

WORLD LEPROSY DAY

26 JANUARY 2025



Unite. Act. Eliminate.

1

MYTH: Leprosy does not exist anymore

FACT: Around 200 000 new cases of leprosy are reported by more than 120 countries worldwide.

2

MYTH: Leprosy is a very contagious disease

FACT: Leprosy is one of the least contagious diseases. It is spread through prolonged close contact with untreated case. Casual contact like shaking hands does not lead to transmission.

3

MYTH: Leprosy is incurable and invariably leads to disability

FACT: Leprosy can be cured with Multi-Drug Therapy (MDT) given over 6–12 months. This is made available free of cost through WHO.

Early diagnosis helps to

- Ensure complete cure
- Prevent deformities
- Stop transmission



World Health
Organization

GLOBAL LEPROSY
PROGRAMME

