



NITI Aayog

ANNUAL REPORT

2023 - 24

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सत्यमेव जयते

NITI Aayog

ANNUAL REPORT 2023-24

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ABP	Aspirational Blocks Programme
ACC	Advance Chemistry Cell
ADB	Asian Development Bank
ADP	Aspirational District Programme
AIGGPA	Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Good Governance and Policy Analysis
AI/ML	Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning
AIIMS	All India Institute for Medical Sciences
AIM	Atal Innovation Mission
API	Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient
APIs	Application Programming Interface
ASHA	Accredited Social Health Activist
AU	African Union
BEE	Bureau of Energy Efficiency
BISAG-N	Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications and Geo-informatics
BMGF	Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
BMZ	Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (Germany)
CBC	Capacity Building Commission
CBM	Coal-bed Methane
CBSE	Central Board of Secondary Education
CCEA	Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs
CEEW	Council on Energy, Environment and Water
CEPA	Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement
CII	Confederation of Indian Industry
CIL	Coal India Limited
CM	Chief Minister
CPSEs	Central Public Sector Enterprises
CS	Central Sector
CSO	Central Statistics Office
CSOs	Civil Society Organisations
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
CSS	Centrally Sponsored Schemes

CWMI	Composite Water Management Index
CoC	Champions of Change
DEA	Department of Economic Affairs
DEAC	Development Evaluation Advisory Committee
DFCCIL	Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Limited
DGQI	Data Governance Quality Index
DHI	Department of Heavy Industry
DIPAM	Department of Investment and Public Asset Management
DMEO	Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office
DoPT	Department of Personnel and Training
DPR	Detailed Project Report
DRDO	Defence Research and Development Organisation
ECTA	Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement
EFC	Expenditure Finance Committee
EGoS	Empowered Group of Secretaries
EPI	Export Preparedness Index
EV	Electric Vehicle
FICCI	Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry
FMCG	Fast Moving Consumer Goods
FPCs	Farmer Producer Companies
FPOs	Farmer Producer Organisations
GII	Global Innovation Index
GIRG	Global Indices for Reforms and Growth
GIS	Geographic Information System
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
GoI	Government of India
GSDP	Gross State Domestic Product
GST	Goods and Services Tax
GTAP	Global Trade Analysis Project
GVCs	Global Value Chains
HLPF	High-Level Political Forum
HMIS	Health Management Information System
IA&AS	Indian Audit and Accounts Service
IAFs	Indian Administrative Fellows

ICAR	Indian Council of Agricultural Research
ICDS	Integrated Child Development Services
ICED	India Climate and Energy Dashboard
ICF	Integral Coach Factory
ICMR	Indian Council of Medical Research
IDA	Islands Development Agency
IED	India Energy Dashboards
IESS	India Energy Security Scenarios
IFoS	Indian Forest Service
IFPRI	International Food Policy Research Institute
IHBT	Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology
IHCUC	Indian Himalayan Central University Consortium
IIT	Indian Institute of Technology
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IMF	International Monetary Fund
INCLEN	International Clinical Epidemiology Network
ISB	Indian School of Business
ISEG	Institute for Sustainability, Employment and Growth
IT	Information Technology
JCERT	Jharkhand Council of Educational Research and Training
JNPT	Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust
JWG	Joint Working Group
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
KSMs/DIs/ APIs	Application Programming Interface
LBSNAA	Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration
LG	Lt Governor
LNG	Liquefied Natural Gas
LoA	Letter of Authorisation
MDBs	Multilateral Development Banks
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MDoNER	Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region
MEA	Ministry of External Affairs
MIB	Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

MIS	Management Information Systems
MITRA	Maharashtra Institute for Transformation
MoC&F	Ministry of Chemicals and Fertiliser
MoEFCC	Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change
MoH&FW	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
MoHUA	Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
MoMSME	Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
MoSPI	Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MoWCD	Ministry of Women & Child Development
MNRE	Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
MGNREGA	Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act
MPI	Multidimensional Poverty Index
MRO	Maintenance, Repair and Operations
MSP	Minimum Support Price
NABARD	National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
NAS	National Achievement Survey
NCAER	National Council of Applied Economic Research
NCERT	National Council of Educational Research and Training
NCTE	National Council for Teacher Education
NDC	Nationally Determined Contributions
NDLD	New Delhi Leader's Declaration
NEP	National Education Policy
NeGD	National e-Governance Division
NER	North-Eastern Region
NFHS	National Family Health Survey
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NHSRC	National Health Systems Resource Centre
NIC	National Informatics Centre
NIEPA	National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration
NILERD	National Institute of Labour Economics Research and Development
NIT	National Institute of Technology
NITI	National Institution for Transforming India
NLCIL	Neyveli Lignite Corporation India Limited

NMP	National Monetisation Pipeline
NOTP	National Organ Transplant Programme
NRSC	National Remote Sensing Centre
NTPC	National Thermal Power Corporation
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OEMs	Original Equipment Manufacturer
OOMF	Output-Outcome Monitoring Framework
OoS C	Out-of-School Children
Opex	Operating Expense
PGIMERs	Post Graduate Institutes of Medical Education & Research
PLI	Production Linked Incentive
PMJAY	Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana
PPR	Preliminary Project Report
PSHICMI	Policy and Strategy for Health Insurance Coverage of India
PSUs	Public Sector Undertakings
PVTG	Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group
RE	Renewable Energy
RMI	Rocky Mountain Institute
RTI	Right to Information
SATH-E	Sustainable Action for Transforming Human Capital-Education
SC-NEC	Sub-Committee of National Executive Committee
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SECI	State Energy & Climate Index
SEQI	School Education Quality Index
SETU	State Institute of Empowering and Transforming Uttarakhand
SHG	Self Help Group
SIT	State Institution for Transformation
SMR	Small Modular Reactors
SOP	Standard Operating Procedures
Sol	Statement of Intent
STC	State Transformation Commission
SSM	State Support Mission
U-DISE	Unified District Information System for Education Plus
ULB	Urban Local Body

UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNGA	United Nations General Assembly
UT	Union Territories
VIF	Vivekananda International Foundation
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WHO	World Health Organisation
WINGS	Women and Infants Integrated Interventions for Growth Study
WEF	World Economic Forum
VGF	Viability Gap Funding

“

When our States grow, India grows.

- Narendra Modi,
Hon'ble Prime Minister

”



नीति आयोग

सबकी आकांक्षाएं, सबका विकास

आकांक्षी ब्लॉक कार्यक्रम के तहत

संकल्प सप्ताह

30 सितंबर 2023, भारत मंडपम, नई दिल्ली



नीति आयोग

सबकी आकांक्षाएं, सबका विकास

आकांक्षी ब्लॉक कार्यक्रम के तहत

संकल्प सप्ताह

SECTION

1

NITI AAYOG: FRAMEWORK

CONSTITUTION

NITI Aayog was formed via a resolution of the Union Cabinet on 1 January, 2015. It is the premier policy think tank of the Government of India, providing directional and policy inputs. Apart from designing long-term policies and programmes for the Government of India, NITI Aayog also provides relevant strategic and technical advice to the Centre, States, and Union Territories. NITI Aayog acts as the quintessential institution for the Government of India to bring the states to act together in national interest and thereby foster cooperative federalism.

CONSTITUTION OF NITI AAYOG (AS ON 31 MARCH, 2024)



FULL-TIME MEMBERS



CONSTITUTION OF NITI AAYOG (AS ON 31 MARCH, 2024)

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS



SHRI RAJNATH SINGH
Hon'ble Minister of Defence



SHRI AMIT SHAH
Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of Cooperation



SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN
Hon'ble Minister of Finance and Minister of Corporate Affairs



SHRI ARJUN MUNDA
Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare

SPECIAL INVITEES



SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI
Hon'ble Minister of Road Transport and Highways



SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL
Hon'ble Minister of Commerce and Industry, Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, and Minister of Textiles



SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAV
Hon'ble Minister of Railways, Minister of Communications, and Minister of Electronics and Information Technology



RAO INDERJIT SINGH
Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) of Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Minister of State (Independent Charge) of Ministry of Planning, and Minister of State in Ministry of Corporate Affairs



DR VIRENDRA KUMAR
Hon'ble Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment

OBJECTIVES AND FEATURES

The NITI Aayog serves as the apex public policy think tank of the Government of India, and the nodal agency tasked with catalysing economic development, and fostering cooperative federalism through the involvement of State Governments in the economic policy-making process using a bottom- up approach. The key objectives and features are:

- To evolve a shared vision of national development priorities, sectors and strategies with the active involvement of States.
- To foster cooperative federalism through structured support initiatives and mechanisms with the States on a continuous basis, recognizing that strong States make a strong nation.
- To develop mechanisms to formulate credible plans at the village level and aggregate these progressively at higher levels of government.
- To ensure, on areas that are specifically referred to, the interests of national security are incorporated in economic strategy and policy.
- To pay special attention to the sections of our society that may be at risk of not benefiting adequately from economic progress.
- To design strategic and long-term policy and programme frameworks and initiatives, and monitor their progress and their efficacy. The lessons learned through monitoring and feedback will be used for making innovative improvements, including necessary mid-course corrections.
- To provide advice and encourage partnerships between key stakeholders, national and international like-minded think tanks, as well as educational and policy research institutions.
- To create a knowledge, innovation and entrepreneurial support system through a collaborative community of national and international experts, practitioners and other partners.
- To offer a platform for the resolution of inter-sectoral and inter-departmental issues in order to accelerate the implementation of the development agenda.
- To maintain a state-of-the-art resource centre, be a repository of research on good governance and best practices in sustainable and equitable development as well as facilitate their dissemination to the stake-holders.
- To actively monitor and evaluate the implementation of programmes and initiatives, including the identification of the needed resources to strengthen the probability of success and scope of delivery.
- To focus on technology upgradation and capacity building for implementation of programmes and initiatives.
- To undertake other activities as may be necessary in order to further the execution of the national development agenda, along with the objectives mentioned above.

NITI Aayog continues to develop itself as a state-of-the-art resource center with the necessary knowledge and skills that will enable it to act with speed, promote research and innovation, provide strategic policy advice for the government, and deal with contingent issues. It is

supported by an attached office, Development Monitoring and Evaluation Organisation (DMEO); a flagship initiative, Atal Innovation Mission (AIM); and an autonomous body, National Institute of Labour Economics Research and Development (NILERD).

NITI Aayog's mandate can be categorized into four key areas:

1. Promoting knowledge and innovation
2. NITI for States (Cooperative and Competitive Federalism)
3. Driving transformational change
4. Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)

APPOINTMENTS

In pursuance of the approval of the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) conveyed by Department of Personnel and Training vide communication dated 20 February, 2023, Shri B.V.R. Subrahmanyam (IAS, CG: 1987) was appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of NITI Aayog Vice Shri Parameswaran Iyer. Accordingly, Shri B.V.R. Subrahmanyam took charge as CEO of NITI Aayog w.e.f. 24 February, 2023.

PROGRAMME/SUBJECT ALLOCATION

The different programmes, subjects, attached offices, and autonomous bodies of NITI Aayog provide the requisite coordination and support framework needed to carry out the above mandate. The list of different programmes and subjects, including special initiatives/ programme is given below. Their function areas and key activities during 2023-24 are mentioned in Section 4.

S. No.	Programme/Subject allocation
1.	States i) State Finances and State Co-ordination ii) State Support Mission (SSM) iii) Aspirational Districts Programme (ADP) iv) Aspirational Blocks Programme (ABP) v) National Chief Secretaries Coordination Division
2.	Education
3.	Water and Land Resources
4.	Drinking Water & Sanitation
5.	North-East States

6.	Communications
7.	Social Justice & Empowerment, Voluntary Action
8.	Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Institutions
9.	Science and Technology
10.	Administration/HR including General Administration, RTI
11.	Governance & Research
12.	Governing Council Secretariat & Coordination (GCS&C), Parliament
13.	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
14.	Information Technology (including Frontier Technology) and Telecommunications
15.	Data Management & Analysis
16.	Urbanization
17.	Health & Family Welfare, Nutrition
18.	Women and Child Development
19.	Agriculture Technology
20.	Agriculture Policy
21.	Public Finance and Policy Analysis (formerly PAMD)
22.	Economics & Finance I: Economic Modelling, Scenario Building, Capital Markets
23.	Economics & Finance II i. All other matters of Economic & Finance vertical not mentioned in E&F-I including G20, Multilateral Institutions and Disinvestment; ii. Trade & Commerce
24.	Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Labour & Employment

25.	Green Transition, Energy, Climate & Environment
26.	Infrastructure – Connectivity (Transport)
27.	Electric Mobility
28.	Industry & MSME including FDI
29.	Tourism and Culture
30.	Public Private Partnership (PPP) including High Speed Train and Asset Monetization
31.	Island Development
32.	Law
33.	Security & External Affairs including Vibrant Village Programme

Other special initiatives/programmes

1.	Scenario Planning & Visioning Unit including Viksit Bharat: Vision @2047
2.	Knowledge Support Unit
3.	Economic Intelligence Unit
4.	Circular Economy Cell
5.	Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO) – Attached office
6.	Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)- flagship initiative
7.	National Institute of Labour Economics Research and Development (NILERD)- Autonomous body

GOVERNING COUNCIL OF NITI AAYOG

The Governing Council of NITI Aayog, comprising of Chief Ministers of all the States and UTs with legislatures and LGs of other UTs, came into effect on 16 February, 2015 vide a notification issued by the Cabinet Secretariat. The Governing Council was last reconstituted vide a notification dated 19 February 2021 by the Cabinet Secretariat.

The Governing Council is the premier body tasked with evolving a shared vision of national priorities and strategies, with the active involvement of States, in shaping the national development narrative. The Governing Council, which embodies the objectives of cooperative federalism, presents a platform to discuss inter-sectoral, inter-departmental and federal issues to accelerate the implementation of the national development agenda.

So far, eight meetings of the Governing Council have been held under the Chairmanship of the Hon'ble Prime Minister with CMs/LGs of the States/UTs and other members of the Governing Council.

EIGHTH GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING

The eighth meeting of the Governing Council of NITI Aayog on the theme 'Viksit Bharat @2047' was held under the Chairmanship of the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 27 May, 2023 in Bharat Mandapam, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. It was attended by Chief Ministers/Lt Governors representing 19 States and 6 UTs. The meeting was also attended by select Union Ministers as Ex-officio Members and as Special Invitees; Vice Chairman; full-time Members of NITI Aayog; Cabinet Secretary; Principal Secretary to the Hon'ble Prime Minister; CEO, NITI Aayog; and select Secretaries, Government of India and other Senior Officials from the Hon'ble Prime Minister's Office, Cabinet Secretariat and NITI Aayog.

The Governing Council deliberated upon the agenda set during the second National Conference of Chief Secretaries held in New Delhi between 5-7 January, 2023, which included (i) Thrust on Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), (ii) Infrastructure and Investments, (iii) Minimising Compliances, (iv) Women Empowerment, (v) Health and Nutrition, (vi) Skill Development, and additional agenda item on Gati Shakti for area development and social infrastructure. In addition, there was a presentation on Viksit Bharat@2047 by the Vice-Chairman, NITI Aayog which set the tone for the meeting.

In the meeting the CMs/LGs shared their perspectives on development priorities. They also highlighted specific issues pertaining to the States which require Centre-State cooperation. Some of the key suggestions and best practices highlighted by them, inter alia, included opting for green strategies, need for zone wise planning, tourism, urban planning, agriculture, quality of workmanship and logistics.



Hon'ble Prime Minister with CMs/LGs of States/UTs at the 8th Governing Council meeting held on 27 May, 2023

The Hon'ble Prime Minister highlighted the importance of all of the above issues and emphasized that infrastructure is another area that needs to be focused upon. Besides physical and digital infrastructure, substantial investment also needs to be directed towards social infrastructure. This will create better livelihood opportunities even in the rural areas. He urged States/UTs to solve the twin issues of water conservation and employment generation through creation of community assets at local level which could be done by linking MGNREGA with the Amrit Sarovar Programme, thereby generating employment at local levels.

The Hon'ble Prime Minister requested the CMs/LGs to have a close watch on their financial position and adopt fiscal discipline, especially in the context of a volatile global situation. He cautioned the states about not falling into a debt trap like several nations of the world who are facing great difficulties because of imprudent financial policies. He also stressed the importance of replicating competition-based strategies at the municipality, district and panchayat levels, which would encourage officials to improve performance across socioeconomic parameters.

The Hon'ble Prime Minister drew the attention of CMs/LGs towards enthusiastic global participation in the G20 meetings being held in a large number of cities across States/UTs. While G20 Presidency has brought glory to India on the world stage, it has also provided States/UTs the opportunity for global exposure. He stressed upon the need for follow up actions by States/UTs to use this opportunity to have a stronger presence worldwide, and to focus on capacity building at the State/UT-level to deliver on the same.

In his closing remarks, the Hon'ble Prime Minister emphasized that the 25 years of Amrit Kaal are crucial for India. The vision of a Viksit Bharat encompasses entire country and not limited to any political party. With the collective and collaborative efforts of Team India, by 2047, India should become an inclusive, developed, and progressive nation. He highlighted that all the discussions at NITI are to steer India towards the vision of Viksit Bharat.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CHIEF SECRETARIES

As desired by the Hon'ble Prime Minister, it has been decided to hold a National Conference of Chief Secretaries annually. Three conferences have been held till date. The third conference was held from 27-29 December 2023 in New Delhi following over 9 months of preparation with both Centre and State officials who deliberated on various aspects of the conference theme. The theme of the third conference was 'Promoting Ease of Living' with a special emphasis on easy access to welfare schemes and quality in service delivery. The five sub-themes discussed during the conference were (i) Drinking Water: Access, Quantity and Quality; (ii) Electricity: Quality, Efficiency & Reliability; (iii) Health: Accessibility, Affordability & Quality of Care (iv) Schooling: Access & Quality; and (v) Land and Property: Accessibility, Digitisation, Registration & Mutation.

Apart from these, special sessions were also held on the themes, viz. (i) Perspectives on Artificial Intelligence (AI); (ii) Cyber Security: Emerging Challenges; (iii) Stories from the Ground: Aspirational Blocks Programme; (iv) Role of States: Rationalisation of Schemes & Autonomous entities and Enhancing Capital Expenditure; and (v) AI in Governance: Challenges & Opportunities.

Besides these, focused deliberations were also made on Drug De-addiction & Rehabilitation; Amrit Sarovar; Tourism Promotion, Branding & Role of States; and PM Vishwakarma Yojana & PM SVANidhi during thematic meals. Best practices from States/UTs under each of the themes were also presented at the Conference so that the States can replicate the success achieved in one State or maneuver as per their own requirements. The outcome of the third National Conference of Chief Secretaries is expected to contribute into the agenda for the 9th Governing Council Meeting.



मुख्य सचिवों का तृतीय राष्ट्रीय सम्मेलन **Third National Conference of Chief Secretaries**

27-29 दिसंबर 2023 | नई दिल्ली

27-29 December 2023 | New Delhi



Hon'ble Prime Minister with the Chief Secretaries at the Third National Conference of Chief Secretaries of States / UTs at New Delhi in December 2023



Education



Best Practices



Policy



Data Sets

Agriculture &
Allied Services

JANUARY

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FEBRUARY

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MARCH

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31						

APRIL

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MAY

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JUNE

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NITI for States

Manufacturing

Skills Livelihood
& Labour Welfare

MSME

JULY

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AUGUST

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NOVEMBER

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DECEMBER

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SEPTEMBER

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OCTOBER

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JANUARY

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FEBRUARY

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MARCH

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APRIL

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MAY

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JUNE

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SECTION

2

**NITI FOR
STATES**

INTRODUCTION

A key mandate of NITI Aayog is to foster cooperative federalism through structured support initiatives and mechanisms with the States on a continuous basis, recognizing that strong States make a strong nation. Keeping this in view, NITI Aayog continues to take host of initiatives with the spirit of 'Team India'. In addition to Aspirational Districts and Aspirational Blocks Programmes, NITI has rejuvenated its State Support Mission as an overarching umbrella initiative to reinvigorate ongoing engagement with the States/UTs in a more structured and institutionalized manner in order to achieve the transformational objectives envisioned for 2047, when India would be celebrating its 100 years of Independence. These include providing special assistance to set up institutions on the lines of NITI Aayog in states to foster capacity building in States/UTs, and share knowledge about best practices. This also includes launching indices to promote competition and make strategies for specific areas such as education, monitoring and evaluation, SDGs in the North-Eastern and Himalayan region, islands, and coastal States, etc.

ASPIRATIONAL DISTRICTS & BLOCKS PROGRAMME

ASPIRATIONAL DISTRICTS PROGRAMME

The Aspirational Districts Programme (ADP), as it marked its six years of implementation in January 2024, stands as a testament to a pragmatic and data-driven approach to socio-economic development in relatively underdeveloped regions of India. This pioneering initiative has been instrumental in addressing critical gaps and fostering collaboration among diverse stakeholders, showcasing a model that goes beyond individual districts to contribute to nationwide inclusive and sustainable development.

At the heart of the programme lies its commitment to a data-driven approach. NITI Aayog, has been diligently monitoring 112 districts by capturing monthly data on 49 Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). The emphasis on data is a strategic acknowledgment that substantial improvements in socio-economic outcomes are contingent upon identifying and addressing challenges through rigorous data analysis.

The sustained success of the ADP can be attributed to its adept coordination of efforts from various stakeholders, including Central and State Governments, District Administrations, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), private partners, civil society, and the public. NITI Aayog has played a crucial role in fostering collaboration between State Governments and Central Line Ministries and Departments, acting as a bridge to connect diverse entities with the common goal of upliftment.

Key players in this collaborative effort include NITI Aayog, the Central and State Prabhari officers, and the District teams led by the District Magistrate/Collector (DM/DC). Regular meetings and workshops facilitated by NITI Aayog serve as platforms for these stakeholders to come together, exchange insights, identify practical solutions to grassroots challenges, and share best practices. This collaborative spirit not only strengthens the implementation

of the programme but also creates a network of expertise that transcends administrative boundaries.

Beyond physical gatherings, NITI Aayog actively disseminates success stories and best practices through various channels such as emails, letters, and social media. This knowledge-sharing initiative is crucial in celebrating achievements while also serving as a valuable resource for districts encountering similar challenges. By leveraging technology and communication platforms, the programme ensures that the lessons learned in one region can be applied in another, facilitating innovation and continuous improvement.

Importantly, the impact of the ADP extends beyond individual districts. It offers a blueprint for scaling up initiatives across the nation, showcasing a model that can be replicated in diverse socio-economic contexts. By providing practical solutions to challenges faced by different regions, the programme contributes to the broader goal of inclusive and sustainable development in India.

ASPIRATIONAL BLOCKS PROGRAMME

Launched on 7 January, 2023, by the Hon'ble Prime Minister during the 2nd National Conference of Chief Secretaries, the Aspirational Blocks Programme (ABP) is a transformative initiative following the success of the ADP. Covering 500 blocks across 27 States and 4 Union Territories, ABP aims to elevate governance and citizens' quality of life by converging existing schemes, defining outcomes, and continuously monitoring progress.

In each identified block, the ABP strategically focuses on key socio-economic indicators across major sectors such as Health and Nutrition, Education, Agriculture and Allied Sectors, Basic Infrastructure, and Social Development. The objective is to ensure a tailored approach to development, allowing for context-based strategies that address the specific needs of each region, bringing decision-making closer to the grassroots. This holistic approach not only targets inequalities but also catalyses economic development, aligning with SDGs. ABP emphasizes last-mile service delivery, raising awareness, and providing a common platform for block administrations to showcase best practices and share learnings. The overarching goal is to enhance ease-of-living for citizens by improving access to government schemes and fostering an inclusive, locally driven development paradigm.

The first year of ABP has been very fruitful in successfully operationalising the Programme in all selected blocks. A KPI framework consisting 40 indicators was finalised in consultation with the respective central ministries and technical experts. Unlike in ADP, the data of these indicators are directly sourced from the Central Ministry databases ensuring quality of data and reducing the data entry burden on field functionaries. A baseline report was provided to all 500 blocks as per their status on March 2023. The first delta ranking under ABP was released on the basis of incremental progress achieved between March and June, 2023.

One of the major initiatives under ABP was capacity building workshops for block-level officials and preparation of Block Development Strategy (BDS). Over 4,500 block-level

officials underwent Leadership training in 10 centres across the country during August and September 2023. A key outcome of this training has been the preparation of a robust BDS by all the Aspirational Blocks. The BDS outlines the priorities in each sector of the Block and the services that will be offered to the citizens while making the best possible use of the existing resources to achieve saturation of the identified socio-economic indicators. For the preparation of BDS, multiple *Chintan Shivirs* were conducted at district and block level. These consultations involved a myriad of local stakeholders - from Peoples' Representatives, SHG members and frontline staff such as ASHA/Anganwadi workers, to local influencers and sectoral specialists. Their collective insights and experiences were harnessed to shape a comprehensive development strategy for every block. The strategy maps out targets for the forthcoming year and lays down a clear plan of action to achieve these objectives. All blocks under this programme have successfully crafted their BDS and are working towards achieving the set objectives.

On 30 September, 2023, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India launched the 'Sankalp Saptaah' under ABP at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. More than 3,000 people from across the country participated in the launch including people's representatives at block and panchayat level, District and Block Level Officials, Cabinet Ministers, Ministers of State, and senior Central and State Government Officers. Sankalp Saptaah was a weeklong set of activities under each of the sectoral themes of ABP to drive saturation of basic services and their access for every citizen. Followed by the launch, the Sankalp Saptaah activities were carried out in great enthusiasm across all Aspirational Blocks between 3- 9 October, 2023.



Hon'ble Prime Minister at the launch of Sankalp Saptaah at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi

By prioritising inclusive, locally driven development strategies, ABP has become a catalyst for positive change creating an environment where localised initiatives and good governance play a pivotal role in socio-economic development. As it unfolds, the programme exemplifies the transformative potential inherent in community engagement and sustainable, context-based development.



PERFORMANCE DASHBOARD: CHAMPIONS OF CHANGE

Aspirational Districts Programme

The Champions of Change (CoC) dashboard for real-time data collection and monitoring opened for public viewing on 1 April, 2018. The dashboard has been named so as to emphasize the critical role played by the DM/DC and their teams in the progress of districts. ADP hinges on inducing competition among 112 districts through regular ranking, which is dynamic and

reflects the incremental (delta) improvement made every month. Districts are encouraged to improve their data collection and maintenance mechanisms to enter up-to-date data on the dashboard.

The Champions of Change portal (CoC 2.0) has been upgraded to further empower the District Administrations towards data-driven governance and evidence-based policy making. CoC 2.0 hosts many new features such as Citizen Reports, Citizen Feedback, Advanced Analytics, Project Management, Geo-Spatial Maps and other AI/ML Solutions.



NITI Aayog

Champions of Change Platform



Explore >

...

Aspirational Districts Programme

[SWITCH TO CLASSIC](#)

Composite Score January 2024

74.1%	↑
Y.S.R kadapa	
43.2%	↓
Ribhoi	

[See All Districts >](#)

Health & Nutrition

90.5%	↑
Y.S.R kadapa	
61.8%	↓
Gaya	

[See All Districts >](#)

Education

80.8%	↑
Barpeta	
36.9%	↓
Alluri Sitharama Raju	

[See All Districts >](#)

Agriculture & Water Resources

64.1%	↑
Y.S.R kadapa	
6.3%	↓
Dumka	

[See All Districts >](#)

Financial Inclusion & Skill Development

45.2%	↑
Ramgarh	
18.7%	↓
Chandel	

[See All Districts >](#)

Basic Infrastructure

84.7%	↑
Udham Singh Nagar	
25.9%	↓
Alluri Sitharama Raju	

[See All Districts >](#)



Projects

Implementation and Monitoring of Projects in Aspirational Districts

[Read More](#)



Analytics

Deeper analytics into administrative data to support Districts Magistrates/Collectors

[Feedback](#)



Citizen Feedback

NITI Aayog looks forward to constructive feedback from citizens to further improve the

[Feedback](#)



Alternative Land Use Planning

GIS developed by ICAR-NBSS to aid Aspirational Districts in Sustainable Land Use Planning

[Feedback](#)

The Citizen Reports comprise of 3 dashboards based on the analysis of the CoC data:

1. Performance of Aspirational Districts since inception.
2. Delta Ranking of Districts that is released every month.
3. Indicator level progress across themes for all the districts.

