



National AIDS Control Organisation

India's response to HIV & Sexually Transmitted Infections
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India
www.naco.gov.in



Transgender people and the path to 2025 targets: Reducing Health Inequalities through Tailored and Systemic Responses

**Dr. Shobini Rajan, Deputy Director General,
National AIDS Control Organisation(NACO),
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India**

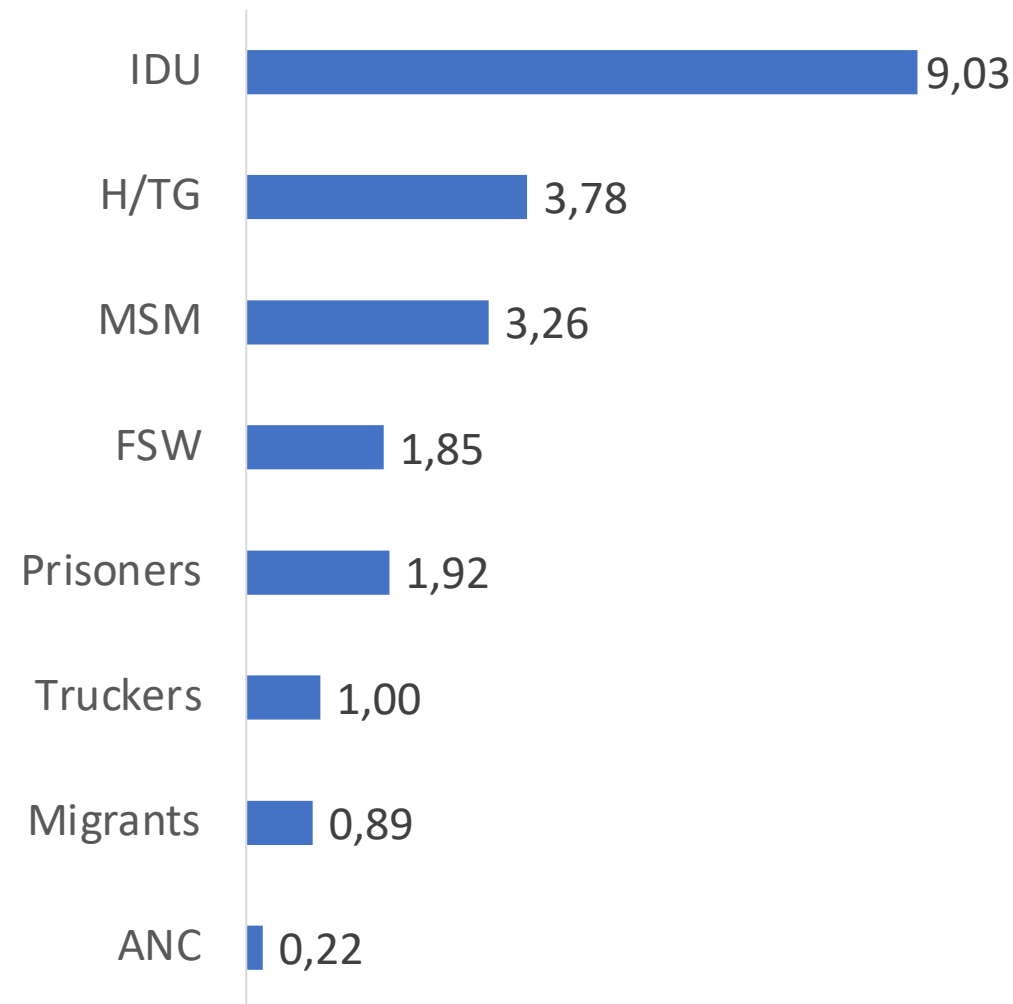
- NACO under the aegis of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India (GoI) implements NACP
- NACP is the World's largest and most comprehensive HIV programme

Indicator	Global (2021)	India (2022)
People living with HIV (All ages)	38.4 million	2.4 million
New HIV Infections (All ages)	1.5 million	66,400
PLHIV on ART	28 million*	1.7 million**
AIDS-Related Deaths	.6 million	39,600

