



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed on
2nd day September 2022

Between

Associated Chambers of Commerce & Industry of India
(ASSOCHAM)

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. 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 is the vulnerable population who battle poverty, malnutrition, poor hygiene, stigma, loss of wages, poor housing and working conditions and occupational hazards, etc. Such multi-faceted issues are beyond the ambit of health system alone. It calls for a comprehensive solution 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 Associated Chambers of Commerce & Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) 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 National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme (NTEP) 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. Associated Chambers of Commerce & Industry of India (ASSOCHAM)

- 2.1 The Associated Chambers of Commerce & Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) is the country's oldest apex chamber. It has huge network of more than 4,50,000 members, of which MSMEs represent a large segment. It has also more than 400 associations, federations and regional chambers.
- 2.2 Aligned with the vision of creating a New India, ASSOCHAM works as a conduit between the industry and the Government. The Chamber is an agile and forward looking institution, leading various initiatives to enhance the global competitiveness of the Indian industry, while strengthening the domestic ecosystem.

Article 3

3. OBJECTIVE

- 3.1 To forge convergence at policy, programme and implementation levels across the various offices under the purview of ASSOCHAM, associate offices for multi-sectoral and accelerated response towards TB-Free India.
- 3.2 To catalyze private sector participation and engagement of member industries for TB Free workplace.
- 3.3 Develop referral model and assimilate ecosystems that can enable effective screening and treatment of TB for the work force

Article 4

4. SCOPE OF COLLABORATION

- 4.1 The thematic areas for collaboration are listed below –
 - a) Awareness generation to boost TB-Free India campaign.
 - b) Adoption of TB workplace policy and workplace intervention (TB Free Workplace) by ASSOCHAM, associate offices/ subsidiaries and member industries.
 - c) Adoption of Corporate TB Pledge (CTP).
 - d) Airborne infection control in workplace including social distancing, masks, sanitization etc.
 - e) Promote TB screening, develop referral and linkages with NTEP for diagnosis, and treatment & care of TB patients engaged in various industries.

4.2 Suggested activities at the workplace

- ✓ Adoption of TB Workplace Policy, Routine screening for Employees/ workers for TB & quarterly screening for people with co-morbid condition like diabetes, tobacco consumption

- ✓ Measures for airborne infection control in workplace through sanitation & respiratory hygiene among staff/ workers.
- ✓ Ensure linkages to diagnosis and treatment for the symptomatic persons
- ✓ If someone has TB
 - a) support treatment adherence & cover out of pocket expenditure
 - b) ensure adequate nutrition
 - c) support in the form of workplace policy like leave, reducing stigma etc
- ✓ Adoption of TB Workplace Policy/ Corporate TB Pledge by member industries
- ✓ Display of TB related IEC materials for wider dissemination.

4.3 Suggested activities at the outside workplace

- ✓ Generate TB awareness in the community.
- ✓ Awareness promotion through Social Media Campaigns
- ✓ Collaborate with State/ District TB teams and extend support for elimination of TB.
- ✓ Prioritize TB related activities and intervention in vulnerable communities through CSR.
- ✓ Adopt a village/ block/ cluster for collective action for TB elimination.
- ✓ Mobile Van for community awareness and outreach in urban and rural clusters.

4.4 Both offices shall appoint the nodal officers for steering the collaborative activities. The discretion lies with both the offices to modify, amend and expand the scope of collaboration.

4.5 Activities further to be extended beyond workplace for promotion of TB Mukh Bharat Campaign, adoption of clusters/ villages/ block/ town towards TB elimination.



Article 5

5. ROLE OF CENTRAL TB DIVISION

- 5.1 Provide technical assistance to ASSOCHAM, associated/ subordinate offices 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 Provide technical support for capacity building of nodal officer/ concerned officials of ASSOCHAM, subordinate offices & member industries.
- 5.4 Share relevant IEC material /training modules/ NTEP Guidelines with ASSOCHAM, associate offices and member industries.
- 5.5 All services and incentives as per NTEP and guidelines are applicable when service are availed by any patient who are engaged by various establishments, units of ASSOCHAM and member industries.
- 5.6 NTEP will provide drugs, diagnosis, patient support and monitoring support to all TB patients referred by ASSOCHAM, associate offices and member industries.

