

International Malaria Conference (IMC), 2026

Prelims: Current events of national and international importance | Government policies and Interventions

Why in News?

Recently, the International Malaria Conference 2026 concluded in New Delhi after three days of scientific deliberations and global engagement on malaria elimination.

- Malaria is a life-threatening, **mosquito-borne parasitic disease** transmitted by infected female Anopheles mosquitoes.
- **Caused by** - Plasmodium species (mainly *P. falciparum*, *P. vivax*, *P. ovale*, *P. malariae*, and *P. knowlesi*).

To know about the Malaria disease, click [here](#)

International Malaria Conference, 2026

- **Organised by** - ICMR-National Institute of Malaria Research (ICMR-NIMR) under the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)
- **Theme** - **“Discovery, Development and Delivery: Driving Malaria Elimination and Beyond”**
- **Participants** - Scientists, public health experts, policymakers and researchers from India and across the world
- **Key Highlights** - Provided a platform for sharing scientific knowledge, strengthening partnerships and addressing challenges in malaria control and elimination.
- Emphasised collaboration among research institutions, national programmes and global partners to accelerate malaria elimination.
- **Major Discussion - Discovery** - Advances in parasite biology and transmission dynamics.
- Emerging molecular mechanisms influencing malaria persistence and drug resistance.
- **Development** - Innovations in malaria diagnostics, research tools and

surveillance technologies.

- Platform for early-career researchers through turbo talks and poster presentations.
- **Delivery** - Focus on translating scientific discoveries into public health interventions.
- Highlights on residual malaria transmission, vaccine research and community-based malaria control strategies.
 - **Residual malaria transmission** is the *continued transmission even after implementation of control measures*, requiring targeted interventions.
- **Significance** - Strengthens global collaboration and partnerships for malaria elimination.
- Encourages research, innovation and capacity building in malaria control.

Quick Fact

Malaria Elimination in India

- India has an ambitious target to ***eliminate malaria (zero indigenous cases) by 2030*** under the National Framework for Malaria Elimination in India (2016-2030).
- **Interim Target** - To interrupt indigenous transmission by 2027.
- **Case Reduction** - Malaria cases reduced by ~80% between 2015 and 2023.
- **WHO Status** - India exited the WHO High Burden to High Impact (HBHI) Group for Malaria in 2024.
- **Current Status (2023)** -
 - 34 States/UTs recorded Annual Parasite Incidence (API) less than 1.
 - Tripura (5.69) and Mizoram (14.23) remain higher.
 - 160 districts in 23 States/UTs reported zero indigenous cases (2022-2024).
- **Annual Parasite Incidence (API)** - Number of confirmed malaria cases per 1,000 population under surveillance per year.
- **Key Strategy** - National Framework for Malaria Elimination in India (2016-2030) - Vision and roadmap for phased elimination.
- National Strategic Plan (NSP) for Malaria Elimination (2023-2027) focus on
 - Surveillance as core intervention
 - Testing, Treating and Tracking (TTT) strategy
 - Universal access to diagnosis, treatment and vector control

Reference

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