



PROGRESS IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND INDIA

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ABSTRACT:

By announcing the 2030 Global Agenda in 2015, the UN made a significant choice to move on with sustainable development. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are an international policy agenda that aims to create a world free from violence, sickness, hunger and poverty so that all life forms can flourish and the planet becomes secure, resilient and sustainable. For the last more than seven years, India and other UN members have been putting the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development- which has 17 main goals and 169 targets in practice. The fifteen years SDG implementation period ends in December 2030. Nonetheless, certain goals are scheduled for early completion in 2020 and 2025. The 2030 agenda shared goals and the SDGs implementation have less than eight years remaining. Additionally, the UN declared that this decade would be the “Decade of Action” in order to quicken the pace of SDG implementation and ensure that they are completed on schedule. The continuous epidemic, crises, and violence have made it difficult to execute the SDGs. Nations are working very hard to get their economies back on track and to overcome obstacles in the way of implementing the SDGs quickly enough to meet the targets on time. In addition to the UN, a few international organizations such as Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) and the OECD provide SDG monitoring reports for their member nations as well as the global level. The paper examines, using a comprehensive approach from the targets that must be addressed over the remaining time of SDG implementation at the country level. The majority of India's SDG implementation efforts have been positive. The gaps from the objective that must be filled at the indicator, target and indicator and goal levels, however differ greatly from one another. It is also mentioned that leveraging the goals connections can improve allocative effectiveness. The conclusion is that India must step up its efforts to meet the SDGs on schedule and that international development assistance is critical to encourage the institutional and human capacity building process. Significant financial commitments, extensive collaboration, and alliances among all parties involved will be necessary for this. This paper develops and examines a Global SDG Progress Index that uses reported nations ranking and grading factors to encourage all countries to improve SDG performance, regardless of their ranking. The research indicates that the present pace of advancement in developing countries, based on GDP per capita values, is insufficient for equal acceptance with the SDGs at a level which is worldwide.

Keywords: Sustainable Development Goals, Millennium Development Goals, Agenda 2030, SDG implementation, Progress in SDG, achievements in sustainable development, performance of nations

INTRODUCTION:

Concept of Sustainable Development: Sustainable development was defined by the United Nations (UN) in 1987 as “development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs” in the Brundtland Report. Sustainability has been around for many millennia. However, this concept has been added to the global political agenda as a result of the recent realization that human interventions on environment are having a greater negative influence than positive ones. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a collection of 17 objectives and 169 targets that the United Nations announced in 2015 and calls on all of its member states to fulfill by 2030.

The Millennium Development Goals are in reality, the world's first attempt to define quantifiable goals and targets for significant global concerns. The world saw enormous political and economic developments throughout a fifteen-year period (2000-2015). To continue the momentum produced by the MDGs and advance the global development agenda, work to design SDGs began in 2012. Based mostly on the Rio+20 Outcome Document (UN Conference on Sustainable Development held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil) in

2012 to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the 1992 Rio Earth Summit), titled it as The Future We Want. The Millennium Development Goals (MDG) were added between 2000 and 2015 before this. The eight aims of the Millennium Development Goals are to decrease poverty, reduce infant mortality, prevent HIV/AIDS and other illness, enhance maternal health advance education and gender equality, protect the environment, and foster international cooperation between countries. The MDGs were designed to improve the lives of the world's poorest citizens by initiating a global agreement among rich and poor nations. This consensus would lead to positive trajectories of social and economic growth. Even while many nations have made impressive progress on some MDG indicators, achievement varies greatly between nations and demographic groupings. As a way to achieve sustainability more successfully than the MDGs and the SDGs also known as the 2030 agenda, primarily aim to give more importance to the provision of food, water, inequality in the distribution and allocation of resources, environment problems, and the importance of policy implementation. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which was approved by the 193 UN Member states during the September 2015 General Assembly, presents a revolutionary vision for social, economic, and environmental development and will direct organizational efforts for the ensuring 15 years setting, which includes weak economic development, social inequality, and environmental deterioration. It is true that a new era is upon us and that the previous patterns of production, energy use and consumption are no longer sustainable. The current paradigm has to change in favor of inclusive, long-term sustainable development. The future is there.

For the nations at the municipal and national level, the SDGs serve as planning and monitoring tool. Using a long-term strategy, they assist every nation in developing budgetary, monitoring and assessment tools as well as public policies that promote equitable, sustainable and environmentally friendly growth. The 2030 Agenda is a progressive plan that prioritizes equality and dignity. Its execution will need the participation of all societal and governmental sectors and is both ambitious and far-sighted. As a result, leaders from the public and private sectors, as well as those from civil society and academia, are cordially invited to assume responsibility for this bold agenda and to discuss and embrace it as a means of establishing just and inclusive communities that benefit both the present and future generations of citizens.

The 2030 agenda for sustainable development outlines an ambitious goal for sustainable development while integrating its economic, social and environmental elements. This new agenda outlines the international community's expectations, objectives and priorities for the next 15 years. It is a revolutionary Agenda that prioritizes equality and dignity and asks for a shift in our growth patterns while protecting the environment. It is a universal commitment made by both developed and developing countries within the context of a reinforced global partnership that considers the methods of implementing this shift, natural catastrophe avoidance and climate change mitigation and adaptation.

High investment is required to implement the SDGs in all development domains, including data and analytics, artificial intelligence (AI), drones satellites etc. According to the 2021 projection by the OECD (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development) and UNDP (United Nations Development Program), the finance shortfall for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for poor countries- including least developed countries rose by 70% in 2020, from USD 2.5 trillion to USD 4.2 trillion annually. The world community is quite concerned about such a huge demand.

III. NEED OF THE STUDY:

There is a need to examine how far the Sustainable Development Goals have been achieved by nations, especially India. This study's primary objective is to assess and thoroughly look at the nations' progress towards achieving the SDGs, with a focus on India's contribution to meeting the objectives on time. The goal of this study is to highlight not only the deficits in development (poverty, water sanitation, climate action) but it also does the analysis of the current information on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and how they have evolved from the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Furthermore, the study examines the importance of international collaborations, financial commitments, and institutional framework in promoting sustainable development. The research attempts to give a through overview of the progress made and obstacles faced in reaching the SDGs, with a focus on the Indian context. Lastly, some conclusions are drawn at the end and concerns for more research are identifies in the last section. The findings reveal a scientific discipline that is continuously changing, starting with the millennium objectives and gradually including the present Sustainable Development objectives and the development of new strategies for better implementation of the SDGs.

- Understanding how the European Union successfully implements its aims.
- To understand India's implementation of goals and programs.