Article 6

6. ROLE OF ASSOCHAM

Issuance of Advisory to associate offices/ members industries

- 6.1 Issuance of advisory from ASSOCHAM to associate & subordinate offices and member industries for prioritizing TB awareness, prevention and control activities.



- 6.2 Issuance of advisory to associate/ subordinate offices and member industries for adoption of TB workplace policy and Corporate TB Pledge.

Facilitate the process for corporates engagement

- 6.3 Facilitate the process through corporate consultation/ meetings to enhance Industries' engagements and participation in NTEP and further coordination with CTD/State TB Cell/ District TB Cell.

Information Education and Communication (IEC)

- 6.4 Promote awareness activities, TB screening & diagnosis at workplace and linkages with NTEP for notification of TB patients, treatment & care.
- 6.5 Inclusion of messages on TB awareness & prevention, TB related services through various possible channels, print materials, social media handles for wide dissemination wherever is possible.

Active Case Finding (ACF) and Linkages with NTEP

- 6.6 Promotion of awareness & prevention activities, Active Case Finding (ACF) and management of TB in vulnerable communities through Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).
- 6.7 Encourage corporates & member industries for Corporate Led Project/ CSR intervention for awareness and TB management in rural & vulnerable clusters.

Adoption of Workplace Policy and Corporate TB Pledge

- 6.8 Adoption of Workplace policy and intervention to address tuberculosis and TB related co-morbidities at the workplace and community level.
- 6.9 Prioritize and promote activities to address TB at the workplace and beyond (outside workplace/communities)
- 6.10 Recognition, acknowledgement and appreciation to member industries for their contribution and support extend to NTEP.



Sharing of Information

- 6.11 Sharing the progress on activities carried out with CTD, State TB Cell (STC), District TB Centre.

Article 7

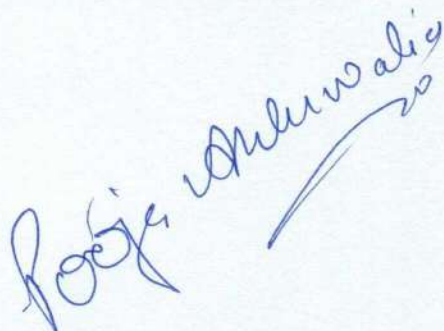
7. EXECUTION OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

- 7.1 Both the parties will nominate Nodal Officer who will act as a focal point. A Joint Working Group (JWG) would be constituted in order to provide guidance and support for work plan and intervention. The Nodal Officers/ JWG 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
- 7.2 The modalities for operationalization of the MoU would be decided in accordance with the recommendation of the Joint Working Group/ Nodal Officers.
- 7.3 Meeting of Joint working Group would meet at least quarterly. The parties can prescribe any modification or extension to the said frequency or period.
- 7.4 The MoU would be effective from the date 2nd September 2022 and valid till December 2025, 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
ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE &
INDUSTRY OF INDIA (ASSOCHAM)



MS POOJA AHLUWALIA
ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL
ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE &
INDUSTRY OF INDIA (ASSOCHAM)
DATE: 2nd SEPTEMBER 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 & FAMILY WELFARE
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DATE: 2nd SEPTEMBER 2022

Acronyms

ACF	Active Case Finding
ASSOCHAM	Associated Chambers of Commerce & Industry of India
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
CTD	Central TB Division
CTP	Corporate TB Pledge
DTC	District Tuberculosis Centre
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
JWG	Joint Working Group
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MoH&FW	Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
NTEP	National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme
STC	State Tuberculosis Cell
TB	Tuberculosis
UT	Union Territories