In addition to these reports, the District Administrations have access to a Data Visualization tool to perform advanced analytics for analysing their performance using the CoC data.

The districts can also compare their performance with other districts in the State or the best among all Aspirational Districts, triangulate their analysis with other data sources such as NHFS, Census and third party survey data, and upload block level or gram panchayat level data as well for analysis.

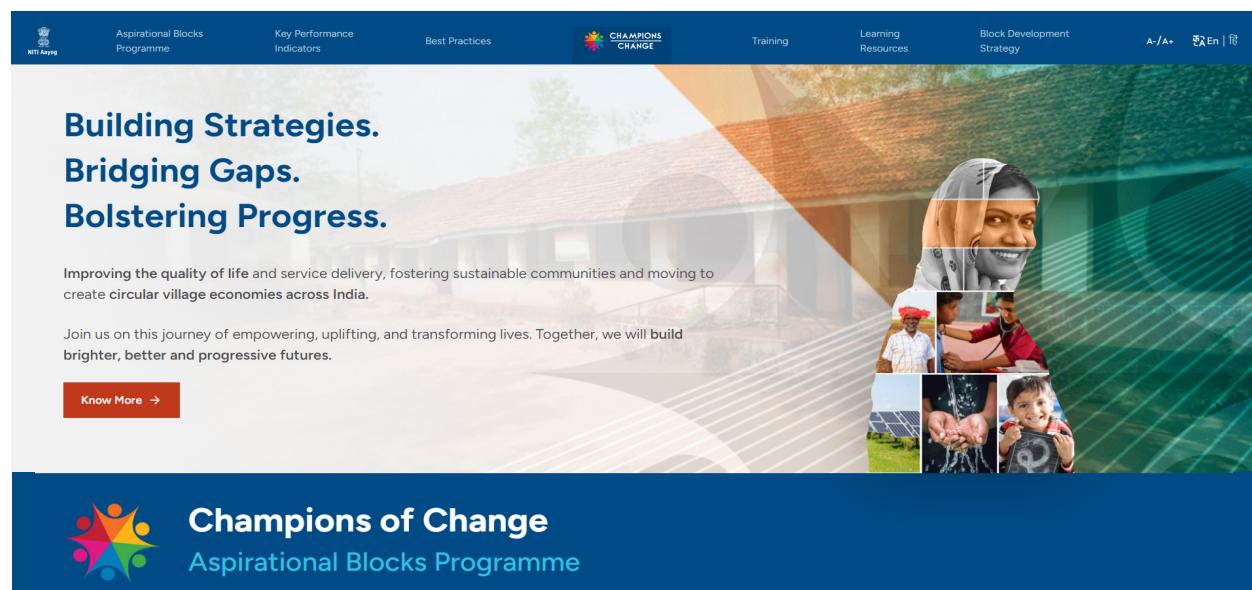
One of the most important features in this new platform is the automated system generated mailers on data quality and monthly performance. Automated mailers are sent to the districts highlighting any discrepancies in data entered by them, based on pre-configured logics in the system. This has helped enhance the overall data quality of the programme and subsequently the analysis of the performance of the districts. System generated monthly performance reports are also sent to the DM/DC, Central Prabhari Officers/State Prabhari Officers and the Chief Secretaries of the State, detailing their performance on various indicators.

Aspirational Blocks Programme

The ABP portal, accessible to the public, serves as comprehensive platform covering vital information aimed at fostering development in identified blocks. At its core, the portal provides insights into 40 KPIs which are part of the Programme, offering a detailed view of each block's progress. Users can delve into block profiles, understanding their unique dynamics, challenges, and potential opportunities for growth. Additionally, it offers a repository of learning resources and best practices, equipping stakeholders with knowledge essential for effective intervention and support.

Furthermore, the release of quarterly delta rankings is done through the portal. This facilitates tracking progress and identifying areas of improvement, fostering healthy competition and incentivizing proactive measures towards development.

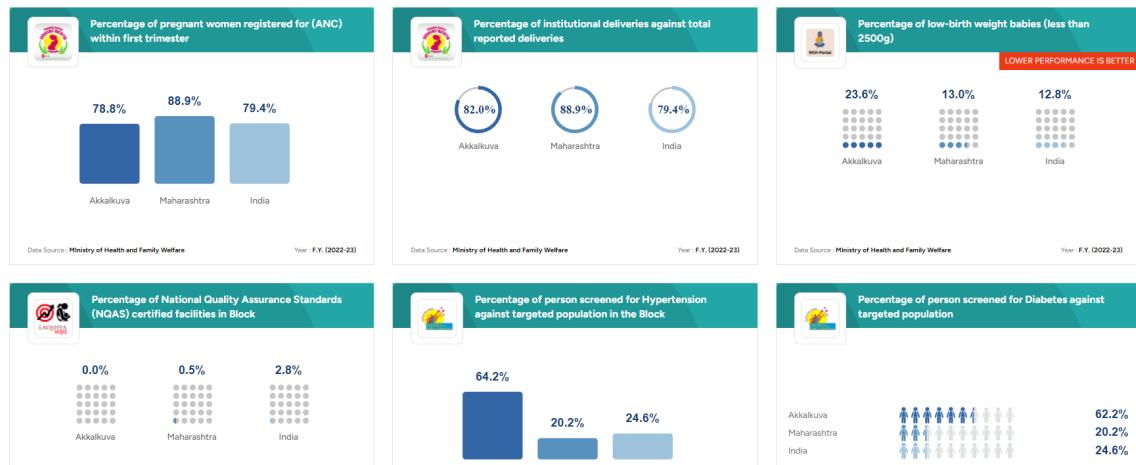
By offering a wealth of information and tools for analysis, the Aspirational Blocks Programme portal catalyzes informed decision-making and collaborative efforts towards holistic development.



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Aspirational Blocks Programme. The top navigation bar includes links for 'Home', 'About Us', 'Programme', 'Key Features', 'Success Stories', 'Partners', 'Contact Us', and 'Log In'. Below the navigation is a large banner with the text 'Building Strategies. Bridging Gaps. Bolstering Progress.' and a subtext about improving quality of life and creating circular village economies. A 'Know More' button is visible. The main content area features a large image of a woman smiling, with smaller images of people and solar panels. The footer contains the 'Champions of Change' logo and the text 'Aspirational Blocks Programme'.



Health & Nutrition



STATE SUPPORT MISSION

'When our States grow, India grows': Hon'ble PM

State Support Mission is an umbrella initiative of NITI Aayog announced in the Union Budget of FY 2023-24 aimed at fostering structured and institutionalized engagement of NITI Aayog with States and UTs. The mission is strategically designed to facilitate States/UTs to develop a roadmap to achieve their socio-economic goals and facilitate their development strategies in alignment with national priorities, putting special focus on the core strength areas of the respective States/UTs.

Under this mission, NITI Aayog is supporting interested states to establish State Institution for Transformation (SIT) that can act as a multi-disciplinary resource to steer the development strategies in the States/UTs. The States/UTs can either establish a separate institution as SITs or reimagine the role of their existing institutions, such as planning departments and boards. SITs may comprise officials from State/UT governments and lateral entrants with sector specific expertise.

CHINTAN SHIVIR – ‘WORKING WITH STATES’ AND LAUNCH OF SSM GUIDELINES

NITI Aayog, in its continuous endeavor to strengthen collaboration with States/UTs and achieve the shared vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047, organized a consultative meeting on 27 April, 2023. The consultation saw active participation from senior officials, including Additional Chief Secretaries, Planning Secretaries, Resident Commissioners, and other esteemed representatives from 35 States/UTs.



Chintan Shivir on Working with States on 27 April, 2023

Chaired by the Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog, in the presence of Members and the CEO, the meeting served as a platform to discuss the mandate of NITI Aayog and its unwavering commitment to partnering with States/UTs. Key topics and major pillars of SSM such as promotion of knowledge and innovation, enhancing the monitoring and evaluation ecosystem, as well as recognizing the critical role of Planning Departments in driving transformative changes at the state level were discussed.

States/UTs actively contributed valuable suggestions during the consultation, expressing their expectations from NITI Aayog to further deepen the ongoing engagement and partnership. These suggestions hold significant value and will contribute to strengthening the collaborative efforts between NITI Aayog and States/UTs in fulfilling their development aspirations.

STATE INSTITUTION FOR TRANSFORMATION (SIT) FORMATION UNDER SSM

The States/UTs have established SIT to reimagine the role of their existing institutions, such as Planning Departments and Boards, with the support of NITI Aayog. SIT being the most important component of SSM constitutes a multi-disciplinary Programme Implementation Unit (PIU), an embedded team consisting of sectoral experts including a Team Leader as required by the States/UTs, to facilitate establishment of SIT under the Mission. The embedded team of experts will work under the supervision of the State/UT Government.

Till date a total 20 SITs have been notified under SSM that are actively working to identify state specific growth drivers and growth enablers to boost their socio-economic growth, thereby facilitating state and sector-specific implementation and development strategies.

The following States/UTs have successfully started the work under SSM:

S. No.	States/UTs	Name of SIT
1.	Andhra Pradesh	State Institute for Transformation - AP
2.	Assam	State Innovation and Transformation Aayog (SITA)
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	Institute for Transforming Arunachal (ITA)
4.	Chandigarh	State Institute for Transformation - Chandigarh
5.	Chhattisgarh	Chhattisgarh State Planning Commission (SPC)
6.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	State Institute for Transformation, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu
7.	Haryana	State Institute for Transformation, Haryana
8.	Karnataka	State Institute for Transformation Karnataka (SITK)
9.	Maharashtra	Maharashtra Institute for Transformation (MITRA)
10.	Meghalaya	Government Innovation Lab (GIL)
11.	Mizoram	State Institute for Transformation, Mizoram (SIT-M)
12.	Puducherry	State Institute for Transformation, Puducherry
13.	Sikkim	State Institute for Transformation, Sikkim (SIT-S)
14.	Tripura	Tripura Institution for Transformation (TIIFT)
15.	Uttar Pradesh	State Transformation Commission (STC)
16.	Uttarakhand	State Institute for Empowering and Transforming Uttarakhand (SETU) Aayog
17.	Nagaland	Research and Evaluation Institute for Transformation (RESIT)
18.	Delhi	State Institute for Transformation-Delhi
19.	Rajasthan	Rajasthan Institution of Transformation and Innovation (RITI)
20.	Himachal Pradesh	State Transformation Cell (STC)

NITI FOR STATES PLATFORM

As part of a wider SSM, NITI Aayog has set up NITI for States (NFS) Platform to support government officials across States, Districts and Blocks to make evidence-based policy and administrative decisions. A set of knowledge products have been put together on the platform for various socio-economic sectors including Agriculture, Education, Energy, Health, Livelihoods and Skilling, Manufacturing, MSME, Tourism, Urban, Water Resources & WASH across two cross-cutting themes- Gender and Climate. The platform brings together a vast repository of governance best practices, policy resources and data insights across all States/UTs. In addition, the platform enables access to trusted expertise for government

leaders through expert-led help desks, integration with the CBC and peer learning through carefully curated talks. NITI Aayog will drive the adoption of the platform not only across States but also across global stakeholders.

Viksit Bharat Strategy Room (VBSR) was also developed under NFS to enable rich visualization and engagement with insights, information and knowledge to enable effective decision-making. VBSR and NITI for States Platform were launched on 7 March, 2024 by Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, Minister for Railways, Communications, Electronics & Information Technology, and Government of India in NITI Aayog. The VBSR has been set up within NITI Aayog premises to engage top leaders across Central, State and District administration on critical insights, serving as a blueprint for further replication by States and UTs.



Launch of NITI for States Platform and Viksit Bharat Strategy Room

NITI-STATE WORKSHOP SERIES

NITI Aayog has launched 'NITI-State Workshop Series' under its core mandate of fostering cooperative and competitive federalism. The workshops focus on themes relevant to socio-economic development of the States/UTs and other emerging areas of national and global interest. It provides a unified platform for collaboration and knowledge sharing on key development issues concerning States/UTs by sharing policy insights and good governance practices, etc. across States/UTs. These workshops were anchored by verticals/divisions of NITI Aayog.

Through continuous interaction of NITI Aayog with States/UTs on various platforms, the priority themes were ascertained. The workshops were planned in the form of one/two-day event with participation from all concerned stakeholders at National, State, District and Block levels. It is a combination of roundtable and panel discussions and in certain cases combined with field/site visits.

During 2023-24, 20 workshops were successfully organised under NITI-State Workshop Series. These workshops provided significant insights for States/UTs to delve deeper into the subjects and chart out a future roadmap in the select themes. These Workshops are given in the following table:

S.No.	Theme of the Workshop
1.	National Consultation on Strengthening School Health Services
2.	Regional Workshop - Enabling Women-led development- reaching the last mile (Goa)
3.	Building State-level Innovation Ecosystems: A Peer-learning Workshop
4.	Boosting Private Infrastructure: Catalyzing Opportunities for Investments and Public Private Partnership
5.	Development of Net-Zero Roadmaps for the States
6.	Harnessing the Potential of Fisheries in Marine States
7.	Leveraging State Data Ecosystems for State and District-Level Policy and Planning
8.	Water Conservation: Rejuvenation of Water Bodies
9.	National Workshop on the Learnings from the Project SATH (Education) in Synchronization with National Education Policy-202: A Peer Learning Workshop
10.	Harnessing Fisheries Potential in Inland States
11.	Promoting Livelihoods through International Mobility of Skilled Workers
12.	Empowering E-Mobility in Indian Cities
13.	Regional Workshop - Enabling Women-led development- reaching the last mile (Arunachal Pradesh)
14.	India's participation in the Global Value Chains – Chemicals, Automotive and Electronics
15.	National Conference on Accelerating Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
16.	State as a driver of Export Led Growth
17.	Improving the Innovation Aptitude and performance of the States and Union Territories
18.	National Workshop on Strengthening Mental Health Services and Care in India
19.	Accelerating Manufacturing Growth in India
20.	Expanding Quality Higher Education through State Public Universities

STRENGTHENING SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES

NITI Aayog organized a “National Workshop on Strengthening School Health Services” on 27 July, 2023 in New Delhi. The workshop was conducted with relevant stakeholders to share learning and collaboratively develop the way forward in providing more comprehensive and holistic care to children and adolescents in India and strengthening school health across 6

pillars of health and nutrition education; health checkups screening, referrals, and treatment; mental health support and counseling; yoga, exercise, and healthy lifestyle; health promoting school environment; and first aid, acute care and special provisions. The workshop was attended by the Central Ministries, autonomous bodies (like NCERT, CBSE, etc.), multilateral agencies (UNICEF, WHO, UNFPA, etc.), development partners (BMGF, PATH, etc.), teachers, etc., among others.



Dignitaries at NITI-State Workshop Series on "Strengthening School Health Services" on 27 July, 2023 in New Delhi

DEVELOPMENT OF NET ZERO ROADMAP FOR THE STATES

Given the leadership role of States for developing Net Zero roadmaps and decarbonisation strategy, NITI Aayog in partnership with CII and Gujarat State Government organized a Workshop on 19 October, 2023 at Ahmedabad, Gujarat “Workshop on Development of Net Zero Roadmap for the States”. The Workshop was attended by a total of about 50 people, out of which the 17 officials were participated from different States and rest knowledge partners, think-tanks and industrial units based in Gujarat.



Dignitaries at NITI-State Workshop Series on "Workshop on Development of Net Zero Roadmap for the States" on 19 October, 2023 in Ahmedabad

LEARNINGS OF PROJECT SATH-EDUCATION (SATH-E)

The learnings of project Sustainable Action for Transforming Human Capital- Education (SATH-E) were consolidated in the latest SATH Report - Learnings for Large-scale Transformation in School Education, launched by NITI Aayog at the National workshop on “Learnings of Project SATH - Education” in synchronization with “National Education Policy - 2020: A peer learning Workshop”, held on 19 October, 2023. The national workshop was held in the presence of Education Departments of all States/UTs, Ministry of Education, NCERT, CBSE, NCTE, NIEPA, academia and knowledge partners of national and international repute. The discussions were on ensuring optimal schooling structures with appropriate resources; improving learning outcomes and strengthening assessments; strengthening institutional capacity and governance in state education departments.

BUILDING STATE-LEVEL INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS

Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) helped organising a 3-day workshop in Bengaluru in November 2023 on strengthening the innovation ecosystem in India. A total of 120+ participants attended the workshop across 28 States/UTs and 8+ central ministries and departments, marking a historic milestone in our collective journey towards fostering innovation ecosystems. As a next step, it has been decided to do quarterly workshops in each region to build on the outcomes from this initial workshop along with monthly virtual connects.



Dignitaries at NITI-State Workshop Series on Building State-level Innovation Ecosystems at Bengaluru

EXPANDING QUALITY HIGHER EDUCATION

NITI Aayog organised a day-long National Conference on “Expanding Quality Higher Education through State Public Universities” on Thursday, 2 November, 2023 at the Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi.

Over 50 Vice Chancellors of public state universities from 20 States/UTs across India and Chairpersons of select state higher education councils participated in the conference that focused on four broad themes including quality, financing, governance, and employability. The event was organised as part of an ongoing consultation exercise with diverse

stakeholders to explore innovative and impactful ways of strengthening the quality and outcomes of public universities in States/UTs. It was preceded by a consultation meeting with Secretaries of Higher and Technical Education from over 20 States/UTs held at NITI Aayog on 15 September, 2023 under the Chairpersonship of Dr. V.K. Paul. The findings from both these elaborate consultations are being collated as recommendations on ‘Expanding Quality Higher Education through States and State Public Universities.



Dignitaries at NITI-State Workshop Series on “Expanding Quality Higher Education through State Public Universities” on 2 November, 2023 in New Delhi

BOOSTING PRIVATE HEALTHCARE INFRASTRUCTURE

NITI Aayog organised the Workshop on ‘Boosting Private Healthcare Infrastructure: Catalysing Opportunities for Investments and Public Private Partnership’ on 18 November, 2023, in Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. Workshop brought together States/UTs with other stakeholders in the healthcare sector to discuss and delve into key issues underlying the existing gaps in healthcare infrastructure in tier 2 and 3 cities, and arrive at potential solutions to address these gaps.

The day-long conference saw proactive participation from Senior Officers of States/UTs Health Departments; MoH&FW; various national and regional hospital entities; industry

investors (funds); NABARD; CII and other industry associations; RBI, SBI and India Banks Association among various other participants. Submitting recommendations to the concerned Departments/Ministries, on the basis of issues and solutions identified, is underway.

E-MOBILITY AND E-BUS MANUFACTURING OPPORTUNITIES IN THE STATES

NITI Aayog organized National Workshop on E-Mobility on 29 November, 2023 at Vigyan Bhawan, wherein tools and resources were shared with the state officials comprising State Planning Department, State Transport Utilities, and Smart City officials among others. NITI Aayog also organized a National Workshop on “E-Bus Manufacturing Opportunities in the States” on 30 November, 2023. Top international E-Bus manufacturers were invited to share their plans with the States’ officials.



Dignitaries at NITI-State Workshop Series on ‘E-Mobility’ at New Delhi

PENETRATING GLOBAL VALUE CHAINS (GVCs): INDIA’S POTENTIAL AND PROSPECTS

A National Workshop on “Penetrating Global Value Chains (GVCs): India’s Potential and Prospects” was organised by NITI Aayog on 5 December 2023, at New Delhi, in collaboration with CII. The Workshop formed an important pillar in NITI’s GVC endeavour, especially to facilitate and catalyze joint efforts across Union and State Governments, industry, industry associations, experts, think tanks, and all relevant stakeholders across society. Deliberations at the Workshop delved deep into the challenges and opportunities for India’s GVC participation and focused on two selected sectors: Automotive and Electronics. The Workshop witnessed extensive and active involvement of the leadership of NITI Aayog; Secretaries and senior officials of Government of India; relevant State Governments; industry leaders and senior leadership of over 100 leading global and domestic firms; eminent industry associations; and distinguished experts. The learnings from the Workshop formed an integral part of the project analysis and identification of strategic recommendations.



Dignitaries at NITI-State Workshop Series on "Penetrating Global Value Chains: India's Potential and Prospects" on 5 December, 2023, at New Delhi

IMPROVING THE INNOVATION APTITUDE AND PERFORMANCE OF THE STATES AND UNION TERRITORIES

A National Workshop on the topic "Improving the Innovation Aptitude and Performance of the States and Union Territories" was organised by NITI Aayog on the 6 December, 2023 at Rang Bhawan Auditorium, Akashwani Bhawan, New Delhi.

Five panel discussions on the themes (i) Empowering Indian States: Unleashing Innovation Potential for Viksit Bharat@2047, (ii) Innovative States: Showcasing Transformative Journeys, (iii) Collaborative Innovation: States Partnering for Collective Growth, (iv) Lessons Learned and Replicating Innovation Success Stories and (v) Sharing of States' Best Practices were held. The panel discussion was graced by senior officials including Secretaries of Department of Science and Technology, Department of Atomic Energy, Department of Health Research, Government of India and the Principal Scientific Adviser, Government of India.

The workshop served as a platform for States/UTs to express their distinct perspectives, experiences, and innovative visions for enhancing the innovation ecosystem in their respective regions. Main objective of workshop was to guide States/UTs for preparing roadmap to address local needs, stimulate economic growth, enhance competitiveness, and devise strategies for fostering the innovation ecosystem.

HARNESSING THE POTENTIAL OF FISHERIES IN MARINE STATES

A workshop on "Harnessing the Potential of Fisheries in Marine States" was organized with the support of the Government of Kerala on 5 January, 2024 at the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), Kochi, Kerala. The one-day workshop agenda was focused on critical aspects of realizing potential of India's vast marine fisheries sector across the domains of sustainability, market linkages and addressing ground challenges. It was attended by over 200 key stakeholders from Central and State Governments, scientists, industry representatives and practitioners.



Dignitaries at NITI-State Workshop Series on 'Harnessing the potential of fisheries in marine state' at Kochi

STRENGTHENING MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AND CARE

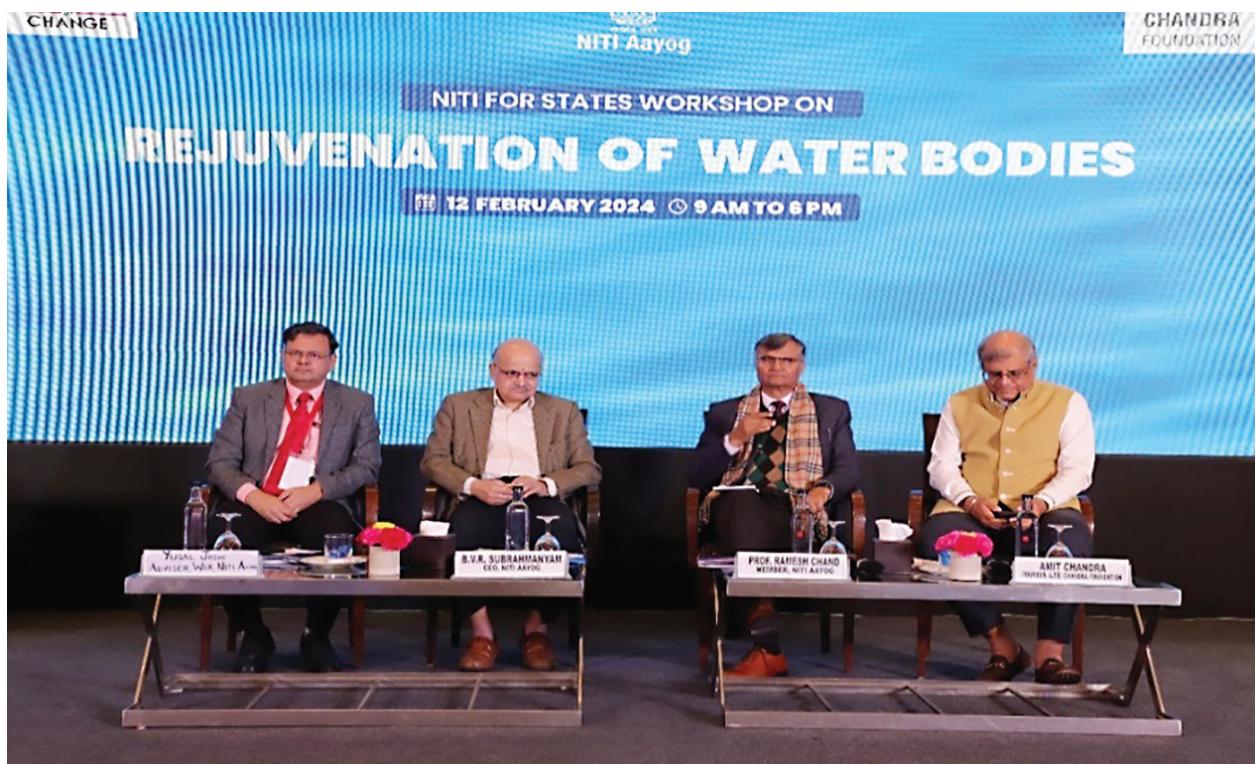
India witnesses an inordinate burden from non-communicable diseases including mental morbidities, which have doubled in the last 30 years. The Global Burden of Disease (GBD, 2019) study on state-wise burden of mental disorders reports that 197.3 million Indians were living with mental disorders in 2017. In this background and in pursuance to the NITI for States initiative, NITI Aayog organized a National Consultation on "Strengthening Mental Health Services and Care" on 9 January, 2024 at Bengaluru in collaboration with the National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS) and the state of Karnataka. The purpose of this workshop was to elicit the views of states and eminent mental health experts on existing gaps and challenges under the programme and also to learn from few States their best practices which can further be replicated in other States/UTs with their own contextualization.



Dignitaries at NITI-State Workshop Series on "Strengthening Mental Health Services and Care" on 9 January, 2024 at Bangalore

REJUVENATION OF WATER BODIES

A National Workshop titled ‘Rejuvenation of Water Bodies’ was organized by NITI Aayog on 12 February, 2024, at New Delhi, with an objective to provide a platform for sharing experiences and lessons learned from the Amrit Sarovar Mission and Rejuvenation of Water Bodies initiatives by States. It aimed to discuss strategies for expanding these efforts into water-stressed blocks, particularly focusing on the 92 most water-stressed blocks among the 500 Aspirational Blocks identified by NITI Aayog. Key recommendations in form of actionable points were shared amongst the Ministries/Departments for adoption of the recommendations as part of their programme guidelines.



Dignitaries at NITI-State Workshop Series on ‘Rejuvenation of Water Bodies’ on 12 February, 2024, at New Delhi

ACCELERATING MANUFACTURING GROWTH IN INDIA

NITI Aayog organised a workshop on “Accelerating Manufacturing Growth in India” on 14 February, 2024 in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. The workshop was a collaborative effort with industry partners. More than 200 participants deliberated on strategies for boosting manufacturing sector and provided a platform for sharing state-level best practices in the manufacturing sector and assessed industry needs and challenges. Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh delivered the keynote address.

HARNESSING THE POTENTIAL OF FISHERIES IN INLAND STATES

A two day workshop on ‘Harnessing the Potential of Fisheries in Inland States’ was held in Vishakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh on 15 – 16 February, 2024. The workshop was organised to bring together all stakeholders in inland fisheries in the country to discuss the issues

and challenges in inland fisheries and fostering symbiotic partnerships to promote the sector. Around 100 participants, including delegates from NITI Aayog, Indian Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR), Department of Fisheries, Government of India, state fisheries representatives, fisherfolks, industrialists and researchers participated in the workshop. There were many suggestions made during the course of the workshop that can excel the sector, such as promoting the aspirational model of development in inland fisheries with indigenous fish species through Nucleus Breeding Centres (NBCs) and Broodstock Multiplication Centres (BMCs), uniform policies across the country under the Amrit Sarovar initiative, promoting R&D in fish preparation etc.



