

Research Note
on
Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
and
Achievements of India

Research and Information Division
Lok Sabha Secretariat

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CONTENTS

- Introduction
- Genesis and Adoption of Sustainable Development Goals
- Constituents
 - Interconnectedness
 - Multi-dimensional Approach: 17 Goals and 169 Targets
 - Means of Implementation
 - Monitoring and Review
 - Voluntary National Review
- SDGs and India
 - SDGs Mirror India's Development Objectives
 - India's participation in formulation of Goals and Targets
 - Institutional Set-up
 - NITI Aayog
 - MoSPI
- Goal-wise progress so far
 - SDG 1 to SDG 11
 - SDG 12 - SDG 14
 - SDG 15 - SDG 16
 - SDG 17
- Early Lessons from India

Introduction

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a set of 17 Goals adopted by 193 member countries of the United Nations at the historic Summit held in New York on 25 September 2015. Came into force on 01 January 2016, the SDGs are expected to stimulate developmental actions in areas of critical importance such as ending poverty and hunger, providing healthy lives and quality education, achieving gender equality, providing modern energy, promoting sustainable economic growth, reducing inequality, etc. till the year 2030. Also known as *the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, the SDGs aim at transforming the lives and livelihood of the people across the globe.

It is widely acknowledged that the success of the 2030 Agenda globally will depend, to a significant way, on the progress India makes on the SDGs front. It is not only because of the sheer size of the population, but also because of the strength and resilience of the Indian economy. Further, India has also emerged as a global leader on the international climate action agenda. After four years of the adoption of the ambitious agenda, it is an opportune moment to evaluate the progress made by the country so far on specific SDGs. Based on the *SDG India Index: Baseline Report 2018* brought out by the NITI Aayog, an attempt has been made to reflect the progress profile of India Goal-wise.

Genesis and Adoption of Sustainable Development Goals

The SDGs for 2030 evolved from the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) for 2015. The MDGs were a set of eight development goals set in the year 2000 with targets to be achieved by 2015. The MDGs are, in fact, the first

global attempt at establishing measurable goals and targets on key challenges facing the world. Within a period of 15 years (2000 to 2015), the world witnessed significant political and economic changes. So as to maintain the momentum created by MDGs and to take the global development agenda forward, initiatives towards formulating SDGs were begun in 2012. Based primarily on the Outcome Document of the Rio+20 (UN Conference on Sustainable Development held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in 2012 commemorating the 20th Anniversary of the Rio Earth Summit held 1992) titled *The Future we Want*.

An innovative and constituency based system of representation was adopted to facilitate a thorough consultation process for the formulation of SDGs. Accordingly, a 30-member Open Working Group (OWG) was constituted by the UN General Assembly (UNGA) in 2013 for preparing a proposal on SDGs. India was also a member of the OWG. After thirteen sessions convened by the OWG from March 2013 to July 2014, the final report submitted by the OWG was adopted by the UNGA at its 69th Session held in September 2014.

The world leaders formally adopted the Resolution titled *Transforming our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* which enunciates 17 SDGs and 169 related targets at the special UN Summit held in New York from 25 to 27 September 2015. The Prime Minister of India also attended the UN Summit.

Constituents of SDGs

Inter-connectedness : SDGs have been formulated keeping in mind the growing realisation that problems relating to development are no more limited to

national boundaries, but rather increasingly becoming global in nature. What happens in one country influences the other - whether it is poverty or environmental degradation. All these issues are becoming trans-boundary in nature. Thus, the essential philosophy of the SDGs is based on the interconnectedness of the global problems.

Multi-dimensional Approach - 17 Goals and 169 Targets : Spread over 169 targets, the 17 SDGs are evenly spread and balanced across the three dimensions of sustainable development - with 6 predominantly social goals (Goals - 1 to 6), 5 economic goals (Goals - 7 to 11) and 4 environmental goals (Goals - 12 to 15). A separate goal (Goal - 16) on peaceful societies and effective institutions tackles the enablers of development. A stand-alone goal (Goal - 17) on global partnership has been included to provide financial, technological and systemic support to the developing countries.

