

# World AIDS day, 2021

December 2, 2021

**In news**– Every year, December 1 is observed as World AIDS Day across the globe.

## **About World AIDS day-**

- It seeks to spread awareness about AIDS and remember all those who lost their lives to it.
- It was **first observed in 1988.**
- It was first observed by James W. Bunn and Thomas Netter (public information officers for the AIDS Global Program of the WHO), who tried to get some likelihood of control over the pandemic and spread awareness about the same.
- **The theme for the year 2021 is:** 'End inequalities, End AIDS'.
- With a **special focus on reaching people left behind**, WHO and its partners are highlighting the growing inequalities in access to essential HIV services.

## **Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS)-**

- AIDS is a chronic, potentially life-threatening health condition caused by the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) that interferes with the body's ability to fight infections.
- The human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) targets the immune system and weakens people's defense against many infections and some types of cancer that people with healthy immune systems can fight off.
- The most advanced stage of HIV infection is acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), which can take many years to develop if not treated, depending on the individual.
- HIV is spread primarily by unprotected sex, contaminated blood transfusions, hypodermic needles, and from mother to child during pregnancy, delivery, or breastfeeding.

- In 1986, India detected its first case of Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS), caused by the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV).