National Press Coverage
Kerala leads race for UN development goals

Bihar at bottom of NITI Aayog list

**Long road ahead**

Kerala and Chandigarh had the highest composite SDG score of 70, while Bihar fared the worst with a score of 50.

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI**

Kerala tops the States in progress towards the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), while Bihar is at the bottom of the NITI Aayog's SDG Index, released on Monday.

Himachal Pradesh and Sikkim have joined the four southern States among the front-runners, which scored over 65 points out of a possible 100.

Ending hunger and achieving gender equality are the areas where most States fall far short, with the all-India scores at a dismal 35 and 42 points respectively. On the other hand, the NITI Aayog has given India an overall score of 60 points, driven mostly by progress in clean energy and sanitation (88); peace, justice and strong institutions (72); and affordable and clean energy (70).

The SDGs are a set of 17 broad-based global goals adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 2015, and intended to be achieved by 2030. With one-sixth of the world’s population, India is key to the achievement of the goals.

The UN has developed 232 indicators to measure compliance by member nations. The NITI Aayog has adapted the monitoring approach to the Indian context, with 100 indicators of its own for the Index.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 12**
Kerala tops NITI Aayog’s index of UN goals

Only 40% of these indicators were used for last year’s baseline index and hence, the two indices are not directly comparable. However, it is still interesting to note that Kerala has retained its top slot, while Uttar Pradesh, Odisha and Sikkim have shown the most improvement.

The second SDG – zero hunger – shows sharp divergence in the performance of States, with little middle ground. Kerala, Goa and parts of the north-east, including Mizoram, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim, have scored above 65, with Goa at 75 points.

However, 22 of the States and Union Territories have scored below 50, with the central Indian States of Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Chhattisgarh scoring below 30, showing high levels of hunger and malnutrition.

On the fifth SDG – gender equality – almost all States fare poorly. Only Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Kerala have managed to cross 50 points. The indicators considered include crimes against women, eradicating sex selection and discrimination against daughters, and access to reproductive health schemes, as well as indicators showing women’s economic and political empowerment and leadership.

A sex ratio of 896 females per 1000 males, a 17.5% female labour participation rate, and the fact that one in three women experience spousal violence all contribute to a low score countrywide.

The Swachh Bharat Mission has contributed largely to the high scores on the sixth SDG – clean water and sanitation – although that was helped by the fact that four out of seven indicators dealt with toilets and sanitation, while only one indicator was related to safe and affordable drinking water.

All States and Union Territories except for Delhi have scored above 65, with the national capital scoring poorly on the percentage of urban households with individual household toilets (less than 1%) and, oddly, providing no data on districts verified to be open defecation free.
The report showed that states below 50—

HARYANA: According to the National Human Rights Commission's report, Haryana's overall score is below 50.

The report highlighted that the

SDG Goals are aspirational goals and

SDG Targets are specific measures
toward achieving the SDG

The report also noted that the

NITI Aayog Vice Chairman and CEO Anshu Pratap

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Kerala retains top rank on SDG Index

When: 17th June 2020

Hindustan Times, Delhi

Press Information Bureau

Government of India

Thursday, 31st December 2019

Page 19

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Kerala continues to

achieve the goals—which was

the half-way mark towards

the goal.
India bettered sustainable development
score, no state in lowest category now

The report attributes the
significance of
India's position in the
SDG index to
its sustained
growth, better
infrastructure,
and improved
education and
health services.

India's performance in
the SDG index is
improved, with a score of 67,
placing it in the "Bottom 15"
category. The report
attributes this to
improved education,
health, and
infrastructure.

The report also highlights
India's progress in
education, with an
improvement of 0.66
points from 2019. The
SDG index measures
progress in achieving
the SDG goals,
with each goal having
specific indicators.

India's performance is
compared to other
countries, and
progress is
highlighted in
several areas,
such as healthcare,
education, and
infrastructure.

The report concludes
with a statement
that India is on
the right track,
but more
improvements
are needed.

Amritpal Singh
Times of India, New Delhi

Times of India, New Delhi

Full report on @timesofindia
www.timesofindia.indiatimes.com

Amritpal Singh
www.timesofindia.indiatimes.com
Bihar at bottom, UP is highest gainer

SDG goals: Kerala retains no. 1 slot,

Oxidita increased its overall score from 42 in 2018 to 55 in 2019, while UP saw an improvement in its overall score in terms of progress. Uttar Pradesh has emerged as the state with the highest score of 90, followed by Kerala with a score of 70. While the state ranked among others, the reduction in hunger and poverty, clean water and sanitation, quality education, gender equality, and sustainable development goals (SDG) such as good health, education, and peace, have been achieved targets set for 2030.

