Pradhan Mantri TB Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan

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<u>In news</u>— Recently, President of India virtually launched the Pradhan Mantri TB Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan(campaign).

About the campaign-

- Objectives of the initiatives are:
 - Provide additional patient support to improve treatment outcomes of TB patients.
 - Augment community involvement in meeting India's commitment to end TB by 2025.
 - Leverage Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities.
- The President also launched the Ni-kshay Mitra initiative which forms a vital component of the `Abhiyaan'.
- The Ni-kshay Mitra portal provides a platform for donors to provide various forms of support to those undergoing TB treatment.
- The three-pronged support includes nutritional, additional diagnostic, and vocational support.
- The donors, called Ni-kshay Mitras, could be a wide range of stakeholders from elected representatives, political parties, to corporates, NGOs, and individuals.
- The launch event aims to highlight the need for a societal approach that brings together people from all backgrounds into a `Jan Andolan' to achieve the ambitious target of eliminating TB from the country by 2025.
- According to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, all nations have set the goal of eradicating TB by the year 2030.
- But the Government of India has set the target of

eradicating TB by the year 2025 and efforts are being made at every level to fulfill this resolution.

<u>What is Tuberculosis (TB)?</u>

- TB is a contagious infection, in which the TB bacteria attack the lungs, but they can attack any part of the body such as the kidney, spine, and brain.
- Latent TB doesn't have symptoms, in which case, a skin or blood test can verify its presence.
- Signs of active TB disease include: A cough that lasts more than 3 weeks, Chest pain, Coughing up blood, Feeling tired all the time, Night sweats, Chills, Fever, Loss of appetite, Weight loss.