Dignitaries at NITI-State Workshop Series on 'Harnessing the potential of fisheries in inland state' at Vishakhapatnam

ACCELERATING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

NITI Aayog, in collaboration with the Government of Rajasthan and technical partners UNDP and UN in India, organized the National Conference on 'Accelerating Sustainable Development Goals' on 4 - 5 March, 2024, at the Rajasthan International Centre in Jaipur. This two-day conference brought together Government officials from States/UTs, which includes 150 participants, including key dignitaries such as Chief Minister of Rajasthan and Vice Chairman and Member of NITI Aayog.

The conference aimed to encourage States/UTs to assess the localization of SDGs, share experiences on integrating SDGs at the subnational level, explore the SDG finance landscape at national and subnational levels, and outline strategies for accelerating progress midway through the 2030 SDG agenda. To facilitate knowledge exchange, the conference also included an SDG exhibition where States/UTs showcased their technical products related to localization at their respective SDG booths. Additionally, three knowledge portals were inaugurated, including the UNDP's 'SDG Knowledge hub,' the 'Food and Nutrition Security Analysis Dashboard' of the Government of Rajasthan, and the 'SDG -2 (Zero Hunger) Dashboard' of the Government of Rajasthan.

The outcomes of the workshop included support for States in localizing SDGs and identifying the priority action areas using SDG framework, fostering convergence among diverse stakeholders, highlighting best practices for SDG achievement, and promoting cooperative federalism.



Dignitaries at National Conference on 'Accelerating Sustainable Development Goals' in Jaipur

PROMOTING LIVELIHOODS THROUGH INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY OF SKILLED WORKERS

NITI Aayog organized a workshop on 'Promoting Livelihoods through International Mobility of Skilled Workers' on 9 March, 2024 at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi. The objective of the workshop was to enable knowledge sharing among states and interaction with experts to identify challenges, opportunities and facilitate avenues for skilled worker mobility to other countries. Officers from 32 States/UTs participated in the workshop and 4 states made presentations on their respective initiatives on skill development for international labour mobility. Additionally, representatives from Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Labour and Employment, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, along with several other renowned institutions, including ILO Delhi Office, International Organization for Migration, International Centre for Migration Policy Development, NASSCOM, and Alliance Air also joined and contributed in the event.



Dignitaries at NITI-State Workshop Series on 'Promoting Livelihoods through International Mobility of Skilled Workers' on 9 March, 2024 at New Delhi

STATE FINANCES AND STATE CO-ORDINATION

The State Finances & Coordination Vertical has been entrusted with the responsibility of maintaining State-wise databases on macroeconomic, financial, fiscal and social indicators; assessing the financial health of the states, including assessment of transfers from the Centre to the States; fostering cooperative federalism through structured support and initiatives and serve as a single point of contact for all matters pertaining to finances of states and multi-state issues. The issues relating to Finance Commission, funding requests for special projects and intergovernmental transfers are also handled by the vertical. The major activities and studies undertaken by vertical during 2023-24 are as follows:

REPOSITORY OF DATABASE

The Vertical maintains state-wise database on key macro, social and financial indicators. It also maintains the information on the central transfers which is updated on monthly basis. This database is used by NITI Aayog for providing important policy inputs to the States on various policy matters.

STATE FINANCE BRIEFS INCLUDING ANALYSIS OF STATE'S FISCAL HEALTH

Using the information available in State Budgets 2023-24, the vertical analysed states' fiscal and financial health by assessing their performance in various key indicators like GSDP growth, per capita GSDP, receipts including resources generated from own taxes, expenditures including capital expenditure, social sector expenditure, fiscal and revenue deficit and its debt position.

Cross-states analysis of key macro-economic indicators was also undertaken which is being used in regular interactions/meetings with the State Governments/UTs to provide inputs for future growth.

ALLOCATION TO STATES

Union Government endeavors to assist the States to meet the "spill over liabilities" of their area specific schemes and projects for which budget provision has not been made after the implementation of the Fourteenth Finance Commission recommendations and also to provide for need-based assistance to the States keeping in view socio-economic-

geographical factors. The State Finance and Coordination Vertical acts as the nodal for all recommendations made from NITI Aayog to Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance relating to 'Special Assistance' to States under the demand 'Transfers to States'.

STATE AND SECTOR PROFILE

The Vertical provided requisite support in the development of the State and sector profiles for all States/UTs for the NITI for State portal. The data profiles aim at providing 'at a Glance' information about various sectors of the State such as agriculture and allied services, education, energy, health and nutrition, manufacturing, MSME, skilling livelihoods and labour welfare, tourism, urbanization and water and WASH. The profiles assess the states' performance in each sector vis-à-vis the national performance. The aforementioned data profiles are available in public domain and can be accessed by States, UTs, Centre, researchers, etc. on 'NITI for States' portal.

MISCELLANEOUS ENGAGEMENTS WITH STATES

In addition, NITI Aayog conducts numerous engagements with states through verticals within NITI Aayog from time to time. These include visits of Vice Chairman, Members and CEO of NITI Aayog. Some key engagements are highlighted below-

Andaman & Nicobar Islands

A two-day workshop (27 – 28 June, 2023) session on the Output-Outcome Monitoring Framework (OOMF) was organized for the officials of the Andaman & Nicobar Administration with participants from all departments. Over 70 officials from the 29 Departments of the UT Government attended this training session. The training primarily focused on explaining the concepts of monitoring using the Log frame approach delivered through learning-by-doing group work. The aim was to incorporate OOMF in the UT's action plan document and in the process of introducing SFC proposals. A session on strengthening of OOMF with the help of SDG mapping was also conducted.

Andhra Pradesh

The Hon'ble Prime Minister has envisioned the next 25 years as "Amrit Kaal" marking the completion of 100 years of India's independence. During the 8th Governing Council Meeting of NITI Aayog, the Hon'ble Prime Minister stressed that the Centre, States and UTs should work as Team India and fulfil the dreams and aspirations of people for Viksit Bharat @ 2047. It was emphasized that NITI Aayog can play a critical role in helping States develop their strategies for the next 25 years and align the same with the National Development Agenda.

In line with the Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision for a "Viksit Bharat@2047", NITI Aayog partnered with the State of Andhra Pradesh to prepare the State's comprehensive roadmap towards Viksit Bharat@2047. Dedicated teams of officials and experts from NITI Aayog were stationed in the State to closely work with the respective departments of the State Government. This initiative was expected to develop a template that could be used by other State Governments to prepare their respective Vision documents for the 'Amrit Kaal'. The vision document for the State of Andhra Pradesh is likely to be released in the month of June 2024.

Assam

A meeting with the Chief Minister, Chief Secretary and other officials of Assam State, led by Member Dr. VK Paul, was held on 29 January, 2024 under the mandate of cooperative federalism. Issues related to agriculture, health & nutrition, industry, infrastructure and investments along with State Support Mission were discussed in the meeting.



Engagement with State of Assam

Gujarat

Aligned with the Hon'ble Prime Minister's aspiration for "Viksit Bharat@2047," NITI Aayog collaborated with the State of Gujarat to develop a comprehensive plan outlining the State's journey towards achieving this vision. NITI worked closely with the State to devise a 'Vision Document' for the 'Amrit Kaal'. The Viksit Gujarat@2047 was launched in the 10th Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit 2024 by Hon'ble Union Finance Minister, making Gujarat emerged as the first state to prepare a vision document. Viksit Gujarat@2047 envisions that by 2047, every citizen in the state will be "Earning Well" and "Living Well" within the fabric of a "valued" and "valuable" society. The Viksit Gujarat roadmap aims to drive strategic transformation across all aspects of the citizen's lives, economy and governance. The focus will be on eleven key themes distributed across three pillars- Empowered citizens; Thriving economy; and Key enablers to achieve this.

NITI Aayog also held a meeting with Chief Secretary, Gujarat in August 2023 regarding piloting Women and Infants Integrated Interventions for Growth Study (WINGS) for improving maternal and child health outcomes. Following a series of discussion, the State Government initiated to pilot pre-pregnancy components of WINGS with involvement of SHGs in Aspirational Blocks.

Himachal Pradesh

In 2022, the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) commissioned the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) to implement the project "Support to the Green and Sustainable Development Partnership" (GSDP Support Project). The Project supports the Indo-German partnership for Green and Sustainable Development that was endorsed by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India and Chancellor of Germany in May 2022 during the sixth Inter-Governmental Consultation between Government of India and Federal Republic of Germany.

Under this project, NITI Aayog and GIZ have entered into an implementation agreement for the project titled “GSDP-NITI Project” in October 2023 up to September 2026.

The project focuses on deepening SDG localisation and monitoring and addressing critical gaps in institutional capacity and data systems on SDGs at National and State levels in up to three States, selected through mutual discussion and agreement with NITI Aayog. The project has been initiated with the State of Himachal Pradesh and discussions are underway with Meghalaya, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.

The Government of Himachal Pradesh had also expressed interest in replicating the interventions of the Women and Infants Integrated Interventions for Growth Study (WINGS) model in a pilot mode. Discussions and meetings have been held with Government of Himachal Pradesh, ICMR, Department of Biotechnology-Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (DBT-BIRAC), Center for Health Research and Development-Society for Applied Studies (CHRD-SAS) and Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) to carry out piloting and implementation research of WINGS in Una district of Himachal Pradesh.

Jammu & Kashmir

A visit to the UT of Jammu & Kashmir was made by NITI Aayog, led by Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog. During the visit the team met Lieutenant Governor, Chief Secretary, Senior Officials and other stake holders. Various key issues related to development in the UT were discussed and key areas where NITI can provide support to the UT in a time bound manner were identified.

During the meeting with the Chief Secretary, issues pertaining to the untapped potential of hydroelectricity, tourism infrastructure, start-up ecosystem and electrification of bus services in J&K were discussed

Jharkhand

With the vision of Viksit Bharat@2047, NITI Aayog has been organizing a series of meetings with all the States/UTs to foster cooperative and competitive federalism. A meeting between Dr. V. K. Paul, Member, NITI Aayog, and the Chief Minister of the Government of Jharkhand in Ranchi was held. The meeting covered various issues related to ministries such as Power, Coal, Tribal Affairs and Women & Child Development, along with issues related to the Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation were discussed in detail with the State Government.

Karnataka

Consultations were held with the Government of Karnataka under the Chairmanship of Dr. V.K. Paul, Member, to develop an action plan to tackle undernutrition and anemia in the state. A State level Workshop on development of the action plan was held on 7 December 2022 which was attended by Health & Family Welfare Minister, Government of Karnataka; Secretary, Department of Health Research and Chief Secretary, Government of Karnataka. Subsequent to the workshop and further deliberations, Anaemia Muktha Poushtika Karnataka action plan was developed and launched on 23 November 2023 by the State Government.

Kerala

As part of NITI Aayog’s engagement with States/UTs, Hon’ble Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog, accompanied by officials from NITI Aayog, met with the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Kerala

and Senior officials from the Kerala Government on 4 January 2024 at Thiruvananthapuram. During the visit, various development aspects of Kerala were discussed along with possible areas of collaboration between NITI Aayog and the State of Kerala. Hon'ble Vice Chairman, also met with officials from the Kerala State Planning Board, Kerala Infrastructure Investment Fund Board (KIIFB) and Kudambashree during the visit.



Meeting of VC, NITI Aayog with Hon'ble Chief Minister of Kerala

Madhya Pradesh

The Madhya Pradesh State Policy and Planning Commission organized a Discussion Meeting on 8 August, 2023 in Bhopal on the National MPI, hosted by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh. During the event, Dr. V. K. Saraswat, Member, NITI Aayog presented a copy of the National MPI report to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Madhya Pradesh. NITI Aayog highlighted the significant progress witnessed by Madhya Pradesh in reducing multidimensional poverty. The event was attended by a significant number of delegations, including representatives from State Ministries, academia, civil society, and industry. The valedictory address was delivered by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh.



Glimpses from Discussion Meeting on the National Multidimensional Poverty Index at Bhopal

Meghalaya

Two meetings were held with the State of Meghalaya. The first meeting was held in Shillong, between the Senior Adviser, NITI Aayog and the Chief Secretary of the Government of Meghalaya.

The NITI Aayog discussed in detail the critical issues of the State and the opportunities to work closely with NITI Aayog such as Governance Innovation Lab and the State's Institute for Transforming India (SITI). The second meeting, held in Shillong was between the Vice-Chairman, NITI Aayog, and the Senior Officials of the Government of Meghalaya. This meeting focused on the State's vision and strategy in the key sectors.

Rajasthan

On 16 June, 2023, a one-day training session on OOMF was organized for the officials of the Government of Rajasthan in the Economics and Statistics Department, Jaipur, along with the World Food Programme team. Over 20 officials from the Evaluation department of the State Government attended this training session. The training mainly focused on explaining the concepts of monitoring using the Log frame approach, approaches in OOMF, and indicator rationalization.

Tripura

Dr. V. K. Saraswat, Member, NITI Aayog held a meeting on 20th December, 2023 with the Chief Minister, Chief Secretary and other officials, under the mandate of cooperative federalism. Issues related to health infrastructure, bamboo, rubber, agarwood, pineapple, trade, IT services and start-up were discussed in the meeting.

Nagaland

On 17 October, 2023, Department of Planning and Transformation, Nagaland organized a launch event unveiling the Sustainable Development Goals Coordination Center (SDGCC) website and SDG Dashboard at Kohima. The Deputy Chief Minister Shri T. R. Zeliang, graced the event and highlighted the significance of SDGs and its broader implications. Notably, Nagaland is the first State in Northeast India to establish the SDG Coordination Centre within the Department of Planning and Transformation. During the event, Senior Adviser, NITI Aayog highlighted the progress made by Nagaland in reducing multidimensional poverty through a presentation on 'National Multidimensional Poverty Index 2023: Performance Analysis of Nagaland and Way Forward'. The event was also attended by other resource persons from NITI Aayog and the UNDP. The visit also involved Senior Adviser calling upon Hon'ble Chief Minister of Nagaland Shri Neiphiu Rio, apprised him about Nagaland's performance in MPI and also discussed different issues of Nagaland.



Glimpses from National Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) 2023: Performance Analysis of Nagaland and Way Forward



SECTION 3

**THINK-TANK
ACTIVITIES**

INTRODUCTION

Another key mandate of NITI Aayog is to provide advice and encourage partnerships between key stakeholders and national and international likeminded think tanks, as well as educational and policy research institutions. Keeping this in view, NITI Aayog has been taking significant steps to bring together renowned policymakers, academicians, experts and civil society for facilitating achievement of developmental objectives. NITI Aayog also actively collaborates with the private sector to help the country address complex policy challenges and promote investments.

During 2023-24, NITI Aayog continued with old partnerships and built new ones with various think tanks both within the country and abroad, civil society, industry and educational & policy research institutions to create a knowledge, innovation and entrepreneurial eco-system and pave the way for faster, inclusive and sustainable growth.

NITI IN-HOUSE LECTURE SERIES

An in-house lecture series on India's development strategies was initiated for NITI Aayog officers and other select officials from Government of India in the previous year. These lectures aim to sensitize the participants about the major initiatives of the government, enhance their knowledge, build capacity, create more productive and inclusive environment, provoke innovative thinking and develop shared commitments for meeting developmental objectives of the nation. Starting from September, 2022, four in-house lecture series had been organized up to December, 2022.

The fifth lecture of this series was held on 27 January, 2023 at NDMC Convention Centre, New Delhi on the theme – “India’s Decade of Transformational Growth”. Dr. Arvind Virmani, Member, NITI Aayog, delivered the keynote address that was followed by a panel discussion comprising of Shri Adil Zainulbhais, Chairman, CBC; Shri Amit Chandra, MD, Bain Capital and Ms. Anjali Bansal, Founding Partner, Avana Capital, and moderated by CEO, NITI Aayog.

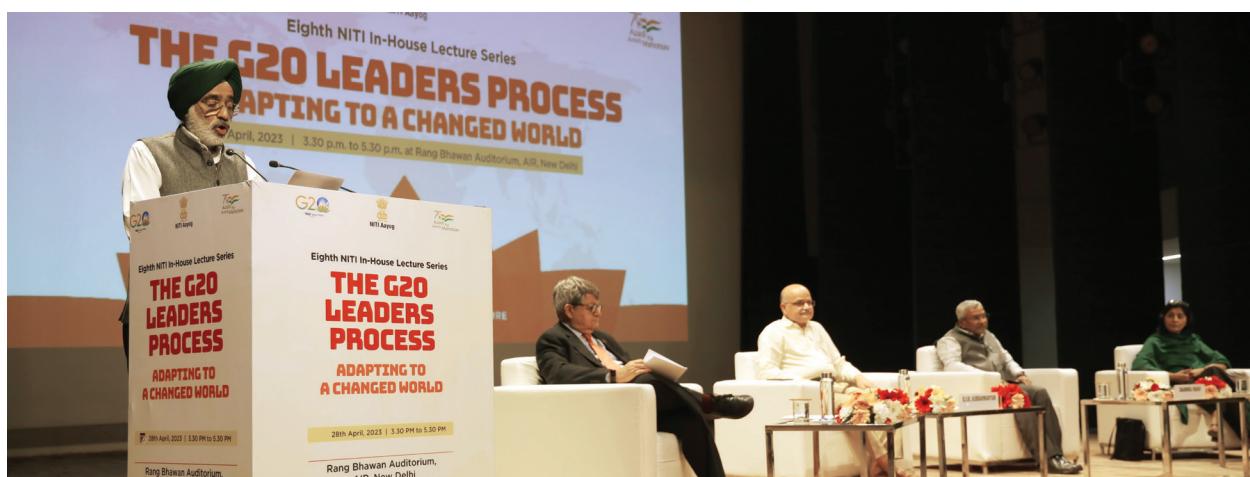
The sixth lecture of this series was held on 24 February, 2023 at DRDO India Bhawan, New Delhi on the theme – “The Space Economy: Giant Leaps, Infinite Opportunities”. Dr. V. K. Saraswat, Member, NITI Aayog, delivered the key note address which was followed by a panel discussion, moderated by CEO NITI Aayog, which also featured Ms. Khushboo S, a school student who was part of the team that made the AzaadiSAT.



Sixth lecture on “The Space Economy: Giant Leaps, Infinite Opportunities” on 24 February, 2023

The seventh lecture of the series was held on 31 March, 2023 on the theme – “Infrastructure Implementation: Challenges and Strategies for Success”. Keynote address was made by Shri B. G. Mallya GM, ICF. The esteemed panelists comprising of Shri V. T. Chandra Sekhar Rao, Dean, L&T Institute of Project Management and Shri Rohit Modi, CEO, Sadbhav Group uncovered interesting insights that could form the basis of policy prescription on infrastructure development.

The eighth lecture was held on 28 April, 2023 on “The G20 Leaders Process: Adapting to a Changed World”. The keynote address was delivered by Shri Suman Bery, Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog followed by a panel discussion moderated by CEO, NITI Aayog and comprising of Shri Dammu Ravi, Secretary MEA; Dr. Poonam Gupta, DG, NCAER on key priorities for the Global South before the upcoming G20 Leaders’ Summit in September 2023.



Eighth lecture on “The G20 Leaders Process: Adapting to a Changed World” on 28 April, 2023

The ninth in-house NITI lecture on “India’s EV Journey so far and March forward” was held on 30 June, 2023 at Akashwani Bhawan, New Delhi. The context was set by Shri. Kamran Rizvi, Secretary Ministry of Heavy Industry, to discuss India’s remarkable progress in Electric Mobility and notable achievements in collective pursuit of sustainable & progressive mobility solutions for India. The panel comprised of Shri Amitabh Kant, G20 Sherpa; Shri Shailesh Chandra, MD, Tata Motors; Shri Mahesh Babu, CEO, Switch Mobility and Shri Tarun Mehata, Co-Founder & CEO, Ather Energy.



Ninth lecture on “India’s EV Journey so far and March forward” on 30 June, 2023

The tenth in-house NITI lecture on “From Green Revolution to Amrit Kaal: lessons & way forward for Indian Agriculture” was held on 31 August, 2023. Prof. Ramesh Chand, Member, NITI Aayog delivered the keynote address that was followed by panel discussion comprising Shri Manoj Ahuja, Secretary Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare; Dr. Bharat Ramaswami, Dean & Prof of Economics, Ashoka University; Shri Vasudevan Chinnathambi, Co-Founder, Ninjacart and was moderated by CEO, NITI Aayog.

The eleventh lecture was held on 9 October, 2023 at NDMC Convention Centre on the theme “India’s Tradition of Conservation and Sustainability”. Keynote address was delivered by Shri S Gurumurthy, Chairman VIF and panel discussion was moderated by CEO NITI Aayog.



Eleventh lecture on “India’s Tradition of Conservation and Sustainability” on 9 October, 2023

The twelfth in-house NITI lecture on “Financing Green Growth-view from the top and the ground” was held on 31 October, 2023 at Akashwani Bhawan. Keynote address was delivered by Shri Chandra Bhusan, President & CEO, iForest and Dr. Pravin Bhagwat, Founder of 14Tree Foundation to discuss the transition to green growth. The panel comprising of Shri Chandra Bhusan, Dr. Pravin Bhagwat, and Prof. Ramesh Chand, Member NITI Aayog showcased inspiring examples of implementation through participation and technology.

The thirteenth in-house NITI lecture was held on 30 November, 2023 at Rang Bhawan, New Delhi on the topic “Destination 2030: Catalyzing Action for SDGs”. Shri Shombi Sharp, UN Resident Coordinator in India delivered the keynote address. The panel featured distinguished speakers- Ms. Elisabeth Faure, Representative & Country Director, WFP; Ms. Susan Ferguson, Representative for India, UN Women, and Shri Christopher Garroway, Economist, UN RCO, discussing key topics like poverty alleviation, nutrition, gender equality, and SDG financing in India. Dr. Yogesh Suri, Sr. Advisor, NITI Aayog, moderated the panel discussion and the closing remarks given by the Vice-Chairman, NITI Aayog, inspired the audience to create a better future.



Thirteenth lecture on "Destination 2030: Catalyzing Action for SDGs" on 30 November, 2023

ENGAGEMENT WITH ACADEMIA AND THINK TANKS

Engagement with academia and Think Tanks is amongst a high priority mandate of NITI Aayog. Different verticals in NITI Aayog have worked out mechanisms to work with Academia and Think Tanks on a continuous basis.

As India moves to the Amrit Kaal period, a "Chintan Shivir" was organized by NITI Aayog to facilitate the *Viksit Bharat Vision* of the Hon'ble Prime Minister, deepen engagement with States; ideating, incubating and curating cutting-edge ideas and technologies. The overarching theme of the Shivir was "Reimagining NITI Aayog to fulfill the vision of Amrit Kaal". One of the key themes of the Shivir was strengthening NITI's partnership with other Think Tanks/research/academic organisations.



Chintan Shivir organised with Vice Chancellors/Heads of 150 universities and premier knowledge institutions

In this context, three workshops were organized by NITI Aayog in April 2023 with eminent think tanks/universities across the country. The consultation was focused on improving the effective collaboration of NITI Aayog with the key stakeholders on the following themes-strengthening NITI's partnership with think tanks, role of NITI Aayog in helping India be *Viksit Bharat* and developing NITI Aayog as a bank of wisdom. It has served as a platform for enabling efficient knowledge sharing and information exchange among all the partners to contribute in the policy formulation and work towards the growth and development process for India at 2047.

Besides a host of think tank related activities have been undertaken by various verticals of NITI Aayog, the details of the same are indicated in Section 4 against the activities of the respective verticals.

ENERGY MODELLING AND DATA MANAGEMENT

LAUNCH OF INDIA ENERGY SECURITY SCENARIOS 2047 (IESS 2047)

NITI Aayog released Revamped India Energy Security Scenarios (IESS 2047) on 20 July, 2023 to assess the integrated impact of various green energy policies of Government of India. This acts as a tracking tool for progress on the climate goals and energy transition. The updated IESSION 2047 is an open-source tool developed by NITI Aayog. It evaluates the collective impact of various green energy policies of the Indian Government, such as Green Hydrogen, Energy Storage, Renewable Purchase Obligations, PM-KUSUM, offshore wind strategy, Electric Vehicle policy, Energy efficiency, and more. This tool analyzes the demand and supply of energy in India, considering factors like emissions, cost, land, and water requirements up to 2047.

IESS 2047 is an interactive tool that helps ministries and departments to develop diverse energy transition scenarios for achieving net zero. It enables the accounting of the country's energy needs and estimates the future requirement, thus reducing reliance on external agencies.

EXTENSION OF INDIA ENERGY SECURITY SCENARIOS (IESS) 2047 TILL 2070

A detailed exercise is being undertaken to extend the model till 2070. Extensive set of consultations will be held with line ministries, industry associations and Think tanks in finalization of IESSION model.

LAUNCH OF INDIA CLIMATE AND ENERGY DASHBOARD

NITI Aayog released the India Climate Energy Dashboard (ICED) on 20 July, 2023. ICED provides near real time data with in-built analytics to track the climate action progress. The portal synthesizes data to monitor India's progress towards clean energy transition. With over 500 parameters, 2000 infographics, and interactive visualizations, ICED 3.0 provides a detailed view of India's energy sector and a number of interactive visualizations, allowing users to gain a holistic understanding of India's energy sector. This platform serves as a comprehensive resource for near real-time data related to the energy sector, climate, and associated economic scenario.

NATIONAL MISSION ON TRANSFORMATIVE MOBILITY AND BATTERY STORAGE

To drive clean, connected, shared, sustainable and holistic mobility initiatives in India, National Mission on Transformative Mobility and Battery Storage was set up in NITI Aayog in March 2019. Ever since, various policy decisions and strategies were made and recommended to bolster transformative mobility India.

India is world's largest two-wheeler and three-wheeler manufacturer, second largest tractor and bus manufacturer, third largest heavy truck manufacturer and fourth largest car manufacturer. To boost innovation, efficiency, domestic manufacturing and investments in the EV Ecosystem, and to bring down the initial upfront cost of EVs to the consumers, Government of India rolled out schemes with a combined outlay of USD 7.4 billion for 5 years. All the strategies and schemes have received an overwhelming positive response from the industry.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

SUSTAINABLE GROWTH PILLAR UNDER THE INDIA-US STRATEGIC CLEAN ENERGY PARTNERSHIP

The second phase of the South Asia Group for Energy (SAGE) was launched on 3 May, 2023. SAGE is a consortium consisting of USAID, the United States Department of Energy, and three Department of Energy National Laboratories: the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, and the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. The South Asian Group for Energy aims to provide support for research, capacity building for priority areas identified under the Sustainable Growth Pillar (SG Pillar). Priority areas for 2023-24 were finalized at co-chair meeting of the SG Pillar which included lifecycle assessment, building sector modeling, capacity building and sharing best practices for bioenergy assessment. Work plan regarding the priority areas has been finalized in consultation with US labs.

COOPERATION WITH NETHERLANDS EMBASSY

Under Statement of Intent (SoI) signed between NITI Aayog & Embassy of Netherlands, joint study on LNG as a heavy-duty mobility fuel has been completed and submitted for peer review. Terms of Reference (ToR) are being finalised for future work streams on MSME decarbonisation, waste-to-energy and technology cost curves. For the second phase of the SoI, priority areas like MSME decarbonisation, waste to energy and technology cost curves have been identified for further discussion between NITI Aayog and Embassy of Netherlands. NITI Aayog and the Embassy of Netherlands are currently engaged in a SoI to take up projects regarding the energy transition. As part of the SoI, the report on 'LNG as a Transportation Fuel in Medium and Heavy Commercial Vehicle Segment' was launched on 6 February, 2024 at India Energy Week, in Goa by Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog and the Energy Envoy of Netherlands.

INDIA CLIMATE AND ENERGY MODELLING FORUM (ICEMF)

India Climate and Energy Modelling Forum was originally institutionalized as India Energy Modelling Forum (IEMF) on 2 July, 2020, under the aegis of the SG Pillar of India-US Strategic Clean Energy Partnership (SCEP). To meet the “Panchamrit” commitments made by Hon’ble Prime Minister of India during COP26 at Glasgow, the scope of IEMF was expanded to include climate and economic modelling leading to a revitalised ICEMF. The forum consists of more than 40 members and aims at engaging researchers, knowledge partners, think tanks and national and international government agencies, and departments for modelling and long-term energy planning exercises. Regular webinars and discussions on the use of various Energy & Climate related models, tools and scenarios have been conducted.