The Indian Express, Delhi
SDG goals: Kerala retains No. 1 slot

of the table. Uttar Pradesh, Odisha and Sikkim have shown maximum improvement, as per the report for second year released by NITI Aayog on Monday. This first such report was released in 2018.

Himachal Pradesh took the second spot with a score of 69 while Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Telangana shared the third spot with each state scoring 67 on the Index. Chandigarh too maintained its top spot among the UTs with a score of 70.

Bihar, Jharkhand, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya and Uttar Pradesh are the worst performing states in this year’s index. “India is making impressive progress in SDG implementation through well-designed programmes of the Government of India such as Poshan Abhiyan (National Nutrition Mission), Aayushman Bharat (National Health Protection Scheme), Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (Care for the Girl Child) and Aspiration Districts Programme,” NITI Aayog Vice-Chairman Rajiv Kumar said. “The Index has reinforced the spirit of competitive good governance among the States and Union Territories, which are ranked on the basis of their achievements on the SDGs and their targets,” he said.

“The United Nations’ SDG target of 2030 can never be met without India... We are fully committed to achieving UN’s SDG target,” NITI Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant said at the launch of the report. The report measures a total of 16 goals and then arrives at a composite SDG for each state and UT.

In 2018 index, only three states, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu, were placed in the category of front runners — with a score in the range of 65-99. In 2019, five more States joined this league — Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Kamataka, Sikkim and Goa, taking the total tally to eight.

India’s composite score improved from 57 in 2018 to 60 in 2019 with major success in water and sanitation, power and industry. However, nutrition and gender continue to be problem areas for India, requiring more focused approach from the government.

With regard to poverty reduction, states which have done well include Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Andhra Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Sikkim. On zero hunger parameters, Goa, Mizoram, Kerala, Nagaland and Manipur were the front runners, according to the report.

The SDG India Index, launched last year by NITI Aayog with the help of United Nations took into account 16 out of 17 goals specified by the United Nations as SDGs.

There has been variation in improvement levels among states. Uttar Pradesh, for example, has improved its overall score from 42 in 2018 to 55 in 2019, and is the highest gainer. The biggest improvement has been on the front of affordable and clean energy, where the jump has been by 40 points. Scores in clean water and sanitation and on industry, innovation, and infrastructure, have climbed by 39 and 34 points, respectively, for the state.

Odisha stands second in overall improvement, with an increase of 7 points, from 51 to 58. The goal relating to industry, innovation, and infrastructure has contributed highest to the rise with a jump of 40 points.

Sikkim is the third best state in overall improvement: from a score of 58 to that of 65, indicating an increase by 7 points. In goal of affordable and clean energy, the state recorded an increase by 55 points. In goal of industry, innovation and infra, Sikkim has made a jump of 26 points. Performance in goal relating to sustainable cities and communities, has been by 18 points, which is the third biggest contributor to Sikkim’s improvement. The improvement in clean water and sanitation is driven by the success of the Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan in eliminating open defecation, the report said.

The year 2020 will be the fifth anniversary of the adoption of SDGs by 193 countries at the UN General Assembly. The SDGs, constituted through an unprecedented consultative process, have 17 goals and 169 related targets to be achieved by 2030. The Index has been developed by NITI Aayog in coordination with the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, United Nations in India and Global Green Growth Institute.

UN Resident Coordinator Renata Dessilien said the world is entering final decade for achieving the SDGs — the Decade for Action. The SDG India Index 2.0 and the dashboard enables India to both track and encourage accelerated progress to meet the SDGs across all its states and UTs, she said at the launch of the report.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PARAMETERS AND THE TOPPERS</th>
<th>TOP PERFORMING STATES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NO POVERTY</td>
<td>Tamil Nadu, Jammu &amp; Kashmir, and Ladakh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QUALITY EDUCATION</td>
<td>Himachal Pradesh and Chandigarh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE</td>
<td>Kerala, Gujarat, Daman and Diu, Delhi and Dadra and Nagar Haveli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REDUCED INEQUALITY</td>
<td>Telangana and Andaman and Nicobar Islands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION</td>
<td>Nagaland and Chandigarh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS</td>
<td>Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Puducherry</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: NITI Aayog
POLICY WATCH
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

NITI Aayog set to take up financing exercise with ‘historically backward’ states

Economist Bureau
NEW DELHI, DECEMBER 30

GOVERNMENT THINK tank, NITI Aayog, plans to conduct a financing exercise with states that have been “historically backward” in development to ensure that India can achieve its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) on time.

