been directly affected by the disease, and are keen to assume the role of advocates. Over a six-month period, each advocate will develop and implement, with the support of a mentor, a strategic advocacy plan with clear goals, objectives and activities, tailored to their individual contexts. REACH will provide support to the advocate through the mentorship period.



REACH IN NEWS

- [Focus on eradication of TB](#)
- ['Nurses play a major role in TB treatment'](#)
- [India has a drug-resistant tuberculosis crisis but lacks the right tools to detect cases](#)



TB IN THE MEDIA

- [The challenges of treating drug-resistant TB in India](#)
- [Faltering in the TB fight](#)
- [Liquor ban in Bihar hits TB diagnosis, Centre writes to state](#)
- [Indian Scientist Develops New Approach To Combat Tuberculosis](#)
- [Drug-resistant TB higher among children than expected: report](#)
- [Indigenous kit may cut TB test cost by 50%, trials underway](#)
- [Assam's TB control best in country](#)
- [What Killed Half a Million Indians?](#)
- [Threadworm infection can lead to active TB](#)
- [TB's hidden links](#)

Champions Speak

“ After going through the treatment, I realized that TB is not much of a hardship. There are so many bigger problems in life.”

Mutum Tilak Singh
TB Champion