UK INDIA INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCING BRIDGE (UKIIFB)

UK India Infrastructure Financing Bridge (UKIIFB) is a collaborative initiative jointly led by NITI Aayog and the City of London. It signifies both Nation’s commitment to work in unison to unlock substantial infrastructure investment opportunities in India. It was formally launched at the 12th Economic & Financial Dialogue between India and the United Kingdom on 11 September, 2023 at New Delhi, by Hon’ble Finance Minister of India and Chancellor of the Exchequer of the United Kingdom.

INDO-FRANCE DIALOGUE ON BLUE ECONOMY AND OCEAN GOVERNANCE

The First India-France Dialogue on Blue Economy and Ocean Governance was held in Paris on 12 October, 2023. The Indian delegation was led by CEO, NITI Aayog and the French delegation was led by Ambassador for Poles and Oceans.

Both sides held detailed discussions agreed to cooperate and support each other’s initiatives aimed at the sustainable use of oceans, seas and marine resources while respecting the environment and biodiversity, and closely coordinating in the relevant international bodies on Ocean governance.

The delegations discussed areas of bilateral cooperation in various areas of Blue Economy such as coastal ecosystems valuation, blue carbon, fisheries, coastal and marine spatial planning, higher education and cultural cooperation. Agencies from the Indian and French sides were also identified for implementation of agenda items pertaining to the bilateral collaboration.

As a follow up on the decisions taken during first bilateral held in October 2023 in Paris, both sides met on 21 February, 2024 in NITI Aayog, New Delhi and reviewed the status of implementation of the identified collaboration areas. The progress through the bilateral forum was acknowledged in the Joint Statement issued during the visit of Hon’ble French President on 25 – 26 January, 2024. Both sides reiterated to make this bilateral forum a vital pillar of cooperation between India and France.



First India-France Dialogue on Blue Economy and Ocean Governance held on 12 October, 2023 in Paris



Follow up meeting pursuant to the first bilateral meeting held on 21 February, 2024 at NITI Aayog, New Delhi

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND ARTICLE IV CONSULTATIONS

A meeting under the Chairmanship of CEO, NITI Aayog, was held with the IMF on 13 September, 2023 for India Article IV Consultations 2023. Inputs were provided to the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) and IMF on the draft concluding statement of the IMF Mission.

STRATEGIC ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN INDIA & SAUDI ARABIA

During the visit of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India to Saudi Arabia on 29 October, 2019, an agreement was signed between two countries which culminated in the setting up of the

Strategic Partnership Council (SPC) to be co-chaired by Hon'ble Prime Minister and the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia. This agreement laid down a defined structure for the SPC. Under SPC, one of the ministerial verticals named 'Economy & Investment' was led by NITI Aayog under the guidance of Minister of Commerce & Industry.

12 MoUs were signed during the visit of the Hon'ble Prime Minister to Riyadh on 28 – 29 October, 2019 across several fields. Several opportunities were identified and actively pursued during deliberations of the 4th Joint Working Groups on Energy, Agriculture, Technology & IT and Industry & Infrastructure. On the sidelines of the G20 Summit held in September 2023, 6 additional MoUs were signed and as many as 8 are in the final stages of preparation which are expected to be signed in the near future.

ENCOURAGING SAUDI ARABIAN INVESTMENT IN INDIA

Following Hon'ble Prime Minister's visits to the Kingdom in 2016 and 2019 and the visit of His Royal Highness the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia to India in 2019 discussed the potential for Saudi Investments in India in various sectors. It was announced in February 2019 that Saudi Arabia is looking at investing \$100 billion in India in areas of petrochemicals, infrastructure, and mining among others, considering the country's growth potential.

In the State visit of His Royal Highness the Crown Prince to India in September 2023, the two countries agreed to set up a Joint Working Group to channelise the \$100 billion in investments promised by the Saudi side. Of this, \$50 billion was earmarked for the West Coast refinery, a mega plant to be set up by Saudi Aramco, Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC), and Indian firms.

To further advance efforts to encourage Saudi Arabian investment in India, an empowered Joint Task Force in investments with Saudi Arabia is set up to oversee implementation of projects and identify new projects for investments. A Group of Secretaries, led by CEO NITI Aayog was formed in October 2023 to identify big-ticket investment projects. The Group includes secretaries from DEA, DPIIT, MNRE, MoPNG and MEA. This Group of Secretaries also form nucleus of the Joint Task Force with Saudi Arabia.

VISITS TO INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITIES

Hon'ble Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog delivered a special address at a two-day International Flagship Conference on "The Macroeconomic Implications of Climate Action" which was held on 5 and 6 June, 2023 at the Peterson Institute of International Finance in Washington DC. He also participated in a SDG side event organised by the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure and attended the Columbia India Energy Dialogue hosted by the Center on Global Energy Policy, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University on 18 September, 2023. He was also a part of the distinguished adjunct faculty of current and former Ministers to the 2024 Harvard Ministerial Leadership Forum for Finance and Economic Planning Ministers at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts, from 21 - 24 April, 2024. He also made keynote remarks on Framing the Investment Case for Human Capital Development at the Forum.

G20 THINK TANK WORKSHOP SERIES

Centered on the theme of '*Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam*' or '*One Earth-One Family-One Future*', India's G20 presidency conferred a unique opportunity to initiate collective approach to address complex global problems effectively. To carry forward the message of G20 into the domestic system on a larger scale and to come out with a road map to implement the G20 New Delhi Leaders Declaration (NDLD), NITI Aayog organised national level workshops involving over 100 think tanks and other stakeholders with the objective of identifying key issues/action points emerging from the NDLD and other relevant issues highlighting best practices that may be replicated across States/UTs. The outcome of the workshops was envisaged to provide a structured platform for in-depth discussions and analysis of G20 deliverables on critical themes and a consolidated Outcome Document combining the outcomes of the 10 Feeder Workshops consisting of actionable outcomes with specific timelines for implementation and agencies responsible for the same.

The following 10 Feeder Thematic Workshops were organized during period 1 - 10 November, 2023 focusing on the following specific important themes emerging from the G20 NDLD.

1. India - AU cooperation for a better inclusive world
2. Harnessing Data for Development (D4D)
3. Implementing the Goa Roadmap for Tourism
4. Promoting Development, Growth and Innovation through DPls
5. Accelerating progress on Sustainable Development Goals
6. Inclusive Trade for Growth & Prosperity
7. Indian Development Model
8. Nari Shakti - Towards Women Led Development
9. Accessing MDBs and Global Finance for Development and Green Growth
10. Green Development Pact for a Sustainable Future

Each workshop was attended by 20-30 think tanks and 8-10 Academicians associated with working on the specific themes.

- The discussion on 'India - AU cooperation for a better inclusive world' focused on methodologies to promote inclusive growth and development, reduce poverty and inequality, and ensure that all people have access to basic necessities such as food, water, healthcare, and education.
- Deliberation on 'Harnessing Data for Development' emphasized on bridging the digital gap, with a particular focus on addressing gender and data disparities, while also championing the inclusive utilization of data for development purposes.
- The discussion on 'Implementing the Goa Roadmap for Tourism' revolved around effectively incorporating Travel for LiFE into sustainable tourism practices, advancing rural tourism under the Green Tourism Umbrella, and ensuring greater sustainability

in adventure tourism. This is in addition to identifying key bottlenecks of the sector at present and discussion mitigation measures for the same.

- ‘Digital Public Infrastructure’ was discussed at length about implications of Data Empowerment and Protection Architecture for various stakeholders, regulatory challenges in AI, possibilities of international regulatory framework for data sharing and ethical considerations, such as fairness, transparency, and accountability in AI development.
- Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) being a critical element in the G20 NDLD, the workshop on ‘Accelerating progress on Sustainable Development Goals’ focused on the progress of India concerning goals of ‘Zero Hunger’, ‘Good Health & Wellbeing’, and ‘Quality Education’ and explored holistic approach for well-being, inclusive education and grassroots development.
- The discussion on ‘Inclusive Trade for Growth & Prosperity’ focused on approaches, ways to move up the value chain and innovation, integrating production, trade, and investments within GVCs and how to promote inclusive, sustainable, and resilient GVCs.
- Workshop on ‘India Development Model’ was centred around exploring how India can ensure that social development and inclusivity is at the centre of its progress and development and that on ‘Nari Shakti- Towards Women Led Development’ explored various pathways to increase women’s meaningful participation in the workforce, role of government and private sector to achieve the same as well as the resources required to enable women to join workforce.
- The session on ‘Accessing MDBs and Global Finance for Development and Green Growth’ focused on three aspects. One, the implications of a bigger and strengthened MDB system on different Indian stakeholders such as state governments, civil society, and the private sector. Two, the enabling conditions required to enhance Domestic Resource Mobilisation (DRM) to facilitate the process of achieving SDGs and contributing to Global Public Goods (GPGs). Three, deliberate on the different methods through which the absorptive capacity within the country can be enhanced to generate demand for additional resources available.
- The discussion on ‘Green Development Pact for a Sustainable Future’ focused on interventions essential for promoting energy security, facilitating technology access, and fostering innovation. These initiatives are imperative to ensure the affordability and reliability of deploying clean and sustainable energy sources and technologies. The primary focus areas for this thematic discussion included energy security, access, affordability, sustainability, and justice.

The major takeaways will be published in the consolidated Outcome Document to take the agenda forward for implementation.



HIGHLIGHTS OF WORKSHOPS

Workshop on Green Development Pact for a Sustainable Future

The Green Development Pact outlined in the G20 NDLD provides a roadmap for nations in their journey towards achieving the energy, climate, environment and disaster resilience related objectives. NITI Aayog organised a Workshop on “Green Development Pact for a Sustainable Future” in partnership with Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW) on 9 November 2023. The Workshop aimed to discussing implementation strategies for the Green Development Pact in India aligning with the G20 NDLD and encouraging India’s leadership role for the global advancement of pathways laid out in the Green Development Pact.



Workshop on “Green Development Pact for a Sustainable Future” on 9 November, 2023

Workshop on ‘Accelerating Progress on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)’

On 6 November 2023, NITI Aayog organised a workshop (hybrid mode) on “Accelerating Progress on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)” at the Dr. Ambedkar International Centre. This Workshop was held in collaboration with knowledge partners, including the Institute for Human Development (IHD), Centre for Social and Economic Progress (CSEP), and UNDP India. The workshop was structured around the G20 NDLD, which includes a specific focus on accelerating progress on the SDGs. The objective of the Workshop was to create a roadmap for achieving the SDGs, emphasizing indigenous expertise and knowledge. It aims to enhance domestic engagement in SDG ownership and implementation, with active participation from think tanks and researchers to expedite progress.

The event saw participation from various stakeholders across the country, including think tanks, academia, practitioners, and thematic experts. It fostered a productive discussion with distinguished experts and speakers from the country, leading to multiple key outcomes for expediting implementation. The Workshop was attended by around 90 people in person, while 7,557 persons attended virtually.



Glimpses from G20 Workshop on 'Accelerating Progress on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)'

Workshop on Tourism

As part of G20 Think Tank Workshop Series, NITI Aayog conducted a Workshop on four themes i.e. Green Tourism; Tourism MSMEs; Digitalization and Strategic Management of tourist destinations with focus on Heritage and Religious Tourism. These themes align with the Goa Roadmap, and the Workshop deliberated on the importance of implementation of greening of tourism sector, urgent need for formulating schemes to promote resilience and responsibility within tourism sector, implement digital regulations that promote fair competition and identify measures to harness digital tools for efficient data collection in the realm of tourism. It also stressed the need to ensure collaborations between public and private stakeholders to develop and manage tourist infrastructure and services.



Workshop on "Implementing Goa Road Map for Tourism" on 4 November, 2023



SECTION

4

SECTORAL ACHIEVEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

The various vertical, divisions and units are the spokes of the wheels that drive NITI Aayog. Each vertical specialises in a particular domain and is mandated to provide technical input and expertise on that sector, deal with the respective line ministry/department, and lead in evidence-based policymaking.

The verticals provide the requisite support needed to develop NITI Aayog as a state-of-the-art resource centre with the necessary knowledge and skills, which will enable it to act with speed, promote research and innovation, provide strategic policy vision for the Government, and deal with contingent issues.

AGRICULTURE

Task Force on Production and Promotion of Organic and Bio fertilizers with Special Focus on Improving Economic Viability of Gaushalas

A Task Force was constituted by NITI Aayog to provide guiding interventions for improving financial and economic viability of Gaushalas and channelising the potential of stray, abandoned, and uneconomic cattle wealth for promoting natural and sustainable farming. The Task Force was comprised of experts from academia, research institutions, representatives from the concerned ministries and departments, representatives from Gaushalas, the Farmers' Association, and stakeholders and experts from related fields. The report of the taskforce was released in March 2023.

Stakeholder workshop on strategy for promotion of alternative nutrition to reduce dependence on chemical fertilizers for soil health and sustainability

A stakeholder workshop on “Strategy for promotion of alternative nutrition to reduce dependence on chemical fertilisers for soil health and sustainability” was jointly organized by NITI Aayog and the Department of Fertilisers on 8 July, 2023 at the Dr Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi. The workshop was chaired by Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, Hon’ble Union Minister for Chemicals and Fertilizers. The workshop was attended by senior officials from the Central and State governments, farmers, academicians, Vice Chancellors of Agriculture Universities, and representatives from industry, NGO’s and Gaushalas. The deliberation was focused on the adoption of measures to increase agricultural production, strengthen agricultural systems, foster innovation to improve soil fertility, and use of alternate, safe solutions in agriculture.

Consultation on Invigorating Organic Farming and Organic Agri-Inputs (Organic Fertilizers and biofertilizers) for Sustainable Food Systems and Atmanirbhar Bharat

A consultation on “Invigorating Organic Farming and Organic Agri-Inputs (Organic fertilizers and biofertilizers) for Sustainable Food Systems and Atmanirbhar Bharat” was jointly organized by NITI Aayog and the Department of Fertilisers and on 6 March, 2023 at NITI Aayog. The consultation was focused on scaling up of organic and natural farming in the country with deliberations on present organic input regulations, standards and specifications, and the perspectives of industry and farmers. The consultation was attended by senior officials from Central and State Governments, industry, representatives from Gaushalas and NGOs, researchers, and scientists from Universities and IITs.

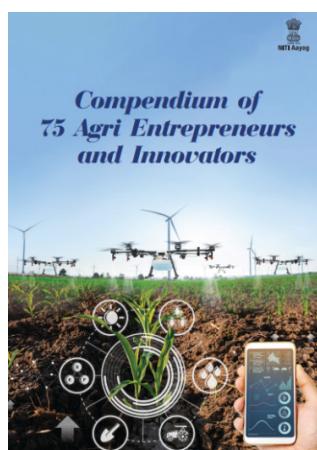
Telemedicine for Livestock Health and Safety: Framework and Guidelines

Accessibility and availability of adequate veterinary services are vital for ensuring livestock productivity and minimising the social and economic losses attributable to livestock diseases. Enabling telemedicine in the veterinary sector can help bridge the gap in veterinary service delivery. NITI Aayog published the framework and guidelines for telemedicine in the veterinary sector in July, 2023. Further, a user-friendly web-based system titled ‘NITIVeT’ was developed to facilitate telemedicine for veterinary services in English, Hindi and Gujarati languages. Through the portal, the animal keeper can avail the services of a registered veterinary practitioner through real-time video or voice call. Piloting of the portal in the states of Gujarat and Uttarakhand has already been initiated by NITI Aayog.

Consultation with Farmers Producer Organizations/Farmer Producer Companies

A consultation on “Farmers Producer Organisations: Challenges and Vision” was organized on 20 December, 2023 at NITI Aayog. The consultation was attended by senior officers from Small Farmers’ Agri-Business Consortium (SFAC), State Governments and representatives from various Farmers Producer Organizations/Farmer Producer Companies (FPOs/FPCs). The consultation was focused on strengthening the FPOs/FPCs role to enhance farmers’ income and agriculture growth in the country. It also encouraged State Governments to establish and strengthen a sustainable FPOs/FPCs ecosystem through structural mechanism and guidelines.

High-level Technical Committee to recommend a strategic plan to stabilise edible oil prices



A High-level Technical Committee was constituted under the aegies of NITI Aayog to prepare a strategic plan to stabilise edible oil prices. The committee submitted its final report in the month of May 2023, which includes the trends and developments relating to supply, demand and prices of edible oils and oilseeds and the impact of international crude palm oil prices on domestic prices of other edible oils. The report also includes a framework within which the MSP and trade policy work in tandem such that the market prices are remunerative to the farmers, keeping in view the MSP declared by the Government. The committee also suggested a floor price that will act as a reference price based on which import policy of palm oil could be determined.

Promotion of Agri-tech Startups

NITI Aayog released a “Compendium of 75 Agri-Entrepreneurs and Innovators” featuring the innovations of 75 entrepreneurs who have helped transform the agriculture and allied sectors on 22 February, 2023.

Promoting Millets for Nutrition & Sustainability

NITI Aayog, in collaboration with UN-WFP India, released a compendium titled “Millet Mainstreaming in India, Asian and African Countries: A Compendium of Inspiring Stories from Field” featuring success stories of 72 millet stakeholders on 12 January, 2024 as a

part of celebrations of International Year of Millets and Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav. Multiple initiatives such as launch of millet corner and vending machine, capacity building sessions for training of NITI Staff in millet cooking, etc. were taken for in house promotion of millets.

Greening and Restoration of Wastelands with Agroforestry (GROW)

India is the first country in the world to form the National Agroforestry Policy in 2014 that focuses on enhancing productivity, profitability, diversity and ecosystem sustainability. Agroforestry is an agroecological nature-based land use system that can simultaneously address many social and ecological challenges of the current era viz. food, nutrition, energy, employment, natural resources, land degradation and environmental security.

NITI Aayog has released a technical report and portal on “Greening and Restoration of Wasteland with Agroforestry (GROW)” on 12 February, 2024. The report explored the application of remote sensing datasets, GIS technology to derive Agroforestry Suitability Index (ASI) for delineation and prioritisation of wastelands in the country suitable for greening and restoration with agroforestry interventions. Multi-thematic datasets of wastelands, land use land cover, waterbodies, soil organic carbon and slope at 1:50,000 scale were used in prioritization of state-wise and district-wise area across the country. The portal is hosted on the Bhuvan-Indian Geo-Platform of ISRO.



Release of Report on “Greening and Restoration of Wasteland with Agroforestry (GROW)” on 12 February, 2024 at NITI Aayog

Working Group on Demand and Supply Projections

To assess the demand and supply of different food commodities towards Viksit Bharat at 2047, NITI Aayog had constituted a Working Group on Crop Husbandry, Agriculture Inputs, Demand and Supply under the Chairmanship of Director, ICAR-National Institute of Agricultural Economics and Policy Research.

The Working Group assessed and examined the data requirements and methodological issues in arriving at realistic estimates of demand and supply of food commodities, input demand, and feasible levels of exports. The Working Group Report was released on 20 February, 2024 at NITI Aayog.



Release of Working Group Report on 20 February, 2024 at NITI Aayog

DATA MANAGEMENT AND ANALYSIS

The vertical primarily addresses issues related to data management, utilizing technology for improved statistical systems. Core functions include:

- Formulating policy papers and strategy documents in collaboration with experts from government, academia and industry as well as conducting seminars and workshops.
- Collaborating with national and international think tanks, educational and policy research institutions, civil societies, and industry to create a knowledge and innovation support system.
- Documenting issues related to data management and usage, leveraging technology for improved statistical systems and processes.
- Holding workshops, training programmes, etc., to build capacity in the Government.

NATIONAL DATA & ANALYTICS PLATFORM (NDAP)

NITI Aayog launched the National Data & Analytics Platform (NDAP) on 13 May, 2022. Currently, the platform hosts 2000+ published Government data sets across 45 Ministries and 15 sectors in a streamlined and coherent manner. It democratizes access to public Government data by making data accessible, interoperable, interactive, and available on a user-friendly platform. It hosts datasets from various government agencies, presents them coherently, and provides tools for analytics and visualization.

A state data Analytics Platform along the lines of NDAP has also been developed for the state of Karnataka and Meghalaya called the Karnataka Data Analytics Platform (KADAP) and Meghalaya Analytics Platform (MegDAP), respectively.

TASKFORCE ON INDIAN STATISTICAL SYSTEMS

NITI Aayog has constituted a Task Force on the Indian Statistical Systems under the Chairmanship of Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog, including Secretary MOSPI, Chief Economic

Advisor and other distinguished experts to examine issues relating to the Indian Statistical Systems and creating a cohesive strategy for leveraging data for governance. The Task Force decided to constitute an Expert Group to conduct in-depth assessments of specific areas and propose solutions concerning improving survey quality, harmonisation of survey data, and identifying use cases of data. Due to the large range of data domains that could be considered, it was decided that the Expert Group conduct a baseline study and analysis in the areas of Nutrition, Labour and Business Statistics.

ECONOMICS & FINANCE I

The vertical aspires to ensure that India remains on a sustainable path as the world's fastest-growing large economy with steady improvement in living standards, spurt in opportunities and enhanced global competitiveness in strategic sectors by creating an enabling ecosystem for investment. The vertical strives to achieve this by driving policy reforms rooted in robust macroeconomic modeling, scenario building exercises and aligning its policy guidance with the emerging geo-political landscape.

CORE FUNCTIONS OF THE VERTICAL

1. Macroeconomic Analysis - Continuous tracking and analysis of developments in the macroeconomic, financial and external sector.
2. Structural Reforms - Analysis of potential structural reforms to augment economic growth and development.
3. Cross-Functional Knowledge-Sharing - Knowledge-sharing and research support in diverse areas to other verticals of NITI Aayog and departments of the Government.
4. Capacity-Building and Expert Consultation - Capacity-building within the Government and expert consultation.

Various projects undertaken by the Vertical during 2023-24 include:-

1. **Macro Modelling - Forecasting Indian Economy (2024-2047)** - With the vision of 'Viksit Bharat', better and comprehensive projections will play a critical role in shaping policies guided by robust macroeconomic forecasting reflecting potential demographic shifts, internal and external equilibrium conditions and various policy tradeoffs faced by the policymakers. Macro modelling as part of Vision@2047 exercises was executed wherein projections of comprehensive economic indicators were provided for Viksit Bharat and Vision at 2047 Gujarat.
2. **Deepening the Corporate Bond Market** - The vertical is in the process of developing a holistic research buttressed with key policy recommendations to deepen the corporate bond markets to achieve an alternative to bank finance for borrowers; an efficient cost-minimization process for long-term funding; a mechanism for supporting the bank for long-term lending against relatively shorter-tenor liabilities; helping the insurance companies and pension fund holders to diversify their portfolios; spread/distribute the risks and manage the liquidity gap, contributing significantly to financial stability.
3. **Trade Watch & Trade Monitor Reports** - To keep abreast with the recent and latest developments in trade, the vertical aims to bring out two quarterly publications "Trade Monthly and Trade Watch" to help the Government, industry, think tanks and the public

to observe detailed developments in trade at the global and country level. These reports will help in identifying the potential and resilient trade areas for India's exports.

ECONOMIC RESEARCH

The Vertical provided inputs on - recent scenarios of various macroeconomic indicators like unemployment, inflation, inequality and Terms of Reference for 16th Finance Commission and 'Bharat's Pathway for Sustainable Growth'. The Vertical developed a detailed state profile of Odisha covering important themes and relevant information. A fine-tuned strategy and action plan was submitted at SGoS 6 meeting on 5 major segments of economy to provide a thrust to development. Comments and suggestions were provided on numerous reports- 'State Budgets in India: Observational Time Trend Analysis from 1990 to 2020'; 'Explicit Budget Subsidies in Indian States the Case of Selected States'; IMF's 'Annex IX. Drivers of Growth in India' and World Bank's 'India Development Update'.

ECONOMICS & FINANCE II

The vertical aims to position India as the world's leading and sustainable hub for the study and application of economic principles and financial concepts within its rapidly growing economy. This vertical plays a crucial role in fostering a comprehensive understanding of these domains, functioning as a hub for knowledge dissemination through research, discussions, and educational initiatives. The vertical is dedicated to promoting policy reforms that aim to boost productivity, expedite capital formation, enhance global competitiveness in strategic sectors, improve access to finance, reduce the cost of capital for the Indian economy, and elevate the overall quality of life while expanding opportunities for every citizen.

MACROECONOMIC ANALYSIS

State of the Economy

Senior Officers at NITI Aayog engage in a recurring process that involves real-time performance analysis of both the Indian and Global economies. The evaluation of the Indian economy is conducted through an examination of 40-50 high-frequency indicators spanning nine different sectors. This systematic approach allows for a comprehensive assessment, providing insights into the dynamic and evolving economic landscape. The use of real-time data and a diverse set of indicators ensure a nuanced understanding of economic trends and helps formulate informed strategies and policies to address challenges and capitalise on opportunities.

The vertical provided inputs for high level meetings attended by Vice Chairman, Members & CEO of NITI Aayog on various areas such as global situation and potential ramifications for India, economic outlook, savings rate and current account balance etc. It also got a household sentimental analysis conducted through a small survey.

Strategic Disinvestment and Performance Improvement of CPSEs

The Vertical has the responsibility to analyse and provide suggestions for the disinvestment of Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) in strategic sectors. These recommendations undergo discussions with the Secretaries of Line Ministries before being formally submitted to Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) and Committee of Group of Officers (CGO), chaired by the CEO of NITI Aayog.

G20 AND VARIOUS ENGAGEMENTS WITH MULTILATERAL INSTITUTIONS

India's G20 Presidency

The G20 Cell of NITI Aayog is actively involved in various initiatives with respect to India's G20 Presidency. This involvement encompassed offering technical insights to the G20 Secretariat and contributing to drafting issue notes and other essential documents. Additionally, the cell provided logistical assistance, participated in Working Groups meetings, and coordinated workshops, among other activities.

The G20 Cell, in partnership with the G20 Secretariat and the MEA, orchestrated a High-Level Workshop for G20 Working Line Ministries/Departments on 23 July, 2022. The inaugural session was presided over by Dr PK Mishra, the Principal Secretary to the Hon'ble Prime Minister, and witnessed the participation of senior Government officials from diverse Ministries and NITI Aayog.

LAUNCH OF A REPORT ON 'A GREEN AND SUSTAINABLE GROWTH AGENDA FOR THE GLOBAL ECONOMY'

In a significant collaborative effort, NITI Aayog, in partnership with the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and the Global Development Network (GDN), published a report, 'A Green and Sustainable Growth Agenda for the Global Economy' based on the proceedings of the G20 international conference held in New Delhi on 28-29 July, 2023, featuring 40 leading experts from 14 countries across the world. Shri Bhupender Yadav, Minister, MoEF&C and MoL&E launched a G20 report, 'A Green and Sustainable Growth Agenda for the Global Economy' on 20 December, 2023 in New Delhi. The report will add to the body of knowledge on the subject and will also provide valuable inputs for Brazil as it takes over the G20 presidency from India.



Launch of Report on 'A Green and Sustainable Growth Agenda for the Global Economy'

ADB'S INDIA COUNTRY PARTNERSHIP STRATEGY, 2023-2027

A document was prepared outlining the strategic directions and roadmap for the partnership between India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB). The focus was on formulating policies and concepts aligned with leveraging ADB's multilateral expertise in providing financial, technical, advisory, and knowledge support to benefit India.

SOUTH ASIA'S PATH TO SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH: IMF

A document was drafted highlighting the current issues and challenges faced by the South Asian region. It emphasised India's role and developmental assistance in protecting the lives and livelihoods of smaller economies in the region during the pandemic. The note also focused on formulating strategies for the sustainable development of the South Asian region.

DISCUSSION ON MOODY'S ANNUAL REVIEW SOVEREIGN CREDIT RATING

A session, in collaboration with the DEA, took place with Moody's Investors Service (MIS) to conduct the annual assessment of India's sovereign bond rating. NITI Aayog offered crucial perspectives and viewpoints to Moody's, emphasizing the reaffirmation of India's credit rating. The focus was on underlining the nation's fundamental strengths and resilience in navigating global challenges.

