



India in GAVI Board

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Why in News

Recently, the **Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare** has been nominated by the **Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunisation** (GAVI) as a member on **GAVI board**.

Earlier in May 2020, Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare was also elected as the **Chair of the World Health Organization's Executive Board**.

Key Points

- The minister will be representing the **South East Area Regional Office (SEARO)/Western Pacific Regional Office (WPRO)** constituency on the GAVI Board.
- The seat is **currently held by Myanmar** and **India will be holding** it from **1st January 2021 to 31st December 2023**.
- **Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunisation:**
 - **Created in 2000**, Gavi is an international organisation, a **global vaccine alliance**.
 - It **brings together public and private sectors** with the **shared goal of creating equal access to new and underused vaccines** for children living in the world's poorest countries.
 - Its core partners include the **World Health Organisation** (WHO), **United Nations Children's Fund** (UNICEF), the **World Bank** and the **Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation**.
 - As part of its **mission to save lives, reduce poverty and protect the world against the threat of epidemics**, GAVI has **helped vaccinate more than 822 million children in the world's poorest countries**, preventing more than 14 million future deaths.

- **GAVI Board:**

- It is **responsible for strategic direction and policy-making**, oversees the operations of the **Vaccine Alliance and monitors programme implementation**.
- With membership drawn from a range of partner organisations, as well as experts from the private sector, the Board **provides a forum for balanced strategic decision making, innovation and partner collaboration**.
- It normally **meets twice a year** in June and November/December and **holds an annual retreat**, normally in March or April.

Source: PIB