IV. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

An overview of the methodology is provided. The approach for this research study is a thorough assessment and analysis of current literature, papers, articles and statistics on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and their progress since their introduction. The study takes a mixed-methods approach incorporating qualitative and quantitative data to evaluate the success of several nations through case study, including India, in meeting the SDGs. The first step is to assess progress towards the SDGs in various nations.

The study provides a comparative examination of several countries' policies and outcomes, with a special emphasis on the implementation and monitoring systems in place. My method of enquiry is based on the study of materials available mainly on the internet. There are some open access journals and some websites like Google Scholar, Academia, Elsevier from where I gathered my knowledge as they provide open access.

The research study's key findings show a wide variety of success and problems in reaching the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) across different countries. These findings highlight the significance of specialized strategies and international collaboration to address each country's unique challenges and capabilities in meeting SDGs.

The result show that wealthy nations are doing more research and development on the SDGs than developing and underdeveloped nations. Mainly because they lack in capital and resources and skills.

4.1 RESEARCH QUESTIONS:

RQ1.) How did the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) grow into the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and how did they influence global development policies?

RQ2.) What are the main factors influencing the effective implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals in various nations?

RQ3.) Which nations and organizations are most relevant in this area of study

4.2 CASE STUDY:

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Latin America and Caribbean countries

The Economic Commission for Latin America and Caribbean (ECLAC) Executive Secretary presented the document Horizons 2030: Equality at the Centre of Sustainable Development at its 36th session in May 2016 in Mexico City. The commission takes this vision and examines it from a Latin American and Caribbean perspective, identifying key challenges and opportunities for its implementation in the region. In order to accomplish the 2030 Agenda and establish the framework for inclusive and sustainable development in the area, the document offers a number of policy recommendations as well as tools for a major environmental push. These include the coherent and integrated alignment of all public policies, including those related to planning, finance, regulation, and public, social, environmental investment.

Resolution 700, which set up the Forum of the countries of Latin America and Caribbean on sustainable development as a regional mechanism to monitor and assess the implementation of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, its means of implementation and its goals and targets was adopted by the member nations during the same session. ECLAC'S mission and history dictate that it will support and help the nations of Latin America and the Caribbean in implementing the Agenda and the SDGs, offering its human, technical and analytical resources to them.

4.2.1 Improve the institutional framework in the region

Even though inequality exists elsewhere, in this location in particular it represents a barrier to potential fulfilment. The structural disparities in the region include low productivity and a lack of infrastructure, gender inequality that persists, segregation and lags in the quality of health and education services, and the effects of climate change that disproportionately affect the poorest segments of society. In order to address these issues, the 193 UN Member States and numerous representatives from academia, the private sector, and civil society engaged in an open, democratic, and participatory negotiation process that culminated in the announcement of the 2030 Agenda. The ECLAC member nations established the Forum of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on sustainable development in May 2016. This regional mechanism oversees and reviews the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which encompasses the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals and targets along with their means of implementation. The Forum will be State-led and convene yearly under the auspices of ECLAC. It will involve the governments of Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as representatives from academia, the business community, and civil society. Development banks, other UN agencies, regional integration blocs, development banks, and ECLAC subsidiary groups will also be involved.

4.2.2 Improve regional assessment of the 2030 Agenda and its implementation

ECLAC will emphasize improving policy analysis and conversation focused on the major components of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development.

ECLAC aims to facilitate information and idea sharing among policymakers and academicians, civil society and the private sector. It concentrates on creative approaches to implement the 2030 Agenda and accomplishing the SDGs. In order to assist Latin American and Caribbean nations in putting the new Agenda into practice, ECLAC concentrates on the following areas of priority:

- Prioritizing equity and encouraging the healthy integration of social, economic, and environmental factors in the creation and application of national plans and policies for sustainable development.
- A progressive structural shift that aims to guarantee social inclusion, integrate more knowledge into production, and advance the environmental movement toward low-carbon growth.

- Examination of important facets of funding for development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda's implementation (including equitable trade, technology transfer, and traditional and innovative financing methods to bridge gaps); this includes debt relief in the Caribbean, initiatives to stop illicit flows, and a decrease in tax evasion and avoidance.
- Investing in low-carbon consumption, circular economy, and smart cities through public and private investments.
- Focusing on technical innovation, the digital economy, and the information and knowledge society.
- Enhancing capacities via excellent education, universal protection, care economy, rights-based employment, and improved public services.
- Guaranteeing natural resource governance.
- Enhancing regional cooperation in production, commerce, technology, taxation, finance, infrastructure, and value chains for environmental products and services.
- Ensuring public access to information and participation
- Encouraging multi-stakeholder engagement and forums to strengthen policy consistency and legitimacy.
- Coordinating the UN system at the regional level.
- Encouraging democratic decision-making in global financial and trade forums, as well as facilitating access for poor nations.
- Communicating the need to strengthen institutions and redefine the relationship between the government, business sector, and civil society.
- Promoting South-South cooperation and supporting the emergence of middle-income nations.

V. ANALYSIS

5.1 Are countries achieving Sustainable Development Goals

The United Nations approved the 2030 Agenda at the end of 2015, which includes plans to execute the Sustainable Development Goals. These seventeen goals (and 169 targets) aim to enhance living standards and protect the environment, particularly in poor nations, but they also include expectations for wealthier nations to improve. To ensure that these goals are fulfilled by 2030, it is imperative that the SDGs' implementation be monitored. Official UN programs like the Sustainable Development Solutions Network track and collect data while keeping an eye on how nations and regions are going about putting the SDGs into practice.

All UN member nations ratified the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in 2015, which called for immediate action for “people, planet, and prosperity”. The Sustainable Development Goals Report, released annually by the UN, provides an evaluation of the SDGs while highlighting its direction and strength. *Finland* presently “tops the global index” and has been recognized as being in the forefront of achieving several SDGs.

Denmark, Sweden and Norway were second, third and fourth in the Sustainable Development Report of 2022, respectively, placing them in close proximity to their neighbor. This portion of the research will look at how the Nordic nations are currently doing in terms of achieving the 2030 Agenda and the sustainable development goals, as well as how each nation is collaborating on a national level to do so. It will be claimed that their stable political systems, which are based on social democracy and the Nordic model, are the foundation of their effective national implementation process. This suggests that many of the behavior required for the successful implementation were already in place and deeply ingrained in the national policies of the nations when the SDGs were introduced, providing them a “head start” in reaching the goals.

5.2 Scandinavian countries are on top

The SDG Index and Dashboard measure global goal success on a scale of 0 to 100, with 0 being the poorest degree of implementation and 100 indicating fully in line with the targets. Sweden (84.5), Denmark (83.9), Norway (82.3) and Finland (81) are at the top of the list, owing to their strong performance in social and economic concerns, while data suggest that they must continue work on transforming to a low-carbon economy.