INPUTS ON EXPORT PREPAREDNESS INDEX

NITI Aayog released the third edition of the Export Preparedness Index (EPI) 2022 for States/UTs of India on July 17, 2023. The report was released by Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog. The comparative analysis in EPI 2022 provides State governments with region-specific insights to assist decision-making, identify strengths, address weaknesses, and foster comprehensive growth across States and UTs. The report presents a comprehensive analysis of India's export performance in FY22, along with its sector-specific and district-level merchandise export trends. The EPI 2022 Report evaluates the performance of the States across four pillars - Policy, Business Ecosystem, Export Ecosystem, and Export Performance. The index uses 56 indicators which holistically capture the export preparedness of States and UTs in terms of exports at both the state and district-level.

The report encourages State Governments to create solutions to their context-specific challenges to exports. The States can also exploit their innate diversity by promoting products unique to them and helping them reach the global market.

EDUCATION

The Education vertical seeks to facilitate a conducive learning environment through policy and programmes so that people can develop to their full potential. The vertical strives to facilitate school readiness, socio-emotional learning, critical and higher-order thinking, and grade level competency amongst children. It seeks to empower youth with employability skills, research temperament and subject matter expertise through high quality, accessible, equitable, accountable, and affordable education system.

SCHOOL EDUCATION

Project SATH-Education

Furthering the agenda for cooperative federalism, NITI Aayog launched Project- ‘Sustainable Action for Transforming Human Capital (SATH)-Education’ in 2017 to initiate transformation in the Education sector. The key objective of the Project SATH-Education has been to identify and build three future ‘Role Model’ states for the education sector. After an elaborate selection process, three States, namely Jharkhand, Odisha and Madhya Pradesh were selected for the Project SATH-Education through challenged method. The project started in the year 2017 and was successfully completed in October, 2022. More than 2 crores students, in 1.7 lakh schools were impacted through Project SATH-Education in the 3 partner states.

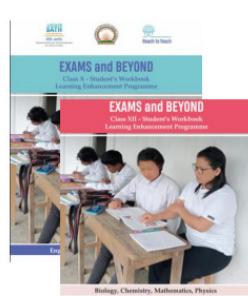
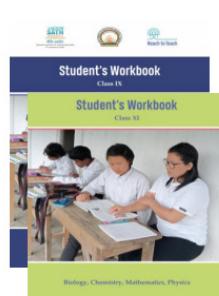
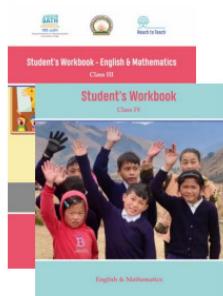
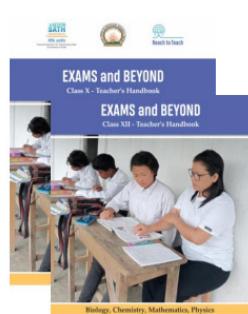
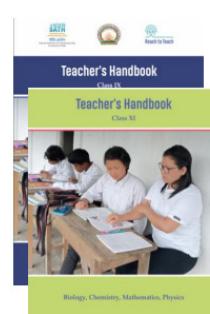
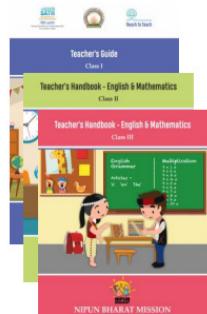
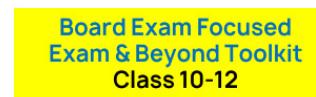
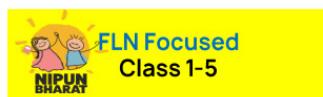
Project SATH - Arunachal Pradesh

NITI Aayog, the Government of Arunachal Pradesh, and a Knowledge Partner have signed a Tripartite Agreement for bringing about School Education transformation in Arunachal Pradesh for 3 years (2022-25) duration. The Project covers over 2 lakh children of Grades 1-12 of Arunachal Pradesh with the following key interventions.

- **Academic Reforms**
 - » Institutionalize State Level Achievement Survey
 - » Launched School Readiness Programme from Class 1-5 (6 weeks)
 - » Launched Learning Recovery Programme for Class 1-12 (Year-long)
 - » Launched Exam and Beyond toolkit for Class 10 &12 to enhance Board Exam Performance
- **Capacity Development**
 - » Provided Continuous Professional Development (CPD) for Teachers and Principals
 - » Capacity building of BRCs, CRCs and District officials to provide support to schools
 - » Teacher helpline established for regular academic support to Teachers
- **Governance & Accountability**
 - » Setting up an MIS and live dashboard for evidence-based decision-making
 - » Monitoring and Review Mechanism (Data Driven) at every level
- **Community Engagement**
 - » Strengthening Parental Engagement in Education
 - » Capacity building of SMC, Gaon Budhas, and local governance
 - » Carried out structured enrolment drives annually
 - » Capacity building of system officials in supporting school community collaboration



School Readiness Programme (SRP) being implemented in government schools



(Teachers and Student Resource Material)

SATH REPORT: LEARNINGS FOR LARGE-SCALE TRANSFORMATION IN SCHOOL EDUCATION

The Report encompasses contextual interventions from the SATH States and is a ready-reckoner for States/UTs to learn, implement and transform the School Education Systems of their respective state/UT and has the potential to support other States/UTs in tailoring initiatives to their context.



Launch of SATH Report: Learnings for Large-scale Transformation in School Education

YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS

During 2023-24, officials of the Education vertical represented NITI Aayog in various meetings like Project Appraisal Committee (PAC) meetings, Departmental Project Approval Committee (DPAC) meetings, Project Appraisal Committee (PAC) meetings for financial assistance to Voluntary Organizations/Institutions and Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) and National Programme for Youth and Adolescent Development (NPYAD) of the Ministry.

ELECTRIC MOBILITY

EV Mission in NITI Aayog is collaborating with institutions across the globe for knowledge transfer in skill and expertise. It is a part of the EV mission's continuous effort to encourage knowledge transfer and learning from best institutions worldwide. The idea is to collaborate with international institutions of repute specific to each sector and build short/long term partnerships which can help India to provide best possible solutions to the issues and challenges faced in EV ecosystem.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME WITH ADB

To address the challenges in EV adoption, NITI Aayog and ADB are working on several high-level initiatives through technical assistance on the Promotion of Electric Vehicles Manufacturing in India. Important activities under the technical assistance include credit

enhancement for various EV fleet operators and other stakeholders in the entire EV value chain, supply chain assessment for EV and EV Infrastructure component manufacturing in India. Further, mapping of global best practices and creating an interactive portal of international best practices, rapid adoption of EV Charging Infrastructure, strengthening EV Startup Ecosystem in India and developing comprehensive e-Mobility plans for Tier-I cities (Surat, Kolkata and Lucknow) have been initiated.

TRANSFORMATIVE MOBILITY AND BATTERY STORAGE

The Government of India has launched “PM-eBus Sewa Scheme” on 16 August, 2023 with the aim to augment bus operations by deployment of 10,000 electric buses on PPP model. National E-Bus Programme is launched to aggregate demand for 50,000 e-buses. State EV Accelerator Programme inspired 34 States/UTs come up with EV policies. So far 16 R&D centers of excellence and higher education programmes in EVs and Battery Storage are launched in IITs. NITI Aayog’s e-AMRIT portal has received the Bharat Ratna Atal Bihari Vajpayee Tech Titan of India 2023. NITI Aayog hosted a panel at COP28, India Pavilion with representatives from the governments, as well as OEMs, multilateral development banks, and global think tanks to highlight India’s EV revolutionary journey and showcase the innovative business models being adopted to achieve an accelerated transition.

G20 EVENT ON POLICY SUPPORT & ENABLERS TO ACCELERATE INDIA'S ELECTRIC MOBILITY

NITI Aayog convened a one-day event on 19 July, 2023, at Goa alongside the 4th Energy Transitions Working Group (ETWG) meeting under India's G20 Presidency. The distinguished presence of the Chief Minister of Goa, Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog, Sherpa of India's G20 Presidency, and other esteemed dignitaries marked the inauguration of the event.



The event witnessed the participation of over 200 delegates, including policymakers, industry stakeholders, researchers, financiers, and entrepreneurs from 10 countries and 41 cities worldwide. It provided a valuable platform for discussions on viable financing avenues

for transport electrification, electrification pathways for public transport, cross-sectoral and global insights, and programmes and partnerships to expedite the e-mobility transition.

NATIONAL PROGRAMME ON ADVANCED CHEMISTRY CELL (ACC) BATTERY STORAGE

The PLI Scheme ‘National Programme on Advanced Chemistry Cell (ACC) Battery Storage’ for achieving manufacturing capacity of Fifty (50) Giga Watt Hour (GWh) of ACC and 5 GWh of “Niche” ACC with an outlay of Rs.18,100 crore was approved in 2021. Under the ACC PLI programme, the manufacturing facility would have to be set up within a period of two years. Further, LoA has been issued to 3 players and the proposed investment expected from selected bidders is upto Rs. 45,000-50,000 crore.

ECO LOGISTICS PLANS

NITI Aayog in collaboration with ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability, South Asia initiative is supporting Shimla, Panaji and Kochi cities with the development of EcoLogistics-Low Carbon Urban Freight plans. It aims to enhance the capacities, strategies and policies to promote low carbon urban freight through local action and national support. The Phase-II of the project is extended to support Gangtok, Imphal & Ranchi cities.

SHOONYA CAMPAIGN – A ‘NUDGE PLATFORM’ TO CONVERT ALL RIDE-HAILING AND DELIVERIES TO EVS

“Shoonya – Zero pollution Mobility” is a corporate- and consumer-facing campaign initiated and driven by NITI Aayog and RMI. The campaign was initially launched on 1 September, 2021 and it aims accelerating the deployment of EVs for ride-hailing and deliveries. The campaign has a grand aspiration to convert all urban commercial vehicles to EVs by building awareness and facilitating bold corporate action on zero-pollution mobility. Urban delivery and ride-hailing vehicles are prime candidates for early electrification due to their increasingly competitive economics.

Since the launch of the Shoonya campaign in India, more than 182 corporate partners have joined the campaign, collectively completing 80 million Shoonya deliveries and 50 million Shoonya rides. Moreover, a consumer awareness brand film launched as part of the Shoonya campaign received over 80 million views across social media platforms.

NATIONAL ELECTRIC BUS PROGRAMME

In 2021, DHI decided to target nine cities with population of over 4 million for accelerating e-bus adoption under the scheme. Accordingly, Convergence Energy Services Limited (CESL) was tasked with aggregation of demand for remaining e-buses under the FAME-II scheme on OPEX basis. The tender by CESL was the world’s largest tender floated for e-bus procurement under the Grand Challenge (GC) for 5450 e-buses. Active consultations by CESL, supported by NITI Aayog and WRI India were conducted with transit agencies, financing institutions, e-bus manufacturers, and think-tanks to aggregate demand from 9 eligible cities out of which five cities subscribed.

The price discovery under GC has resulted in up to 50 percent reduction in comparison with previous e-bus tenders, never seen before in the Indian market and bringing operational cost of e-buses at par of less than that of diesel and CNG buses. With the aim to extend the benefits of aggregation of e-buses to cities beyond the top 9 cities (population wise) and acknowledging the need for faster electrification of public buses, NITI Aayog has proposed a “National E-Bus Aggregation Programme” to enable deployment of 50,000 e-buses in the clean public transport fleet across the country.

OTHER E-MOBILITY ACTIVITIES

The unit facilitated a stakeholder workshop on Department of Post mail service electrification with TERI and collaborated with GIZ for NDC, TIA Project. It also collaborated with ETMA for advancing initiatives on self-reliance in energy transition materials and with MoHUA regarding issues in PM E-Bus Seva. The unit had organised a meeting of Cement Companies for mobility transition in Cement Freight Sector and with E-Vehicle OEMs for accelerating supply eco-system. It also collaborated with KfW Mission on Bilateral Exchange on E-bus Sector.

STATE SUPPORT

1. States are being supported regarding State EV policy formulation, coordination with CESL and BEE continuously.
2. Collaborated with State for Bihar's climate action strategy.
3. Finalized framework for SSM Helped desk on E-Mobility.
4. Reviewed E-Mobility progress of Himachal Pradesh with RTDC.

GREEN TRANSITION, ENERGY, CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT

GREEN TRANSITION, CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT

The overarching mission of the Green Transition, Climate and Environment (GTC) vertical is to actively contribute to the development of well-suited strategies and policies for the sustainable administration of forests, safeguarding wildlife and habitats, ensuring a pristine and ecologically sound environment, and addressing the challenges of climate change adaptation. The vertical aspires to enhance the policy framework by fostering meaningful consultations with a diverse range of stakeholders, including academia, think tanks, as well as Central, State, and UT Governments. It also takes a proactive role in crafting new policies that align with the evolving national needs, considering the growing pressure on resources.

PROJECT ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION

The vertical critically assesses diverse project proposals for submission to SFC/EFC, providing comprehensive evaluations. This includes the scrutiny of externally funded projects, where the vertical offers technical comments and recommendations for financial support. Additionally, the vertical is involved in developing implementation plans/MoUs with

multilateral institutions and groups, addressing issues related to the environment, forest, and climate change while providing input on technical and financial feasibility.

The vertical plays a pivotal role in the facilitation of the formulation of proposals presented in the form of Cabinet/CCEA, Committee on Establishment Expenditure (CEE)/Cabinet Committee on Security, by proving comments it is also responsible for preparing Request for Qualification-cum-Request for Proposal documents for engaging consultants in the creation of feasibility reports and master plans for development projects.

NATIONAL TASK FORCE FOR TAKING MEASURES TO ELIMINATE IDENTIFIED SINGLE USE PLASTIC ITEMS AND EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF PLASTIC WASTE MANAGEMENT RULES, 2016

An expert committee was formed by NITI Aayog to assess the development of research on plastic alternatives or technologies making plastic biodegradable and regulatory approaches being taken up globally. The committee's report focuses on market readiness, infrastructure needs, and regulatory framework required for adopting these products.

NATIONAL COORDINATION COMMITTEE ON TRANS-BOUNDARY LANDSCAPE AND HINDU-KUSH HIMALAYA (HKH) CALL TO ACTION INITIATIVES

NITI Aayog is the member with the role and responsibility of providing necessary guidance and support for implementation of policy and action plans at regional and global levels. The vertical has been the part of various meetings and has provided recommendations for its final report.

EXPERT COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE CHANGE FOR THE REVIEW OF REVISED STATE ACTION PLAN ON CLIMATE CHANGE (SAPCC)

The vertical examines the SAPCCs of various states and provides comments for further modifications of the action plans. NITI Aayog has been the part of 12 successive meetings so far and has contributed in the review of SAPCCs from Karnataka, Kerala, Assam, Nagaland, Punjab, Rajasthan, and Chhattisgarh in the year 2023.

PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE FOR INDIA- NORWAY MARINE POLLUTION INITIATIVE

The Government of India signed MoU with Government of Norway to cooperate on oceans and developing the "Blue Economy". Under this, one initiative was India- Norway Marine Pollution Initiative for which MoU was signed between MoEFCC, GoI, and Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Norway. The committee was formed to take care of the execution and monitoring of the Indo-Norwegian project under the India-Norway Marine Pollution Initiative and other Indo-Norwegian matters related to environment.

GREEN CLIMATE FUND EMPOWERED COMMITTEE (GCF-EC)

The committee was formed to determine the national priorities, approve GCF India projects,

monitor project implementation, decide country's stand in GCF board and function as forum to discuss and bring out synergy in the work of various agencies funding climate change.

COMMISSION FOR AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT IN NCR AND ADJOINING AREAS

The committee looks after the progress and review of the states for air quality management. NITI Aayog is represented in the committee by the GTC Vertical.

HIGH POWERED STEERING COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL INSTITUTION FOR RESEARCH AND APPLICATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES TO TRANSFORM, ADAPT AND BUILD RESILIENCE (NIRANTAR)

The committee monitors and provides guidance for collating and sharing the research work and publications of the Institutes of the MoEFCC to be shared on a virtual integrated portal under NIRANTAR, developed by Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) on the behest of MoEFCC, Government of India.

APPRAISAL

The Green Transition, Climate and Environment vertical at NITI Aayog reviewed and gave its comments on draft EFCs, SFCs, PPRs, cabinet notes, and project proposals pertaining to various schemes and projects of the MoEFCC. In the year 2023, the vertical examined more than 25 EFCs, SFCs, Cabinet Notes and Project Proposals combined.

CIRCULAR ECONOMY

The circular economy action plans finalized for the 10 sectors are currently being implemented by the respective ministries along with the relevant stakeholders for each sector. Furthermore, NITI Aayog is in the process of finalizing a report on circular economy which will identify the sectoral and cross-sectoral drivers for implementing the actions stated in action plan. It will also focus on a few sectors to create an ecosystem that harnesses the potential of circular models within India. Consequently, it will help to formulate policy and administrative recommendations to ensure that the system is well-prepared to promote the adoption of circular practices across the industry and informal sector in India.

ENERGY

The Energy vertical strives to provide policy support to all stakeholders to make India energy- secure. It aims to boost investment to achieve an efficient, sustainable, and clean energy system. The vertical makes concerted efforts towards reducing energy import, ensuring an alternative supply of energy and enhancing domestic supply. It seeks to strengthen the energy infrastructure and resolve cross-sectoral issues. The policy framework is geared such that energy is supplied through efficient markets to improve India's competitiveness and spur economic growth.

CARBON CAPTURE, UTILISATION & STORAGE

Fossil-based energy are liable to cause CO₂ emissions, thus to decarbonize the sector and reduce emissions, Carbon Capture Utilisation and Storage (CCUS) has to play crucial role. To support the deployment of CCUS in India, NITI Aayog has taken initiative to facilitate

the deployment of CCUS in the country. To this end, the following initiatives have been undertaken:

STUDY REPORT ON CARBON CAPTURE, UTILISATION AND STORAGE

On 29 November, 2022, NITI Aayog released a pivotal study report titled "Development of the Carbon Capture, Utilization & Storage Policy Framework and its Development Mechanism in India." This comprehensive report outlines policy interventions spanning various sectors to facilitate CCUS applications in India. These interventions encompass critical phases such as CO₂ Capturing, Utilization, and Storage and Transportation, technology selection, purification, compression, quality assurance, and funding for storage and transportation.



Launch of study report on "Development of the Carbon Capture, Utilization & Storage Policy Framework and its Development Mechanism in India."

ESTABLISHMENT OF TASK FORCE

NITI Aayog has constituted a Task Force for development of a policy framework for the effective implementation of the CCUS initiatives in India. These Committees have members from different Ministries and Departments to ensure optimal execution of the CCUS initiative. Under the guidance of NITI Aayog, the Ministry of Power, in collaboration with NTPC, organised an International Seminar on Carbon Capture, Utilization, and Storage on February 5, 2023, in Mumbai under Indian G20 Presidency.

On the Direction of the Advisory Committee, NITI Aayog has constituted four Inter-Ministerial Technical Committees in the areas of Safety and Technical Standards Development, CO₂ Capture, Utilisation, Transportation and Storage. Each technical committee consists of members from relevant ministries, research institutes, and PSUs to provide expertise and guidance. The draft reports have been received which are to be used for framing the policy on CCUS

The U.S. Department of Energy and the World Bank have expressed keen interest in collaborating with NITI Aayog for knowledge sharing, further fortifying the development of the National CCUS Policy. This collaborative effort aims to establish a robust framework guiding and supporting CCUS initiatives throughout the country.

ROLE OF SMALL MODULAR NUCLEAR REACTORS IN ENERGY TRANSITION

In India's G20 presidency, under the theme of Addressing Technology Gaps through Collaborations, Small Modular Nuclear Reactors (SMR) was identified one of the technology gap. NITI Aayog, in consultation with Department of Atomic Energy, has taken initiatives to work on policy framework for SMRs development and deployment in India. In this regard, an International Workshop was scheduled under Energy Transition Working Group on "SMR" and also launched a Study Report "The Role of Small Modular Reactors in the Energy Transition". The after-effects of the above initiatives have motivated the international companies to work in the areas of SMRs and now approaching India for collaborations.

NATIONAL LEVEL WORKSHOP ON IESS 2047 AND ICED

A National Workshop on India Energy Security Scenarios (IESS) 2047 and India Climate Energy Dashboard (ICED) has been organised in NITI Aayog on 17 October, 2023 which was participated by the relevant ministries and departments.

CONFERENCE OF PARTIES-COP 28

The Conference of the Parties (COP) is an annual gathering of member countries under the UNFCCC. COP meetings are crucial for discussing and negotiating global efforts to address climate change. The 28th session of the CoP was held in Dubai from 30 November to 12 December 2023. MoEFCC is the nodal Ministry looking after the negotiations at CoPs. Six working groups have been set up during the first Inter-Ministerial Meeting of consultative group on climate change negotiations with NITI Aayog being represented on (i) Mitigation; (ii) Climate Finance; (iii) Matters related Article 6 of the Paris Agreement; and (iv) Global Stock Take.

GEOSPATIAL ENERGY MAP OF INDIA

NITI Aayog has developed a comprehensive Geospatial Energy Map of India. This map provides a complete view of India's energy sector, including both renewable and non-renewable power plants, oil and gas downstream sectors, renewable energy potential, fossil fuel resources, and other energy assets. These maps aid in resource planning, including infrastructure planning for future solar parks, coal blocks, crude oil, and natural gas pipelines.

DEVELOPMENT OF OPTIMAL ENERGY PATHWAYS USING TIMES-VEDA

NITI Aayog is developing an in-house energy sector cost optimization model using TIMES-VEDA. The model uses bottom-up approach and simulates all the sectors of economy such as agriculture, industry, transport, residential and commercial buildings. The targeted outputs from the model include: i) Optimal energy mix in each alternative pathway consistent with net zero target; ii) Emission trajectories; iii) Identify and measure sectoral and total investment requirement and technology development; iv) Primary energy consumption by source, by end-use sector, and per unit of GDP; and v) Detailed power sector capacity projections.

COAL GASIFICATION

A Steering Committee and Technical Committee under the Chairmanship of Member Dr. V. K Saraswat, NITI Aayog reviews the programme and projects to take necessary policy decisions. In this regard, three coal gasification projects from CIL and one from NLCIL are currently at various phases of the tendering process.

The Union Cabinet has also approved the scheme for promotion of Coal/Lignite Gasification Projects of Government PSUs and Private Sector with an outlay of Rs.8,500 crore towards incentive for coal gasification projects under three different categories.

INDIAN CARBON TRADING MARKET

NITI has been actively providing knowledge support to develop a national carbon market to Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE). Suggestions on various aspects of the proposed carbon market have been provided, which have been incorporated into the Carbon Credit Trading Scheme (CCTS) Rules issued by Ministry of Power. NITI Aayog continues to support this work as part of the Indian Carbon Market Governing Body (ICMGB).

INDO-US STRATEGIC CLEAN ENERGY PARTNERSHIP

Sustainable Growth Pillar under the India-US Strategic Clean Energy Partnership

Under the India-US Strategic Clean Energy Partnership (SCEP), NITI Aayog and USAID lead the Sustainable Growth pillar. As part of the Sustainable Growth Pillar activities such as knowledge sharing on building sector modelling, life cycle analysis, capacity building for analysis of low carbon technologies through use of GCAM and sharing best practices for biomass energy assessment are being taken up.

INTERNATIONAL ENERGY AGENCY'S (IEA) MINISTERIAL MEETING 2024

At the request of the Indian Embassy in Paris, Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog participated in the International Energy Agency's (EA) Ministerial Meeting 2024 to acknowledge initiation of formal negotiations on India's application of full membership of the IEA. During his visit, he participated in the IEA's ministerial welcome and official opening as well as a panel discussion during the IEA Family Lunch. He held bilateral meetings with Singapore, Japan, E.U., U.S., and Germany as well as with the Executive Director, IEA and the Secretary General, OECD.

GOVERNANCE AND RESEARCH

The Governance Division deals with issues concerning the policies and programmes of Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes, their implementation and monitoring with respect to nine Central Ministries and Departments - Department of Fertilisers, Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, Department of Consumer Affairs, Department of Food and Public Distribution System, Department of Personnel and Training, Department of Pensions and Pensioners' Welfare, Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology and Ministry of Communications. The Research Division oversees the Research Scheme of NITI Aayog (or RSNA), which aims at supporting various research studies. The Division also coordinates with United Nations system in respect of UN Sustainable Coordination Framework 2023-24

BEST PRACTICES IN SOCIAL SECTOR: A COMPENDIUM, 2023

NITI Aayog released the “Best Practices in Social Sector: A Compendium, 2023” in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on 1 May, 2023. To commemorate 75 years of India’s independence, this compendium includes 75 case studies cutting across 14 key social sectors including education, health and nutrition, e-governance and digitisation, agriculture, women’s empowerment, sports, and financial inclusion, among others. The case studies have been sourced from the States/UTs and 30 Ministries and Departments of the Government of India. The seventy-five best practices highlight models which are innovative, sustainable, replicable and impactful. The aim of this exercise had been to synthesise lessons for the future to expand, enhance and improve life at the grassroots level.



Launch of Best Practices Compendium in May 2023 at NITI Aayog

SIGNING OF UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION FRAMEWORK 2023-2027

In June 2023, NITI Aayog and the United Nations in India signed the Government of India - United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2023-27. The Gol-UNSDCF was signed by Shri B V R Subrahmanyam, CEO, NITI Aayog, and Mr. Shombi Sharp, UN Resident Coordinator, India in the presence of the Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog, Shri Suman Bery, senior representatives from NITI Aayog, Central Ministries and heads of all UN agencies in India. Gol-UNSDCF 2023-27 represents the UN development system's collective offer to the Government of India, in line with the national vision for development, for the achievement of the SDGs, promoting gender equality, youth empowerment, human rights and climate change among many others.



Signing of Government of India - United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2023-27 on 16 June, 2023

STATEMENT OF INTENT (SOI) SIGNED BETWEEN NITI AAYOG AND INTERNATIONAL FOOD POLICY RESEARCH INSTITUTE (IFPRI)

NITI Aayog and International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) have signed a SoI in December 2023 to collaborate on research on agriculture and food policies. The SoI was signed by Prof. Ramesh Chand, Member NITI Aayog and Dr. Johan Swinnen, Director General, IFPRI in the presence of Shri Suman Bery, Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog. The partnership will focus on strengthening evidence-based policy frameworks for agriculture transformation and rural development, thus providing a roadmap towards Viksit Bharat@2047.



Signing of MoU between NITI Aayog and IFPRI in December 2023

RECONSTITUTION OF AN EXPERT COMMITTEE TO RECOMMEND TARGET ENERGY NORMS BY UREA UNITS

An expert committee has been reconstituted in 2023-24 under the Chairmanship of Dr. V. K. Saraswat, Member, NITI Aayog to give recommendations with regard to target energy norms to be achieved from 1 April, 2025 by all twenty-five gas based urea units covered under New Urea Policy (NUP)-2015.

The Committee will also give recommendations to revise target energy norms for coal based plants under NUP-2015 which have been allowed to continue the use of coal in their energy mix and by Naphtha converted units, suggest application of energy efficiency technology for optimization and consistent performance in terms of urea production and explore the possibility of gainful use of hydrogen in urea production aligned with India's commitment to climate change and evolving energy scenario across the globe. The first meeting of the Expert Committee was held in NITI Aayog on 27 February, 2024.

INTER-MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE TO RECOMMEND A PER-KG SUBSIDY RATE UNDER NUTRIENT BASED SUBSIDY

An Inter-Ministerial Committee has been constituted under the chairpersonship of Secretary, Department of Fertilisers to recommend a per-kg subsidy rate for each nutrient Nitrogen, Phosphorous, Potassium & Sulphur, wherein NITI Aayog is also a key member and participated in the committee meetings held during the year. The main objective is to ensure availability of sufficient quantity of fertiliser to farmers at affordable price at appropriate time, to promote smooth production of fertiliser in the country and in case of shortfall, smooth and timely imports of fertilisers and finally to encourage balanced use of fertiliser.