* As on December 2021, **As on April 2023 including .1 million in private sector

- ✓ Concentrated epidemic
- ✓ Low Prevalence Country (Adult Prevalence=0.20%)
- ✓ 2nd Largest No. of PLHIV in the world
- ✓ Female: 45% of PLHIV; Children: 2.75% of PLHIV

HIV Prevalence (%) in different population groups in India (2021)





Participation in High level Meetings / Memberships

- NHRC Core committee meeting of LGBTQI
- Member of Niti Ayog Sub Group of LGBTQI
- Member of National Council for Transgender Persons

Collaborations and Partnerships

- All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi for Setting up of Gender Affirmation Care centre
- World Professional Association for Transgender Health
- Association for Transgender Health in India
- Indian Academy of Paediatrics
- India Network for Sexual Minorities
- SANGATH

2008
-09

Covered through social contracting (Targeted Intervention (TI) projects) under National AIDS Control Programme (NACP), Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India

2012

Transgender Persons included in Census of India – First time in India (By Ministry of Home Affairs)

2018-
20

Decriminalisation of Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code on homosexual relations (Hon'ble Supreme Court of India)
Enactment of Transgender Persons (Protection and Rights) Act-2019 (By MoSJE)
Creation of Transgender Social Welfare Boards in the States

2021-
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Creation of a National Portal for Transgender Persons (By MoSJE)
Introduction of SMILE Scheme (By MoSJE)
Establishment of *Garima Griha* or Dignity homes (By MoSJE)

Evolution of TG interventions under NACP

(Till 2012)

- TG covered under Targeted intervention (TI)
- Prioritisation of TG /Hijra Population - Standalone Targeted interventions for TG/Hijra
- HIV Sentinel Surveillance among Transgender Persons

(2013-2015)

- Conducted mapping of TG/Hijra Population in India-2013
- Formation of Technical Resource Group (TRG) for Transgender Interventions -2014
- Integrated Bio Behavioural Surveillance (IBBS) 2014-15

(2016-2018)

- Operational Guidelines for “ Implementing Targeted Intervention among Hijra and Transgender people in India’
- Enactment of HIV/AIDS Act 2017

(2019- 2021)