“While significant levels of food losses occur upstream at harvest and during post-harvest handling, a considerable quantity of food is lost or wasted during the distribution and consumption stages. Such food could be salvaged by closely watching them the distribution network, aggregation and then redirecting it to the people who need it,” stated the report.

NITI Aayog has already begun estimating the financial cost of achieving the “key” SDGs in collaboration with the International Monetary Fund, and stated the report. “At the next step of the collaboration, SDG financing exercise with select states is planned. Special attention is being given to the selection, implementation, monitoring and financing of SDGs in states which have been historically backward in development,” it stated.

“A comprehensive capacity building programme for the States, UTs and local governments is being designed in partnership with the UN system. The training modules will extensively cover developing SDG monitoring framework, identifying and designing indicators, localisation, and action plans,” it added.

The SDG India Index 2019 report, which evaluates the progress of states and Union Territories on social, economic and environmental parameters, found that food has managed to improve its average score on the back of improvements in five goals. However, it has stated that two goals—nutrition and gender—continued to be problem areas and demand special attention. In contrast, food wastage and loss due to inefficient supply chain management remain a “major concern,” according to the report.

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Crimes against women started at around 3.60 lakh in 2017, with the crime rate increasing to 5.79 lakh in 2018, according to the report, which added that “several” laws have been enacted towards reforms to ensure gender rights and equality.

Several challenges still remain in achieving gender equality, including an “acute” data gap for gender equality in several sectors, especially for transgender people, stated the report. Other issues include declining female labour force participation, which currently stands at 17.5 per cent, and is characterized by aspects like a gender wage gap across sectors as high as 50-75 per cent.

The agriculture sector still has the “largest” share of women, and “a large” proportion of the population involved in informal employment also consists of women “with little or no social protection”.

There is also inequality in women’s access to and ownership of land. In rural India, while 75 per cent of rural women workers are engaged in agriculture, women’s operational landholding is only 13.96 per cent. The absence of land ownership limits their access to inputs, seeds, fertilisers, credit and agricultural extension services, as per the report.

India will be presenting its second Voluntary National Review during the United Nations’ High-Level Political Forum in July 2020.
Telling Numbers

How the states, UTs scored on various goals in SDG Index

**TOP 12, THE STATES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kerala</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Himachal</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andhra</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tamil Nadu</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telangana</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goa</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sikkim</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uttarakhand</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Punjab</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**BOTTOM 5, THE STATES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bihar</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jharkhand</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arunachal</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meghalaya</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UP, Assam</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOP 5, THE UTs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UT</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chandigarh</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puducherry</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daman &amp; Diu</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lakshadweep</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delhri A &amp; B</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**GOAL BY GOAL, THE STATES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sustainable development goal</th>
<th>Topscore</th>
<th>2nd place</th>
<th>Bottom rank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SG 1: Good health</td>
<td>Tamil Nadu (70)</td>
<td>Kerala (69)</td>
<td>UP, Assam (55)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SG 2: Quality education</td>
<td>Tamil Nadu (70)</td>
<td>Kerala (69)</td>
<td>UP, Assam (55)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SG 3: Economic growth</td>
<td>Tamil Nadu (70)</td>
<td>Kerala (69)</td>
<td>UP, Assam (55)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SG 4: Climate action</td>
<td>Tamil Nadu (70)</td>
<td>Kerala (69)</td>
<td>UP, Assam (55)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SG 5: Gender equality</td>
<td>Tamil Nadu (70)</td>
<td>Kerala (69)</td>
<td>UP, Assam (55)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SG 6: Education &amp; literacy</td>
<td>Tamil Nadu (70)</td>
<td>Kerala (69)</td>
<td>UP, Assam (55)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SG 7: Sustainable cities &amp; communities</td>
<td>Tamil Nadu (70)</td>
<td>Kerala (69)</td>
<td>UP, Assam (55)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SG 8: Peace &amp; justice &amp; strong institutions</td>
<td>Tamil Nadu (70)</td>
<td>Kerala (69)</td>
<td>UP, Assam (55)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SG 9: Industry &amp; innovation</td>
<td>Tamil Nadu (70)</td>
<td>Kerala (69)</td>
<td>UP, Assam (55)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SG 10: Reduced inequalities</td>
<td>Tamil Nadu (70)</td>
<td>Kerala (69)</td>
<td>UP, Assam (55)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**High-performing Union Territories**

- Chhattisgarh
- Telangana
- UP, Assam
- Uttarakhand
- Maharashtra

**NITI Aayog has released its latest SDG India Index 2019, which assesses each state and Union Territory’s achievement on 16 sustainable development goals (SDGs). Kerala is in the top slot with a score of 70, while Bihar is at the bottom with 50.**

Each of the 16 SDGs — ranging from good health to quality education, gender equality, and climate action — comprise several indicators, with the numbers of these varying from SDG to SDG. Scores are given for a state or UT on each SDG. The composite score for each state or UT is computed by aggregating their performance across these goals, and then by taking the arithmetic mean of individual goal scores. A score of 100 implies that the state/UT has achieved targets set for 2030.


Following Kerala, Sikkim scored the top composite score of 70. Himachal Pradesh took the second spot with a score of 69 while Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana shared the third spot with each scoring 67. There are six states in the highest bucket, followed by Karnataka, with scores in the range 64-65. Behind Kerala, Himachal Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana, the other states in this category are Manipur, Sikkim, and Goa. Two UTs, Chandigarh and Puducherry, scored in this range.
Kerala retains top slot in Niti's SDG index

Fe-February

Economist

The Index, which evaluates social, economic and environmental progress of states, is based on the SDGs, their goals and indicators.

The SDGs Ireland also makes a reference to the recent news article where the government announced its plans to boost the economy through various initiatives.

For the second year in a row, Kerala retains the top spot in Niti's SDG index. The state is ranked first in 19 out of 49 indicators, which cover areas such as health, education, and governance.

The report, released by Niti Aayog, highlights the progress made by the state in achieving the SDGs. The state has achieved or is on track to achieve 23 out of 49 indicators.

The report also highlights the need for other states to learn from Kerala's success story and work towards achieving the SDGs.

The index is a useful tool for policymakers and stakeholders to track progress and identify areas that need attention.

The top performers in the index include states such as Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Andhra Pradesh.

The bottom performers include states such as Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, and Assam.

The report also highlights the need for a holistic approach to achieve the SDGs, which requires a multi-pronged strategy involving government, civil society, and the private sector.

The report calls for a greater focus on education, health, and nutrition to achieve the SDGs.

The government is expected to release a detailed action plan to achieve the SDGs in the near future.
Kerala, Himachal and Andhra Top SDG Index

Fourteen states fall in overall rankings; Bihar, Jharkhand and Arunachal Pradesh at the bottom

Our Bureau

New Delhi: Kerala, Himachal Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Telangana have topped the list of states on the sustainable development goals (SDG) Index 2019-20, helping India improve its composite score to 60 this year from 57 in 2018.

Fourteen states have fallen in overall rankings compared to last year, with states like Bihar, Jharkhand and Arunachal Pradesh at the bottom of the index.

The SDG Index, launched last year, ranks states based on 16 goals across 54 targets spread among 100 nationally identified indicators. The first report in 2018 only had 13 goals and 38 indicators. The 2019-20 report also has a dedicated profile of all states and Union Territories.

The United Nations' SDG has 17 goals spread across 160 targets. UP, Odisha and Sikkim have shown maximum improvement, while states like Gujarat have not shown any improvement since their first ranking in 2018.

The SDG India Index 2019-20 report, released on Monday, shows remarkable success in goals like water, sanitation, power and industry. However, nutrition and gender equality continue to be problematic areas for India, requiring a more focused approach from the government as India strives to achieve targets under the sustainable development goals 2030.

"Unless we take SDGs to ground level, we will not be able to sustain the development made so far," Niti Aayog vice chairman Rajiv Kumar said at the launch of the report.

According to Kumar, the Niti Aayog has undertaken a comprehensive capacity building programme with states, Union Territories and local governments in partnership with United Nations to develop an SDG monitoring framework, identifying and designing indicators, localisation and dashboards at the lowest level.

