

## National Vaccination Day (March 16)

***Mission Indradhanush: Ensuring Full Immunization coverage to Children & Women***

***4.45 Crore Children and 1.2 Crore Pregnant Women Vaccinated***

(Ministry of Health and Family Welfare)

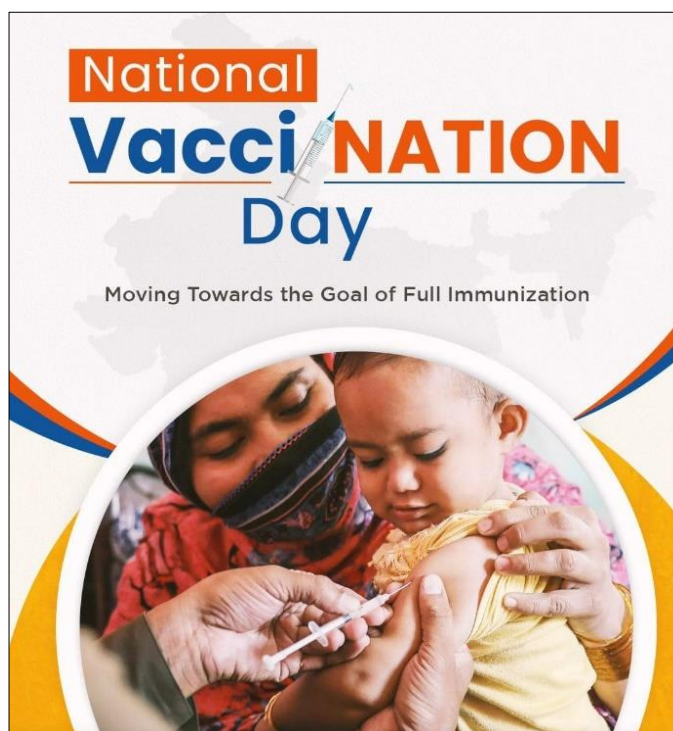
March 16, 2023

*“Let no child suffer from any vaccine-preventable diseases.”*

- [Prime Minister Narendra Modi](#)

Every year in India, 5 lakh children die due to vaccine-preventable diseases and another 89 lakh children remain at risk, because they are either unimmunized or partially immunized against vaccine-preventable diseases. Partially immunized and unimmunized children are most susceptible to childhood diseases and are at a much higher risk of dying as compared to fully immunized children.<sup>1</sup>

In the past, it has been seen that the increase in immunization coverage had slowed down, and it increased at the rate of 1% per year between 2009 and 2013.