Means of Implementation: A core feature of the SDGs is, in fact, their strong focus on means of implementation - the mobilization of financial resources, capacity-building and transfer of environmentally sound technologies, as well as data and institutions. Thus, separate 'means of implementation' targets have been included under each of the Goals.

Monitoring and Review: Review and monitoring have been accorded special priority in SDGs so as to track the progress of the developmental goals and targets. The UN Resolution underlines the importance of follow-up at the national, regional as well as global levels. A Global Indicator Framework of 243 indicators have been developed for evaluating the progress of SDGs. At the

global level, the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development has also been established. It has a central role in the follow-up and review of the SDGs at the global level and also provides further guidance.

Voluntary National Review: As part of its follow-up and review mechanisms, countries are encouraged to conduct regular reviews of progress at the national and sub-national levels. These reviews are to be voluntary, state-led, undertaken by both developed and developing countries. Therefore, these are called Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs). The voluntary national reviews (VNRs) aim to facilitate the sharing of experiences, including successes, challenges and lessons learned, with a view to accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. India submitted its VNR in 2017.

SDGs and India

SDGs Mirror India's Development Objectives: As has already been mentioned, the Prime Minister of India attended the UN Summit convened to adopt *the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* held in New York in 2015. One of the highlights of the statement of our Prime Minister is that - much of India's development agenda is mirrored in the SDGs. This is reflective of the fact that even before the SDGs were formulated and adopted, India had initiated numerous developmental programmes.

India's Participation in the Formulation of Goals and Target: As a member of the Open Working Group (OWG) constituted for preparing a proposal on the SDGs, India vociferously advocated the concerns of the developing countries. India emphasised on the priorities for lifting vast number of poor people out of

poverty through rapid and inclusive economic growth. It has also maintained that while a lot of work has already been done for infrastructural development, taking development to all sections of society still remain a massive challenge. These challenges continue to be faced by all the developing countries across the world. India took the position that the SDGs has to be an agenda for development. While issues of poverty eradication and development through inclusive economic growth are the main development agenda, additional resources and capability-building initiatives are required to undertake these mammoth tasks. India, therefore, has emphasized on international cooperation to facilitate development, and also insisted on adequate means of implementation such as enhanced Official Development Assistance (ODA) and technology transfer on favourable terms for helping the developing countries.

Institutional Set-up

NITI Aayog: The NITI Aayog has been overseeing the implementation of SDGs at the national level. As part of this implementation process, the NITI Aayog has carried out a mapping of all SDGs, Central Ministries and the Centrally-sponsored Schemes. It is also undertaking national and regional level consultations with other stakeholders including States and Union Territories. Besides other documents, NITI Aayog has brought out the *SDG India Index: Baseline Report 2018* (December 2018); and *Localising SDGs: Early Lessons from India, 2019* (July 2019). On the basis of performance of the States/UTs, NITI Aayog has not only categorised them into Achievers, Front Runners,

Performers and Aspirants, but also has identified more than 100 aspirational districts for focused interventions.

MoSPI: The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) is also one of the key players in the implementation of SDGs. As indicators are key to measure the progress and the extent of achievement of the targets and Goals in India, MoSPI has developed 306 national indicators in line with the 169 SDG targets and the Global Indicators Framework. Out of the 306 indicators, 62 priority indicators have also been identified for tracking the most important developmental objectives for India.

Progress Profile of India

Based on 62 priority indicators identified by the NITI Aayog, and out of 306 national indicators developed by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, the *SDG India Index: Baseline Report 2018* was brought out reflecting the progress profile of India on different individual Goals. It is, in fact, an attempt to measure Goal-wise progress primarily based on the outcomes of the interventions and schemes of the Government of India. However, evaluation of only 13 SDGs out of 17 (leaving Goals 12, 13, 14 and 17) have been undertaken. Progress on SDGs 12, 13 and 14 could not be measured since the relevant state level data could not be processed by the time the Report was prepared in December 2018. SDG 17 was left out as the focus of the Goal is on international partnerships.