APPRAISAL

The Governance and Research Vertical at NITI Aayog reviewed and gave its comments on draft EFCs, SFCs, Cabinet notes as well as Delegated Investment Board (DIB) and Project proposals pertaining to various schemes and projects of the Ministries/ Departments of

Fertilizers & Chemicals, Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Personnel and Training, Pensions & Pensioners' Welfare, Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances. In the year the Vertical examined more than 20 EFCs, SFCs, DIBs and Project Proposals.

RESEARCH SCHEME OF NITI AAYOG (RSNA)

In line with NITI's mandate to position itself as a knowledge and innovation hub, the Research Scheme of NITI Aayog, aims at broad-basing research work including institutional & individual based research, aiding reputed institutions for organizing seminars, workshops and conferences as well as providing non-financial support through the use of the NITI logo for various events. During the year 2023-24 (up to 31 March, 2024), a total amount of ₹2.55 crore was released. Proposals for funding 13 new research studies were sanctioned (Annexure 2-Table 2.1) and 14 on-going ones were completed during the year (Table 2.2). Besides, logo support to 36 institutions for events across a wide spectrum of subjects and sectors. Copies of these reports and proceedings are circulated to concerned verticals within NITI, which then examine these reports and send them to concerned Ministries/ departments for further action.

HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE, NUTRITION

The Health and Family Welfare Division provides advice and policy guidance to key stakeholders involved in public health development and management. It engages with the Ministries of Health and Family Welfare and Ayush, the Department of Pharmaceuticals, the National Health Authority (NHA), State and Local Governments. The Division also collaborates with reputed international and national academic institutions, research organisations, development partners and eminent experts to advance the discussion towards making long-term impacts on policy approaches for the public health sector.

ERADICATION OF SICKLE CELL ANEMIA

Sickle Cell Disease (SCD) is a chronic single-gene disorder that causes a debilitating systemic syndrome characterized by chronic anemia, acute painful episodes, organ infarction and chronic organ damage, and a significant reduction in life expectancy. The proposal to screen all individuals up to the age of 40 for sickle cell anemia was included in the Union Budget 2023-24 after multi-stakeholder meetings led by Member, NITI Aayog. National Sickle Cell Anemia Elimination Mission was launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister in July 2023. The mission aims to eliminate sickle cell anemia by 2047 and targets screening approximately 7 crore people under 40 years of age in the next three years, especially in tribal areas. Implemented in 17 high-focus states across the country, the mission aims to improve the care and prospects of all SCD patients while reducing the prevalence of the disease.

STRENGTHENING SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES

India is home to 47.3 crore children (0-18 years), comprising 39 percent of the total population (Census 2011). There are around 26 crore children enrolled in schools, of whom, 17 crores are enrolled in Government and Government-Aided schools in India. A robust health mission for children and adolescents is being conceptualised to not only ensure better learning outcomes but also address the health needs of the population from a very early age. NITI Aayog in

collaboration with the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Ayush, and other stakeholder ministries is reviewing and working on revamping the ongoing school health programmes that cater to the needs of the children and adolescents, to make them more comprehensive and holistic.

FUTURE PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS

As world recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic, it is imperative that we draw lessons from the country and global experience, and visualize preparedness and pathways for possible future pandemic, and envision an approach on how to tackle challenges of this magnitude. Keeping this in view NITI Aayog constituted an Expert Group on Future Pandemic Preparedness to study these issues in depth, consult other experts (national/global), and come up with a detailed analysis of the various learning during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Expert Group will offer a clear strategy and road map on what our preparedness should be to handle any such public health crisis of a larger magnitude in the future. So far, seven meetings of this Expert Group have been convened with the participation of national and international experts.

NATIONAL ACTION PLAN (NAP) FOR ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE (AMR)

The National Action Plan (NAP) for AMR 1.0 (2017-2022) was founded on 6 pillars — awareness and understanding; knowledge and evidence; infection prevention and control; optimize use; innovations and R&D; and leadership — involving almost 40 stakeholders. The policy dialogue on AMR has again been brought back to focus as a global health priority in multiple high-level forums ranging from the UNGA, G7 to G20.

Accordingly, India is crafting the NAP-AMR 2.0 strategy (2024–28), with inputs from multiple Ministries/Departments and organizations. This would help plugging gaps and devising specific action plans and roadmaps for individual stakeholders.

So far, three multi-stakeholder meetings for NAP-AMR 2.0 have been held under the chairpersonship of Member, NITI Aayog. Moving forward, inputs and commitments have been solicited from all stakeholders on the NAP-AMR 2.0 framework and the next steps will be undertaken for its eventual incorporation in the National AMR strategy.

ALTERNATIVES TO THE M. PHIL. PROGRAMMES IN CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY AND PSYCHIATRIC SOCIAL WORK

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 provides a policy mandate to transform the landscape of education in India, including higher education. Among several of its recommendations, the decision to discontinue the M. Phil programmes is a significant one.

In view of the fact that this complex issue involved multiple Ministries and stakeholders, NITI Aayog constituted a high-level committee under the chairpersonship of Member, Dr. V.K. Paul. The Committee included the participation of the Ministry of Education, University Grants Commission, Rehabilitation Council of India, and representation of professional experts from prominent universities running these MPhil courses to facilitate multi-sectoral stakeholder consultation to examine the optimum duration and pathway of the courses that would provide necessary qualification for clinical practice. After detailed discussions, the Committee arrived at comprehensive recommendations of two concurrent pathways, each

for Clinical Psychology and Psychiatric Social Work courses, to replace the discontinued MPhil courses to be implemented from the 2024 academic session. The comprehensive report of the process and recommendations was submitted accordingly to the MoHFW in the month of December 2023 for further suitable action.

INCREASING MEDICAL POSTGRADUATE SEATS

Despite progress made to achieve 1:1000 doctor ratio by opening newer medical colleges, India still faces huge deficiency of specialist doctors to a tune of 4x-5x times compared to developed nations. The private sector, which holds more than half of the hospital beds of the nation, represent a huge untapped potential for unlocking PG seats. To understand the bottlenecks and the plausible solutions in this direction, NITI Aayog held consultation with key private sector hospital institutions along with the National Board of Examinations in Medical Sciences (NBEMS).

The shortage of Psychiatrists is one of the major issues in achieving the optimal mental health goals for the nation. NITI Aayog conducted a detailed gap analysis of deliverable PG seats in Psychiatry from the extant Government Mental Health Hospitals/Institutions and Medical Colleges by holding consultations with the respective State Government authorities. Presently, NITI has engaged with the NBEMS and the National Medical Commission (NMC) leadership for facilitating the necessary regulatory pathways for achieving the desired increase in Psychiatry PG seats from these institutions.

EXPANSION OF MD DOCTORS THROUGH FAMILY MEDICINE TRAINING PROGRAMME

NITI Aayog is facilitating pathways for new AIIMSs/INIs in the country to introduce Family Medicine programmes in their respective medical institutes. It is expected that a vibrant MD Family Medicine Programme or course across India's premier AIIMSs/INIs will spur the starting of such courses in medical colleges across the country. The Central Institute Body (CIB) of AIIMS has accepted the proposal, steered by NITI to initiate MD Family Medicine in new AIIMSs. Upon its roll-out, it will annually result in 34 seats in MD Family Medicine from new AIIMS institutions.

SANGAM SCHEME

The Sangam Scheme was formulated in 2020 in NITI Aayog under the guidance of Member, NITI Aayog and received approvals from the MOHFW and Ministry of Defence in 2021. Through this scheme, Government Medical Colleges utilise the infrastructure of military hospitals to increase their intake of post-graduate (PG) seats.

In the last year, two more Armed Forces Medical Services (AFMS) Hospitals from Jodhpur and Jhansi have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the local Government Medical College under the Sangam Scheme. This will augment PG seats in India. As on date, 5 AFMS hospitals have entered into the scheme.

AYUSH ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT IN ALL NEW AND UPCOMING AIIMS

The Central Institute Body (CIB) of AIIMS, in its 6th meeting, considered the proposal regarding the creation of Ayush as a separate academic department in the new

AIIMS, and granted in-principal approval, and decided that the Recruitment Rules should be made in consultation with the Department of Ayush. NITI Aayog led the work related to framing the Recruitment Rules in consultation with the MOHFW, the Ministry of Ayush, and AIIMS, New Delhi. A presentation was made by Member, NITI Aayog, on the structure of faculty and non-faculty posts for the Ayush academic department, their recruitment rules, and the stream of Ayush to be integrated into the respective new AIIMS, in the seventh meeting of CIB held with the Chairmanship of Union Health Minister in July 2023. The CIB considered and approved the proposal.

MARKETING PRACTICES BY PHARMA COMPANIES

Marketing practices by pharmaceutical companies have the potential to influence the prescription writing patterns of doctors/physicians, which may be seen as inappropriate on part of the pharma industry and may amount to unethical conduct/practice by medical professionals. The Uniform Code for Pharmaceutical Marketing Practices (UCPMP) for pharmaceutical companies has been in operation since 1 January, 2015 to prevent unethical practices by the pharmaceutical companies. The code has been adopted by all the major associations of pharmaceutical companies.

In September 2022, a committee was constituted by the Department of Pharmaceuticals under the Chairpersonship of Member, NITI Aayog to consider various issues pertaining to UCPMP and to examine the requirement for a legally enforceable mechanism for regulating marketing practices by Pharma Companies. The Committee convened seven meetings to deliberate upon the issues and submitted recommendations. Several of these recommendations were adopted in the revised Uniform Code for Pharmaceuticals Marketing Practices (UCPMP) 2024 issued by the Department of Pharmaceuticals on 12 March 2024.

ORPHAN DRUGS & THERAPIES FOR RARE DISEASES

A Rare Disease is often a debilitating lifelong disease condition with a prevalence of one or less per 1000 population (as per WHO), and the drugs used to treat such rare disorders are called Orphan Drugs. In India, a drug intended to treat a condition which affects not more than 5 lakh persons is referred to as Orphan Drug. Realizing that the unavailability of treatments and exorbitant prices of drugs for rare diseases is an area of concern and requires attention and timely action, NITI Aayog undertook an effort aimed at improving the access and affordability of drugs for rare disease patients in India.

In this regard, a committee on “Drugs and Dosage Forms for Rare Diseases: Engagement with Manufacturers” was constituted in July 2022 with Member, NITI Aayog as Chair and representation from the regulator – Department of Pharmaceuticals and clinicians – to consider identification of a set of priority disorders/indications and their corresponding treatments that can be enabled for domestic manufacturing of orphan drugs. As of March 2024, 15 meetings have been convened, and 4 drugs for the treatment of Rare Diseases have been made available at affordable costs. Further, four drugs are under process for obtaining necessary regulatory approvals and will be made available at affordable costs, likely by the first half of the next year.

MED-TECH MITRA

NITI Aayog, had been engaging with other stakeholders to find ways of bridging the gaps in MedTech innovation and creating a system for clinical/community evaluation in real life settings. Detailed rounds of discussion were held with the ICMR to craft a pathway to bridge the gaps in development and manufacture of medical technologies and support innovators for clinical evaluation, regulatory facilitation, and uptake of new products. As a result of these discussions, a common platform as ‘MedTech Mitra’ has been developed to address the challenges faced by innovators and empower the MedTech ecosystem by providing hand-holding support to innovators for clinical evaluation, regulatory facilitation, and uptake of new products. It aims to foster development of affordable and accessible, indigenous medical devices and diagnostics.



Launch of “MedTech Mitra” on Good Governance Day in virtual presence of Hon’ble Union Health Minister

This revolutionary platform, the “MedTech Mitra”, was endorsed and launched by the Hon’ble Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare and the Hon’ble Minister of State for Health & Family Welfare on 25 December, 2023, which was also observed as Good Governance Day, in honour of Late Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, former Hon’ble Prime Minister of India.

INDIAN STANDARDS FOR MEDICAL DEVICES

The medical devices sector in India forms an important pillar in healthcare delivery. India’s medical device industry is expanding quickly. The Union Cabinet approved the National Medical Devices (NMD) Policy, 2023, in April 2023. The Policy is expected to facilitate orderly growth of the medical device sector to meet the public health objectives of access, affordability, quality, and innovation. One of the components in streamlining the regulatory framework under this policy includes enhancing the role of Indian Standards. NITI Aayog steered work related to the finalization of modalities required for prioritizing the setting of Indian Standards for Medical Devices and developing strategies for the action point “Adoption and expansion of Indian Standards for Medical Devices.” Subsequently, in line with identified action areas, the Department of Pharmaceuticals has constituted a committee to prioritize lists of medical devices including diagnostics to recommend the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) for setting and publishing the standards for these devices. Additionally,

NITI Aayog has also steered the priority setting exercise for shortlisting the “National List of Essential Assistive Products” through ICMR.

ROUNDTABLE ON “ENSURING EQUITABLE ACCESS TO MEDICAL DEVICES IN INDIA”

A roundtable discussion on “Ensuring equitable access to medical devices in India” was co-hosted by the Indian Medical Parliamentarians Forum (IMPF) and NITI Aayog on 27 March, 2023. The event was graced by Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog, Member, Members of Parliament, Secretary, Department of Pharmaceuticals and representatives from Government Departments, representatives from the Med-Tech industry, clinicians, and others.

The roundtable led to insightful discussions on the limitations and challenges concerning access medical devices in India and probable ways to enhance last mile use of devices across the country. Issues in public procurement of medical devices, import dependency in the sector and local manufacturing capacity to accelerate the growth of the Med-Tech sector in India were also discussed.

REFORMS IN THE NATIONAL ORGAN TRANSPLANT PROGRAMME

Organ donation and transplantation is a government-regulated activity in India as per the provisions of the Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Act, which was first passed by the Parliament in 1994. NITI Aayog has taken the initiative to examine the National Organ Transplant Programme (NOTP), and is in the process of enabling the setting up of an improved and enhanced NOTP in collaboration with the MoHFW, Directorate General of Health Services, and National Organ & Tissue Transplant Organisation (NOTTO).

NITI Aayog has held a series of meetings since May 2022 to review the NOTP. Some of the outcomes of this review include the development of a Transplant Manual to establish standardized information on organ transplantation for various stakeholders and a Course Curriculum for Transplant Coordinators to streamline their training; creation of a provision for Special Casual Leave of up to 42 days for Central Government employees who are living organ donors; building a fully digital Aadhar-authenticated National Organ Pledge Registry; and developing model SOPs on organ transport across various modes (e.g., air, rail, road, metro, etc.), which are in the process of being finalized in partnership with eight ministries. Further, the Metro Railways Rules 2014 were amended in May 2023 to allow for organ transport via metro. Two Dry Drills were also conducted at New Delhi Airport to formulate how to develop efficient systems for organ transport by air.

ORGAN PLEDGING AWARENESS CAMPAIGN IN NITI AAYOG

NITI Aayog organized an Organ Pledging Campaign for all the staff on 12 December, 2023, in partnership with the MoH&FW, Directorate General of Health Services, NOTTO, and the NHA. The programme was chaired by Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog, the NITI fraternity was educated about the recent reforms undertaken in the space of organ transplantation and the significance of organ donation, and specifically, deceased organ donation.



Snapshots from the Organ Pledging Campaign session (L) and NOTTO help-desk (R) at NITI Aayog

NHA gave a demonstration of the Online Pledge registration process and provided step-by-step guidance for on-the-spot registration. A NOTTO help desk was available throughout the day to answer individual queries and assist in organ pledging. The aim of the campaign was to break barriers and spread awareness about the power of organ donation.

WORKSHOP ON MEI-MEJ FORUM

NITI Aayog and Medical Excellence JAPAN (MEJ) organized the First MEI-MEJ Forum Workshop on 14 March, 2023. The session's theme was "Approach to improving acute medicine in India through medical digitalization". The workshop was steered by Member, NITI Aayog and was graced by representatives from MEJ, MEA, subject matter experts, and industry and academia representatives. The session explored possible solutions for the existing challenges in acute medicine in India. Subject matter experts from India and Japan presented on the acute medicine scenario and application of medical digital technologies.

KARNATAKA BRAIN HEALTH INITIATIVE (KA-BHI)

The Karnataka Brain Health Initiative (Ka-BHI), guided by NITI Aayog, is a collaboration of the Department of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Karnataka and National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS), Bangalore. The Initiative aims to develop a primary care model of neurological health on the platform of Ayushman. As a unique and first-of-its-kind response to the need for improved care of persons with neurological diseases in India, the Karnataka Brain Health Initiative (KaBHI), was launched in January 2022.

A total of 122 primary healthcare doctors from three districts of Kolar, Chikkaballapura, and Bangalore South have been trained by the neurology specialists at NIMHANS to treat common neurological diseases using a standardized protocol. ASHA workers and Community Health Workers are trained to screen patients for early identification and cost-effective treatment on a personal level. As a next step, NITI has recommended that the KaBHI project be coordinated with ICMR to take it up as an implementation research initiative.

SENIOR CARE REFORMS IN INDIA: REIMAGINING THE SENIOR CARE PARADIGM

With the eventual demographic transition, the share of individuals aged 60 and above is increasing. It currently constitutes 10 percent of the overall population and is further expected to increase to 12 percent by 2030 and to 20 percent by 2050. Towards the fulfillment of the mission and vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047, it is imperative for India to initiate early dialogues around the senior care policy paradigm.

To this end, NITI Aayog has undertaken an exercise to map the current landscape of senior care in India, and come up with propositions to address the needs and gaps in senior care regarding health, social, financial, and digital inclusion to guide future policies, drawing insights from international experiences of countries with high proportion of elderly population.

NITI Aayog released a position paper on 16 February, 2024 – “Senior Care Reforms in India: Reimagining the Senior Care Paradigm”. The position paper is expected to serve as a guiding force for policy-makers, practitioners, and stakeholders in this discourse of creating a roadmap for senior care ecosystem in the country.

TRANSFORMING EMERGENCY AND TRAUMA CARE SYSTEM

Each year, India witnesses around 4.5 lakh road traffic accident injuries, of which 1.5 lakh die every year. The victims largely belong to young, productive age group who often are bread-earners. Besides, 25 lakh heart attacks, 15 lakh snake bites, 26,000 poisonings, 1.4 lakh suicides and 35 lakh premature deliveries happen every year, in addition to prevailing burden of 70 lakh brain strokes and 5.5 crore chronic lung diseases amongst others, that often present as emergency conditions. These are in addition to multiple other medical emergency conditions that present in emergency departments.

NITI Aayog facilitated nationwide study on emergency care services in the country. Working with the MoHFW, MoRTH, State Governments, academics, experts other stakeholders and NITI Aayog has developed a comprehensive national mission on emergency and trauma care.

The twin components of the proposed mission are:

1. Augmenting world-class ambulances services nationwide. Transform the existing pre-hospital/ambulance health systems for delivery of timely, seamless continuum of emergency and trauma care services at the right place with right skills from the first time till reaching health facility.
2. Strengthening emergency care departments at district hospitals and medical colleges. Create/upgrade Emergency care Departments in Medical Colleges and District Hospitals for providing holistic optimal emergency care, early stabilization and life-supporting manoeuvres ensuring early stabilization towards definitive treatment within the golden hour. This proposal is now being processed for implementation by MoHFW.

APPRAISAL

The Health and Family Welfare vertical at NITI Aayog reviewed and gave its comments on draft EFCs, SFCs, Cabinet memos as well as DIBs and PIBs pertaining to various schemes and projects of the Department of Health and Family Welfare, Department of Health Research, Department of Pharmaceuticals, and Ministry of Ayush. In the year 2023, the Vertical evaluated 6 Draft Cabinet Notes, and more than 20 EFCs, SFCs, PIB, and DIBs.

OUTPUT-OUTCOME MONITORING FRAMEWORK (OOMF)

The annual review meetings of the OOMF of the D/o Health Research, and Department of Pharmaceuticals were conducted under the chairpersonship of Member, with the participation of the Secretaries of the respective Departments. Similar review meeting with the Department of Health and Family Welfare is scheduled to be conducted in the financial year.

VISITS TO AYUSHMAN BHARAT – AYUSHMAN AROGYA MANDIR (ERSTWHILE AB - HEALTH & WELLNESS CENTRE) AND AYUSH HEALTH & WELLNESS CENTRE ACROSS INDIA

The Ayushman Bharat Ayushman Arogya Mandir (AB-AAM; erst. AB-HWC) were launched under the Ayushman Bharat Programme in February 2018, in a bid to move away from selective healthcare to a more comprehensive range of services spanning preventive, promotive, curative, rehabilitative, and palliative care for all ages. The AAM component of the programme aimed to upgrade and make 1,50,000 existing government primary healthcare facilities operational as AAMs by December 2022. The state/UT Governments have been instrumental in achieving the target and as of 1 January 2024, a total of 1,63,852 AAM are operational across the country. In order to understand the progress of its overall functioning, services being offered by these facilities, existing challenges, and perception of the community towards these facilities, a total of 93 AAMs across 37 districts in 12 states and 1 UT, spanning all six regions were visited by teams from NITI Aayog. Similarly NITI Aayog teams also visited a total of 34 Ayush HWCs spread across 9 states and 1 UT to capture the overall progress and functioning of Ayush HWCs.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH MANAGEMENT CADRE IN STATES/UTs

NITI Aayog contributed to the development of guidelines for a Public Health Management Cadre in States and UTs, which was released by the Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare in April 2022. It is envisaged that the cadre would strengthen the management of both, health, and hospital services in public health sector by demarcating the clinical and public health functions. It will also lead to augmentation and better utilization of the specialists available in the states. Four types of structures and frameworks have been suggested, and the states have flexibility to adopt and modify the structures according to their local situation and framework.

To this end NITI Aayog, under the chairpersonship of Member, NITI Aayog reviewed the progress made by States and UTs in implementing the Public Health Management Cadre in their respective state health departments. NITI Aayog, with the MoHFW, facilitated the handholding through NHSRC for specific States/UTs to fast-track the implementation process.

INDUSTRY

BOOSTING INDIA'S PARTICIPATION IN GLOBAL VALUE CHAINS

The Industry vertical steered a flagship initiative of NITI Aayog, during 2023-24, that targeted manufacturing growth to boost India's participation in Global Value Chains (GVCs). GVC is international production sharing – wherein, the full range of activities to bring a product from conception to end-use and beyond (i.e., design, production, marketing, distribution, support to final consumer, etc.) is divided among multiple firms and workers across geographic spaces.

GVCs have brought revolutionary changes in international trade and manufacturing in recent decades. It is estimated that roughly 70 percent of global trade lies in GVCs. However, India's current level of participation in GVC-linked international trade is low and has massive potential for enhancement.



A representative Global Value Chain: Value addition happens across countries for delivery of final product.

Recognizing the significance and critical timing for India to enhance its GVC participation, the Industry vertical of NITI Aayog conceptualized an initiative to examine GVCs in key sectors, and to develop action-oriented strategies to maximize India's participation. Key objectives of this project include:

- Identification of barriers and enablers for India's GVC participation, with respect to existing product and component ecosystem, policy and regulatory factors, tariffs and tax structures, logistics and infrastructure, labour issues, skill development, innovation and R&D capacities, etc.
- Recommendation of interventions with strategies and action steps. The GVC project has been taking shape through in-depth analysis and deliberations internally and with reputed external entities. Several milestones were accomplished over the course of 2023-24:

- **Base analysis:** Addressing why India must maximize its GVC participation, sector-wise market sizes and opportunities, key product segments, global comparison of production and exports, global supply chain, domestic sectoral status and growth, domestic challenges, etc.
- **In-depth sector analysis with knowledge partner:** A knowledge partner was on-boarded for the project to examine the industry fact base and outlook in detail, global learning; develop in-depth India-specific diagnostics, and recommend specific interventions.
- **Extensive consultations with Industry and Industry experts:** Consultations were convened with a wide range of leading domestic and global firms in both Electronics and Automotives sectors, including OEMs, ODMs, and component manufacturers. In-depth consultations were also held with distinguished experts on specific GVC issues. The emerging insights and challenges were used to inform project analysis and develop recommended solutions.

PRODUCTION-LINKED INCENTIVE SCHEME (PLI)

In order to provide a major impetus to manufacturing and exports from India, NITI Aayog, in detailed consultation with Ministries and Departments had anchored the introduction of a PLI Scheme in certain key sectors for a period of five/six years. The Scheme was approved by the Union Cabinet in its meeting held on 11 November, 2020.

The PLI scheme was launched to provide an impetus to manufacturing in and create global champions in the sectors of strength. PLI Scheme across key specific sectors is poised to make Indian manufacturers globally competitive, enhance exports and make India an integral part of the global value chain.

NITI Aayog has been instrumental in preparing the contours of the individual PLI schemes along with the concerned Ministries/Departments. All the schemes are presently under implementation. CEO, NITI Aayog is a part of the Empowered Group of Secretaries (EGoS) for monitoring the PLI schemes of all the 14 sectors. Additionally, CEO, NITI Aayog also chairs the meetings of Empowered Committee for PLI Scheme on Large Scale Electronics Manufacturing of MeITY, Critical KSMs/DIs/APIs and Manufacturing of Medical Devices of Department of Pharmaceuticals.

MINERALS

NITI Aayog is working on the recommendations of a sub-committee on establishing technologies for Rare Earth extraction from red mud in the country. An MoU between National Metallurgical Laboratory (NML), Institute of Minerals & Materials Technology (IMMT), Jawaharlal Nehru Aluminium Research Development and Design Centre (JNARDDC), National Aluminium Company (NALCO), Hindalco Industries and Vedanta was signed in respect of “Technology Development for Holistic Utilization of Red Mud for Extraction of Metallic Values & Residue Utilization”. The project started on 1 October, 2021 with a time frame of 3 years and the scope of the project is to outline the Master flow sheet with complete mass and energy balance to recovery values from selected grades of bauxite residue and its techno-economic feasibility which includes alumina, iron, titanium and Rare Earth Elements (REEs).

Additionally, NITI Aayog is undertaking the work of establishing the prospects of Rare Earth conversion to magnets in the country based on the recommendations of the sub-committee on establishing the prospects of Rare Earth conversion to magnets. A road map for “Incentivisation framework for Establishment of downstream Industry using Rare Earths Elements” is also under consideration.

MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (MSME)

As a backbone of Indian economy, MSMEs contribute significantly to employment generation, exports, and overall economic growth. Sector accounts for more than 11 crore jobs and contributes around 27 percent of India's GDP. Further MSMEs account for 38.4 percent of the total manufacturing output and contribute to 45.03 percent of the country's total exports.

The vertical deals with matters concerning policies and programmes of the MSME sector in India. One of the main objectives of the vertical is to provide due support to the Ministry of MSME in developing and taking forward the policies and programmes for the development of the sector.

The MSME vertical of NITI Aayog is constantly involved in resolving key issues and providing actionable suggestions to line Ministries and Departments through research papers. The vertical has commissioned studies like Boosting Exports from MSMEs to identify challenges faced by MSME exporters, improve their ease of doing business and recommend strategies to overcome these hurdles. The vertical in order to identify overlaps in MSME schemes has commissioned a study on their convergence to create better impact and optimize fund utilization. Recognizing the importance and need of scaling medium enterprise to large enterprises, a study on Designing Policy for Medium Enterprises has also been commissioned.

PM VISHWAKARMA SCHEME

One of the flagship initiatives of the Government of India for MSME sector was launch of PM Vishwakarma Scheme for the benefit of artisans and craftspeople. This Scheme with an outlay of Rs. 13000 crore provides credit support, PM Vishwakarma Certificate and ID Card, Training, toolkit incentive, incentive for digital transaction and marketing support for 18 trades namely- Carpenter (Suthar/Badhai), Boat Maker, Armourer, Blacksmith (Lohar), Hammer and Tool Kit Maker, Locksmith, Goldsmith (Sonar), Potter (Kumhaar), Sculptor (Moortikar, stone carver), Stone breaker, Cobbler (Charmakar)/ Shoesmith/ Footwear artisan, Mason (Rajmistri), Basket/Mat/Broom Maker/Coir Weaver, Doll & Toy Maker (Traditional), Barber (Naai), Garland maker (Malakaar), Washerman (Dhobi), Tailor (Darzi) and Fishing Net Maker.