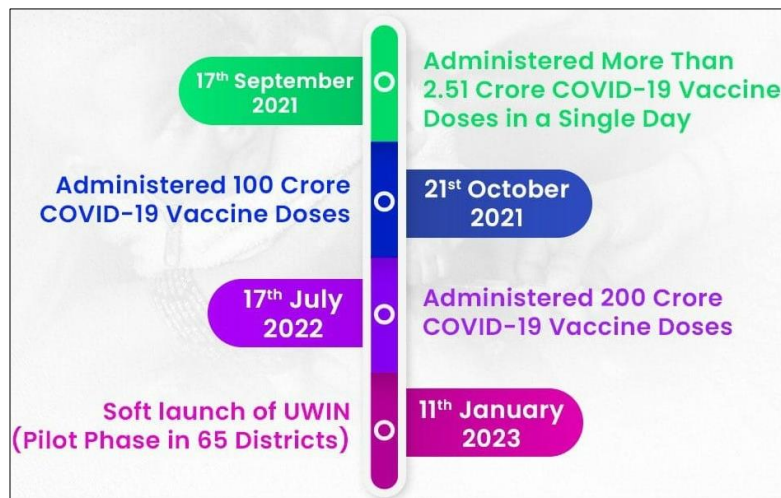
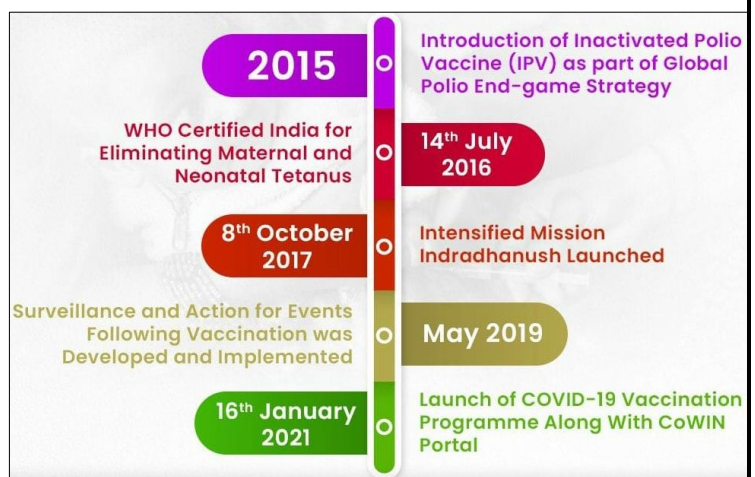
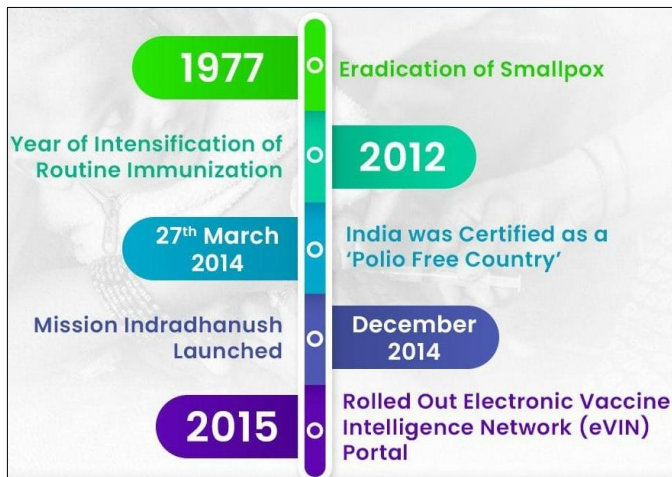


To accelerate this coverage, **Mission Indradhanush** was launched in 2014 to rapidly increase the full immunization coverage to 90%.<sup>2</sup> It aims to reduce child mortality and accelerate the process of full immunization coverage for children at a rapid pace, ensuring that all children under the age of 2 years and pregnant women are fully immunized with all available vaccines.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.indiascienceandtechnology.gov.in/st-visions/national-mission/mission-indradhanush-mi>

<sup>2</sup> [Press Information Bureau \(pib.gov.in\)](https://pib.gov.in)

## Historical Milestones of Immunization

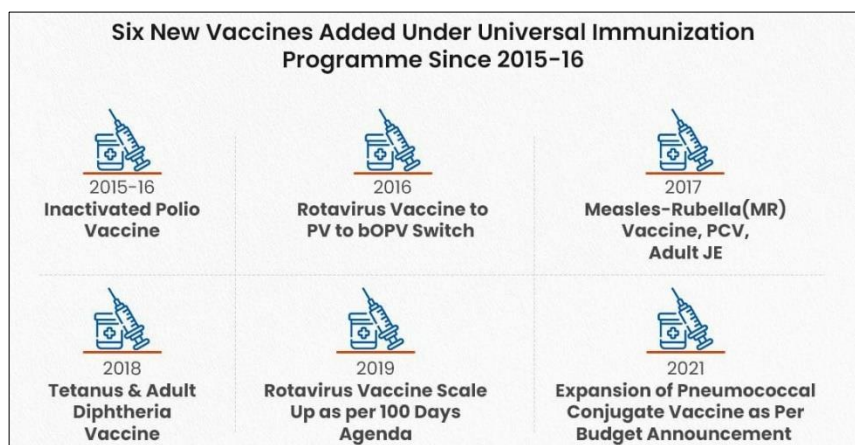


## Mission Indradhanush

**India's Universal Immunization Programme is the largest in the world**, with annual cohorts of around 26.5 million infants and 29 million pregnant women. The mission initially aimed to immunize unvaccinated and partially vaccinated children of the country against **seven vaccine-preventable diseases**.