5.3 The Nordic success story

The Nordic nations (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden) have risen to the top of the world rankings for how far they have progressed in national SDG implementation. The Nordic nations have made substantial progress towards several objectives including:

SDG1 (No Poverty), **SDG3** (Good Health and Well-Being), **SDG4** (Quality Education), **SDG5** (Gender Equality), **SDG7** (Affordable and Clean Energy), **SDG8** (Decent Work and Economic Growth), **SDG10** (Reduced Inequalities) and **SDG16** (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions).

However, the Nordic nations have yet to attain sustainable development, and they are particularly challenged by “unsustainable consumption and production, climate change and the biodiversity crisis”. The progress made towards a number of these objectives has been recognized for example, through the SDG Index Rankings.

5.4 The Nordic Model

There are several commonalities among the Nordic nations. All of the nations are tiny in terms of population and size, have a common culture and have comparatively high GDP. Both nations have a strong commitment to public service and social investment. The social and economic policies outlined above are what gave rise to the regional model known as the “Nordic Model”. The characteristics of the social welfare state and economic systems employed by the Nordic nations are characterized by this idea. The welfare state and labour market interactions are the two foundations of this approach. The social democratic political system of the Nordic nations are another characteristic in common. These nation’s governments and states have a history of serving as platforms for the interests of both the working class and the upper classes. Because of this, people from different socioeconomic backgrounds now have more faith in the state. The terms "cooperation" and "equality" are synonymous with Nordic labour markets and legislation; one may ask if this contributes to the SDG advancements observed in the Nordic region.

In *Denmark*, the work is headed by the government and parliament, with distinct ministries (such as Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Environment) in charge of particular goals and targets within their respective areas of administration. An advisory council for the 2030 Agenda has also been established, comprised of members from the research community, the corporate sector, and civil society. Various venues and initiatives (e.g., Global Goals Week) have been established to share and disseminate knowledge about the SDGs with the general public, allowing progress and solutions to difficulties to be addressed and discussed.

The Finnish organization focuses on the shared duty of society and government in implementing the SDGs. The government updates the parliament on *Finland’s* sustainable development approach once per election term. Although the government and the Prime Minister’s office take the lead in the process, the 2030 Agenda is supported by a number of forums and networks. The Finnish National Commission on Sustainable Development is one of these forums; among its duties are keeping an eye on the world agenda and expecting the implementation process. The Commission is followed by two experts’ panels: the Finnish 2030 Agenda Youth Group, which consists of twenty individuals between the ages of 15 and 28 who geographically and socially represent Finland, and the Expert panel for sustainable development, which features the opinion of internationally recognized experts and scholars. The objective is to involve a diverse range of Finns and offer them an opportunity to take part in the process, based on the belief that societal devotion and commitment to sustainable development is essential.

The SDGs have been incorporated into national budget in *Iceland*, which are revised every five years. 65 of the 169 targets have been determined by the government to be especially pertinent for Iceland, and these objectives will direct the effort involved to putting the 2030 Agenda into practice. The International Working Group on the 2030 Agenda of the government is in charge of coordinating the 2030 Agenda and SDGs across the nation. In addition to the monthly reports made to the UN, Iceland has been providing an annual national status report on the implementation process since 2021. In addition, the government established a committee to include civil society, coordination efforts between the local and national levels, and more effectively disseminate information about the SDGs. According to surveys, *Icelanders’* understanding of the SDFs increased by more than 30% between 2018 and 2020.

If we look at *Norway*, various ministries and their departments (based on their particular spheres of administration) are responsible for national implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The money slotted to each ministry governs the procedure. Norway has had a minister for sustainable development since 2020, and their job is to oversee implementation.

Norway, like the other Nordic nations, submits voluntary national evaluations to the UN and reports on the SDGs’ implementation on a regular basis. Since 2018, the government has hosted a biennial Forum for Consensus Politics in an effort to foster consensus among Norwegians over issue pertaining to the SDGs. Representatives from academics, NGOs, the commercial sector, and the other segments of civil society are present at the event. Disseminating information during events, like the international football competition Norway Cup (Norway Cup 2022), also helps to raise local awareness.

Finally, in *Sweden* the implementation process is based on assigned responsibilities. All governmental organizations, ministries and departments have specific areas of study. A national coordinator for the 2030 Agenda has been appointed to support the government’s efforts while also promoting and strengthening the work of the many relevant entities. The coordinator outlines the current work being done to achieve the goal, as well as the viewpoints and involvement of the young. The administration tries to promote openness about the goal and the Agenda 2030 by delivering reports to parliament at least once a term. These reports outline the advancements made and guarantee an ongoing, methodical discussion on the 2030 Agenda between the government and parliament. Reports are produced on the nation’s progress is disseminated and civil society organizations communicate with the Swedish government regarding the 2030 Agenda.

SGD development in the Nordic region could be associated with robust policies, institutions and laws. SDG 10 (Reduced Inequality), which calls for low levels of economic inequality, has been attained via the implementation of strong social security programs, progressive taxation, and measures that guarantee a more equitable distribution of wealth among the populace. Concerning SDG 16(Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions), it is generally widely believed that the Nordic nations had robust democratic institutions, characterized by elevated governmental confidence and little corruption. The nations are also renowned for their peacekeeping and diplomatic missions, which they have used to promote security and peace. These illustrations suggest a potential connection between the Nordic nation’s political structures and their achievements in putting the SDGs into practice at the national level.

African nations such as the *Democratic Republic of Congo* (31.3), *Niger* (31.4), *Liberia* (30.5), and the *Central African Republic* (26.1) are behind schedule. They lack everything in common, but in particular, poverty, hunger, education, and the pursuit of justice and harmony.

Australia is more populous and more dispersed than the Nordic nations. Australia and the Nordic region share a common trait that is they both are democratic nations. In 2018, the Australian Government submitted a Voluntary National Review about the SDG's implementation. While all of the major Australian political parties support the SDGs, Monash University observed in 2020 that there was lack of an implementation strategy to carry out the objectives.

Comparatively speaking, *Peru* is 81st on the list scoring 58.4; *Mexico* is 56th with 63.4; *Chile* is 42nd with 67.2, *Spain* is 30th with 72.2 and *Columbia* is 91st with 57.2. Furthermore, the *United States* is 25th with 72.7; *Canada* is ranked 133th with 76.8; while *Australia* is ranked 20th with 74.5 and the *United Kingdom* is ranked 10th with 78.1.