A composite score has been computed based on the performance towards achieving the Goals and respective targets on a score ranging between 0 to 100, 0

being the lowest and 100 being the highest. As per the SDG Index score, with the target of 100 to be achieved, the national score (all India) is 57. The performance of the States ranges between 42 and 69, and that of the Union Territories (UTs) ranges between 57 and 68. Among the States, Kerala and Himachal Pradesh are the front runners with a score of 69. Among the UTs, Chandigarh is the front runner with a score of 68. Based on their performances, the States and the UTs have been categorised as performers, front runners and aspirants. A detailed Table along with scores on each of the 13 SDGs along with national score and target is given below.

India's Performance on each of the SDGs along with States/ UTs

State/UT	SDG1	SDG 2	SDG 3	SDG 4	SDG 5	SDG 6	SDG 7	SDG 8	SDG 9	SDG1 0	SDG 11	SDG 15	SDG 16	Comp -osite SDG
INDEX SCORE														
Andhra Pradesh	67	50	68	77	44	59	76	81	31	75	26	87	90	64
Arunachal Pradesh	52	58	38	44	32	64	44	72	16	47	44	73	77	51
Assam	53	53	30	54	36	42	18	61	35	75	32	100	53	49
Bihar	45	39	40	36	24	31	67	58	38	82	43	56	60	48
Chhattisgarh	50	46	42	53	49	98	36	56	30	73	54	100	65	58
Goa	62	80	65	71	35	65	61	90	0	50	71	100	87	64
Gujarat	48	49	52	67	31	100	67	80	65	79	52	71	73	64
Haryana	50	53	57	65	31	80	50	72	50	55	30	43	78	55
Himachal Pradesh	60	58	62	82	42	95	62	71	43	98	41	93	91	69
Jammu& Kashmir	61	60	63	51	39	52	58	43	35	71	23	74	69	53
Jharkhand	37	35	40	58	32	51	20	52	47	72	52	96	64	50
Karnataka	52	54	69	76	43	62	77	72	57	68	36	88	74	64
Kerala	66	72	92	87	50	62	60	61	68	72	46	75	82	69
Madhya Pradesh	44	41	38	49	33	63	58	57	27	75	39	91	59	52
Maharashtra	47	47	60	74	43	81	69	74	53	76	34	86	82	64
Manipur	44	74	67	65	25	44	39	33	72	98	31	100	70	59
Meghalaya	68	43	52	38	36	40	11	62	42	100	39	94	53	52
Mizoram	71	69	53	54	43	67	78	65	0	100	32	69	71	59
Nagaland	59	69	34	45	42	58	45	40	0	80	32	75	87	51
Odisha	59	46	54	46	43	46	23	53	32	78	34	100	55	51
Punjab	56	71	71	63	43	60	61	57	48	62	36	67	84	60
Rajasthan	59	45	49	73	37	43	63	57	62	79	45	68	81	59
Sikkim	64	67	52	47	50	78	47	57	1	67	56	98	66	58
Tamil Nadu	76	61	77	75	38	66	89	71	46	85	33	74	61	66
Telangana	52	53	73	66	43	55	63	75	16	100	44	83	66	61
Tripura	71	58	53	56	38	38	32	52	38	89	38	86	71	55
Uttar Pradesh	48	43	25	53	27	55	23	55	29	38	37	55	61	42

Uttarakhand	65	53	36	68	41	78	55	67	33	62	41	100	86	60
West Bengal	57	50	66	51	40	54	40	63	45	76	25	88	72	56
A&N Islands	57	38	60	69	58	71	56	60	0	69	64	84	72	58
Chandigarh	39	70	23	85	51	100	96	82	76	52	40	83	90	68
D&N Haveli	21	40	32	77	41	100	73	84	0	100	6	100	63	57
Daman and Diu	58	42	47	46	38	99	84	91	0	100	49	84	79	63
Delhi	30	72	47	58	37	62	51	86	100	80	39	77	68	62
Lakshadweep	43	47	64	62	35	100	60	60	0	100	null	100	74	62
Puducherry	61	71	66	69	27	45	61	85	100	94	27	50	92	65
India	54	48	52	58	36	63	51	65	44	71	39	90	71	57
Target	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Performance on Goal 1