These diseases were identified as diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, polio, tuberculosis, measles and hepatitis-B. Later, **the basket of vaccines was expanded to cover 12 diseases** including

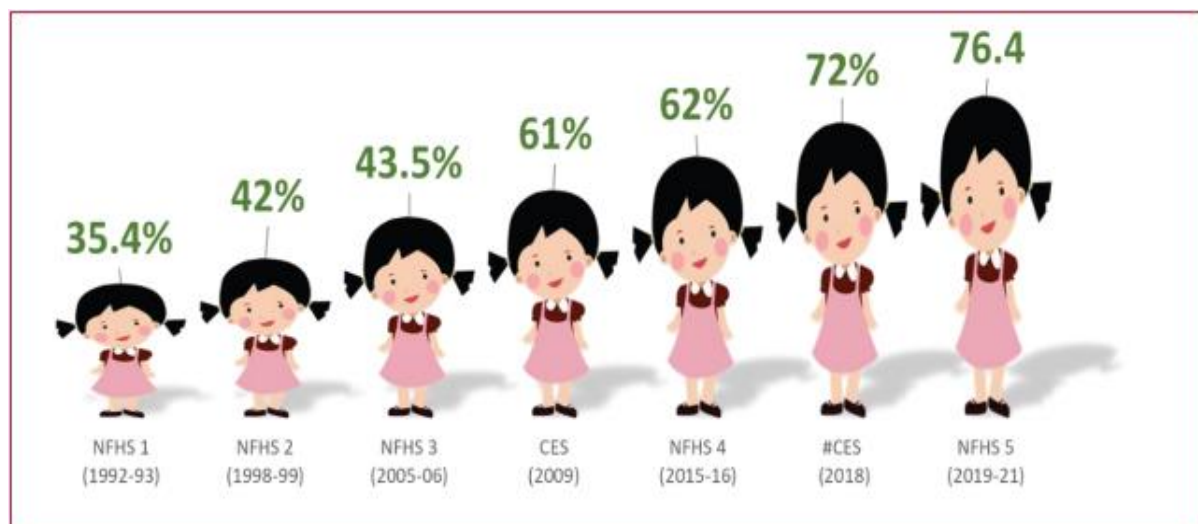
pertussis, meningitis and pneumonia (Hemophilus influenza type B infections), Japanese encephalitis (JE) in JE endemic districts with introduction of newer vaccines such as



rotavirus vaccine, IPV, adult JE vaccine, pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV) and measles-rubella (MR).<sup>3</sup>

### Achievements

- ✓ **Eleven phases** of Mission Indradhanush have been completed covering **701 districts** across the country
- ✓ As on February 2023, **4.45 Crore Children** and **1.2 Crore Pregnant Women** have been vaccinated
- ✓ First two phases of Mission Indradhanush resulted in **6.7% increase** in full immunization coverage in a year



### Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI)

Encouraged by the success of Mission Indradhanush and to further intensify the immunization programme, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the “Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI)” on **October 08, 2017** to cover 121 districts, 17 urban areas and 52 districts of NE states (**total 190 districts/urban areas across 24 states**) for intensified immunization campaign.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>3</sup> <http://employmentnews.gov.in/newemp/MoreContentNew.aspx?n=Editorial&k=50256>

<sup>4</sup> <http://employmentnews.gov.in/newemp/MoreContentNew.aspx?n=Editorial&k=50256>



- It aimed to achieve 90% Full Immunisation Coverage (FIC) with focus towards districts and urban areas with persistently low levels.
- IMI was built on MI, using additional strategies to reach populations at high risk, by involving sectors other than health. It was an effort to shift routine immunization into a “Jan Andolan” or a “peoples’ movement”.
- It aimed to mobilise communities and deal with barriers to seeking vaccines.
- This was followed by a Coverage evaluation survey which showed an average increase of 18.5% in full immunization coverage as compared to that in [National Family Health Survey \(NFHS-4\)](#) carried out in 2015-16. To know about operational guidelines of IMI, [click here](#).

