



Intensified Mission Indradhanush 4.0

For Prelims: UIP, Mission Indradhanush, IMI.

For Mains: Health, Government Policies and Interventions, Immunisation Programme.

Why in News?

Recently, the **Ministry of Health** virtually launched **Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI) 4.0**.

- India is implementing the largest immunisation programme globally where it annually covers more than three crore pregnant women and 2.6 crore children through the **Universal Immunisation Programme (UIP)**.

What is IMI 4.0?

- It will ensure that **Routine Immunization (RI) services reach unvaccinated and partially vaccinated children and pregnant women**.
 - Children up to two years** will be covered in this drive.
- While the **pace of routine immunisation has slowed down due to Covid-19 pandemic**, IMI 4.0 will immensely contribute in filling the gaps and make lasting gains towards universal immunisation.
- Three rounds of IMI 4.0 will be conducted in 416 districts, including 75 districts identified for Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav across 33 States/UTs.
 - These districts have been identified based on vaccination coverage as per the latest [National Family Health Survey-5 report](#), Health Management Information System (HMIS) data and burden of vaccine-preventable diseases.

What is the Universal Immunisation Programme?

- 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)'**. 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%.

What is Mission Indradhanush (MI)?

- It was launched **to fully immunize more than 89 lakh children who are either unvaccinated or partially vaccinated under UIP**.
- It **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.
- Mission Indradhanush was also identified as **one of the flagship schemes under [Gram Swaraj Abhiyan](#) and [Extended Gram Swaraj Abhiyan](#).**

What is Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI)?

- It was **launched in October 2017**.
- 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.

What is Intensified Mission Indradhanush 2.0?

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

What is Intensified Mission Indradhanush 3.0?

- IMI 3.0 was **launched in 2021**.
- Focus of the IMI 3.0 was the children and pregnant women who had missed their vaccine doses during the Covid-19 pandemic.
 - **Beneficiaries from migration areas and hard to reach areas** were targeted as they might have missed their vaccine doses during Covid-19.

What are the Achievements So Far?

- As of April 2021, during the various phases of Mission Indradhanush, **a total of 3.86 crore children and 96.8 lakh pregnant women have been vaccinated**.
- The **first two phases of Mission Indradhanush resulted in 6.7% increase in full immunisation coverage in a year**.
 - A survey (IMI- CES) carried out in 190 districts covered in Intensified Mission Indradhanush (5th Phase of Mission Indradhanush) shows 18.5% points increase in full immunisation coverage as compared to National Family Health Survey (NFHS)-4.
- The **Full Immunisation Coverage among children aged 12-23 months of age has increased from 62% (NFHS-4) to 76.4%(NFHS-5)**.

[Source: PIB](#)