



A Study on Progress of Sustainable Development Goals with Special Reference to Karnataka State

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Abstract:

Sustainable Development aims to bring a balance between meeting the requirements of what the present demands while not overlooking the needs of future generations. India being the second most populous country in the world with a high level of poverty has to walk a tightrope balancing the need for rapid economic growth without hampering the ecological systems. The objective of this paper is to know the concept of Sustainable Development Goals, the need for sustainable development goals, and the progress of sustainable development goals in Karnataka State. The research method of this study used secondary data. The study concluded that Karnataka improved its score from 66 in 2019-20 to 72 in 2020-21 and improved its ranking from fourth place to third. The state has shown progress in nine of 16 goals. Karnataka improved its scores on indicators related to reducing poverty, good health and well-being, gender equality, affordable and clean energy, industry, innovation and infrastructure, sustainable cities and communication, responsible consumption and production, peace, justice, and strong institutions.

Keywords : Sustainable Development, SDGs, Progress

I. Introduction

Sustainable development refers to a model of human development in which resource use aims to meet human needs while preserving the environment so that these needs can be met not only in the present, but also for generations to come. As the term simply explains, Sustainable Development aims to bring a balance between meeting the requirements of what the present demands while not overlooking the needs of future generations. The term 'sustainable development' was used by the **Brundtland Commission (1987)** which coined what has become the most often-quoted definition of sustainable development "development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." Sustainable development does not focus solely on environmental issues. The United Nations 2005 World Summit Outcome Document refers to the four 'interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars' of sustainable development as including: economic development, social development and environmental protection. The fourth pillar is indigenous people and culture.

Sustainable development Goals in India

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity. UN's Development Agenda for 2016-2030 i.e., "Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" comprising 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 related Targets which are measured in 304 indicators. India was among the 193 countries that adopted the SDGs on 25th September, 2015. The implementation of these SDGs began on 1st January 2016. The SDGs are an extension to the **Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)**, eight anti-poverty targets that the world

committed to achieving by 2015. The SDGs go further than the MDGs, addressing the root causes of poverty and the universal need for development that works for all people. The 17 Sustainable Development Goals are built on the successes of the Millennium Development Goals, while including new areas such as climate change, economic inequality, innovation, sustainable consumption, peace and justice, among other priorities. The goals are interconnected which is a key to success as one goal achieved leads to tackling of issues for other goals as well. The Government of India along with all the states has commenced work in sight earnest on achieving the SDGs by the year 2030. NITI Aayog plays a major role in overseeing implementation by Ministries and coordinating with States for the achievement of developmental targets as enshrined in the SDGs. While the indicators envisaged are still being finalized by the Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation (MoSPI), this report provides an insight on the state's efforts towards finalizing the framework for the implementation and monitoring of SDGs. Based on NITI Aayog's mapping framework, the Government of Karnataka is aligning its SDGs goals and targets with its existing policies and programmes. The state has identified nodal departments as well as related departments for each goal and target specifically. The state is in the process of streamlining its strategies for achieving the same by classifying the targets into short, medium and long-term goals for three years, seven years and fifteen years respectively, as guided by NITI Aayog.

The 17 SDGs are: No 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 Inequality, Sustainable Cities and Communities, Responsible Consumption and Production, Climate Action, Life Below Water, Life On Land, Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions, Partnerships for the Goals.

II. Review of literature

Prabhakar (2021) focussed on the need for sustainable development goals, progress that India has achieved in meeting the sustainable development goals as well as associated challenges. It found that India has not yet achieved its targeted 100 scores in any of the goals and with majority of the overall SDG scores hovering in the range of 50 to 75. **Prabhakar David (2018)** conducted research on "Sustainable Development Goals – Challenges for India" is carried out to understand the challenges encountered by India in achieving Sustainable Development Goals and offers suggestions to overcome them. The biggest challenge for India seems to be the development of suitable indicators. This can be handled by developing an Indian Index for Sustainable Development (IISD) by taking the Ibrahim index as a base.

III. Statement of the Problem

The several studies already conducted on sustainable development goals at the macro level and no major study have been made to know the progress of sustainable goals in Karnataka state. Thus, the study has undertaken to examine the progress of sustainable development goals in Karnataka state.

IV. Objectives of the Study

- To know the concept of Sustainable development.
- To identify the need for sustainable development goals.
- To know the progress of sustainable development goals in Karnataka State.

V. Research Methodology

This study is descriptive in nature using secondary sources of data. The secondary data is collected from Newspaper, Articles and Research journal and governmental and Non-governmental reports such as those of United Nations, NITI Ayog.

5.1 Discussion of the study

Need for sustainable development goals

1. No poverty : Nearly half the global population still lives in poverty. SDG 1 aims to end poverty in all its forms everywhere through collaboration, stronger social protection measures and significant mobilization of global resources.

2. Zero Hunger : Global resources are sufficient to support current population numbers; however, unequal access means that hunger is still the leading cause of death worldwide. SDG 2 aims to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture.

3. Good Health and Well-being : Major steps have already been taken to improve the health of millions of people, increasing global life expectancies and fighting communicable diseases. SDG 3 aims to further ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all ages by reducing maternal and infant mortality, ending disease epidemics and achieving universal health coverage.