A Steering Committee headed by CEO, NITI Aayog ensured timebound completion of all procedural requirements and works for the launch of the Scheme. This scheme is being implemented across India. As on 5 May, 2024, more than 2 crore artisans and craftspeople have enrolled under PM Vishwakarma.



Hon'ble Prime Minister interacting with craftsman at launch of Vishwakarma Scheme on 17 September, 2023

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (INCLUDING FRONTIER TECHNOLOGY) AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The IT and Telecommunication Vertical at NITI Aayog is the nodal vertical responsible for matters pertaining to Information Technology, Telecommunication and Posts. It strives to promote and assist in realisation of a Digital India, empowered and inclusive knowledge society and bridge the digital divide. It is also involved in policy interventions for various initiatives of Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and Ministry of Communications through Department of Telecommunication and Department of Posts.

The broad functions of the vertical are:

- Examining policy references/Cabinet/CCEA Notes from three Government departments viz. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Department of Telecommunication and Department of Posts.
- Examining schemes, SFC/EFC/PIB/PSCs/TTDF notes and participating in the Committee meetings of these departments.
- Examining performance of schemes of these Ministries/Departments in coordination with DMO.
- Representation on Inter Ministerial Committees on Draft Strategy for National Strategy for Robotics, India AI Mission and Spectrum Allocations

ADVISORY GROUP ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Government of India has constituted an Advisory Group on Artificial Intelligence (AI) for India Specific Regulatory AI framework under the Chairmanship of the Principal Scientific Advisor with the objective to provide advice on AI regulation and support necessary regulatory insights for AI-based technologies to enable sustainable development. NITI Aayog, as a member, participated in various meeting of the Advisory Group held during the year 2023-24.

APPRAISALS

The Vertical reviewed and gave its comments on draft EFCs, SFCs, Cabinet notes, 23rd Digital Communication Commission (DCC), Sub-DCC & Manufacturer's Forum (MF) as well as Delegated Investment Board (DIB), Project Steering Committees (PSC) and Project proposals pertaining to various schemes and projects of the Ministries/Departments of Telecommunications, Electronics & Information Technology, and Posts. During the year, the Vertical examined five draft cabinet notes and about 25 EFC/PSCs and Project proposals. The Vertical has prepared background materials for high-level meetings and has also participated in the meetings of Sub-DCC & MF and Inter-Ministerial Consultations.

OUTPUT-OUTCOME MONITORING FRAMEWORK (OOMF) REVIEW MEETINGS

The vertical is entrusted with the task of reviewing the OOMF of, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology; Department of Telecommunications; and Department of Posts in cooperation with the DMO, NITI Aayog. The Vertical coordinated the review meeting of Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology held on 23 February, 2024 in NITI Aayog wherein the schemes of the ministry were discussed and suggestions were provided.

INFRASTRUCTURE-CONNECTIVITY (TRANSPORT)

The Infrastructure Connectivity team strives towards facilitating development of an integrated, connected, technologically advanced, efficient and sustainable infrastructure and transport system in support of India's economic vision.

To facilitate its objectives, the team is mandated to undertake policy research, initiate policy recommendations and interventions in the form of discussion and policy papers and undertake appraisals of projects, programmes, schemes, policies and Cabinet Notes in the transport and logistics sector. Towards its objectives, the team also undertakes monitoring and coordination activities, sectoral reviews, international engagements, advocacy and awareness generation activities including state engagement, market interaction and leveraging network of government, private sector, academia and civil society. The focus sectors include Logistics, Roads and Highways, Railways, Civil Aviation, Ports & Shipping, Inland Waterways, Urban Transport, Ropeways and Electric Mobility. The vertical houses the EV Mission for India.

PROJECT APPRAISALS, TECHNICAL INPUTS AND LEARNING

Railways

The Vertical is responsible for monitoring the progress of the economically significant Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC) Project. The Western Corridor (JNPT to Dadri) with 1506 km. and Eastern Corridor with 1875 Km. (Dankuni to Ludhiana) are under implementation. For effective implementation of the project NITI Aayog is represented in the DFCCIL Board. The physical progress of the project is 96 percent.

The vertical is also responsible for policy inputs and expansion for the Railway Sector in India. It has examined investment proposal of railway projects to important cities/tourist places to enhance connectivity and promote ease of doing business like construction of new line, doubling gauge conversion, modernization of signaling and station modernization with 39,615 route km. worth of ₹12,62,610 crore till March 2024.

Railway Unit examined Cabinet Proposals of Ministry of Railways worth of Rs. 10.47 lakh crores of programmes covering (a) Connectivity for Energy, Mineral and Cement Corridors; (b) Increasing capacity of high-density routes and (c) Revised Cost Estimate (RCE) and financing and implementation plan of Eastern and Western Dedicated Freight Corridor Project (d) Policy framework for Amrit Bharat Station Scheme for redevelopment of stations on Indian railways (e) Augmenting Rail Connectivity to Ports (Rail Sagar). Unit also examined World Bank's Technical Assistance to Ministry of Railways for Development of Clean Cargo Terminals over Indian Railway Networks.

Ports and Shipping

The vertical examined 16 SFC and DIB proposals and detailed suggestions and comments were provided. The proposals included providing financial assistance through Sagarmala funds for capacity augmentation of jetties and berths, construction of beach-front facilities and peripheral roads at different islands in Lakshadweep Island.

The vertical also supervised a research study undertaken by a think tank on "Impact of Non-Major Ports on Shipping." The draft report was submitted in March 2024.

Civil Aviation

PIB Investment Board (PIB)

The vertical also examined PIB proposals on development of a Civil Enclave at Agra, Bagdogra and Bihta and Darbhanga Airports and construction of new terminal building at Leh Airport and also a proposal supply, installation, testing and commissioning of Body Scanners at various Airports with three Years onsite warranty and five years Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract (CAMC) with Spares.

The team also appraised five cabinet notes pertaining to civil aviation during the year, and comments were communicated to the Ministry.

Highways, Roads, Logistics and Urban Transport

The team has appraised over 1343 Road/logistics sector projects since October 2020 amounting to a value of about ₹24 lakh crores out of which 269 projects valuing over ₹1.8 lakh crores were appraised in the year 2023-24. About 90 appraisal meetings were attended; numerous learnings from appraisals, recommendations and strategies were shared with Ministry of Road Transport and Highways and its agencies elaborating on key issues pertaining to the sector. The projects were across India under the categories of EFCs, SFCs, PPRs, PATSCs, NESIDS, Research Advisory Committee of Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

IMPORTANT INITIATIVES AND ENGAGEMENTS

Workshop on Potential of Civil Aviation Sector in Indian Economy

It is estimated that by 2047 annual air passenger demand may rise to about 2-3 billion, increasing by 8 times from the present value of 300 million. This will necessitate massive investments in India's airport and airline infrastructure, equipment, MRO services and leasing and financing, logistics and other aviation allied services in line with its growth aspirations.

In this backdrop, a workshop was organised by NITI Aayog on 8 March, 2024 at Vigyan Bhawan to discuss and highlight the challenges faced by key stakeholders and actors in the aviation sector in scheduled passenger services segment. The workshop was held under the joint leadership of Minister of State, Ministry of Civil Aviation and Member, NITI Aayog. The workshop saw representation from Ministry of Civil Aviation, other concerned Ministries, and private sector senior officials from Airlines, Airports Operators, MROs, Aircraft Leasing, Financing, Banking, and Insurance Services etc.



Workshop on Potential of Civil Aviation Sector in Indian Economy on 8 March, 2024

Faster Adoption of Land Value Capture and Sharing (LVC&S) Mechanisms

A report titled "Evaluating Readiness of States & UTs for Faster Adoption of LVC Mechanisms" has been curated in partnership with Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI). The report is aimed at facilitating improvements in LVC&S ecosystem across India. The report captures practices and experiences in implementation of LVC&S instruments in each State and UT of India. This is in continuation to earlier workshops and documentation of global good practices and is planned to be followed up with state specific frameworks and capacity building strategies.

Building Information Modelling (BIM)

A detailed framework for faster adoption of BIM has been prepared in the form of BIM Action Plan through ARUP under the collaboration with Foreign Commonwealth Development Office of British High Commission (FCDO-BHC). Challenges and solutions related to implementation of BIM have been identified along with enablers in the Indian context. Relevant stakeholders in the public/private and academic circles have been identified and

engaged with under a suitable governance structure. At request of the team, FCDO-BHC organised a major Hybrid Event on BIM with NITI Aayog providing the keynote presentation in January 2024. The successful event witnessed representation from about 10 ministries, and over 400 participants from private sector and academia.



National Workshop on Capacities for Building Information Modelling in January 2024

De-risking Infrastructure (Resilient Infrastructure)

The research undertaken by NITI Aayog with Swiss Re Institute focusing on the sectors of Roads, Ports and Airports has been updated with latest context. The resilient aspects also focus on Natural Catastrophe Resilience among other things, it includes guidelines for developing risk registers and undertaking infrastructure insurance.

Logistic Cost Framework

Considering the limited evidence on the robustness of methodologies used to arrive at India's logistic cost a more relevant and scientific basis for India was desirable. NITI supported and guided formulation of the report: Logistics Cost in India – Assessment and Long-term framework created by NCAER and DPIIT.

PM Gati Shakti & Network Planning Group (NPG)

NITI Aayog has played a key role in conceptualising, implementing and advocating use of PM Gati Shakti. As a key member of Network Planning Group (NPG), NITI Aayog has participated in about 67 NPG meetings, evaluating over 148 mega projects amounting to a total cost of over ₹17.45 lakh cores across various Ministries. Of with 22 meetings evaluating 77 mega projects amounting to a total cost of over ₹12.45 Lakh crores were held in 2023-24.

NITI Aayog has been actively advocating using PM Gati Shakti at different levels of governance - National, State, District and Local Bodies for implementation of their infrastructure projects. NITI Aayog participated in over 10 regional, national, and international conferences and workshops to generate awareness, and share the bigger picture and intricacies of the Gati Shakti Framework.

The Infrastructure-Connectivity vertical has also guided 5 studies in partnership with the three Schools of Planning and Architecture in India for the ports of Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh) and Paradip (Odisha), The aspirational districts of Kadapa (Andhra Pradesh) and Udhampur (Uttarakhand) to demonstrate use of GIS, Gati Shakti, Bhuvan, NIC-Bharatmaps and various other data platforms of Government of India in facilitating regional and spatial planning approaches. The outputs and learnings from such studies are being shared with various Ministries, States, and Local Governments as well as platform developers like BISAG-N, NRSC and NIC.

The Vertical has also conceptualised and guided the onboarding of ADP and ABP onto PM Gati Shakti and creation of a dedicated portal for Area Based Development Approach for planning and decision making at the District and Block Level.

Continuous progress of e-FAST India (Electric Freight Accelerator for Sustainable Transport – India)

NITI Aayog, in collaboration with World Resources Institute India (WRI India), and supported by the WEF, CALSTART and RMI India, launched India's first national electric freight platform—e-FAST India (Electric Freight Accelerator for Sustainable Transport – India). The e-FAST platform brings together various stakeholders from across the freight ecosystem, to strengthen partnerships, on the supply and demand side, along with identifying and supporting innovative freight electrification solutions. The first-of-its-kind platform aims to raise awareness on freight electrification bolstered by on-ground demonstration pilots, and evidence-based research. e-FAST India will also inform policies aimed at accelerating freight electrification in India.

Role of Small Modular Nuclear Reactors in Energy Transition

India started its nuclear journey from 1962 and till now has been able to build a total installed capacity of 7.48 GW. It is projected that this capacity will reach up to 22 GW by 2032. Under one of the net-zero scenarios, India may need to install about 265 GW of nuclear capacity by 2070. Globally, it is being recognized that SMR can play major role in energy transition as it may offer less time of construction upon achieving modularisation, less land requirement, less nuclear exclusivity zone and passive safety as compared to the large nuclear reactors.

NITI Aayog in consultation with Department of Atomic Energy has taken initiatives to work on policy framework for SMRs development and deployment in India. In this regards, an International Workshop was scheduled under Energy Transition Working Group on “SMR” and also launched a Study Report “The Role of Small Modular Reactors in the Energy Transition”.

ISLAND DEVELOPMENT

Island development has been taken as a focus area because of its immense potential for contributing to nation's development. India has two strategic groups of islands i.e., Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep. To bolster the island economy, various developmental initiatives have been identified for specific islands so that it boosts the progress of islands. The progress of islands has become vital because of many factors which includes strategic nature of islands, the people and their aspirations, the environment and the original inhabitants, particularly the vulnerable tribes.

In order to achieve the above vision, many projects have been identified and developmental plans are put in place. Accordingly, the respective line agencies have taken the plans forward in way of further detailing the plans and preparing the attractive projects for tourism promotion, job creation, export promotion of local produce, etc. The proposals for creation of infrastructure such as airport, port, and city projects are under progress.

MISSION LiFE - LIFESTYLE FOR ENVIRONMENT

India is pivotal in bringing together such concepts through Mission LiFE - Lifestyle for Environment. The Hon'ble Prime Minister, at Glasgow, COP 26 in 2021, stressed the importance of individual behaviour change for catalysing climate action. The Lifestyle for the Environment (LiFE) Movement focuses on bringing individual steps to the forefront of the climate narrative and moving from the present scenario of 'mindless and destructive consumption' to a future with 'mindful and deliberate utilisation'.

NITI Aayog has been involved in designing and rolling out the Mission LiFE programme, which the Hon'ble Prime Minister and UN Secretary-General jointly launched on 20 October, 2022.

For India, 75 actions across 7 categories, have been identified, most of which are (i) Specific and measurable; (ii) Easy to practice by individuals, communities and institutions, with minimal supply-side dependencies; and (iii) Non-disruptive to ongoing economic activity and promoting economic activity in the foreseeable future. It has also set a goal of having 1 billion Indians adopt environmentally friendly actions over the next 5 years.

The G20 endorsed the High-Level Principles on Lifestyles for Sustainable Development and committed to pursuing low-GHG/low-carbon emissions climate-resilient and environmentally sustainable development pathways by championing an integrated and inclusive approach.

The LiFE Global Call for Ideas and Papers (GCIP) was announced by the Hon'ble Prime on 5 June, 2022, in the presence of eminent persons such as Mr Bill Gates, Co-Chairman of Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation; Lord Nicholas Stern, Climate Economist; Prof. Cass Sunstein, Co-author of Nudge Theory; Ms Inger Andersen, UNEP Global Head; Mr David Malpass, World Bank President, and others. The LiFE GCIP is a big initiative to nudge global citizens towards adopting more environment-friendly lifestyles.

The GCIP was launched with three mantras:

- i. Focus on Individual Behaviours: by making LiFE a mass movement (Jan Andolan) by focusing on behaviours and attitudes of individuals, households and communities
- ii. Co-create Globally: by crowdsource empirical and scalable ideas from the best minds of the world, through top universities, individuals, academics and international organizations
- iii. Leverage Local Cultures: by leveraging climate-friendly social norms, beliefs and daily household practices of different cultures worldwide to drive the campaign

So far, 2,538 participants submitted ideas for LiFE. Participants from 67 countries submitted their ideas for Phase I of the LiFE GCIP. This includes 2264 submissions from Asia, 115 submissions from North America, 88 submissions from Europe, 56 submissions from Africa and the remaining from South America and the Australian continent.

PUBLICATIONS UNDER MISSION LiFE

Under the Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) the vertical published 3 reports. The publications have been crafted under the 'core philosophy' of small actions by individuals

can eventually add up and make a bid dent in the climate crisis.

i. Thought leadership for LiFE

The publication is a compilation of ideas and suggestions from academics, institutions and universities contributing towards scientific and measurable solutions towards LiFE movement.

ii. Mindful Living – Compendium of LiFE practices around the world.

This report developed as part of LiFE movement to showcase case studies which embodies the ethos of behavioural change facilitating sustainable consumption and addressing climate change. Seven thematic areas are covered in the report namely i.) Water saving; ii.) Waste management; iii.) Sustainable food systems; iv.) Energy conservation; v.) Plastic waste management; vi.) Sustainable lifestyles; and (vii) E-waste management.

iii. Thinking for Our Planet.

The report is a compilation of 75 best ideas selected and compiled out of 2,500 ideas received from 67 nations on the call of the Hon'ble Prime Minister to make LiFE mission a global mass movement.

The documents have been hosted in the public domain for widespread dissemination among public for adoption.



NORTH EAST STATES

The North Eastern States Division provides inputs for holistic development of the North Eastern Region. It engages with the state governments of North Eastern states, central ministries, international agencies and other stakeholders on development related issues.

The Division also appraises project proposals pertaining to Ministry of Development of North-Eastern Region.

PRELIMINARY PROJECT PROPOSAL (PPRIDS)

28 PPRIDS seeking external funds from multilateral agencies were dealt by North East Division. Consolidated comments/observation on the proposals were prepared and uploaded.

HON'BLE PRIME MINISTER'S DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE FOR NORTH-EAST REGION (PM-DEVINE)

A Central Sector scheme named PM-DevINE, fully funded by the Government of India, was announced in the Union Budget 2022-23. The scheme envisages funding infrastructure, in the spirit of PM Gati Shakti, supporting social development projects based on felt needs of the North-East, generating livelihood opportunities for youth and women and filling the gaps in various sectors. NITI Aayog is a member of the Empowered Inter-Ministerial Committee (EIMC). NITI Aayog has appraised various proposals related to health, education, skill development, urban development, entrepreneurship, agriculture and allied activities from north-eastern states, North Eastern Council and other institutions under this scheme.

NORTH-EASTERN SPECIAL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

A Central Sector scheme named North-eastern Special Infrastructure Development Scheme, fully funded by the Government of India, was announced in the Union Budget 2017-18. The scheme was implemented to fill gaps of infrastructure in certain identified sectors e.g. Connectivity, Power, Water Supply, Health and Education of the Region. NITI Aayog is a member of the EIMC. NITI Aayog has appraised various proposals related sports, road, solid waste management, digital leaning and telecom infrastructure from north-eastern states.

PUBLIC FINANCE AND POLICY ANALYSIS

One of the core functions undertaken by the Public Finance and Policy Analysis (PFPA) of NITI Aayog is the appraisal of public-sector programmes, schemes and projects. This division has been accordingly assigned to discharge the following functions:

- i. Undertake techno-economic appraisal of major projects and programmes in the public sectors applying the acknowledged principles of Policy Analysis and Public Finance.
- ii. To analyse and give recommendations on all PPR proposals which are likely to culminate into an EFC/PIB proposal at a later stage.
- iii. To represent NITI Aayog as a member of various committees such as EFC/PIB/ CEE and EBR. To analyse issues related to financial restructuring, Internal and Extra Budgetary Resources and Capex plans of Central PSUs, including proposals for creation of JVs and Subsidiaries of PSUs based on references received.
- iv. Undertake research studies to improve the methodology for techno-economic appraisal of programmes and projects to keep them in conformity with the best practices in Policy Analysis and Public Finance with a view to improve the quality of public expenditure though better scheme/project formulation, emphasis on

- outputs, deliverables, impact assessment and convergence approach.
- v. Recommend guidelines and formats for the submission of expenditure proposals for various public funded schemes and projects
 - vi. Recommend best practices for public procurement, contract structuring and project management.
 - vii. Assist Central Ministries/States to establish proper procedures for development of scheme and project proposals.
 - viii. Capacity building initiatives in the area of Policy Analysis and Public Finance.

APPRAISAL OF PUBLIC PROGRAMMES, SCHEMES AND PROJECTS

This division conducts comprehensive appraisal of projects/schemes costing more than ₹500 crore related to the Public Investment Board and the Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC). Proposals of the Ministry of Railways costing ₹500 crore and above, to be considered by the Expanded Board of Railways (EBR), are also appraised. Revised Cost Estimate (RCE) proposals are also appraised by the division to analyse the factors contributing to cost and time overruns and their impact on viability.

In delivering this critical function PFPA through its techno-economic appraisals has brought about a paradigm shift in appraisal mechanisms and procedures for structuring and preparation of public projects and schemes. The Vertical, through its appraisal memoranda, has been instrumental in suggesting and bringing about systemic improvements aimed at efficacy of public sector schemes and spending in terms of delivery and outcomes.

During 2023-24 (up to 31 March, 2024), PFPA appraised 202 EFC/PIB proposals, comprising schemes/projects and involving an outlay of ₹2976863.86 crore. The sectoral distribution of schemes/projects appraised from 1 January, 2023 to 31 March, 2024 is given in the table at **Annexure-1**.

SUTRAM

NITI Aayog receives documents related to EFCs, SFCs etc. of various ministries for appraisal. Such scheme/project documents and related data were earlier being housed in an online database developed by NIC and hosted on an internal server of NITI Aayog. SUTRAM, a searchable data repository, was conceptualised and has been developed by the Vertical comprising scheme documents and scheme metadata. The data and documents available in the old database have been migrated to SUTRAM and provision has been made for up-dation of existing data and uploading of fresh data and documents with a search facility including text search on the PDF/word documents uploaded in the database.

A library has been created within the database to upload policy and other important documents, which are not part of any proposed scheme or project. This facilitates in having a comprehensive view of the proposal received from the Ministries while appraising.

PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

The vertical is actively working towards deepening the reach of public-private partnerships

as the preferred mode for the implementation of infrastructure projects. Its work aims at enabling creation of time-bound world class infrastructure, and attracting private sector and institutional capital in infrastructure.

PPP IN EDUCATION

NITI Aayog is working closely with the Department of Higher Education for formulating the Model Bid Documents (Request for Proposal and Model Concession Agreement) to develop student housing facilities in PPP mode. The envisaged PPP model aims at leveraging private sector investment and efficiencies in development of student housing facilities on DBFOT (Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer) basis with the option of Viability Gap Funding (VGF) support from the Government under the 'Scheme for Financial Support to Public Private Partnerships in Infrastructure'. VGF Proposals for development of 3 projects on the basis of the said model are near finalisation.

PPP IN ROADS

NITI Aayog closely worked with Ministry of Road, Transport and Highways for revision and updating of the 'Model Concession Agreement (MCA) for Capacity Augmentation on BOT (Toll)' to strengthen the concession framework for effective implementation of highways moving from four-laning to six-laning through PPP on BOT(Toll) mode. The revised MCA has been finalised (with revisions issued), following extensive deliberations, with the objective of enhancing biddability, viability and bankability of the said projects.

PPP IN TEXTILES

Government of India approved setting up of 7 PM Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel Parks (PM MITRA Parks) in greenfield/ brownfield sites with world class infrastructure including plug and play facility with an outlay of ₹4,445 cr. The Scheme envisages to develop integrated large scale and modern industrial infrastructure facility for total value-chain of the textile industry (i.e. Farm to Fibre to Factory to Fashion to Foreign). NITI Aayog worked intricately with the Ministry of Textile on formulation of Bid Documents (Concession Agreement and Request for Proposal) for development and operation of these PM MITRA Parks on PPP mode, including holding discussions with the concerned State Governments.

PPP IN COLD STORAGE

Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) under the Department of Food and Public Distribution Options is working on monetisation and modernization of 180 assets to establish a Cold Storage Network - set up Cold Storages in CWC warehouses, create network of cold storages for price stabilisation and reduce wastage/storage losses in perishable commodities and leverage best/efficient cold storage technology. NITI Aayog is working with CWC and DoFPD in analysing and formulating suitable model(s) (financial and concession framework) for development and operation of Cold Storages on PPP basis.

PPP IN MAJOR PORTS

Under the 'Scheme for Financial Support to Public Private Partnerships in Infrastructure', proactively worked with the V.O. Chidambaranar Port Authority to formulate the proposal

for 'Development of Outer Harbour Container Terminals' at V.O. Chidambaranar Port to cater to the infrastructural requirements for the growing Container Traffic. Proposed with an estimated project cost of ₹7056 crores, of which 20 percent was sought for as Viability Gap Funding from the Government of India under the said Scheme, the project includes development of four container berths of 1000m quay length each and their mechanization to handle container cargo. This project will result in longer quay length and higher draught terminals and larger back up area, enabling VOCPT to emerge as an alternative to the neighboring Transshipment Ports, thereby taking forward the Maritime India Vision-2030 (MIV-2030).

MODEL REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR SINGLE-STAGE BIDDING

NITI Aayog is working with the Department of Economic Affairs on developing a Model Request for Proposals (RfP) for single-stage bidding. Formulated as a sector agnostic model document, the said Model RfP has built-in flexibilities and guidelines enabling its use and deployment in projects across infrastructure sectors.

INDIA INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT DEVELOPMENT FUND (IIPDF) SCHEME

Project Authorities of PPP Projects need expert financial, legal, and technical advice for formulating project documents necessary for award and implementation of projects in an efficient, transparent and fair manner and closing out the transactions. The IIPDF Scheme, with total outlay of ₹150 Crore for a period of 3 years from 2022-23 to 2024-25, is available to the States and Central Authorities for PPP projects for the purpose of meeting the project development costs – including expenses in respect of feasibility studies, environment impact studies, financial structuring, legal reviews and development of project / bid documentation.

The funding under IIPDF Scheme can essentially be availed to finance the cost of consultants and transaction advisors. PPP Vertical has instrumentally worked with the Department of Economic Affairs, in appraisal and approval of proposals of various states across the country for funding under the Scheme. In the year 2023, funding sought under 18 such proposals have been approved.

STATUS OF NATIONAL MONETIZATION PIPELINE

Core Asset Monetisation was identified as one of the country's three pillars for enhanced and sustainable infrastructure financing in the Union Budget 2021-22. The Budget tasked NITI Aayog with creating the "National Monetisation Pipeline" (NMP) for brownfield core infrastructure assets. The NMP, laying down the framework for monetisation policy and listing the pipeline of potential core assets of Central Ministries/CPSEs with an indicative value of ₹6.0 lakh crore over a 4-year period (FY22-25), was released in August 2021. It serves as a medium-term roadmap for identifying potential monetisation-ready projects across various infrastructure sectors, including roads, railways, aviation, power, oil and gas, and warehousing.

Since its launch NITI Aayog has worked closely with the Ministries on investment and transaction structuring, reviewing progress and deliberating on Inter-Ministerial and

structural issues. During the period 2021-22 to 2022-23, transactions with an aggregate monetization value of around ₹2.3 lakh crore in terms of accruals or private investment were completed.

APPRAISAL OF CENTRAL GOVERNMENT PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

During the period from 1 January, 2023 to 31 March, 2024, 185 PPP projects with total estimated cost of ₹1.98 lakh crore (including 6 VGF projects with a total estimated cost of ₹19,000 crore) were appraised by PPP Vertical. Sector-wise distribution of these appraised PPP projects is given in the table hereunder:

Table: PPP Project Appraised during 1 January, 2023 and 31 March, 2024

S. No.	Project Appraised	Number of Projects	Total Cost ₹in Crores)
1.	Road	159	1,66,609
2.	Sea Port	15	19,081
3.	Hospital	4	1,983
4.	Silo	2	4,165
5.	Multi Modal Terminal	1	1,111
6.	Ropeway	1	102
7.	Telecom	1	3,000
8.	Solid Waste	2	2,028
	Total	185	1,98,079

RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND PANCHAYATI RAJ INSTITUTIONS

The Rural Development vertical of NITI Aayog provides overall policy guidance to the Department of Rural Development, Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD). It also monitors the progress of the various schemes and programmes implemented by the Ministry.

Key schemes of the Ministry looked over by the Rural Development Vertical are CSS schemes like Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP), Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G), Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Rurban Mission (SPMRM), Deendayal Upadhyay - National Rural Livelihood Mission (DAY-NRLM), Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) and Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY). The vertical provides inputs for the finalisation of reports pertaining to the above-mentioned schemes.

Physical and financial status with respect to the schemes of the rural development sector—MGNREGS, PMAY-G, DAY-NRLM, NSAP, SAGY, SPMRM and PMGSY—were prepared and provided for PM's/VC's visit to the States.