Kumar said that the report will soon come out with estimates on the financial cost of achieving key SDGs. The index gains significance as India prepares to present its second voluntary national review during the UN's high-level political forum in July next year.
Kerala was the top state in meeting the sustainable development goals in this year’s ranking, prepared by NITI Aayog. Kerala retained the top slot, while Himachal, which shared the top ranking in 2018, was relegated to the second slot in this year's ranking. Bihar, Jharkhand and Arunachal Pradesh were the worst performing states in this year’s index for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). According to the report on the index, while Uttarakhand, Odisha and Sikkim showed maximum improvement, states such as Gujarat have not shown any improvement vis-a-vis 2018 scores. India’s composite score also improved from 57 in 2018 to 60 in 2019.

**RANKING OF STATES IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Kerala &amp; Himachal Pradesh</td>
<td>Kerala</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Tamil Nadu</td>
<td>Himachal Pradesh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Gujarat, Karnataka and Maharashtra</td>
<td>Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu &amp; Telangana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Telangana</td>
<td>Karnataka</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Punjab &amp; Uttarakhand</td>
<td>Sikkim &amp; Goa</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

"THE UNITED NATIONS’ SDG TARGET OF 2030 CAN NEVER BE MET WITHOUT INDIA… WE ARE FULLY COMMITTED TO ACHIEVING UN’S SDG TARGET"

**AMITABH KANT, NITI Aayog CEO**
Himachal and Kerala top SDG index 2019

NITI Aayog's Sustainable Development Goals India Index tracks progress of all States and UTs on 100 indicators

INDIA'S composite score in Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) index has improved from 67 in 2018 to 69 in 2019, thereby showing noticeable progress. It came out in second edition of the SDG India Index report by NITI Aayog, which comprehensively documents the progress made by India's States and Union Territories towards achieving the 2030 SDG targets.

The maximum gains have been made in Goals 6 (clean water and sanitation), 9 (industry, innovation, and infrastructure) and 7 (affordable and clean energy).

Kerala achieved the first rank in the composite SDG Index with a score of 70, followed by Himachal Pradesh at 69, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, and Tamil Nadu at the third position with the score of 67. The biggest improvers since 2018 are UP (which has moved from the 29th position to the 23rd), Orissa (33rd to 15th), and Sikkim (15th to 7th).

While Bihar improved its score from 48 in 2018 to 50 in 2019, it still has a long way to go in achieving the targets.

All three states that were in the 'Aspirant' category (with score/s in the range of 0-49) — Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Assam — have graduated to the 'Performer' category (50-64). Five states — Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Goa, and Sikkim — moved up from the 'Performer' category to the 'Front Runner' category (65-90).

The SDG India Index 2019 tracks progress of all States and UTs on 100 indicators drawn from the MoSPI's National Indicator Framework (NIF). The process of selection of these indicators included multiple consultations with union ministries, departments and states/UTs.

Officials said that the SDG India Index 2019 is more robust than the first edition on account of wider coverage of goals, targets, and indicators with greater alignment with the NIF. The Index spans 16 out of 17 SDGs with a qualitative assessment on Goal 17. This marks an improvement over the 2018 Index, which covered only 13 goals.

Additionally, the SDG India Index report has a new section on profiles of all 37 States and UTs, which will be very useful to analyse their performance on all goals in a lucid manner.
India jumps three positions in SDG index
Tripura, Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand, and Meghalaya have made considerable improvements in the India composite score, according to the NITI Aayog's report on the 2020-21 performance of states. These states have shown significant progress in various indicators, including education, health, and infrastructure. Tripura, in particular, has seen a notable rise in the score, indicating a strong performance across multiple sectors.

Kerala and Sikkim have also shown impressive gains, reflecting their commitment to developmental initiatives. The NITI Aayog's report highlights the importance of these states in setting benchmarks for others.

The report stresses the need for a continued focus on sustainable development, highlighting the importance of holistic growth and inclusive development. The NITI Aayog continues to monitor and support the progress of states, ensuring that developmental efforts are aligned with national priorities.

New Delhi, 31 December 2019
State-run, English

Kerala tops NITI Aayog's SDG Index

NITI Aayog's annual report highlights the states that have shown significant improvements in their performance, with Kerala and Sikkim leading the way.

Press Information Bureau
Government of India

With the report's release, there is a renewed emphasis on states' commitment to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The report underscores the need for continued effort and innovation to meet the SDGs' targets by 2030. The NITI Aayog's report provides a comprehensive overview of state-level performance, enabling policymakers to identify areas for improvement and strategize effectively.

The report also acknowledges the challenges faced by different states and encourages a collaborative approach to tackling these challenges. It highlights the importance of state-specific strategies that can be tailored to address unique developmental needs.