**INTENSIFIED MISSION INDRADHANUSH LAUNCHED**  
Ensuring full immunization to children and expecting mothers

- 1 To ensure full immunization in selected districts and cities to more than 90% by December 2018 against 2020 earlier
- 2 Four phases of the mission reached to 2.53 crore+ children and 68 lakh pregnant women
- 3 Progress to be monitored at the highest level under 'Proactive Governance and Timely Implementation' (PRAGATI)

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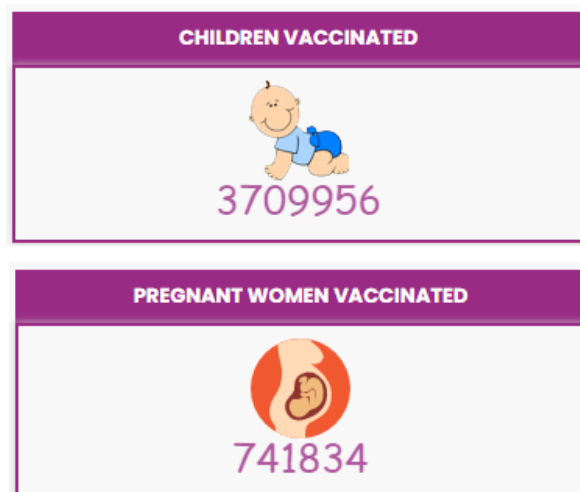
## Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI) 2.0

Government of India introduced ‘**Intensified Mission Indradhanush 2.0**’ to ensure reaching the unreached with all available vaccines and accelerate the coverage of children and pregnant women in the identified districts and blocks from December 2019-March 2020.<sup>5</sup>

- Under this flagship scheme, focus was given on full immunization coverage of 380 districts spread over 29 states.
- Enhanced political, administrative and financial commitment, through advocacy.
- Enhanced immunization session with flexible timing, mobile session and mobilization by other departments.
- Under IMI 2.0, total **37.09 lakh children** and **7.41 lakh women** were vaccinated.

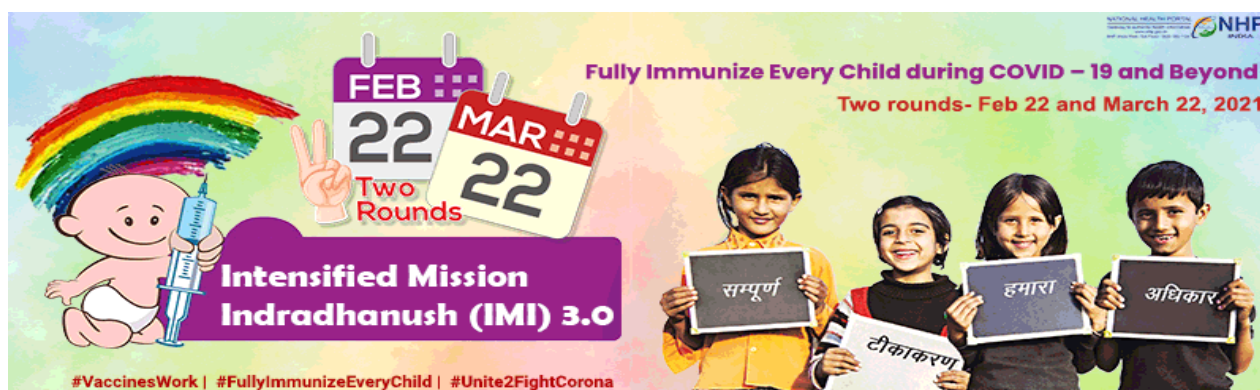
To get state-wise coverage report, [click here](#).

To know more about Intensified Mission Indradhanush 2.0, please [click here](#).



