

## India receives award for exemplary efforts in measles and rubella disease prevention

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**A testament to the dedication and hard work of country's frontline health workers, healthcare professionals, policymakers, and communities across the nation**

India has been bestowed with the prestigious Measles and Rubella Champion Award by The Measles and Rubella Partnership at the American Red Cross Headquarters in Washington D.C., USA. Ambassador Sripriya Ranganathan, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of India, Washington D.C. received the award on behalf of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.

The Measles and Rubella Partnership comprises a multi-agency planning committee, including the American Red Cross, BMGF, GAVI, US CDC, UNF, UNICEF, and WHO, all dedicated to reducing global measles deaths and preventing rubella illness.

This accolade celebrates India's unwavering commitment to public health and its outstanding leadership in curbing the spread of these infectious diseases among children. It further recognises India for providing regional leadership to the measles & rubella elimination programme by using 'measles as a tracer' to strengthen routine immunization under country's Universal Immunization Programme (UIP). Despite facing numerous challenges, India has demonstrated remarkable progress in reducing measles and rubella cases and preventing outbreaks through a series of comprehensive interventions.

Measles and Rubella are vaccine preventable diseases (VPDs) and MR Vaccine is part of India's Universal Immunization Programme since 2017.