Overall, the report serves as a valuable tool for policymakers, providing insights into state performance and offering guidance for future development strategies.
Kerala tops Niti SDG index, Bihar last
P7

— Eight, it noted, taking the total tally to 14 goals. The other two goals were scored by Goa, Sikkim and Goa, Telangana, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu. In 2019, five states joined this league, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu. Himachal Pradesh, and Andhra Pradesh, including both; in 2018 score in the range 65-69, while a Front Runners (with a)

Goals, states do the same on. It was equal to or better than the top sports performer performing. According to the report said while the

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Kerala tops Niti Ayog’s SDG index

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Tuesday, 31st December 2019; Page: 1

Asian Age, Delhi

Press Information Bureau

Government of India
NITI AAYOG'S SDG INDEX

Kerala on top, Bihar at the bottom of list

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Kerala and Chandigarh retained the top ranks among States and Union Territories even as Bihar turned out to be the worst performer in Niti Aayog's SDG India Index 2019 that evaluates progress on social, economic and environmental parameters.

According to ‘SDG (Sustainable Development Goals) India Index 2019’, released on Monday, Uttarakhand, Odisha and Sikkim have shown maximum improvement, but States like Gujarat have not shown any progress vis-a-vis the 2018 rankings.

“Kerala retained its rank as the top State with a score of 70. Chandigarh too maintained its top spot among the UTs with a score of 70. Himachal Pradesh took the second spot while Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Telangana shared the third spot,” the report said.

Bihar, Jharkhand and Arunachal Pradesh are the worst performing States in this year's Index for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). "The United Nations' SDG target of 2030 can never be met without India... We are fully committed to achieving UN's SDG target," Niti Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant said at the launch of the report.

Speaking at the event, Niti Aayog Vice Chairman Rajiv Kumar said southern states have done well in health.

"West Bengal (rank 14) has also done well in Niti Aayog's SDG Index 2019, but given the education level(in the state), West Bengal should be in top 3 performing states," Kumar added.

The Niti Aayog vice chairman also said Modi government will not leave any stone unturned to make sure India achieves SDG Agenda 2030. According to the report, India's composite score improved from 57 in 2018 to 60 in 2019 with major success in water sanitation, industry and innovation.

However, nutrition and gender continue to be problem areas for India, requiring more focussed approach from the government. The report said while three out of five states in the top spots perform equal to or better than the country average on 12 goals, the other two states do the same on 11 goals.

"Only three states were placed in the category of Front Runners (with a score in the range 65-99, including both) in 2018 - Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu. In 2019, five more states joined this league - Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Sikkim and Goa, taking the total tally to eight," it noted.

With regard to poverty reduction, states which have done well include Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Andhra Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Sikkim. On 'zero hunger' parameters, Goa, Mizoram, Kerala, Nagaland and Manipur were the front runners, according to the report.

The SDG India Index, launched last year by Niti Aayog with the help of United Nations, took into account 16 out of 17 goals specified by the United Nations as SDGs. The Index this year ranked states based on 54 targets spread over 100 indicators out of 306 outlined by the UN.

The first report, which was launched in 2018 had 13 goals and 39 indicators. The year 2020 will be the fifth anniversary of the adoption of SDGs by 193 countries at the UN General Assembly.

The SDGs, constituted through an unprecedented consultative process, have 17 goals and 169 related targets to be achieved by 2030.
Kerala tops, Bihar last in welfare list

The United Nations' Human Development Index recorded four new countries and two new regions in its list of the least developed countries (LDCs) at the end of the 2019-20 fiscal year. The index measures the country's human development. The report said while the percentage of people living in extreme poverty has declined globally, the increase in inequality has reversed that trend. The report also pointed out that the lack of progress in the Arab world, sub-Saharan Africa, and South Asia has persisted for several years. The report highlighted the need for a comprehensive approach to tackling poverty and inequality, including education, health, and social protection.
Keralas tops NitiS SDG Index, Bihar worst performer

The Niti Aayog on Tuesday released its second SDG Index and dashboards, a tool to measure and track progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in each state and Union Territory.

According to the SDG Index, which measures progress in terms of health, education, income, environment, and governance across the 17 SDGs, Kerala is the top performer in the country, followed by Himachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana.

On the other hand, Bihar continues to lag behind, as it has been for several years. The state is ranked 10th out of 17 in terms of its overall development score.