4. Quality Education : Education is the key to global prosperity. SDG 4 aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all by ensuring access to equal and quality education for all boys and girls up until secondary school age, as well as increasing access to technical and vocational training for youth and adults.

5. Gender Equality : Gender bias is not just a human rights issue; it is a tremendous waste of potential as well. SDG 5 aims to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls at all level of decision-making in political, economic and public life, so we can ensure everyone has the opportunity to thrive.

6. Clean Water and Sanitation : Lack of access to clean water and sanitation continues to impact billions of people worldwide. SDG 6 aims to ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all with universal access to safe, affordable drinking water- crucial to reducing unnecessary disease and death.

7. Affordable and Clean Energy : SDG 7 aims to ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all. Greater efforts must be made to implement new energy solutions that will help to tackle climate change and ensure sustainable energy for all.

8. Decent Work and Economic Growth : SDG 8 works to promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all. By encouraging decent job creation, reducing the number of unemployed youth, increasing training or education and protecting labor rights for all, we can ensure that economic growth benefits society as a whole.

9. Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure : Communities can only grow and innovate with a strong foundation of resilient infrastructure. SDG 9 aims to build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.

10. Reduced Inequalities : Although global wealth continues to grow, this doesn't mean it is being equally distributed. SDG 10 aims to reduce inequalities within and among countries. Greater efforts are needed to achieve and sustain income growth for the bottom 40% of the population, and to promote social, economic and political inclusion for everyone regardless of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic status.

11. Sustainable Cities and Communities : As populations continue to increase, and more people move into urban settings, SDG 11 aims to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable. This means amplifying efforts to provide safe, affordable housing and sustainable transport systems while still protecting the world's cultural and natural heritage.

12. Responsible Consumption and Production : We are currently consuming the world's natural resources at the rate faster than they can be replenished. SDG 12 aims to ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns by

reducing food waste and improving the management and use of resources to safeguard the environment for generations to come.

13. Climate Action : we are facing a climate emergency that threatens the world as we know it. SDG 13 ensures we take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts through increased education and innovation and adhering to climate commitments.

14. Life Below Water : Oceans cover 70% of our planet and are crucial to our survival. SDG 14 aims to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development by eliminating marine pollution and overfishing to safeguard the marine environment and the communities relying on it.

15. Life on Land : Healthy terrestrial ecosystems are essential to our lives. SDG 15 aims to protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation and prevent biodiversity loss.

16. Peace, justice and Strong Institutions : SDG 16 aims to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. Violence must end and corruption, bribery and other illegal activities must be addressed in order to build stronger societies that will work together for people and the planet.

17. Partnerships for the Goals : SDG 17 aims to strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development. Businesses must work alongside governments, academics, the civil society and industry peers to develop solutions and mobilize resources and technology to deliver on the goals.

Progress of Sustainable Development Goals in Karnataka State

Karnataka ranked third in NITI Aayog's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) India Index for 2020-21. Karnataka improved its score from 66 in 2019-20 to 72 in 2020-21 and improved its ranking from fourth place to third. The state has shown progress in nine of 16 goals.

Performance of Karnataka- SDG -India Index 2019-20 and 2020-21

Sustainable Development Goals	2019-20	2020-21	Change in 2021 vs 2019-20
	Score out of 100	Score out of 100	
SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	48	78	30
SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	40	64	24
SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	77	100	23
SDG 1: No Poverty	49	68	19
SDG 12: Responsible consumption and production	72	89	17
SDG 2: Zero Hunger	37	53	16
SDG 5: Gender Equality	42	57	15
SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being	69	78	9
SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions	74	76	2
SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities	68	67	-1
SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation	88	85	-3
SDG 14: Life below water	65	60	-5
SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	72	66	-6
SDG 13: Climate action	71	62	-9
SDG 4: Quality Education	76	64	-12
SDG 15: Life on Land	88	67	-21
All goals- Karnataka	66	72	6

Source : NITI Aayog (2019-20 & 2020-21)

From the above table we can say that Karnataka improved its scores on indicators related to reducing poverty; good health and well-being; gender equality; affordable and clean energy; industry, innovation and infrastructure; sustainable cities and communication; responsible consumption and production; and peace, justice and strong institutions.

Its scores declined in areas such as quality education; clean water and sanitation; decent work and economic growth; reduced inequality; climate action; life below water and life on land indicators.

VI. Limitations of the study : Reliance on secondary sources of data only.

VII. Conclusion

To conclude, it can be said that sustainable development brings out stability in the requirements of the environment. It makes the resources available for use for the future generations. Sustainable development is an amazing way to conserve the resources provided by nature. This can be achieved by using eco-friendly resources and technologies that will have no serious impact on the environment. Karnataka improved its score from 66 in 2019-20 to 72 in 2020-21 and improved its ranking from fourth place to third. The state has shown progress in nine of 16 goals. Karnataka improved its scores on indicators related to reducing poverty; good health and well-being; gender equality; affordable and clean energy; industry, innovation and infrastructure; sustainable cities and communication; responsible consumption and production; and peace, justice and strong institutions. Its scores declined in areas such as quality education; clean water and sanitation; decent work and economic growth; reduced inequality; climate action; and life on land indicators

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