Integrated Approach to Address AMR

What is the issue?

\n\n

\n
- The problem of AMR is advancing rapidly across the globe.
\n
- India needs an integrated health approach to address AMR.
\n

\n\n

What is AMR?

\n\n

\n
- Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is the broader term for resistance in different types of microorganisms, encompassing resistance to antibacterial, antiviral, anti-parasitic and antifungal drugs.
\n
- It occurs when microorganisms such as bacteria, viruses, fungi and parasites change in ways that render the medications used to cure the infections ineffective.
\n
- These resistant microorganisms are often referred to as “superbugs”.
\n
- This is a major concern because a resistant infection may kill, can spread to others, and imposes huge costs to individuals and society.
\n

\n\n

What should India’s approach be?

\n\n

\n
- **Increased access to health services -** In the areas of both prevention and treatment it will boost overall population health and diminishes the spread of infectious bacteria.
\n

- This is especially important for poor or marginalised populations, many of whom lack adequate sanitation and hygiene and are at greater risk of bacterial infections.
\n
- **Quality health services -** This will result in the more rational use of antibiotics, which can decrease healthcare-associated bacterial infections.
\n
- Advances in antibiotic stewardship and infection control including the provision of adequate water, sanitation and hygiene can reduce infections occurring in health facilities.
\n

\n\n

\n
- **Affordable healthcare policies -** Stringent treatment guidelines and revised incentive schemes have significant potential to advance both the Universal Health Coverage and AMR agendas.
\n
- Such policies will reduce out-of-pocket expenditure, and help increase access to antimicrobial drugs.
\n
- **Public Awareness -** Dissemination of high-quality information and advice to public and health workers on the rational use of antibiotics will help them to treat ailments more efficiently and optimally.
\n

\n\n

\n\n

Source: Business Line

\n

SHANKAR IAS PARLIAMENT
Information is Empowering