Kerala, with its strong focus on education, health, and economic growth, has been able to meet most of the SDGs targets, whereas Bihar struggles with poverty, malnutrition, and lack of basic infrastructure.

The index is an essential tool for countries to monitor their progress towards the SDGs and take necessary actions to ensure that no one is left behind.
For a personal healing touch

The NITI Aayog's healthcare plan should not end up emulating America's supermarket system

One repressed, inconspicuous theme can be discerned across the timeline of development of healthcare in the United States since the early 20th century. As the Mayo brothers' initially modest set-up (Mayo Clinic) profitably expanded into the prototypical 'multispecialty group practice' in the U.S., concerns that such arrangements would be bereft of the personal touch in patient care were vociferously raised.

This continued through the evolution of more and more organised structures like Health Maintenance Organisations (HMOs) in the forthcoming years, which were criticised for turning healthcare into a marketable commodity sold by unfeeling healthcare providers in supermarket-like institutions, destitute of traits like empathy, regard and loyalty. That such concerns didn't pick up systemic momentum in the U.S. is axiomatic, as much as the fact that U.S. healthcare ended up as one of the most impersonal healthcare systems.

Problematic proposition

The NITI Aayog's proposed 15-year plan for Indian healthcare entitled "Health Systems for a New India: Building Blocks - Potential Pathways to Reform" outlines prospects of such an infelicitous turn in Indian healthcare. While the report makes otherwise commendable proposals for health system strengthening - including elimination of informality, merging of fragmented risk pools, and reduction of out-of-pocket health spending - the proposal to consolidate small practices into larger business-like organisations appears problematic on multiple fronts.

That nearly 98% of healthcare providers have less than 10 employees is identified as a negative trait, to be dealt with through a set of incentives and disincentives favouring consolidation. Apart from cost and competition related concerns, an enthusiastic pursuit of it could portend an exacerbated commodification of healthcare from the bottom-up. The report's bent towards the U.S. HMO model further adds to such a foreboding.

Loyalty and longitudinality form vital pillars of the patient-physician relationship. The edifice of these is built upon a substratum of mutual trust, warmth, and understanding that accrues over time between a patient and their personal physician. Momentary and haphazardly physician-patient interactions in a system that limits access to one's 'physician of choice' are incapable of fostering such enduring relationships. It is in this context that the role of a family physician becomes instrumental. Apart from providing comprehensive care and coordinating referrals, a family physician's longitudinal relationship with their patient helps in a better understanding of the patient's needs and expectations and in avoiding unnecessary clinical hassles and encounters - which in turn reflects in better outcomes and increased patient satisfaction.

Widespread commercialisation of care over the past few decades has entailed that the family physician is a dying breed in India today. And it would be of little surprise to learn that this has a sizeable role in impairing the doctor-patient relationship, manifesting popularly through violence against healthcare providers. In a setting of overcrowded public hospitals, and profiteering healthcare enterprises, where the patient-physician interaction is largely fleeting and transactional, mistrust in the healthcare provider and its gruesome implications are not difficult to anticipate.

Advantage of small clinics

Studies have demonstrated that healthcare received in small clinics indeed scores higher in terms of patient satisfaction than that received in larger institutions. This increased satisfaction manifests as better compliance with the treatment regimen and regular follow-ups, culminating in improved clinical outcomes. Kelley JM et al, in a systematic review and meta-analysis of randomised controlled trials, have established that patient-clinician relationship has a statistically significant effect on healthcare outcomes. Indeed, disregard for this aspect in health services design is bound to entail a sizeable cost to the health system.

However, the subtle, fussy, and perceived non-urgent nature of this problem keeps it from assuming significance to policy-makers - as a result of which doctor-patient relationship considerations are largely invisibilised in the policy discourse in favour of more pressing concerns like lack of funds and manpower. Time and again, however, this omission has surfaced in the performance of health systems worldwide. As India looks forward to a long-term healthcare plan, neglecting this consideration could be of sizeable consequence.

The need for empathy

A popular myth often floated is that considerations regarding emotive aspects of healthcare such as empathy and trust are disparate from, and thus cannot be realistically factored into, hard-headed health policy and system design considerations. But, in reality, these are entirely amenable to cultivation through careful, evidence-based manipulation of the health system design and its components. It would necessitate, among other measures, installing an inbuilt family physician 'gatekeeper' in the health services system who acts as the last port of call for every registered patient. The NITI Aayog's long-term plan provides a good opportunity to envisage such long-called-for reforms, but that would require not the U.S. model but the U.K. model to be kept at the forefront for emulation. We have already taken a minor, yet encouraging, step of sorts by introducing Attitude, Ethics, and Communication (AECTOM) in the revised undergraduate medical curriculum.