Therefore, based on this study it can be concluded as it would seem reasonable to argue that these five social democratic political systems contain effective government structures that contribute to a nation's ability to successfully implement the SDGs. In order to effectively monitor and assess their progress towards the SDGs, the Nordic countries have strong institutions that support accountability and transparency in governance, along with a high degree of political stability that fosters long-term planning and policy continuity. Their 2030 Agenda for sustainable development, which examines their "national political structures for implementing the 2030 Agenda" reveals the latter. Strong welfare systems in the nations also contribute to addressing social and economic problems, including inequality, which is a key component of the SDGs. Lastly, the public puts societal pressure on the government to uphold their commitment to the SDGs, maybe as a result of high education system that encourages public knowledge and comprehension of the goals. It seems unlikely that the Nordic model's characteristics and their social democratic political systems have nothing to do with the countries' progress towards the SDGs, even though it may also be related to factors outside of their political systems, such as their high GDP, vast tracts of pristine natural environment, and low population density. Therefore, it would appear that states having trouble implementing the SDGs should draw inspiration from the Nordic nations.

5.5 Countries' Performance

The study places particular emphasis on the goals that make states stand out from the rest either favourably or adversely when examining each nation's performance. Using a few nations from each continent as an example, I have listed some of the goals that they have consistently or yet failed to meet:

Africa: *South Africa* needs to enhance access to clean water and sanitation, as well as affordable and clean energy. While South Africa has successfully mitigated gender inequality and is prevalent in Sustainable cities and communities.

Oceania: *Australia* is consistent with industry, innovation, infrastructure and responsible production and consumption. Australia is lacking behind and needs to improve access to affordable and clean energy, as well as life below water. Australia achieves Good Health and well-being and Sustainable cities and communities.

Europe: *Spain*, has to improve on Zero Hunger and Quality Education. It is regularly promoting sustainable cities and communities as well as peace, justice and strong institutions. Spain ensures gender equality.

United Kingdom meets its No Poverty and partnership targets. The UK has to level up in achieving zero hunger and affordable renewable energy. United Kingdom is consistently well in terms of decent work, economic development, health, wellbeing.

Asia: *China* is consistently promoting poverty-free and gender equality. While China prioritizes on quality education, decent jobs and economic development, it should increase its efforts to mitigate climate change and promote land-based life.

India has to work towards enhancing strong institutions, job opportunities and mitigate poverty, zero hunger, peace, justice. India focuses and is regularly reducing inequalities and fosters collaboration towards common goals. India is lagging behind to achieve several goals.

America: *Mexico* has to work towards eliminating poverty and hunger. Its constant efforts in promoting equality and climate change. Mexico is trailing behind and has yet to achieve any goal.

United States is regularly maintaining good health, quality and well-being. While the U.S. has to improve in climate action, peace, justice and strong institutions it also prioritizes upon clean water and sanitation as well as industry, innovation and infrastructure.

A year and a half the Sustainable Development Goals are ratifying, there is still a long way to go until they are fully implemented in all member state nations, with more than six years of work ahead.

5.6 What European Union did differently in successfully achieving Sustainable Development

The European Union (EU) demonstrates its commitment to achieve the SDGs and is implementing the agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change are inextricably tied to the 2030 Agenda.

With a strong focus on sustainable development, the European Union (EU) is working to promote the 2030 Agenda domestically and globally by assisting partner nations in putting the agenda into action. The Commission, led by President von der Leyen, has unveiled a comprehensive policy agenda aimed at achieving sustainability both inside and beyond the EU. A fundamental component of the President's political agenda are the SDGs. They are crucial to the formulation of the policies for both internal and external action in every industry. The European Green Deal and Recovery and Resilience Plan are two significant deliverables that contain the SDGs at their core thanks to the von der Leyen Commission.

Externally, all EU institutions and Member States are dedicated to assisting partner nation in achieving the SDGs, based on the European Consensus on Development. This is being expanded upon, together with the pursuit of EU goals, namely through our new programming and Global Gateway in support of a sustainable recovery in line with the SDGs. Development has been made more difficult by recent occurrences like the COVID-19 epidemic. Interruptions in the global supply chain, and the energy crisis brought on by Russia's aggressive war.

The EU and UN are essential allies with shared ideals and global, such as the 2030 Agenda. With the UN at its centre, the EU is committed to defending and advancing international norms and standards that are compliant with the UN Charter. Halfway into the 2030 Agenda's implementation, there is rising unrest around the world, necessitating extraordinary investments, coordinated diplomatic outreach, expanded partner collaboration, and unity. Many weaker nations are especially subjected to the difficulties brought on by the abundance of crisis. It is more important than ever to move quickly to achieve the SDGs.

The EU has achieved progress on all of the SDGs since 2015, though not necessarily equally. In terms of guaranteeing decent work and economic development, decreasing poverty, and promoting peace, security and inclusive communities and institutions, the EU fared the best, according to the most recent data. However, the post-pandemic recovery and advancements in sustainable development in the EU and throughout the world are being hampered by unfavourable external shocks. However, because of the numerous crisis, development has slowed down since 2020 and occasionally reversed.

Numerous SDGs require further development, especially those that handle the preservation and responsible use of the natural resources. EU-wide climate policy and action received a boost in Dec 2019 with the implementation of the European Green Deal. By establishing legally enforceable goals for the EU to achieve climate neutrality by 2050 and to cut net greenhouse gas emissions by at least fifty five percent by 2030 relative to 1990 levels, the European Climate Law created new precedent in 2021. The actual implementation of the European Green Deal is gathering steam and it anticipated to accelerate dramatically in the upcoming years. Throughout the whole framework, effects in those in vulnerable circumstances require special consideration. Overall, the situation currently remains challenging and further implementation efforts are still needed to achieve our collective vision.

5.6.1 Effective strategy:

The EU's strategy for sustainable development includes environmental preservation, human rights respect, economic growth and fiercely competitive social market economy that leaves no one behind. One goal of EU's external activity is sustainable development. Delivering on the SDGs is a result of all EU policies and initiatives and the degree of success depends on coordinated efforts at all levels, including national, municipal, regional, and EU.

As seen in the figure below, the Commission's comprehensive, or "effective strategy", approach to achieving the SDGs consists of many strands:



The EU's 'Effective strategy' approach

As a result, the SDGs are incorporated into EU's policy and serve as a framework for legislation. A review of the proposed law's contribution to achieving the SDGs is required. The whole of government approach is centred on implementing specific internal and external measures that will result in noticeable advancements towards the SDGs, in line with this overarching goal.