To measure India's performance towards No Poverty, five national level indicators have been identified, which capture three out of the seven SDG targets for 2030. The five national indicators are - (i) Poverty Rate (As per Tendulkar Committee Estimates); (ii) Health Insurance Coverage; (iii) Persons provided Employment (MGNREG Act); (iv) Maternity Benefits; and (v) Homelessness. **The Index Score for SDG 1 on poverty for India stands at 54**, and the score ranges between 37 and 76 for the States and between 21 and 61 for the UTs. Tamil Nadu and Puducherry are the best performers among the States and UTs respectively.

The Government of India has initiated various programmes to tackle chronic poverty, increase access to basic services, provide social protection, sustain poverty escapes, and generate gainful employment. Anti-poverty programmes like the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), the National Rural Livelihood Mission, and the *Deendayal Upadhyay Grameen Kaushalya Yojana* focus on generating employment, skill development, micro credit and capacity building to increase employability among the poor. Some of the other programmes include the National Social Assistance Programmes (NSAP), the *Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Beema Yojana (PMJJBY)*, *Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Suraksha Beema Yojana (PMJSBY)*, *Ayushman Bharat, Mission Antyodaya*, the National Food Security Mission, *Poshan Abhiyan*, *Swachh Bharat Mission*, *Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY)*, *Pradhan Mantri Ujjawala Yojana*, *Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY)* etc.

Performance on Goal 2

To measure India's performance towards the Goal of Zero Hunger, four national level indicators have been identified, which capture three out of the eight SDG targets for 2030. The four national indicators are - (i) Households covered under food subsidy (PDS); (ii) Stunting (children under 5 years of age); (iii) Anaemia among Women; and (iv) Agricultural Productivity. Based on these four indicators, **the SDG Index Score on Goal 2 for India stands at 48**, and the score ranges between 35 and 80 for the States and between 38 and 72 for the UTs. Goa and Delhi were the top performing among the States and the UTs respectively.

Working towards ending hunger and all forms of malnutrition, India has undertaken various initiatives that are strongly aligned with the targets outlined under this goal. Such programmes include the National Nutrition Mission *POSHAN Abhiyaan*, *Antyodaya Anna Yojana* (AAY), Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS), Mid-day Meal (MDM) scheme, the *Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana* (PMMVY), etc. In addition, there are several agriculture related policies such as the National Mission on Agriculture Extension and Technology, the National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture, the National Food Security Mission, etc.

Performance on Goal 3

To measure India's performance towards Goal 3 of Good Health and Well-being, five national level indicators have been identified, which capture four out of the 13 SDG targets for 2030. The five indicators are - (i) Maternity Mortality Rate; (ii) Under-five Mortality Rate; (iii) Immunization Coverage in Children; (iv) Tuberculosis Incidence; and (v) Health Workforce. Based on these five indicators, **the SDG Index Score on Goal 3 for India stands at 52**, and the score ranges between 25 and 92 for the States and between 23 and 66 for the UTs. Kerala is the best performer among the States, and Puducherry among the UTs.

India has been actively working to cover every aspect of Goal 3 and strengthen the health sector in the country. The various initiatives of the Government include The National Health Mission (NHM) - sub-missions - National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) and National Urban Health Mission

(NUHM), *AYUSHMAN BHARAT - Pradhan Mantri Jan Aarogya Yojana* (PMJAY), *Mission Indradhanush*, the Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme (RNTCP), the National Leprosy Eradication Programme, the Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP), the National Mental Health Programme (NMHP), the National Programme for control of blindness, the National Programme for Prevention and control of cancer, diabetes, cardiovascular diseases and stroke (NPCDCS), etc.

