

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5715
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04th APRIL, 2025**

MICROSCOPY DIAGNOSIS OF TUBERCULOSIS

5715. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY:

Will the **Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is true that microscopy diagnosis of TB could pick up only about 150 TB cases out of 1 lakh people so tested as per National TB Prevalence Survey and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is also true that molecular diagnosis or tests like Cartridge Based Nucleic Acid Amplification Test (CBNAAT) pick up nearly 300 TB cases out of 1 lakh people so tested and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the efforts being made by the Government to conduct molecular diagnosis in all districts of the country; and
- (d) whether any separate budget has been provided for molecular diagnosis for TB and, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)**

(a) to (d) The National TB Prevalence Survey (NaTBPS) in India was conducted from 2019 to 2021 by Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR). The survey found that smear microscopy could detect 160 TB cases per lakh population while NAAT could detect 301 TB cases per lakh population.

The number of NAAT laboratories have been scaled up from 121 in 2015 to 8,540 in 2025, to strengthen the molecular diagnostic capacity across all districts of the country under National TB Elimination Programme (NTEP).

The budget allocated under National Health Mission (NHM) for NTEP in all States/UTs includes the budget for strengthening molecular laboratories. The details of allocated budget in last three year, to carryout NTEP activities, are as under:

Financial allocation under NTEP	
Financial Year	Allocation (Rs. in crores)
2022-23	1666.33*
2023-24	1888.82*
2024-25	2090.53*

* The allocation and expenditure exclude cash grants to States/UTs, which are being released by NHM directly to States/ UTs concerned as a common pool i.e. RCH Flexible Pool which includes NTEP.