One hopes that the pronouncement of this long-term healthcare plan doesn't indicate adoption of U.S.-like healthcare policies. The plan needs to be revisited to ensure that healthcare clinics delivering patient care don't transform into veritable supermarket stores marketing medical services any further.
विकास की दौड़ में केरल अखल, बिहार फिसड़ी

रिपोर्ट

वर्तमान स्थिति

राज्यों की प्रगति सर्वाधिक नीति आयोग की इस साल की रिपोर्ट में केरल पहले स्थान पर है। बिहार बिहार का प्रदर्शन सबसे खराब रहा है।

आयोग की ओर से सोमवार को जारी एक रिपोर्ट थी जिसके अनुसार, उत्तर प्रदेश, उड़ीसा और सिकिम ने 2018 के मुकाबले काफी अच्छी प्रगति की है जबकि गुजरात जैसे राज्यों की रैंकिंग में कोई बदलाव नहीं हुआ। आयोग के अंदर मामला भारत सुचकांक में सामाजिक, आर्थिक और पर्यावरण के क्षेत्र में राज्यों की प्रगति के आधार पर उनके प्रदर्शन को आंका जाता है और उनकी रैंकिंग की जाती है।

रिपोर्ट में कहा गया है, सुचकांक में केरल 70 और के राज्य सातवां स्थान पर बना रहा। केरल के साथ शीर्ष पावर दो राज्यों में चंडीगढ़ भी 70 और के साथ शीर्ष पावर दो राज्यों में बना रहा। हिमाचल प्रदेश और अरुणाचल प्रदेश का प्रदर्शन सबसे खराब रहा नीति आयोग के मुख्य कार्यालय अधिकारी अभिनव कांत ने रिपोर्ट जारी करते हुए कहा, संयुक्त

क्षेत्रों अर बी समाज

भारत का इस मामले में समान प्रायोगिक सुविधान 2019 में 60 पर पहुंच जा रहा है। दीपा और साफ़-साफ़, बिहार के क्षेत्र में अच्छी सफलता हासिल हुई है। हालांकि, पोषण और स्व-पुरुष असामान्यता देश के लिए समस्या बनी हुई है।

औसत से बेहतर

रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, शीर्ष स्थान पाने वाले पांच राज्यों में से तीन का 12 लक्ष्यों को हासिल करने में प्रदर्शन राष्ट्रीय औसत से बेहतर रहा है। वहीं दो राज्यों का प्रदर्शन 11 मामलों में राष्ट्रीय औसत से बेहतर है।

गोवा के मुख्यमन्त्री को मात

govda का अमूल्य महान ने संतुष्टि में लिम्बुर्क, निपुंश, आधिय प्रदेश, मेलाना, मिश्रित और सिकिम का प्रदर्शन बेहतर रहा है। वहीं सुधीरकर्मी को पूरी तरह समाज करने में गोवा, मिश्रित, कर्नाटक, नागालैंड और मणिपुर अधिपति रहे। अगस्त 2020 इसकी पांचवी वर्षगांठ होगी। इसका मूल लक्ष्य समाज की बेहतरी के लिए के आर्थिक, पर्यावरण और सामाजिक मांग पर उच्च मानदंडों का प्रा रंग करना है।

राजस्थान का 2030 का रुझानी लक्ष्य भारत के बिना कभी भी हासिल नहीं किया जा सकता। हम स्वच्छ विकास के संयुक्तराष्ट्र में तय लक्ष्यों को हासिल करने के लिए प्रतिबद्ध हैं।
सतत विकास में केरल अव्वल

नई दिल्ली। नीति आयोग ने सतत विकास के लक्ष्य (एसडीजी) की दिशा में राज्यों की स्थिति पर सोमवार को समग्र सिपोट जारी की। इसमें केरल फिर सतत विकास के लक्ष्य हासिल करने में सबसे आगे रहा। नीति आयोग ने एसडीजी इंडिया सूचनाकांक-2019 में बताया कि यूपी सबसे तेजी से सुधार करने वाले राज्यों में शामिल है। एसडीजी के तहत सामाजिक, आर्थिक प्रगति देखी जाती है। एजेंशी