



Intensified Mission Indradhanush 3.0 Scheme

Why in News

Recently, the **Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI) 3.0** scheme has been rolled out to cover children and pregnant women who missed routine immunisation during the [Covid-19](#) pandemic.

Key Points

▪ About the Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI) 3.0 Scheme:

◦ Objective:

- To reach the unreached population with all the available vaccines under Universal Immunisation Programme (UIP) and thereby accelerate the full immunization and complete immunization coverage of children and pregnant women.

◦ Coverage:

- It will have **two rounds this year** which will be **conducted in 250 pre-identified districts/urban areas** across 29 States/UTs.
 - The districts have been classified to reflect 313 low risk, 152 medium risk and 250 high risk districts.
- **Beneficiaries from migration areas and remote areas** would be targeted as they may have missed their vaccine doses during the pandemic.

◦ Significance: It will foster India's march towards the [Sustainable Development Goals](#).

▪ Universal Immunization Programme:

◦ Launch:

- The **Immunization Programme in India was introduced in 1978** as 'Expanded Programme of Immunization (EPI) by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- In **1985**, the Programme was **modified as 'Universal Immunization Programme (UIP)'**.

◦ Objectives of the Programme:

- Rapidly increasing immunization coverage,
- Improving the quality of services,
- Establishing a reliable cold chain system to the health facility level,
- Introducing a district-wise system for monitoring of performance, and
- Achieving self-sufficiency in vaccine production.

◦ Analysis:

- UIP prevents mortality and morbidity in children and pregnant women **against 12 vaccine-preventable diseases**. But in the past, it was seen that the increase in immunization coverage had slowed down and it increased at the rate of 1% per year between 2009 and 2013.
- To accelerate the coverage, **Mission Indradhanush was envisaged** and

implemented since 2015 to rapidly increase the full immunization coverage to 90%.

▪ **Mission Indradhanush:**

◦ **Objective:**

- To fully immunize more than 89 lakh children who are either unvaccinated or partially vaccinated under UIP.
- Targets children under 2 years of age and pregnant women for immunization.

◦ **Diseases Covered:**

- Provides vaccination against **12 Vaccine-Preventable Diseases (VPD)** i.e. diphtheria, Whooping cough, tetanus, polio, tuberculosis, hepatitis B, meningitis and pneumonia, Haemophilus influenzae type B infections, Japanese encephalitis (JE), rotavirus vaccine, pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV) and measles-rubella (MR).
- However, Vaccination against Japanese Encephalitis and Haemophilus influenzae type B is being provided in selected districts of the country.

▪ **Intensified Mission Indradhanush 1.0:**

◦ **Launch:**

- It was launched in October 2017.

◦ **Coverage:**

- Under IMI, greater focus was **given on urban areas** which were one of the gaps of Mission Indradhanush.
- It focused to **improve immunisation coverage in select districts and cities** to ensure full immunisation to more than 90% by December 2018 instead of 2020.

▪ **Intensified Mission Indradhanush 2.0:**

◦ **Launch:**

- It was a nationwide immunisation drive to mark the **25 years of [Pulse polio programme](#)** (2019-20).

◦ **Coverage:**

- It **had targets of full immunization coverage in 272 districts** spread over 27 States.
- It aimed to **achieve at least 90% pan-India immunisation coverage by 2022.**

[Source:TH](#)

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