Performance on Goal 4

To measure India's performance towards the Goal of Quality Education, seven national level indicators have been identified, which capture two out of the ten SDG targets for 2030. The seven indicators are - (i) Enrolment Ratio at Elementary and Secondary levels; (ii) Student Proficiency in Class 5; (iii) Student Proficiency in Class 8; (iv) Children out of School; (v) Drop-out Rate at Secondary Level; (vi) Professionally Qualified Teachers; and (vii) Pupil-Teacher Ratio. Based on these seven indicators, **the SDG Index Score on Goal 4 for India stands at 58**, and the score ranges between 36 and 87 for the States and between 46 and 85 for the UTs. Among the States, Kerala is the top performer and Chandigarh, among the UTs.

The Government of India recognises the challenges faced by the education sector in the country and has come up with innovative programmes that address the various needs and issues. Some of the programmes are - *Samagra Shiksha*, *Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan* (SSA), *Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan* (RMSA) and Teacher Education (TE), etc. Digital initiatives like *Shala Kosh*, *Shagun*, *Shaala Saarthi* are also helping promote technology in the education sector.

Performance on Goal 5

To measure India's performance towards Goal of Gender Equality, six national level indicators have been identified, which capture four out of the nine SDG targets for 2030. The six indicators are - (i) Sex Ratio at Birth; (ii) Wage Gap (Male/Female); (iii) Domestic Violence; (iv) Women in Leadership; (v) Ratio of Female Labour Force Participation Rate; and (vi) Family Planning. Based on these six national indicators, **the SDG Index Score on Goal 5 for India stands at just 36**, and the score ranges between 24 and 50 for the States and between 27

and 58 for the UTs. Kerala and Sikkim among the States, and Andaman and Nicobar Islands, and Chandigarh among the UTs, are in the Performers category (with Index score greater than/equal to 50 and less than 65).

India is committed, both constitutionally and through its policies, to achieving gender equality in all spheres of life. To further enhance efforts towards this goal, India has also launched several national level schemes and programmes, which include - Gender Budgeting, *Beti Bachao Beti Padhao* campaign, *Sukanya Samridhi Yojana*, the *Janani Suraksha Yojana*, One Stop Centre, the *Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY)*, etc.

Performance on Goal 6

To measure India's performance towards Clean Water and Sanitation, five national level indicators have been identified, which capture, three out of the eight SDG targets for 2030. The five indicators are - (i) Safe and Adequate Drinking Water in Rural Areas; (ii) Rural Households with Individual Toilets; (iii) Open Defecation Free Districts; (iv) Installed Sewage Treatment Capacity; and (v) Annual Ground Water Withdrawal. Based on these five national indicators, **the SDG Index Score on Goal 6 for India stands at 63**, and the score ranges between 31 and 100 for the States and between 45 and 100 for the UTs. Among the States, Gujarat has achieved a full score of 100. The same score is shared by Chandigarh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, and Lakshadweep, among the UTs.

India has been actively working in this area through multi-sectoral interventions. Some of the important programmes include - National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRWDP), the National Water Quality Sub-Mission, *Swachh Bharat Mission - Gramin*, etc. Besides, India aims at making the whole country Open Defecation Free (ODF) by 2019.

Performance on Goal 7

To measure India's performance towards achieving the Goal of Affordable and Clean Energy, three national level indicators have been identified, which capture two out of the five SDG targets for 2030. The three indicators are - (i) Percentage of Households Electrified; (ii) Households using Clean Cooking Fuel; and (iii) Renewable Energy. Based on these three national indicators, **the SDG Index Score on Goal 7 for India stands at 51**. Among the States, Tamil

Nadu, Mizoram and Karnataka are the top three performers on this Goal with a score of 89, 78 and 77 respectively. Among the UTs, Chandigarh fares the best with a score of 96.

India aims to achieve the dual objective of affordable and clean energy by providing access to energy for all at affordable prices. We already have in place the National Electricity Plan and the National Energy Policy. The Government of India has also launched various schemes such as the National Solar Mission, Dedicated Green Energy Corridor, the Off-Grid and Decentralized Solar PV Applications Programme, the National Biogas and Manure Management Programme, the *Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana- Saubhagya*, the LPG subsidy (under PAHAL), the *Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana*, the *Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana*, UJALA, etc.

