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Popular Article

India and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Sustainable Future for All

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Introduction

Achievement of SDGs important to ensure inclusive growth in our country

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a universal appeal for action to eradicate poverty in all forms, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity. The SDGs were adopted in 2015 as a part of the resolution, 'Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development'. India has given commitment to fulfil the 17 SDGs and the 169 associated targets, which cover social, economic and environmental dimensions of our country's development.

How these SDGs are important for inclusive development?

The SDGs include an **inclusive agenda**. They focus and tackle the root causes of poverty and bring us together to make a positive change for both people and planet. "**Ending of Poverty** is at core of the 2030 Agenda, and so is the promise to leave no-one behind".

The public investments in **socio-economic infrastructure like education, health, clean water, sanitation, housing and connectivity** have a critical role in inclusive development of a developing country like India and is at heart of SDG action plan.



SDG's helps us to achieve the **social sustainability, environmental sustainability and economic sustainability** thereby creating society based on **inclusive, equitable** principle in following way:

Social empowerment by SDG's: They promote gender equality, women empowerment, development of people, communities and cultures to create fairly-distributed quality of life. They help to achieve target of universal healthcare, reduce maternal and neonatal mortality, education for all people thereby ensuring social empowerment for all sections of societies contain targets which mandate provisioning of facilities such as schools, institutes of higher learning, hospitals, access to sanitation, water supply, road connectivity, affordable housing, skills and livelihood opportunities for all which help us to create inclusive society. SDG has target for clean water and sanitation which will help to reduce spread of water borne diseases. Provision of sanitation helps to empower women and instil sense of dignity into them.

Economic empowerment by SDG's: It focuses on equal economic opportunities that generates wealth for all, without harming the environment, eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions ensuring economic equality for all. It has targets for sustainable livelihood generation for all sections of society. It also strives to create resilient infrastructure, connectivity, innovations for sustainable industrialisation.

Environmental sustainability by SDG's: SDG's calls for environmental conservation, adopting renewable energy sources, saving water, contribute to achieving environmental sustainability on multiple fronts. It mandates to do adopt climate friendly practices to save our planet for future generations.

Thus, SDG's will help to build our society on inclusive, equitable principles by fostering social, economic and environmental sustainability. India is committed to fulfil these SDGs and implementing various measures to transform our country. These goals will help to create New India which will be based on sustainable principles.

Various Goals under Sustainable Development

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) are a set of 17 targets that all the countries which are members of the UN agreed to work upon for the better future of the country. India is committed to achieve all SDG's so as to transform our country.

SDG End poverty in all its forms everywhere: India is country where millions of our fellow citizens are living in dire poverty and are unable to contribute to the development story of India. So, this SDG becomes very important.

SDG 2 Zero Hunger:

It calls for an end to hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture. Because of poverty and limited livelihood opportunities to millions of people, food security becomes paramount important. Food is basic need of human being and with proper nutrition, it helps to reap proper benefits of our precious demographic dividend. For ensuring food security, we need to adopt sustainable, efficient practices in agriculture so that our agriculture can withstand stress of climate change.

SDG 3 Good health and wellbeing:

It focusses on healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages. Health now became very important aspect for country. Importance of health can be gauged from COVID-19 pandemic whereby all global economy came to standstill.

SDG 4 Quality Education:

It strives to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all. In order to reap benefit of our huge human capital, we should first educate them in order to build skill and capabilities in them.

SDG 5 Gender equality:

It strives to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. Gender equality is very important as it helps to give dignity, confidence and capability to women so that they can utilise resources equally.

SDG 6 Clean water and sanitation:

It strives availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all. It ensures good health and wellbeing for all by preventing spread of communicable diseases.

SDG 7 Affordable and Clean Energy:

It will help getting access to affordable, reliable and sustainable source of energy for all. Access to energy is very important for ending poverty, hunger and wellbeing of weaker sections.

SDG 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth:



It intends to promote economic sustainability by ensuring sustained and inclusive economic growth of all. It intends to provide productive employment and decent work for all so as to have sustainable economic growth reaching to all quarters of life.

SDG 9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure:

It envisages to build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation. It stresses importance of adopting sustainable practices in Industrialisation and foster innovation to build novel sustainable products.

SDG 10 Reduced Inequalities:

It mandates to reduce inequalities like social, economic within and among countries so as to create inclusive and equitable societies. It will help to reduce differences among various countries and people residing in those countries.

SDG 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities:

It intends to make cities and human settlements safe, resilient and sustainable so as to have good environment, clean water and housing to all living in cities.

SDG 12 Sustainable Consumption and Production:

It intends to ensure sustainable consumption and production pattern so as to have sustainable development and conservation of our precious resources.

SDG 13 Climate Action:

it strives to take urgent actions to combat climate change and its impact so as to preserve our fragile natural resources for future generations.

SDG 14 Life below Water:

It urges us to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources as they also part of important food chain and our global environment.

SDG 15 Life on Land:

It intends to protect, restore and promote sustainable use of all terrestrial ecosystems, strives for sustainable management of forests, halting desertification. It also intends to halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss thereby ensuring environment conservation.

SDG 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions:

It promotes peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development. It strives to provide access to justice for all needy and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.



SDG 17 Partnerships for the Goals:

It emphasizes on strengthening the ways of implementation and revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development. It helps to build alliances to achieve SDG's.

Conclusion:

The Sustainable Development goals strives to make the world a better place to live by achieving its targets like removing poverty, improving health, providing employment, empowering women, reducing inequalities. India has given commitment to achieve SDG targets and adopting various policy measures to achieve it. These SDG's will help to build New India based on sustainable practices which will yield prosperity to not only current as well as future generations.

References:

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