5.6.2 The contributions of EU

The EU's unique characteristics and multiple aspects of its added value in putting the 2030 Agenda into practice are reflected in the review below:

- **External action:** The EU plays a significant role in promoting human rights, multilateral, and sustainable development on the global stage.
- **Formulating laws and policies:** The EU mainstreams the SDGs into its policymaking process and creates and executes a variety of legislation where it has the authority.
- **Aiding sustainable development:** in order to achieve the SDGs, the EU funds initiatives and projects related to sustainable development, both inside the EU and with partner nations.

Regarding the EU budget, the bulk of the programs supported by the budget contribute to the SDGs, and the multiannual structure of the budget offers consistent long-term planning for accomplishing EU objectives. The budget for 2021-2027 allots more than 2 EUR trillion (the current price) to support the reconstruction of the European Union following the epidemic, while also markedly expediting the achievement of the SDGs both inside the EU and globally. It makes a direct contribution to Europe being more resilient, inclusive, digital and green. More than half of this sum will go into research and innovation, readiness, recovery, and resilience; equitable climate and digital transition; and modernizing the EU.

5.6.3 Working together as one Union towards SDGs

The EU institutions collaborate closely to determine the EU's agenda, as well as to originate and enact EU regulations, particularly those related to achieving the SDGs. The European Commission develops suggestions for new European law that contributes to the SDGs and reviews their implementation.

The member states are primarily responsible for ensuring sustainable development at the national, regional, and local levels. Since 2016, every member state has provided a review during a meeting of High-Level Political forum for Sustainable Development (HLPF). Of the 27 member states, 23 have done it twice, including the nine that are expected to deliver it again in 2030.

5.6.4 Key transformation

Planet and Prosperity-European Green Deal: The EU achieved moderate progress on the European Green Deal including seen progress in Sustainable agriculture (SDG2), water (SDG6), energy (SDG7), sustainable cities (SDG11), consumption and production (SDG12), and oceans (SDG14). More progress is expected in the coming years on SDG13 on Climate action and SDG15 on land biodiversity.

To achieve significant progress on climate action SDG13, the EU has agreed on a revised legal and policy framework to support increased climate ambition. The EU and its member states have fully completed their international climate pledge to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 20% by 2020 when compared to 1990. The European Green Deal aims to make Europe the world's first climate-neutral continent by 2050. It is specifically envisioned as an essential component of the strategy for implementation the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs

SDG12, which focuses on responsible consumption and production, has made significant progress. The EU's resource and energy efficiency have improved in recent years, and the value produced by the environmental goods and services industry has increased. However, the EU is still far from fulfilling its aim of doubling the circular material use rate of materials derived from collected garbage by 2030, in comparison to 2020.

The EU's new circular economy action plan outlines many projects that will assist the EU in reducing natural resource pressures while also creating long-term development and job opportunities. Its implementation will be critical in bridging the gap. However, greater progress is needed on SDG15 for terrestrial ecosystems, whereas marine ecosystems have improved slightly (SDG14). EU plants to safeguard at least 30% of its land and 30% of its marine regions by 2030. So far, progress towards SDG6 on Water has been inconsistent. Improves wastewater treatment has resulted in less organic pollution in European rivers, lakes and oceans. At the same time, excess nutrients, industrial pollutants, pharmaceuticals residues, cosmetics and pesticides in water continue to cause concern. Although the hygiene situation is usually excellent, disparities in access to water services and sanitation persist among member states, putting some disadvantaged populations at a disadvantage. The EU's outcomes on SDG2 malnutrition and sustainable agriculture are varied. Russia's actions against Ukraine has hampered progress. Price for agricultural items have risen in the EU and throughout the world. The EU is investigating EUR 8 billion in global food security initiatives. In the EU, action has centred on assisting farmers who are most affected by rising input costs. These initiatives have been paired with structural improvements aimed at promoting sustainable and resilient agriculture, fisheries, and food systems, as well as better diets, as outlined in the Farm to Fork Strategy. Furthermore, despite the energy crisis caused by Russia's invasion on Ukraine, the EU has remained on track to achieve decarbonization. In 2022, the EU made significant advances to diversity energy supplies, boost energy efficiency, and expedite the rollout of renewable energy.

In terms of SDG11, about 75% of EU's population live in cities or urban regions. They provide numerous job, economic, and cultural possibilities, yet many people endure environmental and social issues. Some of the most important concerns confronting cities are housing, pollution and crime.

An economy that works for the people: The EU contributes directly to numerous interrelated SDGs by promoting economic growth and eliminating poverty and inequality. Significant progress has been achieved in reducing poverty and social exclusion (SDG1), as well as improving the economy and labour market (SDG8). However, only little progress has been made towards reducing disparities (SDG10).

Hence, so to conclude it is understood that EU is committed and is actively working to make progress on the SDGs, and it will continue to monitor them also.

VI. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

India's take on Sustainable Development

The Prime Minister's catchphrase, "Collective Effort, Inclusive Development", or "Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas", serves as the cornerstone of India's national development plan. The Government of India's main think force- NITI Aayog, has produced a proposed three-year action agenda that spans the years 2017-2018 to 2019-2020. In an effort to expedite this agenda. Concurrently, advanced phases of work are being done on a 7-year strategy paper and a 15-year vision. The sub-national governments are actively involved in the preparation of these texts, which reflects the nation's long-standing federal heritage. India is dedicated to preserving the environment even as it fights poverty.

The SDG would be directly advanced by a number of government initiatives. The *Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana* (PMJDY), the biggest financial inclusion initiative in the world, is one notable example. Through Direct Benefit Transfer, the government has given 329 million recipients a total of INR 1.6 trillion by utilizing PMJDY, Aadhar (biometric identity system), and mobile phones. This has greatly improved the effectiveness of government programs. While the federal government has funded initiatives to create jobs, build housing for the impoverished, connect rural areas to cities through roads, and provide education in the states, a number of Chief Minister subgroups have stepped up to provide the federal government with insightful advice on critical issues like digital payment, skill development, and the Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan (Clean India Campaign).

The Development Goals of India highlight SDGs: By the presence of India's Prime Minister in the UN Summit, New York 2015, one of the main points in his statement was that the SDGs largely reflect India's development goals. This reflects the fact that India has started a number of development programs even prior to the formulation and adoption of the SDGs.

India placed a strong focus on the need for swift and inclusive economic growth in order to pull a large proportion of the impoverished out of poverty. It is further argued that although much progress has been made in the area of infrastructure development, bringing growth to other facets of society still presents a significant obstacle. All of the emerging nations in the globe are still dealing with these issues. India adopted the stance that the SDGs must form part of a dealing with these issues. India adopted the stance that the SDGs must form part of a development plan. The primary development agenda items are poverty eradication and development via inclusive economic growth; nevertheless, in order to accomplish these enormous objectives, more funding and capacity building programs are needs. Therefore, in order to support development, India has placed a strong emphasis on international collaboration. It has also insisted on appropriate implementation strategies, such as increased Official Development Assistance (ODA) and technology transfer on favourable terms, in order to assist developing nations.