Performance on Goal 8

To measure India's performance towards Decent Work and Economic Growth, four national level indicators have been identified, which capture three out of the twelve SDG targets for 2030. The four indicators are - (i) Annual Growth Rate of GDP; (ii) Unemployment Rate; (iii) Bank Access; and (iv) ATM Coverage. Based on four identified national indicators, **the SDG Index Score on Goal 8 for India stands at 65**, and the score ranges between 33 and 90 for the States and between 60 and 91 for the UTs. Among the States, Goa is the top performer, and Daman and Diu among the UTs.

By the end of 2030, India targets that every citizen of the country, male or female, including persons with disabilities, should have decent work contributing towards the GDP of the country. To meet this target, government has initiated several programmes for generating employment opportunities, enhancing skill development and accelerating economic growth for the masses. Some of the programmes include - Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), Start-up India, Skill India the *Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana*, etc.

Performance on Goal 9

To measure India's progress towards the Goal of Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, four national level indicators have been identified, which capture two out of the eight SDG targets for 2030. The four indicators are - (i) Road

Connectivity; (ii) Mobile Tele-density; (iii) Internet Density; and (iv) Gram Panchayats covered under 'Bharat Net'. Based on four identified national indicators, **the SDG Index Score on Goal 9 for India stands at 44**, and the score ranges between 0 and 72 for the States and between 0 and 100 for the UTs. The UTs of Delhi and Puducherry are the Achievers of this Goal as they scored a full 100 on the Index.

The Government of India is taking several initiatives to boost the infrastructure sector such as *Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)*, *Bharatmala*, *Sagarmala*, etc. Towards innovation and industry development, we have the flagship programmes such as Make in India, Digital India, etc.

Performance on Goal 10

To measure India's performance towards Reduced Inequality, five national level indicators have been identified, which capture three out of the ten SDG targets for 2030. These five indicators are - (i) Urban Inequality; (ii) Rural Inequality; (iii) Ratio of Transgender Labour Force Participation Rate; (iv) Scheduled Caste Fund Utilisation; and (v) Scheduled Tribe Fund Utilisation. Based on these five national indicators, **the SDG Index Score on Goal 10 for India stands at 71**, and the score ranges between 38 and 100 for the States and between 52 and 100 for the UTs. The Achievers (with Index score equal to 100) among the States are Meghalaya, Mizoram and Telangana; and among the UTs are Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu, and Lakshadweep.

Several schemes of the government, some directly and some indirectly, are aimed at reducing inequalities. These are - *Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY)*, Prime Minister Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) enacted in 2005, *Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY)*, Stand-Up India Scheme, etc.

Performance on Goal 11

To measure India's performance towards Sustainable Cities and Communities, four national level indicators have been identified, which capture two out of the ten SDG targets for 2030. These four indicators are - (i) Houses completed under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY); (ii) Percentage of Urban Households living in Slums; (iii) Door-to-door Waste Collection; and (iv) Percentage of

Waste Processed. Based on these four national indicators, **the SDG Index Score on Goal 11 for India stands at just 39**, and the score ranges between 23 and 71 for States and between 6 and 64 for UTs. Among the States, Goa is the top performer, and Andaman and Nicobar Islands, among the UTs.

Various government schemes and strategies have been formulated for achieving targets enlisted under SDG11. These are - Atal Mission For Rejuvenation And Urban Transformation (AMRUT), *Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana* - Urban, Smart Cities Mission, etc.

SDG 12

Goal 12 on Sustainable Consumption and Production emphasizes on “doing more with less” thereby ensuring that the needs of the present generation are fulfilled without compromising the needs of the future generation. This Goal emphasizes promoting resource efficiency, green economies and sustainable infrastructure. It also focuses on reducing degradation and pollution, and minimizing waste.

India, being the second most populous country in the world, is home to about 17.5 percent of the world population with a meager 2.4 percent of the world’s area. This makes it necessary to have a comprehensive policy framework aimed at achieving resource efficiency, reduction in waste and pollutant activities, and adoption of technologies focusing on renewable resources.

