Achieving Sustainable Development Goals in India

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Abstract:

Sustainable development relates to a process wherein development take place without degrading the resources which make the development possible. Management of resources is crucial to make the slowly regenerating resources to those which generate more rapidly. Since the 1992 Earth Summit held in Rio de Janeiro, Sustainable Development is a much debated topic by the academics, scientists, NGOs, Public Sector development agencies, etc.

The main principles of sustainable development are ecological sustainability, socio-cultural sustainability, economic sustainability, local sustainability, etc. The 17 global goals for 2030 adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2015, have been endorsed by India and sincere and integrated effort is being made the Indian Govt. to implement the SDG goals. Through the following article, an effort is made to highlight the essence of the 17 SDG goals adopted by the UNO and how India is striving to implement the same in India in spite of the many existing challenges

Keywords: Sustainable development, Sustainability, implementation, monitoring, facilitating, striving and promoting.

1.Introduction

The idea of sustainable development is a process which allows development to take place without degrading or depleting the resources which make the development possible. It is generally possible through managing the resources in such a manner which allow them to renew themselves at the same rate at which they are used or switching from the use of a slowly regenerating resource to one which regenerates more rapidly. In this way, resources remain able to support future as well as current generations.

The concept of sustainable development was promoted by the Brundtland Report in 1987, acknowledged by the international community at the Earth Summit at Rio de Janeiro in 1992 and was taken up at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg in 2002. It is a concept that is much debated at the UN and international forums by academics, scientists, NGOs, Public Sector development agencies, etc.

The main principles of sustainable development are ecological sustainability, socio-cultural sustainability, economic sustainability, local sustainability, etc. Basically, the sustainable development is concerned with human betterment through improvement in lifestyles and life opportunities.

The foundational concept of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is the Sustainable Development. The 17 global goals for 2030 adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2015 include End of Poverty, Zero hunger, Good health and well-being, Quality Education, Gender Equality, Clean Water and Sanitation, Affordable and Clean Energy, Decent Work and Economic Growth, Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure, Reduced Inequalities, Sustainable Cities and Communities, Responsible Consumption and Production, Climate action, Life Below Water, Life on Land, Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, and Partnerships for the Goals. In order to build

a better world for current and future generations, economic growth, social inclusion and environmental sustainability must be sincerely and studiously promoted.

2. Implementation of Sustainable development Goals in India

India endorsed the United Nations 2023 Agenda of 17 SDGs adopted in 2015 for Sustainable Development which are aimed at achieving inclusive growth, social equality and environmental sustainability by 2023.

NITI Aayog is the nodal agency for implementing and monitoring SDG implementation across states and ministries. Specific goals are assigned to each Central Ministry. States and Union territories prepare their own State Indicator Frameworks (SIFs) and District Indicator Frameworks (DIFs) to localize SDGs.

Several progrAGEams have been identified in accordance with the identified and endorsed SDGs in India such as : Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarar act (MGNREGA), National Food Security Act, Poshan Abhiyaan, Ayushman Bharat, National Health Mission (NHM), Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan, NEP 2020, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, Ujwala Yojana, Jal Jeevan Mission, Swach Bharat Mission, National Solar Mission, Ujjwala Scheme, Make in India, Skill India Mission, Digital India, Startup India, Smart Cities Mission, AMRUT, National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC).

The MGNREGA was passed in 2005 and came into force in 2006. It is a social security and rural development program aimed at providing employment to rural households in India. The National Food Security was passed by the Govt. of India in 2013 aiming to provide food and nutritional security to the people by ensuring access to adequate food at affordable prices. Poshan Abhiyaan was launched by the Govt. of India on the 8th of March, 2018. The prime goal is to improve nutritional outcomes for children, pregnant women and lactating mothers across India. Ayushman Bharat is also called Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY) and is a premier health scheme launched by the Govt. of India in 2018, to provide affordable and accessible healthcare to marginalized communities across the country. The NHM is a prominent program of the Govt. launched in 2005 to provide accessible, affordable and quality healthcare to all citizens and it integrates two earlier missions namely National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) and National Urban Health Mission (NUHM). Samagra Shilsha Abhiyaan is a centrally sponsored scheme launched by the Govt. of India in 2018 to provide holistic and inclusive school education from pre-primary to senior secondary levels.

The NEP 2020 is a comprehensive framework for education in India to make India's education system more holistic, flexible, multidisciplinary, and aligned with 21st century needs. Addressing the declining child sex ratio and promote girl' education in India, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao was launched on the 22nd January, 2015. Aiming to provide clean cooking fuel (LPG connections) to women from the marginalized communities, Ujjwala Yojana was launched on the 1st of May, 2016 by the Govt. of India.

Striving to provide safe and adequate drinking water through individual household tap connections to all rural households in India, JJM was launched on the 15th August, 2019; to improve sanitation and cleanliness, and to make India open defecation free (ODF) , SBM was launched on 2nd October, 2014; to promote solar energy generation and renewable energy use in India NSM was launched in 2010 as part of the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC).

Make in India was launched on 25th September, 2014, to promote manufacturing, innovation, and foreign investment in India to generate jobs and boost economic growth;

Launched in 2015, Skill India Mission facilitates skill development and vocational training to youth for employability and entrepreneurship; to promote digital infrastructure, e-governance and online services across India, Digital India was launched on 1st July, 2015; Startup India was launched on 16th January, 2016, to encourage entrepreneurship and innovation by providing funding, incubation and regulatory support to startups; in order to develop 100 smart cities with better infrastructure , sanitation, transportation m and urban services, Smart Cities Mission was launched on the 25th June, 2015; AMRUT was launched on 25th June, 2015 to improve urban infrastructure like water supply sewage and green spaces in cities; NAPCC was launched in 2008 to promote climate mitigation and adaptation through eight missions including renewable energy, energy efficiency, and sustainable agriculture.

These initiatives showcase India's commitment to promote economic growth, sustainable development, urban transformation and social welfare. The key to successful implementation of the various schemes or programmes aligning with 17 SDGs upheld by the UNO and India could be through continuing effort by the Govt. in the midst of unending challenges such as poverty and inequality, persisting dropout rates and unequal access to quality education, air and water pollution, deforestation and climate change, insufficient funding gender inequality, social and cultural barriers. As India looks to make a difference and make a significant mark in its path of development and sustenance, it is hoped by all that there would be peace, harmony and overall wellbeing in India in due course of time.

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