TB Forum for Community Engagement

RNTCP will facilitate creation of TB forums at the district level to empower and engage TB affected community. The TB Forum would comprise of 10-15 members from different sectors (Persona affected by TB (TB Champions), civil society, media, government officials, key stakeholders etc). Constituted by TB patients (cured or on treatment) and community leaders the forums give a voice to the affected community and advocate with the programme managers for resolution of challenges faced by TB patients in accessing TB services. TB forum act as bridge between community, TB patient, health system and civil society along with advocacy activities to influence policy changes for accessible, affordable, supportive TB-services to entire population with special focus on poor and vulnerable groups.

Objectives of the TB forum:

- To engage with policymakers and implementers to ensure justice, rights and dignity of TB patients for effective service delivery
- To supplement and complement government initiatives to enforce TB patient- friendly law, policy and programs.
- To reduce stigma and discrimination and ensure social security of TB patients, survivors and their families
- To improve awareness on various government schemes, provisions, facilities available for TB patients and to improve treatment literacy and adherence among TB patients
- To engage in evidence base advocacy with the stakeholders to expand services

State TB Forum

Composition of State TB forum is as under:

1.	Principal Secretary / Secretary HFW, State Govt.	Chairperson
2.	Mission Director (NHM),	Co- Chair
3.	Project Director, SACS	Member
4.	Director Health Services	Member
5.	WHO Representative – TB Consultant	Member
6.	State Chairman/Secretary, Tuberculosis Association of India	Member
7.	Public Health Foundation of India / any reputed public health institute	Member
8.	State President, Indian Medical Association	Member
9.	Professor of Pulmonary Medicine of Medical College	Member
10.	Professor of Community Medicine of Medical College	Member
11.	Two Representative of reputed local NGO/CSO on rotation basis	Member
12.	One Representative from RNTCP Partner on rotation basis (REACH/UNION/CHAI/PATH/FIND/WHP/KHPT)	Member
13.	Representative of Network of PLHIV	Member
14.	Five TB Patient Representatives (Past TB patients / Family members)	Member
15.	Representative of Corporate Sector/Industry/PSU	Member
16.	State TB Officer	Member Secretary
17.	Representative from SACS	Member
18.	Representative from NPCDCS	Member
19.	Representative from SPMU	Member
20.	Representative from RCH	Member
21.	Representative from NUHM	Member

Term of References of the State TB Forum is as follows

1. To advice on strategies for engaging communities affected by TB and increasing community participation in TB program through formation of network of people affected by TB

2. To periodically review progress of involvement of community and network of people affected by TB
3. Highlighting the concerns and needs of TB patients, to work with Government and a broad range of individuals and organisations to develop better, and more responsive, health services.
4. Advocating for greater and more equitable access to quality, accurate and independent information for patients to focus at reducing health inequalities and by campaigning for patients to have the right to be involved in decision-making.
5. Enabling a dialogue between all stakeholders involved in a TB patient's care such as government (including local self-government), medical and paramedical associations, industry, the medical insurance companies, private healthcare providers and diagnostic centres.
6. Create and manage resources to sustain and accelerate TB prevention, control, care and treatment services through community engagement and network of people affected by TB
7. Facilitate nutritional support, linkages with social welfare schemes, rehabilitation of several TB patients.
8. Grievance Redressal
9. Meetings will be convened at every six months

Composition of District TB forum is as under:

1.	District Magistrate	Chairperson
2.	Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Parishad	Co-Chair
3.	District Development Officer	Member
4.	Chief Medical/Health Officer	Member
5.	WHO Representative – TB Consultant	Member
6.	Representative of Tuberculosis Association of India	Member
7.	Pulmonologist or Community Medicine Professor of Medical College	Member
8.	District President, Indian Medical Association	Member
9.	Two Representatives of reputed local NGO/CSO on rotation basis	Member
10.	Representative from RNTCP Partner on rotation basis (REACH/UNION/CHAI/PATH/FIND/WHP/KHPT)	Member
11.	Five TB Patient Representatives (Past TB patients / Family members)	Member
12.	Representative of District Level Network of PLHIV	Member
13.	Representative from Officer from RCH who manages NGOs	Member
14.	District TB Officer	Member Secretary
15.	PRI member (Zilla parishad/BDC/Panchayat)	Member
16.	Journalist	Member
17.	Advocate	Member
18.	Representative from corporate sector	Member

Term of References of the District TB Forum is as follows

1. To advice on strategies for engaging communities affected by TB and increasing community participation in TB program through formation of network of people affected by TB
2. To periodically review progress of involvement of community and network of people affected by TB
3. Highlighting the concerns and needs of TB patients, to work with Government and a broad range of individuals and organisations to develop better, and more responsive, health services.

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