



## Current Affairs of the Day

### GS II

- Indradhanush 3.0 to fill the gap in immunisation due to COVID

### GS III

- 'Pharma exports to Arab nations cumbersome'

## Indradhanush 3.0 to fill the gap in immunisation due to COVID

**News:** The States and Union Territories (UTs) have rolled out the Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI) 3.0 scheme to cover children and pregnant women who missed routine immunisation during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Health Ministry said. More than 29,000 children and 5,000 pregnant women were covered on the first day.

### Highlights:

1. The various States and UTs have started the implementation of the Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI) 3.0, a campaign aimed to reach those children and pregnant women who have been missed out or been left out of the Routine Immunisation Programme.
2. This is aimed to accelerate the full immunisation of children and pregnant women through a mission mode intervention.
3. The campaign is scheduled to have two rounds of immunisation lasting 15 days (excluding routine immunisation and holidays). It is being conducted in 250 pre-identified districts/urban areas across 29 States/UTs.

### Remote areas

1. Beneficiaries from migration areas and remote areas would be targeted as they may have missed their vaccine doses during the pandemic.
2. The States have been asked to follow a “staggered approach” to avoid crowding at the session sites and even plan break-up sessions if a staggered approach is not effective.

## ‘Pharma exports to Arab nations cumbersome’

**News:** India has urged Arab countries to make it easier to export pharmaceutical products to the region and asked them to tap Indian farms to secure food supplies, as it seeks to diversify the \$160 billion trade basket with the Arab bloc beyond hydrocarbons.

### Highlights:

1. Indian pharma products enjoy great credibility around the world, [but] India does not have the same kind of recognition in most of the Arab world, because



the process through which medicines are brought to these countries are very elaborate and cumbersome at times.

2. Market access to Indian pharma goods could be an 'early harvest' idea ahead of the India-Arab Partnership forum scheduled in the first week of December, after a gap of five years.
3. India-Arab trade accounts for 20% of India's overall trade, but is still concentrated in hydrocarbons, the secretary said, mooted agriculture, technology and tourism as potential areas for diversification.
4. Food security is important for India as well as the Arab world, particularly the Gulf region. With the new agricultural reforms in India, there are huge opportunities for many companies in the Arab world to set up bases in India where you could have farming and then the product could go back home.