



## **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

**This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is signed on  
25<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020**

**Between**

**Ministry of Labour and Employment**

**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 28 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.

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 Ministry of Labour and Employment are hereinafter referred to together as "the parties"

## **Article 1**

### **1. CENTRAL TB DIVISION, MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

- 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.
- 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 Committee, MoHFW aims to reach key populations served by various Ministries such as workers, miners, migrants, tribal population, women and children etc.

## **Article 2**

### **2. MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

- 2.1** The Ministry of Labour and Employment's main responsibility is to protect and safeguard the interests of workers in general and those who constitute the poor, deprived and disadvantage sections of the society, in particular, with due regard to creating a healthy work environment for higher production and productivity and to develop and coordinate vocational skill training and employment services. Further, there is a focus on promotion of welfare and providing social security to the labour force both in organized and unorganized sectors, in tandem with the process of liberalization. The Ministry achieves these objectives through enactment and implementation of various labour laws, which regulate the terms and conditions of service and employment of workers.
- 2.2** Prestigious autonomous institutions and organizations such as V. V. Giri Labour Institute (VVGLI), Dattopant Thengadi National Board for Workers Education and Development, Office of The Chief Labour Commissioner, Employee's State Insurance Scheme (ESIC), and



Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO), Directorate General, Factory Advice Service and Labour Institutes (DGFASLI) and Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) are attached to the Ministry of Labour and Employment.

### **Article 3**

#### **3. OBJECTIVES OF THE MOU**

- 3.1** To mainstream TB patients in India and to bring missing cases under TB care
- 3.2** To create an enabling environment for people with TB or affected by TB in both organized and unorganized sectors
- 3.3** To forge convergence at policy, programme and implementation level across the parties for an accelerated response towards Ending TB in India

### **Article 4**

#### **4. AREAS OF WORK**

- 4.1** Promotion of workplace policy on TB and technical support for its implementation across various ministries / departments / private organizations
- 4.2** Identification and capacity building of resource persons who will drive TB related interventions in unorganized sector through institutions under MoLE

## **Article 5**

### **5. ROLE OF CENTRAL TB DIVISION**

- 5.1** Provide technical support and assistance to the MoLE, including State Labour Departments, Employers Organizations' and Trade Unions for effective implementation of scope of collaboration
- 5.2** Share relevant IEC material and training modules on TB with the MoLE, also to provide technical support to social partners and Labour Departments at the State level on TB

## **Article 6**

### **6. ROLE OF MINISTRY OF LABOUR & EMPLOYMENT**

- 6.1** Collaboration with the Directorate General of Mines Safety for issuing guidelines for the harmonized management of TB in the mining sector. focusing on treatment protocols, diagnostics, referral linkages and socio-economic support to TB patients
- 6.2** Introduction of a module on TB in the training programmes of MoLE institutions
- 6.3** Integration of TB service in the health infrastructure (dispensaries and hospitals) under ESIC
- 6.4** In both organized and unorganized sectors, engaging labour unions for TB elimination efforts

## Article 7

### 7. EXECUTION OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

**7.1** The modalities for operationalization of the MoU would be decided in accordance with the recommendation of the National Steering Committee\*

**7.2** The MoU would be effective from the date 25<sup>th</sup> September 2020 and any modification to the MoU is to be carried out by written agreement of both the parties.

*\*National Steering Committee (NSC) is formed involving all the stakeholders including Central TB Division functional under MoLE for implementation of HIV Prevention policy at workplace.*

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

SIGNED FOR AND ON BEHALF OF-  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE



NAME: Shri Vikas Sheel  
DESIGNATION: Joint Secretary, MoHFW, Gol  
DATE: 25<sup>th</sup> Sep 2020

SIGNED FOR AND ON BEHALF OF-  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT



NAME: Shri Ram Kumar Gupta  
DESIGNATION: Joint Secretary, MoLE, Gol  
DATE: 25<sup>th</sup> Sep 2020