

THE WORLD NEEDS NEW ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE VACCINES

SYLLABUS: GS PAPER-II & III (HEALTH)

CONTEXT: The World Health Organization (WHO) released the **first ever report on the pipeline of the vaccines currently being developed to prevent infections by Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) bacterial pathogens.**

ABOUT THE REPORT

- **Title of the Report: “An analysis of bacterial vaccines in preclinical and clinical development: 2021”.**
- AMR occurs when **bacteria, viruses, fungi, and parasites change over time and no longer responds to medicines making the infection harder to treat** thus, increasing the risk of disease spread, severe illness and death.
- The analysis identifies 61 vaccine candidates in various stages of clinical development.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Vaccines are available against four priority bacterial pathogens: **Pneumococcal disease (Streptococcus pneumonia), Hib (haemophilus influenza type b), Tuberculosis (Mycobacterium tuberculosis), and Typhoid fever (Salmonella Typhi).**
- Current **Bacillus Calmette Guerin (BCG) vaccines against tuberculosis** do not adequately protect against TB. The remaining three vaccines are effective.
- It calls for **equitable and global access to existing vaccines**, accelerate trials for AMR-related vaccine, especially among populations that need them most in limited-resource setting.

STEPS TAKEN BY INDIA TO CONTROL AMR

- **Chennai Declaration, 2012**, to promote antibiotic stewardship.
- **India’s Red Line Campaign** demands that **prescription-only antibiotics** be marked with a red line, to discourage over-the-counter sale of antibiotics.
- **National Action Plan on AMR (2017-21).**

MISSION VATSALYA SCHEME

SYLLABUS: GSPAPER-II (GOVERNMENT POLICIES & INTERVENTIONS, ISSUES RELATED TO CHILDREN)

CONTEXT: The Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) recently issued new guidelines for the Mission Vatsalya to lay out a future roadmap for child protection.

BACKGROUND

Prior to 2009, the Ministry of women and child development Implemented three schemes for children in need of protection:

- The juvenile justice programme for children in need of care and protection as well as children in conflict with the law,
- The integrated programme for street children,
- The scheme for assistance to children's homes.

In 2010, these were merged into a single plan known as the Integrated Child Protection Scheme.

In 2017, it was renamed "Child Protection Services Scheme," and again in 2021-22 as Mission Vatsalya.

ABOUT MISSION VATSALYA

- It is an umbrella scheme for child protection services in the country.
- Components under Mission Vatsalya include **improve functioning of statutory bodies; strengthen service delivery structures; Upscale institutional care and services; encourage non-institutional community-based care; emergency outreach services; training and capacity building.**

OBJECTIVES

- To secure a healthy and happy childhood for every child in the country.
- To ensure opportunities to enable them to discover their full potential and assist them in flourishing in all respects, in a sustained manner, foster a sensitive, supportive, and synchronized ecosystem for development of children, assist States and UTs (Union Territory) (Union Territory) in delivering the mandate of the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- It promotes family-based non-institutional care of children in difficult circumstances based on the principle of institutionalization of children as a measure of last resort.

NEW GUIDELINES

- According to the guidelines, states cannot change the original name of the scheme to gain access to funding granted by the central government.
- Funds to states will be approved through the Mission Vatsalya Project Approval Board (PAB), which will be chaired by the WCD Secretary, who will scrutinize and approve annual plans and financial proposals received from states and UTs for release of grants.
- It will be implemented as a **Centrally Sponsored Scheme** in partnership with state governments and UT (Union Territory) administrations, with a fund-sharing pattern in a 60:40 ratio.
- However, for the eight states in the **Northeast — as well as Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, and the UT of Jammu and Kashmir**— the Centre and state/UT's share will be 90:10.
- It will support **State Adoption Resource Agencies (SARA)**, which will further support the Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) in promoting in-country adoption and regulating inter-country adoption.
- The Mission plans to establish cradle baby reception centers in at least one specialized adoption agency in each area for receiving abandoned and trafficked children
- **Establishment of open Shelters** by the state government will be supported to care for runaway children, missing children, trafficked children, working children, children in street situations, child beggars, child substance abusers etc.

PRELIMS FACTS

SAAVIRA KAMBADA BASADI (THOUSAND PILLARS TEMPLE)

- SaaviraKambadaBasadi is a magnificent thousand pillar temple at **Moodabidri**. The temple town is also popularly known as **Jain Kashi' of India** since it is dotted with many Jain temples.
- The temple is also known as **“Chandranatha Temple”** since it honors the **Tirthankara Chandraprabha**, whose eight-foot idol is worshipped in the shrine.
- While the temple was first designed in the year 1430 by the then local chief Devaraya Wodeyar, the current design was introduced in the year 1962.
- The shrine has 50 feet tall monolith manasthambha erected by KarkalaBhairava Queen Nagala Devi.

MUDIYETTU

- Mudiyettu is a **ritual dance drama from Kerala based on the mythological tale of a battle between the goddess Kali and the demon Darika**. It is a community ritual in which the entire village participates.
- It was included in the **UNESCO'S List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in 2010**.
- Mudiyettu performers purify themselves via fasting and prayer, then use colored powders to create a large picture of goddess Kali, known as kalam, on the temple floor, where the goddess's spirit is invoked.
- Mudiyettu is a yearly festival held in **'Bhagavati Kavus,'** goddess temples in various villages in Kerala between February and May, after the harvesting season.
- To give the performance a supernatural feel, the actors wear extensive make-up and magnificent outfits with traditional facial painting, towering headgear, and so on.
- Goddess Kali's floor pattern (known as Kalam) is drawn and subsequently worshipped.

CENSUS TOWNS

- **Meghalaya** government has launched the MGNREGS in Census towns of the state.
- Census towns are **areas that are not defined as a town by state governments but have urban characteristics**.
- Due to the ambiguity in their classification, benefits from neither the urban scheme nor the rural schemes could be realized.
- The conditions to define census towns are:
 - Population of 4000 or more.
 - Population density of at least 400 persons per square kilometer.
 - Male non-farm workforce of more than 75%.

BANNI GRASSLANDS

- Gujarat forest department will restore 10000 hectares of Banni grasslands in the coming year.
- Banni grassland is one of **Asia's largest and finest grasslands lying in the Kutch district of Gujarat**.
- It hosts two ecosystems- **Grassland and Wetland**, with 192 species of plants, 262 species of birds, several species of mammals, reptiles and amphibians.
- In last few decades **“Gando Baval” or crazy weed and long spells of drought** are believed to have wiped out 40 species of grass.
- Banni has sensitive soil ecology.

AZORES HIGH

- An extremely large 'Azores High' has resulted in **abnormally dry conditions across the western Mediterranean, including the Iberian Peninsula**, primarily occupied by Spain and Portugal, according to a new study.
- Azores High is a **subtropical high-pressure system** that extends over the eastern subtropical North Atlantic and western Europe during winter.
- It is formed by **dry air aloft descending the subtropics and coincides with the downward branch of the Hadley Circulation**.
- It is associated with **anticyclonic winds** in the subtropical North Atlantic.

RACE IAS