

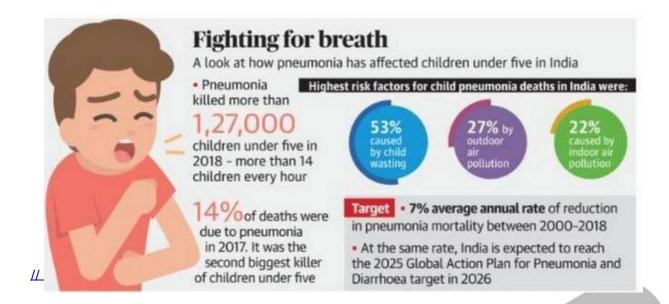
Pneumonia and Diarrhoea Progress Report

Why in News

To mark the occasion of the **World Pneumonia Day** on **November 12**, the **International Vaccine Access Center (IVAC)** released the **10**th **Pneumonia and Diarrhoea Progress Report.** The report describes **progress in fighting pneumonia and diarrhoea** in countries with the highest absolute number of deaths.

Key Highlights

- Pneumonia and Diarrhoea Progress Report is issued annually.
- Prevalence: The report has found that globally, pneumonia and diarrhoea led to nearly one of every four deaths in children under five years of age (in 2017).
- Parameters: The report analyses how effectively countries are delivering 10 key interventions, including breastfeeding, vaccination, access to care, use of antibiotics, ORS, and zinc supplementation.
 - These measures are proven to help prevent deaths due to these illnesses and could help achieve the UN's Sustainable Development Goal-3 target of reducing under-five mortality to at least as low as 25 per 1,000 live births by 2030.
 - According to UNICEF, in India (2018) the
 - Under 5 Mortality Rate is 39 deaths per 1000 live births.
 - Infant Mortality Rate (under one year of age) is 32 deaths per 1000 live births.
 - **Neonatal** Mortality Rate (during the first 28 days of life) is 24 deaths per 1000 live births.
- India's Status: Rollout of rotavirus vaccines to prevent rotavirus diarrhoea (in 2016), and pneumococcal conjugate vaccine for treating pneumonia (in 2017) has helped India to improve its scores.
 - India's exclusive breastfeeding rate (at 55%) is among the highest of the 23 countries.
 However, the proportion of children receiving important treatments, as with many other countries, remains below targets.
 - In India, half of the children with diarrhoea receive ORS (Oral Rehydration Solution)
 and 20% receive zinc supplementation that helps to protect against, prevent and treat
 pneumonia and diarrhoea.



- Other Reports Findings: Reports from organizations like Save the Children and UNICEF have marked that, in 2017, the highest risk factors for child pneumonia death in India were:
 - 53% caused by child wasting,
 - 27% by outdoor air pollution, and
 - 22% caused by indoor air pollution from solid fuels.

Way Forward

The report concludes that the global community must **increase investment and support** other countries in developing **smart and sustainable strategies** that can close the gaps and accelerate progress.

Source: TH

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