The SDGs have been implemented nationally under the direction of the NITI Aayog. The NITI Aayog has mapped all SDGs, Central Ministries, and Centrally-sponsored Schemes as part of this implementation process. Additionally, it is conducting discussions with other stakeholders, including states and Union Territories, at the national and regional levels.

Another important entity in the SDG's implementation is the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI). MoSPI has created 306 national indicators in accordance with the 169 SDG objectives and Global Indicators Framework as indicators are essential for gauging the degree and pace of target and goal attainment in India. 62 key indicators have also been chosen from among the 306 indicators to measure India's most crucial development goals.

India was placed 110th and 116th out of 157 countries in 2016 and 2017 SDG Index and Dashboard global report, respectively, after Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, and China. Similar to several other developing nations, India's contribution to sustainable development has been overshadowed by the absence of essential infrastructure, the increase in food poverty, and the deteriorating state of the environment. Inequalities between rural and urban areas persists in the distribution of sustainable access to water and sanitation facilities, both at the state and local levels. Even though India is doing a good job at giving access to better water on a national scale, there is still need for inspection at lower administrative levels, particularly in rural regions. An approximate 34881 sq.km drop in forest cover has been seen in India, according to a national level time series map of land use-land cover change at a decadal interval of 1985, 1995 and 2005. The largest amount of forest cover conversion to agricultural land has occurred in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh, as well as in region of northeastern India and the Cauvery river basin. But between 1995 and 2005, there was a noticeable rise in mangrove forest, which the Indian government's stringent coastal law programs are to blamed for.

6.1 The state of affairs in subnation

While India appeared to have done pretty well in several indicators at the national level, a thorough investigation conducted at the sub-national level showed that many of the states are failing are falling significantly short of the targets in certain sustainable development goal indicators. Only a portion of the indicators of deliberate homicide and access to clean drinking water facilities

appear to be met at the sub-national level, compared to the national level. For most states, the maternal mortality rate and undernourishment indices have shown dismal performance. Between 2014 and 2016, 194.6 million people in India suffered from undernourishment. Out of the 29 states, Uttar Pradesh (23.2%), Chhattisgarh (26.10%), Bihar (29.50%), Jharkhand (29.60%), and Madhya Pradesh (30.20) have the least progress in this area. In 2014, the overall maternal mortality rates for India was 181 per 100,000 people. In contrast, this was 328 for Assam, 292 for Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh, and 235 for both Rajasthan and Odisha at the state level. However, when it comes to indicators that are in a transitional phase, like access to electricity, it was observed that in states like Goa, Himachal Pradesh, and Punjab, 95% of households have access to it, while in states like Bihar, UP, Assam, Odisha, and Jharkhand, over half of the population lacks it. At the sub-national level, appears to be on pace.

In contrast to Bihar, UP, Assam, Odisha and Jharkhand where over half of the population lacks access to electricity, 95% of homes in Punjab have access to it. At sub-national level, India's urban slum population, which is transforming at the national level, appears to be on pace. Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh are the next two states with the greatest Gross State Domestic Product, after Maharashtra. The data also shows that even though Uttar Pradesh earns more than 27 other Indian states, it is unable to provide for the basic infrastructure demands of its residents. Forests are essential to preserving the balance of the natural world with economically and socially sustainable forest communities, North-east Indian states, particularly Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Meghalaya, and Manipur, are rich in forest lands.

6.2 Recognizing trends in the obstacles to growth

The states were divided into homogenous groups that demonstrate similar socioeconomic and environmental developments:

Indicators	Performance at the state level
GDP per an employee	Forty percent of states must increase the quality of jobs available to their citizens.
Electricity supply	Seventy-five percent of the state's population can have access to electricity in sixty percent of them.
Attempted murder	Of the 28 states, just five are falling short in reducing the rate of homicide
Population of Urban slums	With just 12% of its people residing in slums, Maharashtra is the state with the largest percent of urban slum inhabitation.
Woodland area	The amount of forest cover is lower in most states. Of the 28 states, only 5 have at least 75% of their territory covered in forests.
Death among mothers	In all states combined, the percent of undernourished people is on average 19.5%
Malnourishment	Most states are falling behind
Availability of upgraded sanitary facilities	Every state has done badly, with the exception of Mizoram and Kerala.
Having access to a better supply of water	Just 34% of the states are proceeding as planned.

Table 01: Comparing India's results at National and Sub-national levels in the PSDG Index

India has relatively limited access to basic sanitary services. The total Sanitation Campaign in 1999 was the first successful program by the government to improve rural sanitation standards in India, and it was followed by Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan in 2012. Rural households having access to toilet facilities grew by 8.8 percent between 2001 and 2011 (Indian Census, 2011), whereas urban households increased by 7.7 percent. Rural development programs require extra attention since 69.3 percent of rural families lack access to toilet facilities, which is four times higher than the number of urban households (Indian Census 2011). By the end of the eleven five-year tenure, almost 600 million individuals participated open defecation. Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, which was launched in 2014, aims to fulfil objective 2 of goal 6 of 2030 Agenda in rural India. The Ministry of Urban Development is responsible for improving urban sanitary conditions as part of the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewable Mission (JNNURM). The mission's goal is to improve rural cleanliness levels through Solid and Liquid Waste Management initiatives, as well as to improve open defecation-free, clean, and sanitary Gram Panchayats (National Sample Survey Office, 2016). India's preparedness for clean, sanitary, and universal access to improved sanitation has begun, which will aid in attaining the global goal target by 2030.

India has significant obstacles when it comes to country's food security. Just 14% of the country's GDP comes from the agriculture sector, and during the past 20 years, crop output and production have grown at a slower rate. Food production and the management of food grain exports from India were greatly impacted by the 2007 global food price explosion. India has not only suffered greatly from the reduction in agricultural output needed to feed its people, but it has also lagged behind in its efforts to reduce the prevalence of malnutrition among adults and children, particularly women. The production of underweight children under three years of age has

very slightly declined by 2.3% from 1998 to 2005-2006. Through the Public Distribution System, the government is offering food grains at lower costs in an effort to alleviate the issue of food security in India. The government has mandated the digitization of ration cards in order to minimize corruption in the control of good distribution. The National Programme of Mid-Day Meal in schools was launched by the government in 2001 with the dual goals of improving school children's nutrition and increasing school enrolment rates.