SDG 13

Goal 13 on Climate Change aims to integrate climate change measures into national policies and strategies; and further aims to plan and promote mechanisms for raising capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management.

India has great geographic diversity, and a variety of climate regimes and regional and local weather conditions, which are vulnerable to climate change. This is manifested in floods, droughts as well as the risk from tsunamis and cyclones experienced in coastal areas.

SDG 14

Goal 14 commits countries to conserve and sustainably use oceans, seas and marine resources. It focuses on preventing marine pollution, ending illegal and destructive fishing practices, and sustainably managing and protecting marine and coastal ecosystems while increasing scientific knowledge, research and transfer of marine technology to improve marine health.

India has taken various steps to protect and enhance the coastal and marine ecosystem.

Performance on Goal 15

To measure India's performance towards SDG 15 on Life on Land, four national level indicators have been identified, which capture three out of the twelve SDG targets for 2030. The four indicators are - (i) Percentage of total land area covered under Forest; (ii) Decadal Change in the extent of Water Bodies within Forest; (iii) Change in Forest Area; and (iv) Population of Wild Elephants. Based on these four national indicators, **the SDG Index Score on Goal 15 for India stands at 90**, and the score ranges between 43 and 100 for States and between 50 and 100 for UTs. The Achievers (with an Index score equal to 100) are Assam, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Manipur, Odisha and Uttarakhand among the States, and Dadra and Nagar Haveli, and Lakshadweep among the UTs.

The Government of India has taken various initiatives towards meeting the targets set under SDG 15: the National Environment Policy, 2006 and National Agro-forestry Policy, 2014, the Green Highways Policy, 2015, the National Afforestation Programme, the Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats Programme, the Programme on Conservation of Natural Resources and Eco-systems, etc.

Performance on Goal 16

To measure India's performance towards Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, six national level indicators have been identified, which capture five out of the twelve SDG targets for 2030. The six identified indicators are - (i) Reported Murders (per 1 lakh population); (ii) Crimes Against Children (per 1 lakh population); (iii) Court Density; (iv) Corruption Crime Rate; (v) Births Registered; and (vi) Aadhaar Coverage. Based on these six indicators, **the SDG Index Score on Goal 16 for India stands at 71**, and the score ranges between 53 and 91 for the States and between 63 and 92 for the UTs. Himachal Pradesh

with a score of 91 and Puducherry with a score of 92 top the list of States and UTs respectively.

India aims to foster an environment of peace, justice and good governance through transparent and accountable institutions at all levels. To achieve its targets India has taken various initiatives. India empowers its citizens through a strong system of rights based legislation. The Right to Information Act, 2005 allows citizens to access information from public authorities, thus ensuring transparency and accountability of institutions. The *Aadhaar* is one of the world's largest unique national identification projects. With these instrumentalities in place, it has resulted in efficient service delivery and reducing corruption.

SDG 17

Goal 17 aims at strengthening the means of implementation and revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development. It primarily focuses on the enabling factors to support successful implementation and achievement of SDGs such as - financing for development, access to technology, capacity-building measures, trade as a facilitator of global growth, institutional coherence and policy convergence, involvement of multi-stakeholders and forging partnerships, and also ensuring accountability by regular monitoring.

Early Lessons from India

In the last four years since the adoption of the SDGs in September 2015, India has demonstrated its strong commitment to the global goals given the success of the SDGs at the global will to a significant extent depend upon the success of its implementation in India. India's commitment is reflected in its work to electrify rural households, ensure that girls go to school and stay in school, provide sanitation and housing for all, equip young people with skills to compete in the global labour market, enable access to finance and financial services, and more. India has also made bold strides on the use of data for effective policymaking, and monitoring progress of schemes against targets. These

interventions have a direct and resounding effect on the achievement of the SDGs. They serve as examples for other developing countries grappling with similar challenges. The localisation of SDGs has been ascribed utmost importance, as the States and Union Territories (UTs) are the actual implementors of the country's ambitious development agenda.