



Global Vaccine Market Report 2022

For Prelims: Vaccine Inequity, World Health Organisation, Covid-19, Global Vaccine Market Report 2022, Immunization Agenda 2030 (IA2030)

For Mains: Issue of Vaccine Inequity, Challenges and Solutions

Why in News?

Recently, the [World Health Organisation \(WHO\)](#) released 'Global Vaccine Market Report 2022'.

- This is the **first report to capture the implications of Covid-19** for vaccine markets **highlighting the issue of vaccine inequity.**

What are the Findings of the Report?

- **Vaccine Inequity, not a Unique Phenomenon:**
 - It shows that **inequitable distribution is not unique to Covid-19 vaccines**, with low-income countries consistently struggling to access vaccines that are in-demand by high-income countries. Limited vaccine supply and unequal distribution drive global disparities.
 - The **human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine against cervical cancer has only been introduced in 41% of low-income countries**, even though they represent much of the disease burden, compared to 83% of high-income countries.
- **Price Disparities:**
 - Affordability is a major obstacle to vaccine access. While prices tend to be tiered by income, price disparities see middle-income countries paying as much - or even more - than wealthier ones for several vaccine products.
- **Free-Market Dynamics:**
 - Free market dynamics is **depriving some of the world's poorest and most vulnerable people of their right to health.** Therefore, changes are much needed to the global vaccine market to save lives, prevent disease and prepare for future crises.
- **Scale-up during Health Emergencies:**
 - Approximately **16 billion vaccine doses, worth US\$ 141 billion, were supplied in 2021**, almost three times the 2019 market volume (5.8 billion) and nearly three-and-a-half times the 2019 market value (US\$ 38 billion).
 - The increase was primarily driven by Covid-19 vaccines, showing the **incredible potential of how vaccine manufacturing can be scaled up** in response to health needs.
- **Concentrated Manufacturing Base:**
 - Although manufacturing **capacity worldwide has increased**, it remains **highly concentrated.**
 - Ten manufacturers alone provide 70% of vaccine doses (excluding COVID-19).
 - Several of the top 20 most widely used vaccines (such as PCV, HPV, measles and rubella containing vaccines) each currently rely mainly on two suppliers.
 - In 2021, the African and Eastern Mediterranean regions were dependent on

- manufacturers headquartered elsewhere for 90% of their procured vaccines.
- This concentrated manufacturing base **leads to risk of shortages as well as regional supply insecurity.**
- **Entrenched intellectual property monopolies and limited technology transfer further limit** the ability of building and using local manufacturing capacity.
- **Limited Investment in Vaccines Other than Covid-19:**
 - The health of markets is also **concerning for several of the vaccines commonly needed for emergencies**, such as against **cholera, typhoid, smallpox/monkeypox, Ebola, meningococcal disease**, where demand surges with outbreaks and is hence less predictable.
 - The continued limited investment in these vaccines could be **devastating for people's lives.**
- **Immunization Agenda 2030 (IA2030):**
 - The report highlights the **opportunities for more alignment of vaccine development, production and distribution** with a public health agenda, towards **achieving the [Immunization Agenda 2030 \(IA2030\)](#) goals** and informing pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response efforts.

What are the Recommendations of the Report?

- **For Governments:**
 - Frame clear immunization plans and more aggressive investment
 - Get a stronger oversight of vaccine development, production and distribution
 - Emphasise on regional research and manufacturing hubs
 - Devise pre-agreeing rules for government collaboration in times of scarcity on issues such as vaccine distribution, intellectual property and the circulation of inputs and goods.
- **For Industry:**
 - Focus on research efforts for WHO priority pathogens
 - Ensure transparency.
 - Facilitate technology transfer.
 - Commit to specific equity-driven allocation measures.
- **For International Organizations and Partners:**
 - Prioritize Immunization Agenda 2030 goals.
 - Support country-driven initiatives.
 - Push for the application of resolutions on market transparency.

UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Questions (PYQ)

Prelims

Q. In the context of vaccines manufactured to prevent COVID-19 pandemic, consider the following statements: (2022)

1. The Serum Institute of India produced COVID-19 vaccine named Covishield using mRNA platform.
2. Sputnik V vaccine is manufactured using vector based platform.
3. COVAXIN is an inactivated pathogen based vaccine.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: (b)

Exp:

- COVISHIELD vaccine is based on the platform which uses a recombinant, replication-deficient

chimpanzee adenovirus vector encoding the SARS-CoV-2 Spike (S) glycoprotein. Following administration, the genetic material of part of coronavirus is expressed which stimulates an immune response. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**

- Sputnik V is the world's first registered vaccine based on a well-studied human adenovirus vector platform. It has been approved for use in 71 countries with a total population of 4 billion people. The vaccine is named after the first Soviet space satellite. The vaccine's efficacy is 97.6%, based on the analysis of data on the incidence of coronavirus among Russians vaccinated with both vaccine components between December 5, 2020 and March 31, 2021. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- Covaxin is an inactivated viral vaccine. This vaccine is developed with Whole-Virion Inactivated Vero Cell-derived technology. They contain inactivated viruses, which cannot infect a person but still can teach the immune system to prepare a defence mechanism against the active virus. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**
- **Therefore, option B is correct.**

Mains

Q. What is the basic principle behind vaccine development? How do vaccines work? What approaches were adopted by the Indian vaccine manufacturers to produce COVID-19 vaccines? **(2022)**

Source: DTE

PDF Reference URL: <https://www.drishtiias.com/printpdf/global-vaccine-market-report-2022>