6.3 Goal wise performance

End poverty in all forms- SD1: There is strong evidence that India's fast economic development since the country's 1991 economic reforms has significantly decreased poverty. In the years after the reforms, poverty has decreased nationwide and in every state across all social, economic, and religious groups. The poor have been directly empowered by sustainable growth (6.2% from 1993-1994 to 2003-2004 and 8.3% from 2004-2005 to 2011-2012). This growth has also helped establish gainful jobs and boost incomes. Additionally, it has improved the government's revenue stream, allowing it to maintain high levels of social investment and tripling the impact of growth on poverty.

The Indian government has launched a number of initiatives to combat chronic poverty, provide access to essential services, offer social safety, support those who are escaping poverty, and create gainful employment. Over 2 billion person-days of employment were created by anti-poverty programs like the National Rural Livelihood Mission and the *Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act* (MGNREGA) in 2016-2017 alone, mostly for the underprivileged segments of the society. Initiatives have also been started to offer insurance and pensions to widows, people with disabilities, and employees in the unorganized sector. The *Deendayal Upadhyay Grameen Kaushalya Yojana* focuses on creating jobs, skill development, microcredits, and capacity building to enhance employable among the poor. Over 130 million individuals have gotten life and accident insurance via these programs. More work is being done to make basic services accessible to everyone. Poor households are receiving direct financial help in an effort to reach the objective of housing for all by 2022. Under this program, about 3.21 million dwellings were built in rural regions last year. Additionally, programs are being put in place to guarantee that people have access to health care, education, and nutrition, security, with an emphasis on vulnerable populations including women and children. Sanitation and drinking water are other top priorities. At present, about 77.5% of rural communities receive 40 litres of potable water per person per day. Up to now, 18.9% more habitations have had some coverage. In 2016-2017, over 63.7% of rural households had access to an upgraded sanitation facility, up from 29.1% in 2005-2006. The *Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana* has connected over 22 million families to Liquefied Petroleum Gas, providing them with clean sources of cooking fuel. Households with access to clean fuel climbed from 25.5% in 2005-2006 to 43.8% in 2015-2016. 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 Jan Dhan Yojana* (PMJDY) etc.

End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture: In the SDG2 there has been a noticeable improvement in the security of food and nourishment. For example, the percentage of children under five years of age who are stunted has decreased from 48% in 2005-06 to 38% in 2015-16. The proportion of underweight children has decreased from 42.5% to 35.5% over the same time frame.

Nonetheless, the absolute number of stunted and underweight kids continue to rise. Several programs are being put into place to combat this. In India, for example, the Public Distribution System provides food grains at reasonable costs to approximately 800 million people. 100 million primary school students receive wholesome prepared meals through the mid-day meal program. Furthermore, the digitalization of ration cards and the implementation of an online grievance redressal mechanism are strengthening the grievance of food distribution. In an effort to eradicate hunger and all types of malnutrition, India has launched a number of programs that closely match the objectives listed under this heading. These initiatives include the *Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Ana Yojana* (AAY), and the *National Nutrition Mission Poshan Abhiyan*. A number of other initiatives also pertain to agriculture, including the national Food Security Mission, the National Mission on sustainable Agriculture, and the National Mission on Agriculture Extension and Technology.

Ensure healthy life and promote wellbeing for all at all ages: India has improved in SDG3 and a number of health indicators significantly. Between 2005-2006 and 2015-2016, the infant mortality rate decreased from 57 to 41. In a similar vein, the under-5 Mortality Rate decreased over that time, going from 74 to 50. This has been made possible, at least in part, by a notable increase in the immunization rate for children aged 12 to 23 months. Additionally, from 38.7% in 2005-2006 to 78.9% in 2015-16, institutional deliveries have grown. The nation's health plan is centred to provide basic services to all citizens, with a concentration on the impoverished and vulnerable populations.

The National Health Mission (NHM) and its sub-mission, the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) and the National Urban Health mission (NUHM), as well as *Ayushman Bharat- Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana* (PMJAY), *Mission Indradhanush*, are among the government's numerous efforts. The national mental health programme (NMHP), the National programme for control of blindness, the national program for prevention and control of cancer, diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, and stroke (NPCDCS), the Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme (RNTCP), the national Leprosy Eradication programme, the Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP), and *Jan Arogya Yojana* (PMJAY) are few of the initiatives that fall under this category.

Quality Education-SDG4: The Indian government has developed creative programs to handle the many demands and concerns, realizing the difficulties the nation's education system faces. Samagra Shiksha, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), Teacher Education (TE), and so on are a few of the programs. Additionally, digital projects like Shala Kosh, Shagun, and Shaala Saathi aid in advancing technology in the field of education.

Gender Equality- SDG5: Numerous indices related to the status of women in India have improved over time, even though there is still more work to be done. For example, the percentage of literate woman was 68.4% in 2015-2016 compared to 55% in 2005-06. Furthermore, in 2015-16 53% of women used a bank or savings account on their own, a considerable increase from 15% in 2005-06.

Several policies have been implemented to advance gender parity. A complete package of interventions for the female child, including those that relate to education and protection, is the emphasis of the *Beti Bachao Beti Pado* (Save the female child, educate the girl child) project, for instance. Women are shielded from salary loss during the first six months following childbirth by the *Maternity Benefit Programme*. In addition, a number of initiatives are being carried out to facilitate increased female involvement in the workforce. Additionally, India has started a number of national-level initiatives and programs, such as the *Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana* (PMUY), One Stop Centre, *Sukanya Samridhi Yojana*, Janani Suraksha Yojana, Gender Budgeting, etc.

Clean Water and sanitation- SDG6: India has been implementing multi-sectoral initiatives in this field aggressively. Among the significant initiatives are *Swachh Bharat Mission-Gramin*, the National Water Quality sub-mission, the *National Rural Drinking Water Programme* (NRWDP), and others. In addition, India wants to eliminate open defecation (ODF) nationwide by the year 2019.

Affordable and Clean Energy- SDG7: With scores of 89, 78, and 77 respectively, Tamil Nadu, Mizoram, and Karnataka are the top three States in terms of performance towards this goal. With a score of 96, Chandigarh performs the best among the UTs. India wants to attain the dual goals of inexpensive and clean energy by giving everyone access to electricity at a reasonable cost. The National Energy Policy and the National Electricity Plan are already in effect. The GOI 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.

Decent Work and Economic Growth- SDG8: Goa is the best-performing state, while among the Union Territories are Daman and Diu. India aims to have every citizen, male or female, including those with impairments, employed decently and contributing to the national GDP by the year 2030. In order to achieve this goal, the government has launched a number of initiatives aimed at improving skill development, creating jobs and speeding up economic growth for the general public. Among the initiatives are the *Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana*, start-up India, skill India, and Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP).

Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure- SDG9: As they achieved a perfect score of 100 on the index, the UTs of Delhi and Puducherry are the ones that accomplished this goal. Roads, railroads, commercial aircrafts, and waterways are all seeing fast expansion. All settlements are receiving power and road access. The goal of the Bharat Broadband Network Ltd. projects is to provide every village council in the nation access to high-speed broadband. The installed capacity for generating power has increased steadily during the past five years. The installed capacity of renewable energy (solar, wind, bio and small hydro power) has more than doubled, while the installed capacity of non-fossil fuel sectors has increased by 51.3%. Additionally, India is working to establish itself as a manufacturing and information technology powerhouse through its "Made in India" initiative. Through these initiatives, the government has been able to maintain average growth of 7.5% over the previous three fiscal years, and Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows have been considerably expedited. The "Start-up India" initiative also encourages labour-intensive economic growth and entrepreneurship.

The Indian government is implementing many programs, such as *Bharatmala*, *Sagarmala*, and *Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana* (PMGSY), to stimulate the infrastructure industry. With regard to innovation and industrial growth, we have flagship initiatives like *Digital India*, among others.

Reduced Inequality- SDG10: Meghalaya, Mizoram, and Telangana are the states with the highest index scores (100), while Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu, and Lakshadweep are the UTs.

Several government projects, both direct and indirect, try to reduce inequality. These include the *Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana* (PMJDY), the *Prime Minister Employment Generation Programme* (PMEGP), the *Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act* (MGNREGA), adopted in 2005, the *Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana* (DDUGKY), the Stand-up India Scheme, and others.

Sustainable Cities and Communities- SDG11: Goa has the highest performance among states, followed by Andaman and Nicobar Islands among union territories. Various government initiatives and methods have been developed to achieve the objectives mentioned in SDG11. These include the *Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation* (AMRUT), the *Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban*, and the *Smart Cities Mission*.

Sustainable Consumption and production- SDG12: "Doing more with less" is emphasized in Goal 12 on Sustainable Consumption and Production in order to meet the demands of the current generation without sacrificing those of future generations. The promotion of resource efficiency, green economies, and sustainable infrastructure is the main focus of the goal. It also prioritizes waste reduction and the reduction of pollution and damage. With only 2.4 percent of the globe's land area, India is home to around 17.5% of the

world's people, making it the second most populated country in the world. This means that in order to improve resource efficiency, reduce waste and pollution, and encourage the adoption of technologies that prioritize renewable resources, a comprehensive regulatory framework is needed.

Climate Change- SDG13: In addition to planning and promoting methods for increasing capacity for efficient climate change-related planning and management, Goal 13 on Climate Change seeks to incorporate climate change measures into national policies and plans. India has a wide range of temperature regimes, local and regional weather patterns, and vast geographic diversity, all of which are susceptible to climate change. This is demonstrated by the occurrence of floods, droughts, and the danger that communities face from cyclones and tsunamis.

Sustainable use of oceans, seas and marine resources- SDG14: A well-defined plan has been developed to advance the “Blue Revolution”. The Coastal Ocean Monitoring and Prediction System was created by the nation to monitor the amounts of marine pollution along the coastline. Furthermore, a system for managing oil spills has been implemented to address any emergencies that may arise from them. Additionally, in order to support both the ecological integrity of the maritime environment and the livelihoods of fishing communities, the Integrated National Fisheries Action Plan, 2016 is being implemented. The Sagarmala plan is enhancing port connectivity, port-linked industries, and coastal community development, providing fresh momentum to port-led growth.

Life on land- SDG15: Assam, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Manipur, Odisha, and Uttarakhand are the achievers- with an Index score of 100, whereas Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Lakshadweep, and other UTs are the achieving states. The National Environmental Policy of 2006 and the National Agro-forestry Policy of 2014, the National Afforestation Programme on Conservation of Natural Resources and ECO-systems. The Indian government has implemented several policies and initiatives, such as conservation of natural resources and ecosystems, in order to achieve the objectives delineated in SDG15.

Peace, Justice and String Institution- SDG16: Himachal Pradesh and Puducherry were ranked as the top two states and union territories, respectively with scores of 91 and 92. India wants to promote an atmosphere of Justice, peace and good governance by establishing open, responsible and transparent institutions at every level. India has taken several steps to meet its goals. India's robust legal framework, which is founded on rights, empowers its people. By granting individuals access to information from public bodies, the Right to Information Act of 2005 ensures institutional accountability and openness. One of the biggest and most distinctive national identification programs in the world is the Aadhaar. These tools have made it possible to provide services more effectively while also decreasing corruption.

Global partnership for sustainable development- SDG17: India draws attention to the necessity for international collaboration in halting illegal money flows, clearly defining aid, and putting in place reliable methods for keeping track of donor nation pledges. The nation is preparing a groundbreaking program for tax reform in order to maximize the mobilization of domestic resources. This covers both the Goods and Services Tax (GST), a standardized and streamlined indirect tax system, and direct tax reforms. To raise money for the Clean India Mission, a novel tax similar to the Swachh Bharat Cess (Clean India Cess) has also been imposed. Long-term debt sustainability is also being endured by the adoption of the budget responsibility Act, which also ensures predictable and sustainable budgeting. Proactive policy reforms have boosted the FDI flows during the last three fiscal years to USD 156 billion including a record-breaking USD 56 billion in the latest fiscal year.

VII. CONCLUSION

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which affected both developed and developing nations equally, are a vital instrument for bringing attention to be need for changes in the majority of environmental and social domains. The SDGs are well recognized and, on the agenda, in contrast to what happened with the Millennium Objectives. The SDG Index rankings serve as a motivator for developed nations to rise to prominence as the SDG gain acceptance in society. However, an index is required that focuses on poor nations and those with fewer resources, as these are the ones that require the greatest assistance and are the target of many of the SDGs. A Global SDG Progress Index has been proposed to urge nations to increase their efforts and foster international collaboration, rather than relying solely on SDG Index rankings. This will unite all mankind together to achieve the SDGs.

With the active engagement of every other relevant stakeholder and strong coordination between the national and subnational administrations, India will keep moving in pursuing the implementation of the SDDG agenda. With the state governments, assessments will be carried out every two years to pinpoint successful strategies as well as obstacles and implement the necessary course adjustments.

India will continue to prioritize fostering relationships at the regional and international levels in additional to incorporating the SDGs into its ongoing national and subnational policies and programs. In line with its stated commitment within the framework of the 2030 Agenda, it will seek to guarantee a stronger flow of capital and technology from wealthy countries to developing and least developed countries. India is of the opinion that eradicating poverty and guaranteeing prosperity for everyone will be achievable with concerted and persistent efforts on both the national and international levels.

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