<sup>5</sup> [https://www.nhp.gov.in/mission-indradhanush1\\_pg](https://www.nhp.gov.in/mission-indradhanush1_pg)

## Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI) 3.0



On February 19, 2020, the Central Government launched IMI 3.0 to further extend the coverage of the national immunization programme.<sup>6</sup>

- Focused on the children and pregnant women who have missed their vaccine doses during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- It consisted of two rounds from February, 2021 and March 2021. Each round was conducted for 15 days.
- Under IMI 3.0, 250 districts across 29 states/UTs were covered.
- During Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI) 3.0, around 9.58 lakh children and 2.24 lakh pregnant women were vaccinated.



To get state-wise coverage report - [click here](#).

To know more about Intensified Mission Indradhanush 3.0 - [click here](#).

<sup>6</sup> <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1776528>

## Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI) 4.0

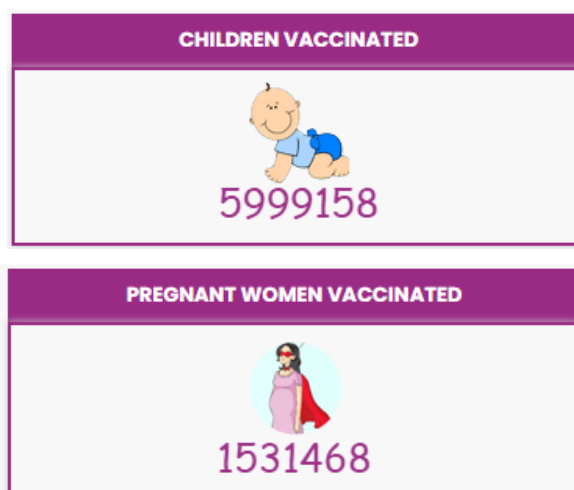
The COVID-19 pandemic had disrupted essential immunization services due to multiple reasons. Thus, to catch up on gaps that might have emerged due to the pandemic, “Intensified Mission Indradhanush 4.0” was launched by the Government of India on February 07, 2022.

Under IMI 4.0, the immunization drives were conducted in 416 districts (including 75 districts identified for Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav) across 33 States/UTs in the country.

- These districts were 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.
- Under IMI 4.0, three vaccination programmes were conducted in three rounds from February 2022 to May 2022.
- Total **59.99 lakh children** and **15.31 lakh pregnant women** were vaccinated under IMI 4.0.

To get a state-wise coverage report - [click here](#)

To know more about IMI 4.0 - [click here](#)



The extensive ground work done by the Government of India has led to successful implementation of a massive vaccination drive across the nation. The mission had also been acknowledged as having one of the 12 best practices globally and had been featured in a special issue of the British Medical Journal titled ‘Improving vaccination coverage in India: lessons from Intensified Mission Indradhanush, a cross-sectoral systems strengthening strategy’.<sup>7</sup>

The progress made under the mission is the result of the government's focus on improving immunization coverage through need-based interventions, comprehensive gap analysis, strengthened involvement of relevant non-health departments and enhanced monitoring and accountability frameworks.

<sup>7</sup> [Press Information Bureau \(pib.gov.in\)](https://pib.gov.in)

## References

- <https://www.indiascienceandtechnology.gov.in/st-visions/national-mission/mission-indradhanush-mi>
- <https://pibindia.wordpress.com/2017/08/25/ensuring-health-through-immunization-mission-indradhanush-to-accelerate-the-coverage/>
- <https://nhm.gov.in/index1.php?lang=1&level=2&sublinkid=824&lid=220>
- <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1534756>
- <http://employmentnews.gov.in/newemp/MoreContentNew.aspx?n=Editorial&k=50256>
- [https://www.nhp.gov.in/mission-indradhanush1\\_pg](https://www.nhp.gov.in/mission-indradhanush1_pg)
- <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1776528>
- <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1796099>

## Other Important Links

- <https://newsonair.gov.in/News?title=Mission-Indradhanush%3A-Full-immunization-coverage-among-children-aged-12-to-23-months-increases-to-76.4-percent&id=432180>
- <https://pib.gov.in/newsite/printrelease.aspx?relid=171499>
- <https://twitter.com/narendramodi/status/1081571599336247296>
- <https://twitter.com/mygovindia/status/1215255352729407489?lang=en>
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