

iii. **T. B. Control Programme** : According to a survey conducted by Indian Council of Medical Research, nearly 12 lakh people in the State of Bihar including Jharkhand are suffering from the disease T.B. For the control of T.B., 39 T.B. Control Centres have been established in the State. T.B.

Control Centre, Itaki, Ranchi has a 455- bed hospital, which was established in 1935. The State Government provides fund to meet on the expenditure of T.B. patient admitted in these control centres or institution.

iv. **National Leprosy Eradication Programme** : Leprosy is a serious social and health problem. Its patients do not receive regards in the society. They are looked down in the society. They are treated like untouchable. They are ignored and neglected by the family members. Being oppressed by the family and society, a number of patients, even after cure, are leading a life of beggars. Some patients suicide by jumping in the well, ponds, river, etc.

In order to eradicate leprosy, the Government of India has implemented MDT (Multi Drug Therapy) scheme. In this scheme, three drugs namely Rephampicilline, Laprine and Dapsone are given to the leprosy patients to cure the disease. The multi drug therapy method cures the leprosy within 6 months to 2 years. depending upon the nature and type of the disease. This programme is implemented by District Level Committee constituted for this purpose. D.M./D.C. is the Chairman of the committee. The Central Government provides money for this programme.

Besides Government, Volunteer organisations are also engaged in this programme. Attempts are made to rehabilitate leprosy-cured patients. Attempts are also made to eradicate various superstitions associated with leprosy and leprosy patients.