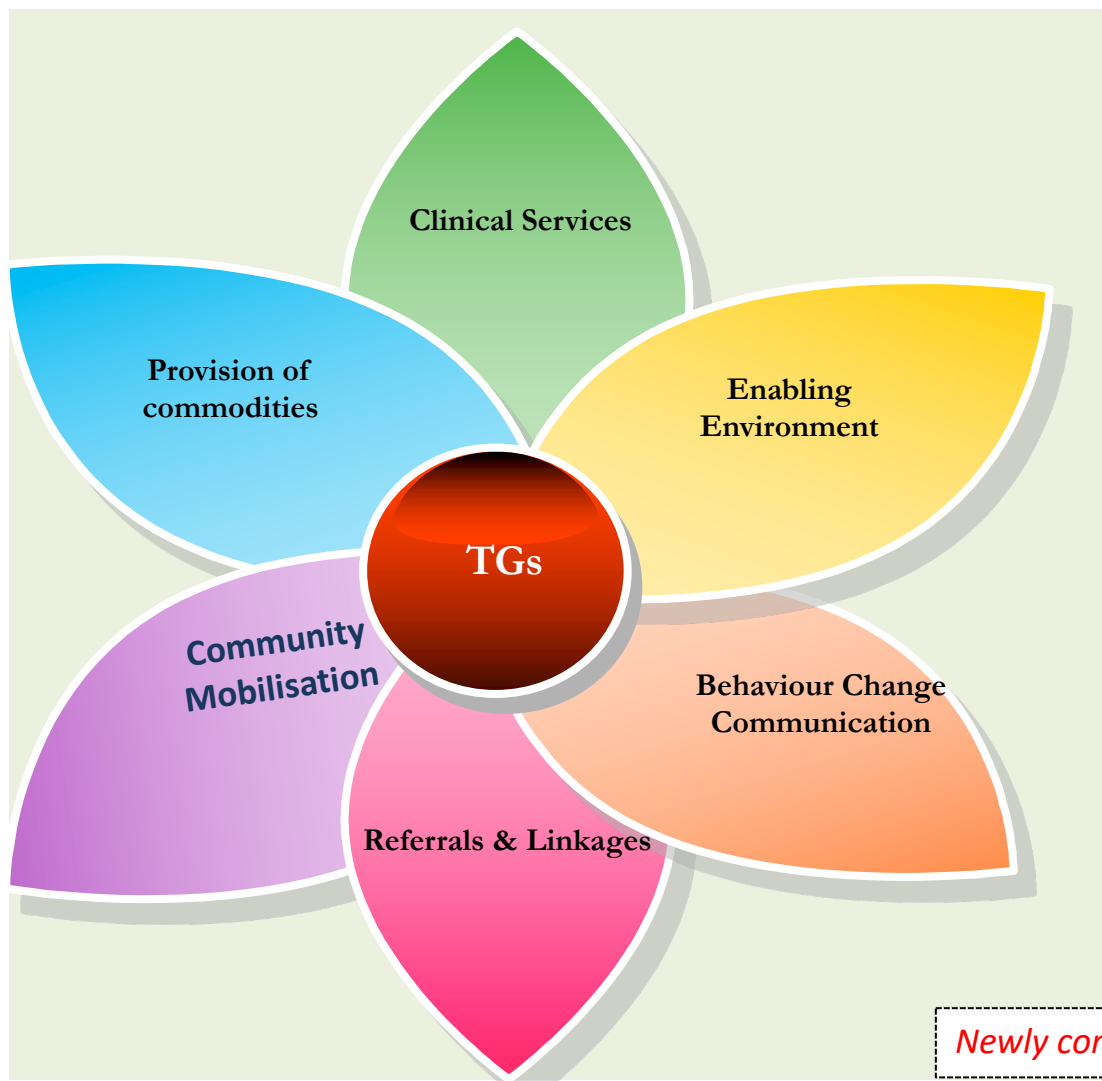
- Revamping Prevention Programme (Targeted Intervention) -2019
- Integration with Mental Health organizations
- Community System Strengthening
- Fresh Mapping and Population Size Estimation
- Virtual Intervention

(2022 – till date)

- White Paper on Comprehensive Health Related Services for Transgender Persons
- One Stop Centre
- Establishment of CoE for GAC in AIIMS, New Delhi

Service Provision for Transgender Persons under NACP

Covered under
Targeted Intervention /Link Worker Scheme



Targeted Interventions
(Under 306 Targeted Intervention)
Exclusive - 43,
Core composite - 263

Estimation	Coverage
70,000 (Mapping 2013-14)	65,000 (as on March 2023)

- Regular Medical Check ups
- Management of STI/RTIs
- Counselling for Behavior change
- HIV testing and treatment services (Self, spouse & Partner)
- TB screening and referral services
- Provision of commodities - Condoms and Lubes
- Linkages to ART Centre (Adherence- Viral Load Testing)
- Provision of Drop-in-centre (DIC) as safe space
- Access to social protection schemes
- Stigma free services

Newly conducted Mapping and Population Size Estimation (p-MPSE) estimates a total of ~ 95,000

Newer Initiatives for Transgender Persons under NACP Phase V

Sampoorna Suraksha Strategy

One Stop Centre

Community Systems Strengthening

Virtual Interventions

- Establishment of National Centre Of Excellence (CoE) for Transgender Persons for Gender Affirmation Care at Delhi
- Revision of Medical Curriculum for Gender Sensitive Health Care
- Capacity Building of Health Care Professionals to Provide Gender Sensitive health care
- White paper on comprehensive health related services for Transgender persons
- Pilot of Community Led Monitoring Tools under CSS Initiatives

Way Forward

- Building greater coordination between related Ministries/Department and States to address the response
- Increase coverage of adolescent/ underage TG population (below 18 years sexually active TG) through interventions
- Awareness generation on issues/ challenges of Transgender persons, Sex and Sexuality and Transgender Act
- Reaching out to hidden and unreached population which are operating through virtual platform
- Exploring substance use and other associated risk behaviour of TG population
- Reduce stigma and discrimination in health care settings
- Leverage partnership with private sectors

Thank You