Ban on export of HCQ lifted

- Government has lifted ban on export of anti-malarial drug Hydroxychloroquine (HCQ) API and formulation with immediate effect.
- An Inter-ministerial High-Level Empowered Committee meets regularly on fortnightly basis for assessing the availability of drugs in the country and will continue to meet to monitor the situation.
- In the meeting it was noted that during March-May, 2020 period (COVID-19 period) numbers of manufacturing units of Hydroxychloroquine have increased from 2 to 12 and the country’s production capacity of Hydroxychloroquine have increased three times i.e. from 10 Crore (Approx) tablets per month to 30 Crore (Approx) tablets per month.
- Currently, India is having surplus of Hydroxychloroquine tablets over and above its domestic requirements.
- Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) conducts survey regarding availability of Hydroxychloroquine and other drugs in domestic market from time to time.