UNAIDS Report

Why in news?

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The United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS (UNAIDS) report has recently been released.

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What are the highlights of the report?

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- The report titled, **"Ending AIDS: Progress towards the 90-90-90 target"**, is the annual scorecard for progress.
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- Globally AIDS-related deaths have almost halved since 2005.
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- The 2015 target of 15 million people on treatment has been met.
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- Efforts to double the target to 30 million by 2020 are on right track.
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- As of last year, 19.5 million of the 36.7 million HIV+ patients had access to treatment.
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- Nearly 95 per cent of the cases in 2016 were concentrated in just 10 countries. India is one of them.
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- India has 2.1 million people living with HIV, with 80,000 new infections annually, as of 2016.
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- India is the country where most new HIV infections are occurring in the Asia-Pacific region.
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- The emergence of HIV in some locations that were earlier considered 'not high-burden' area is a cause for concern.
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- There is an insufficient availability and poor affordability of essential medicines in low- and middle-income countries.

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- Actions focused on the intersections between intellectual property rights, innovation, and public health are vitally important for resolving market failures in medicine development and manufacture.
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- The global AIDS response continues its reliance on the Indian industry.
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- India supplied nearly 90% of antiretroviral medicines in low- and middle-income countries in 2015.
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- Experts maintain that since 2010, the decline in new infections has only been 16%.
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- Going by this trend, the global target of reducing the figure to 500,000 a year by 2020 seems unattainable.
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Quick Facts

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90-90-90 target

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- The idea behind the 90-90-90 target is to diagnose 90% of people who are HIV positive; get 90% of the diagnosed HIV+ people on antiretroviral treatment, and 90% of those on antiretroviral should be virally suppressed.
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- This is attained when an HIV+ patient’s viral load reaches an undetectable level, curbing transmission.
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UNAIDS

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- The United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS (UNAIDS) is the main advocate for accelerated, comprehensive and coordinated global action on the HIV/AIDS pandemic.
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- UNAIDS is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland.

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- It is a member of the United Nations Development Group.
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Source: The Hindu

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