

Immunization campaign gears up with 2nd round of Mission Indradhanush

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Exhibiting government's serious approach on the issue, the union health and family welfare minister, Mr JP Nadda tweeted early in the morning of May 07, "Committed to immunizing every child in the country. Happy to announce start of 2nd round of Mission Indradhanush from today in 201 districts. I thank all frontline workers for their hard work in making 1st round successful. More than 20.8 lakh children immunised in 1st round of Mission Indradhanush. I am hopeful of crossing this mark in the 2nd round."

Earlier Mission Indradhanush was launched on December 26 by the health ministry to immunize children against seven preventable diseases. After completion of first round, the government is now continuing the 2nd round which will be followed by 3rd and fourth as well.

Under this program, four special vaccination campaigns will be conducted between January and June 2015. 201 high focus districts that have nearly 50 percent of all unvaccinated or partially vaccinated children.

The program aims to achieve full immunization coverage for all children by 2020. It expects to cover all those children who are either unvaccinated or are partially vaccinated against seven vaccine preventable diseases including diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, polio, tuberculosis, measles, and hepatitis B.

297 districts will be targeted for the second phase in the year 2015 Out of the 201 districts, 82 districts are in just four states of UP, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan and nearly 25 percent of the unvaccinated or partially vaccinated children of India are in these 82 districts of 4 states. The ministry will be supported by WHO, UNICEF, Rotary International and other donor partners.