

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1712
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06TH AUGUST 2024**

IMMUNISATION AMONGST CHILDREN IN THE COUNTRY

1712. SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE:

Will the Minister of **HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the percentage of children receiving vaccines including DTP, Measles shot, etc. under the country's Mission Indradhanush Programme in the last five years, year-wise;
- (b) whether there has been any decrease in children receiving vaccines over the last five years;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Government has taken cognisance of the fact that India had the second highest number of children, at nearly 16 lakh, who did not receive any vaccine in 2023, second only after Nigeria; and
- (e) if so, the steps Government has taken to improve coverage of immunisation amongst children?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE
(SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)**

(a) Under Universal immunization program, all eligible children up to the age of 2 years are administered vaccination doses as per immunization schedule. Mission Indradhanush (MI) and Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI), are special catch up campaign's conducted at regular intervals to ensure vaccination of the left out and dropped out children and pregnant women in the areas of low immunization coverage. Details of the children receiving vaccines in past five years in Intensified Mission Indradhanush are given in Annexure 1.

(b) & (c) India has consistently maintained very high level of national full immunization coverage of more than 90% in the last five years. The full immunization coverage of children over the past five years is given in Annexure 2.

(d) & (e) India's Immunisation Programme is the largest Public Health Initiative globally, targets a massive cohort of 2.6 crore children and 2.9 crore pregnant women, annually through 1.3 crore

vaccination sessions. As a percentage of total population, Zero Dose children account for 0.11% of the country's total population. Given the large population size of India, it has the highest number of vaccinated children globally across the countries. In FY 2023-24 the Full Immunization Coverage of India was 93.5%(Source: HMIS). In FY 2023-24 a total of 2,49,09,717 children were Fully Immunized in the Country (Source: HMIS).

The following steps are taken by the government in coordination with the States/UTs to ensure that all eligible children receive missed /due doses of vaccines.

1. Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI) as the periodic catch-up vaccination campaign, National Immunization days and sub national Immunization days for Pulse Polio program are organised in all States/UTs.
2. Hosting of VHND (Village Health and Nutrition day) on designated days for Immunization along with other RCH interventions are carried out.
3. State task force on Immunization (STFI), District task force on Immunization (DTFI) and Block task force on immunization (BTFI) ensure effective implementation of the drives which are regularly taken.
4. Regular information education and communication campaigns are undertaken.

National IMI coverage past 5 years:

IMI in Past Years	Total children vaccinated
Year 2018	4,93,899
Year 2019	37,09,956
Year 2021	9,54,406
Year 2022	59,99,158
Year 2023	1,00,68,042

(Source: IMI repository & UWIN)

Annexure 2**Full immunization Coverage (%): 2019-20 to 2023-24**

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
India	92.8	93.4	93.6	94.7	93.5

Data Source - HMIS as downloaded on 1st August 2024.