The Vertical coordinated with MoRD in providing reply/clarifications regarding various issues raised by the States for meetings between VC/Members of NITI Aayog and Chief

Ministers of the States as part of “Reinvigorating Cooperative Federalism: Action Plan for Engagement with states/UTs”. The Annual Performance Review Committee meeting of the Ministry was also attended by the vertical.

The vertical participated in various meetings of MoRD on National Rural Economic Transformation Project (NRETP), Mahila Kisan Sashaktikaran Pariyojana (MKSP). Start-up Village Entrepreneurship Programme (SVEP) and PMGSY-Phase III. The Vertical also organized a talk on “Taking Internet of Things (IoT) to the Extreme” by Dr. R.R.Ventatesha Prasad, Associate Professor & Distinguished Scientist at UT Delft, Netherlands under the Chairmanship of Member Prof. Ramesh Chand.

The Rural Development vertical coordinated a meeting of the officials of MoRD with DMEO to review the update of the Output-outcome monitoring framework created by DMEO. The process of finalization of indicators for the next year is underway.

Additionally, in the financial year 2023-24, the Vertical appraised two Cabinet notes and one SFC, and four PPRs received from State Governments and MoRD.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

NITI WORKING PAPER - “A NEW LENS FOR INNOVATION IN NEW INDIA – INTRODUCING THE TECHNO-COMMERCIAL READINESS AND MARKET MATURITY MATRIX”

The Vertical published a NITI Working Paper in July 2023, under the guidance of Dr. V. K. Saraswat, Member, NITI Aayog. The paper was aimed at formulating a framework to measure the commercial readiness of technologies. It draws attention to the evolution of the Technology Readiness Level (TRL), Commercialization Readiness Level (CRL), and Market Readiness Level (MRL) scale and their advantages and limitations. It proposes a joint assessment framework, the Techno-Commercial Readiness and Market Maturity Matrix (TCRM Matrix) framework which can offer additional insights and actionable intelligence. The paper highlights the different models of innovation that influenced the development of the joint assessment framework and further underlines how it can be utilized and made more acceptable for major funding bodies, countries, and firms for adoption.

COLLABORATIVE STUDY ON THE “DEVELOPMENT OF INDIA AS A HUB FOR WORLD CLASS TALENT” BY THE NITI AAYOG AND NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL SECRETARIAT (NSCS)

Based on suggestions of the NSCS-NITI Aayog Apex Coordination Mechanism, “Development of India as a Hub for World-class Talent” was identified as a theme for achieving the Vision of India at 100. Consequently, a collaborative study on building world-class talent specifically for critical and emerging technologies and digital skilling for Industrial Revolution 4.0 was conducted jointly by NSCS and NITI Aayog. The completed joint study report identifies steps in a direction where the Indian government, industry, and citizens can expect tangible returns from public and private investments into the ecosystem to build the industries of the future and a strong and prosperous India. It outlines actionable strategies to enhance India’s

position as a leading global talent hub, fostering an ecosystem conducive to innovation and growth.

MISSION FOR DEVELOPING AND COMMERCIALIZING OF INDIGENOUS ARTIFICIAL HEART

A Mission Committee on the Development and Commercialization of an Indigenous Artificial Human Heart constituted under the Chairmanship of Dr. Rajiv Narang, Professor and Former Head, Department of Cardiology, AIIMS, New Delhi. The main objective of the committee is to create a Mission Document on the Development and Commercialization of an indigenous Artificial Human Heart, which can then be taken-up, for a formal sanction, by the Department of Science and Technology as a multi organizational mission project. The report of the Mission Committee is under preparation.

IMPROVING THE CULTURE OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE STATE-OWNED AND PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES/ INSTITUTES

With the guidance of the Member, NITI Aayog, the vertical is conducting a consultative study with the objective of assessing the current state, challenges, and issues related to R&D in Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs), and other infrastructural challenges in universities and institutes across the States and UTs. The vertical has been conducting such consultative meetings, with senior representatives of several such universities and institutes- that are non-IITs / NITs and non-AIIMS/ PGIMERs and are located, largely, in the tier 2 and tier 3 cities of the country.



Meeting with State-owned Universities/Institutes held on the 10 July, 2023

During the meeting the discussions are focused on identifying critical gaps and challenges, and sharing best practices and solutions that have helped overcome typical challenges. This will offer clear insights into the measures that need to be undertaken to enhance the R&D ecosystem in educational institutions throughout the country.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON CO2 UTILISATION PROJECTS IN INDIA

The S&T vertical had been given the responsibility of the Technical Committee on CO2 utilisation projects in India. The Technical Committee on CO2 utilisation project in India met 9 times during the year and discussed in details the sector specific utilisation of CO2. Separate meetings were organised to discuss cost competitiveness of CO2 utilisation verses storage, role of Carbon market in promoting implementation of Carbon utilisation projects in India and the status of R&D in CO2 utilisation & future R&D requirements.

Based on the deliberations and inputs received from the various members of the Technical Committee, a report of the Technical Committee on CO2 utilisation was prepared. The final report duly approved by the Chairman of the Technical Committee on CO2 utilisation has been submitted to the Energy Vertical of NITI Aayog for further appropriate action.

SMALL-SCALE NUCLEAR REACTORS TO BOOST INDIA'S NUCLEAR ENERGY

With a rising demand for power from various sectors, the Government of India is planning to increase the nuclear energy capacity threefold in the next decade to reduce the country's carbon footprint. This exercise would require a concerted effort to evaluate the feasibility of small- and medium-scale nuclear power plants and to further assess their benefits and challenges. The vertical, under the Chairmanship of the Member, NITI Aayog, coordinated meetings to get insights from experts and industry representatives directly to develop the way forward for the project. As a part of G20 calendar, NITI Aayog also hosted an International Seminar on 'Critical Role of SMRs in Energy Transition' on 16 May, 2023 in Mumbai. The above events deliberated on the global status & emerging opportunities for SMR Development & Deployment, Design, Standardisation, Modularisation, while also addressing challenges & possible areas of collaboration along with Policy Regulation and Safeguards.

MONITORING OF ONGOING R&D PROJECTS ACROSS ALL THE STATES/UTs IN INDIA

The Vertical, in collaboration with the NIC within the NITI Aayog, is working on the development and roll-out of a comprehensive dashboard – Samavay R&D Dashboard. The dashboard will serve the crucial purpose of monitoring all the ongoing R&D projects across the various Ministries and Departments of the Government of India.

Additionally, the vertical plans to utilize this dashboard to extend its monitoring capabilities to R&D projects undertaken by the various States and UTs across India. This expansion is a significant step in promoting and enhancing both TRL and CRL of these projects.

ENGAGEMENT WITH THE INDUSTRY AND THE ACADEMIA

The vertical has convened various meetings/interactions with the Industry and the Academia to foster collaboration, share knowledge, and explore opportunities for research and innovation in the S&T domain, aimed at advancing technological advancements and driving progress in this field. Some of them are highlighted below:

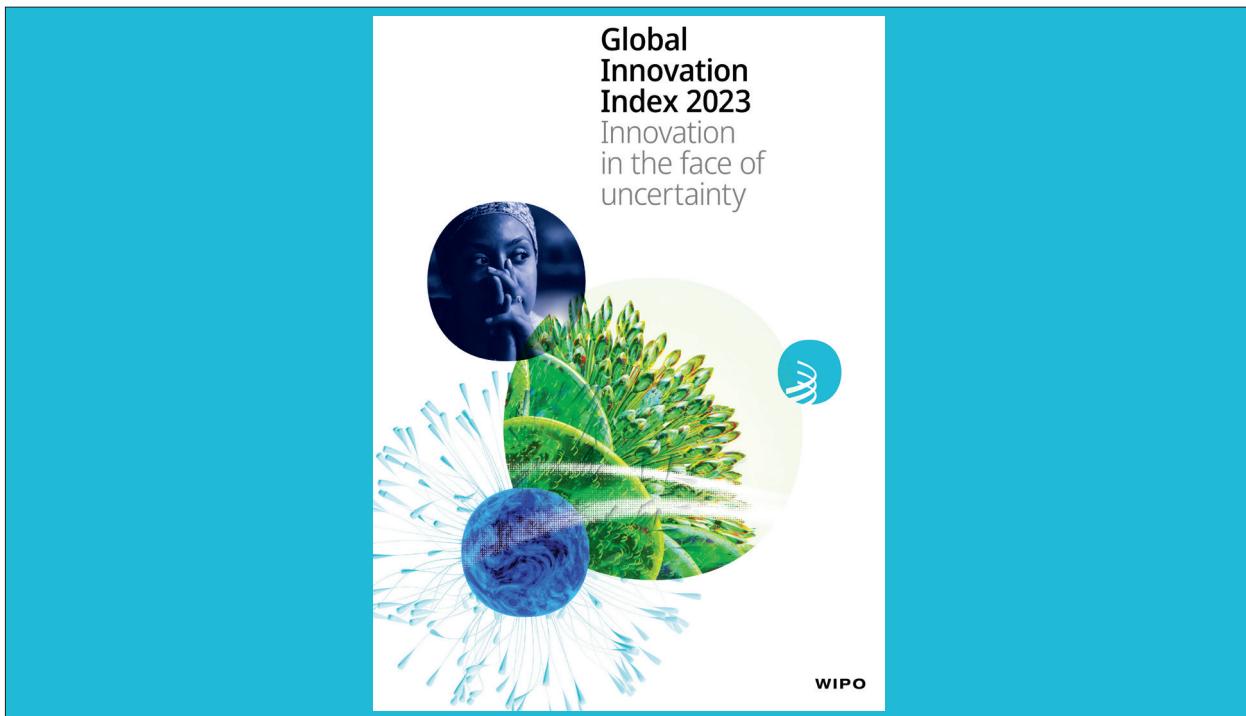
1. Suitable technological solutions to overcome the challenges due to extreme cold weather for the UT of Ladakh.
2. Research and development work in the field of photovoltaics for the accomplishment of large-scale development of solar cells.
3. Enzymatic CCUS and its potential in India.
4. Possible role of the NTPC School of Business, Noida, as knowledge partners of the NITI Aayog in energy-related matters.
5. Discuss various technologies and their feasibility with the Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOCL) and the NTPC Ltd on Waste to energy/waste to hydrogen.
6. Discussion with American Chamber of Commerce in India (AMCHAM) members on the Government's vision for Data Centre Policy in India, focusing upon strategies that can help to transform the nation into a global hub for data centres.
7. Organise meeting among the Officers of the Vertical and of AIM with the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), Australia, to discuss the RISE programme (an India-Australia accelerator programme) and the different mission programmes of the CSIRO, thereby exploring the possible collaboration opportunities.
8. Technical Committee for CO₂ Utilization Projects in India to discuss with the industries on various CO₂ utilisation technologies and how it could be converted into value added products.

GLOBAL INNOVATION INDEX (GII)

NITI Aayog is the nodal organization in the Government of India for improving India's rank in the Global Innovation Index (GII). Accordingly, an Inter-Ministerial Coordination Committee (IMCC) was constituted by NITI Aayog, under the chairpersonship of the CEO, NITI Aayog to monitor the progress of updating the data/inputs on the GII and suggests reform actions for improving India's ranking in the GII.

The GII 2023 Report which was released by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), Geneva, on the 27 September, 2023 showed India retaining its 40th position (of 132 economies) despite the reference year for its indicator data being 2020, marking the early pandemic. India, on the other hand, not only maintained its 40th position, but also acquired the top rank globally in domestic market scale indicator. India ranked first in the

lower middle-income group countries and also among the economies in the Central and Southern Asia region. The India launch of the GII 2023 was very successfully organized online, jointly by the NITI Aayog and the Confederation of Indian Industry, on Friday, the 29 September, 2023, a day after the global launch.



Global Innovation Index 2023

INDIA INNOVATION INDEX

The India Innovation Index is a comprehensive tool for evaluating and developing the country's innovation ecosystem. It ranks the States/UTs based on their innovation performance and builds healthy competition amongst them. NITI Aayog is responsible for ranking the States/UTs based on their innovative capabilities by releasing the India Innovation Index every year, in coordination with the Institute for Competitiveness as a knowledge partner. NITI Aayog, as a part of the effort to reinvigorate cooperative federalism, is also handholding States/UTs in improving their ranking in the India Innovation Index. The development and improvement in innovation performance at the state level will subsequently result in the improvement of India's ranking in the GII as well.

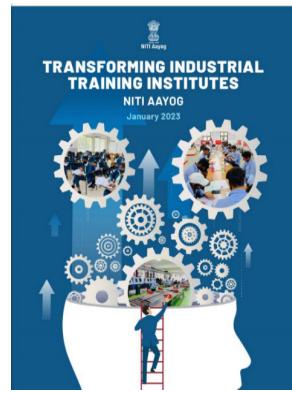
SKILL DEVELOPMENT & ENTREPRENEURSHIP, LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

The vertical plays a pivotal role in building and sharing knowledge for accelerating policy initiatives through engagement with Central Ministries, States, private sector, and other stakeholders in the areas of skill development, livelihood, and labour welfare. Key areas of focus include building knowledge products and strategies for skill development and apprenticeships for enhancing employability of youth, preparing the workforce for the future of work and emerging skills requirement, enhancing livelihood opportunities for

women, developing pathways for overseas migration of skilled workers, and highlighting opportunities and preparing the workforce to take up employment opportunities in emerging sectors such as the digital, care and green economies.

RELEASE OF NITI REPORT ON ‘TRANSFORMING INDUSTRIAL TRAINING INSTITUTES’

NITI Aayog’s report on ‘Transforming Industrial Training Institutes’ was released by Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog on 31 January, 2023. Based on research analysis and stakeholder consultations, the study highlights transformative ideas for revamping the ITI ecosystem in the country. The Report will serve as a crucial resource for Ministries, State Governments, ITIs, and other concerned stakeholders to work in tandem to achieve quality conscious, performance driven, digitally enabled, and technically empowered ITI ecosystem.



Release of NITI report on ‘Transforming Industrial Training Institutes’ on 31 January, 2023

GIG AND PLATFORM ECONOMY IN INDIA

A. Policy Dialogue on the Gig and Platform Economy at IIT Bombay

Drawing on the insights and recommendations offered in the NITI Aayog’s report on ‘India’s Booming Gig and Platform Economy’, the SDE Vertical co-organised a Policy Dialogue on the Gig and Platform Economy in India with the Centre for Policy Studies, IIT Bombay on 25 November, 2022 in Mumbai. The Policy Dialogue participants and speakers included a diverse mix of stakeholders in the sector, including Government of Maharashtra representatives, civil society, academia, think-tanks and international organisations, and students. The engaging discussions and deliberations at the event produced rich insights on skill development, social security, labour welfare and data governance in the gig and platform sector, which will feed into the ongoing work and future research agenda of the Vertical.

B. Conclave on Gig and Platform economy in collaboration with ISB Mohali

A day long conclave on the ‘Gig and Platform Economy in India’ was organised in collaboration with ISB Mohali on 25 January, 2023. Insights and Recommendations emerging from NITI Aayog’s report on ‘India’s Booming Gig and Platform Economy: Perspectives and Recommendations for Future of Work’ were discussed in the Conclave. The conclave participants and speakers included a diverse mix of stakeholders in the sector, including Government of Punjab and Chandigarh, representatives, civil society, academia, think-tanks, platforms and students. The engaging discussions and deliberations at the event produced rich insights on skill development, social security and labour welfare in the gig and platform sector.

C. NITI Aayog’s Presentation on ‘Social Protection in India’s Gig and Platform Economy’ the G20 Employment Working Group (EWG)

NITI Aayog made a presentation on ‘Social Protection in India’s Gig and Platform Economy’ at the 1st Employment Working Group (EWG) Meeting of the G20 held in Jodhpur from 2-4 February, 2023 on Social Protection in India’s Gig and Platform Economy. The presentation highlighted challenges specific to gig and platform workers as well as ongoing and new initiatives and possible solutions for social protection of gig and platform workers in India.

MULTI-STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION ON STRENGTHENING THE CARE ECONOMY TO ENHANCE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Vertical collaborated with the ILO on the theme of 'Strengthening the Care Economy' and organised a multi-stakeholder consultation at NITI Aayog on 'Strengthening the Care Economy in India' in May 2023. The consultation meeting was jointly chaired by Additional Secretary, NITI Aayog and Deputy Director ILO New Delhi and witnessed participation from Ministries of Women and Child Development and Social Justice and Empowerment, and experts from civil society organisations, academia, think-tanks and research institutes. The consultation covered various facets of strengthening the care economy including expanding care services for children, elderly and persons with disabilities, and skill development.

FUTURE OF WORK

Future of Work is a key area of discussion since megatrends such as technological advancements; climate change and urbanization are affecting the world of work. The details of key consultations/discussions held under the theme of 'Future of Work' are as under:

A. Multi-stakeholder consultation on the Future of Work in the Agriculture sector:

The vertical organized the first sectoral multi-stakeholder consultation on the Future of Work in Agriculture on 28 June, 2023 chaired by Additional Secretary, NITI Aayog. The discussion focused on how emerging technologies and climate change are affecting agricultural work, productivity, and livelihood. Research Institutions, think tanks, State Government representatives, sector skill councils and other experts participated in this discussion.

B. Conference on 'New Technologies and the Future of Work in the Global South':

The vertical collaborated with the Institute for Human Development, WITS University, South Africa and ILO on 'New Technologies and the Future of Work in the Global South' organised at IIC, Delhi from 17 - 19 July, 2023. The conference deliberated on different aspects of new technological change such as AI, advanced digital technologies, robotisation, and automation.



Conference on 'New Technologies and the Future of Work in the Global South' in July 2023

C. Roundtable Discussion on Education Technology and Future of Skills

A roundtable experts' consultation on Education Technology and Future of Skills was organised under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary on 8 August, 2023. The focus of the consultation was to get perspectives of experts and stakeholders on how the education technology will change the jobs and skills requirement in future, and what forms of skill training and labour market engagements (apprenticeships, on the job training, etc.) are proving to be useful in skilling the workforce for the future. The consultation was attended by practitioners, industry association, sector skill councils, ILO and private organisations.

DEVELOPING PATHWAYS FOR INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION OF SKILLED WORKERS

The vertical organised consultations with stakeholders to discuss possible strategies and initiatives for developing pathways for international migration of skilled workers. NITI Aayog collaborated with the ILO for a multi-stakeholder roundtable discussion on The Technical Intern Training Programme and Specified Skilled Worker Programme introduced by the Government of Japan held on 16 March, 2023.

TWO-DAY WORKSHOP ON QUALITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS IN PUBLIC POLICY

On 22-23 March, 2023, NITI Aayog in association with NIEPA jointly organised a two-day workshop on Qualitative Research Methods in Public Policy at NITI Aayog. The workshop was organised as a part of G20 'University Connect' initiative. The workshop was intended as an exposure activity for policy professionals and students to qualitative research and to open conversations on how it can inform policy design, and evaluation. The workshop was hands-on and included workshop activities in breakout groups.

OUTPUT-OUTCOME MONITORING FRAMEWORK (OOMF) REVIEW MEETINGS

The vertical along with DMEO organised the OOMF review meeting of Ministry of Labour and Employment on 13 December, 2023 and of Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship on 14 December, 2023 in NITI Bhawan, wherein performance of the schemes and DGQI status of the Ministries were discussed and certain suggestions were provided.

SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

The Social Justice and Empowerment vertical is functioning as the nodal division for the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Social Justice and Empowerment and Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities), Ministry of Tribal Affairs and Ministry of Minority Affairs. The vertical provides inputs in the formulation of policies and programmes to safeguard and empower the interests of the socially, educationally and economically weaker sections of the society such as the Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), Other Backward Classes (OBCs), Economically Backward Classes (EBCs), Minorities and other vulnerable groups such as Persons with Disabilities, senior citizens, etc. The vertical is also responsible for formulating guidelines for the Development Action Plan for STs and Development Action Plan for SCs.

Major initiatives undertaken by the vertical during 2023-24 are as follows:

- In order to improve the living conditions of PVTGs, NITI Aayog along with Ministry of Tribal Affairs had undertaken consultations with various stakeholders and accordingly inputs for budget 2023-24 were given by NITI Aayog with the suggestion to set up a PVTG Mission and it was so announced in the Union Budget 2023-24 for setting up of PVTG Development Mission. Subsequently, the Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM-JANMAN) was launched on 15 November, 2023 by the Hon'ble Prime Minister.
- The vertical has also closely worked with Health vertical of NITI Aayog and provided inputs for their report on 'Senior Care Reforms in India'.
- The vertical has undertaken several consultations with the stakeholders seeking their suggestions for promoting Assistive Technology (AT) products/devises in order to meet growing demand of AT in India and also on ways to promote India as a leading AT manufacturing hub in the world.
- The vertical has participated in various committees, EFC and SFC meetings and provided valuable inputs for overall welfare of the vulnerable groups. It also examined and provided constructive suggestions on various proposals related to CCEA, EFC, SFC, modification of scheme guidelines etc., from the concerned nodal ministries.

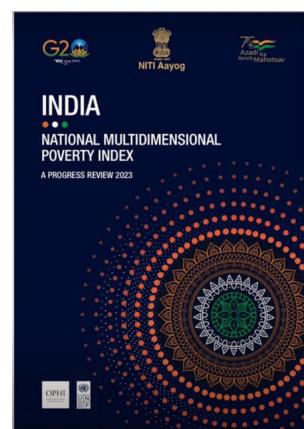
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDG)

In India, NITI Aayog is the nodal agency for the 2030 Agenda and, therefore, responsible for coordinating and supervising SDG efforts at the national and sub-national levels. To this end, NITI Aayog has developed monitoring tools such as the SDG India Index, NER District SDG Index and National Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) to evaluate the performance and rank States/Districts, thus promoting competitive federalism. While SDG India Index is designed to provide an aggregate assessment of the performance of all Indian States and UTs on various SDGs, NER District SDG Index provides insights into goal-wise performance at district levels in the North Eastern Region. The National MPI captures overlapping deprivations across the three dimensions of health, education and standard of living across 12 indicators. These indices help leaders and change-makers evaluate their performance on social, economic and environmental parameters.

NATIONAL MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY INDEX

Guided by the Government of India's initiative known as Global Indices for Reforms and Growth (GIRG), the National MPI in India aims to utilize the monitoring mechanism and methodology of the internationally acknowledged MPI. This is done to meticulously assess both national and subnational performance, with the goal of initiating targeted programmatic actions and reforms. Subsequently, NITI Aayog in collaboration with UNDP, and Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) developed India's National MPI that offers a multi-dimensional perspective on poverty.

On 17 July, 2023 NITI Aayog released the second edition of the National MPI report titled

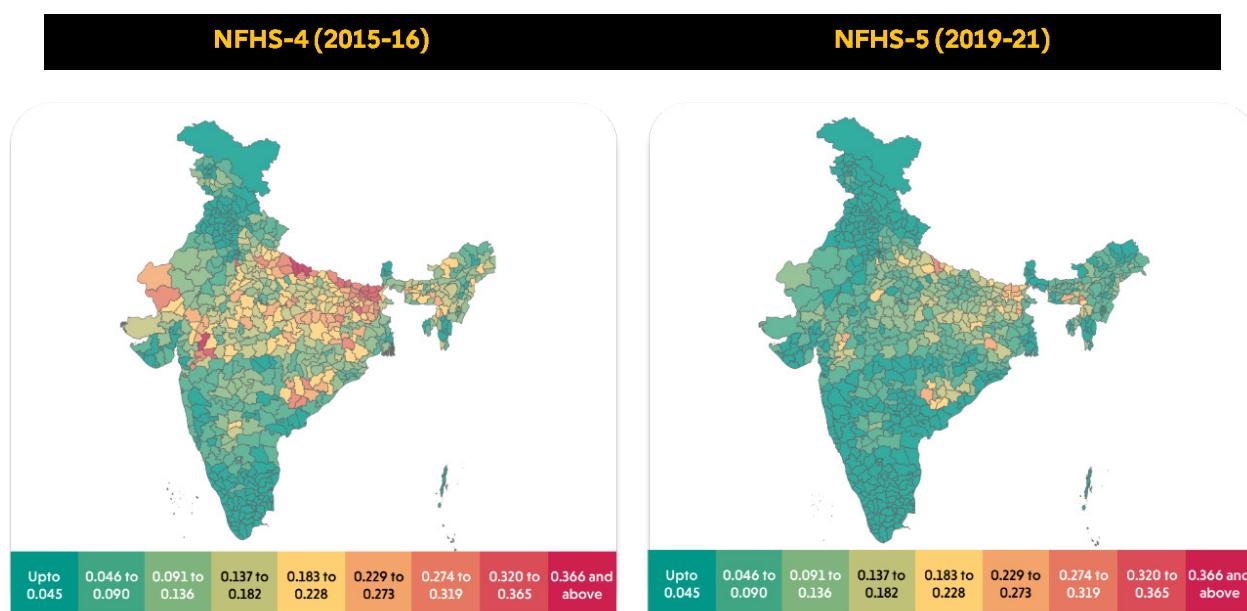


'National Multidimensional Poverty Index: A Progress Review 2023' prepared by SDG Vertical. The report brings attention to the status of multidimensional poverty based on NFHS-5, outlining India's progress in reducing multidimensional poverty from NFHS-4 (2015-16) to NFHS-5 (2019-21) at national, state and district levels. The National Multidimensional Poverty Index (NMPI) measures simultaneous deprivations across three equally weighted dimensions of Health, Education and Standard of Living that are represented by 12 SDG aligned indicators.

- The report highlights that the proportion of India's multidimensionally poor has nearly halved from 24.85 percent to 14.96 percent between the 2015-16 and 2019-21 period, resulting in 13.5 crore individuals escaping multidimensional poverty during the 5-year period.
- The progress underscores that India is on track to achieve SDG Target 1.2 that aims to reduce "at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions" by 2030.
- The decline in multidimensional poverty was consistently noted at subnational levels as well. Uttar Pradesh demonstrated the most significant progress, with the highest number of individuals (3.43 crore) escaping multidimensional poverty between 2015-16 to 2019-21, followed by Bihar (2.25 crore) and Madhya Pradesh (1.36 crore).

The NMPI encapsulates India's remarkable journey towards addressing multidimensional poverty and emphasizes the Government's commitment to the global pursuit of the SDGs.

Comparative view of the Multidimensional Poverty Index score (District wise)



The colour represents the MPI score of a district. The colour moves from green, through yellow, to red as the MPI score increases. Green represents areas with the lowest MPI scores while red represents areas with the highest MPI scores. The legend shows the range of MPI scores in India, based on values for 2015-16. Both the comparative maps use the same legend to represent the change in MPI scores between 2015-16 to 2019-21. Regions where data is not available is shown in grey. Only 575 districts are comparable between the two time periods of the two NFHS (2015-16 and 2019-21). Of these, 436 districts are statistically significant at 95% level of confidence.

The disaggregation of NMPI estimates at the district level provides valuable and detailed information that can facilitate targeted interventions and informed actions to alleviate poverty effectively.



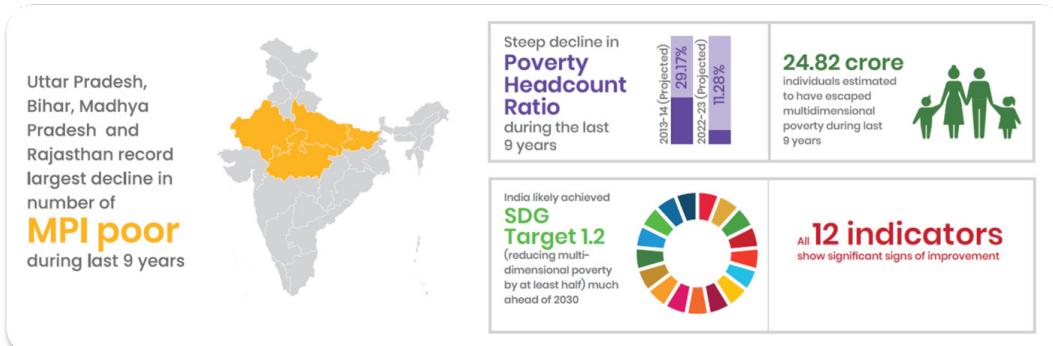
Launch of National Multidimensional Poverty Index: A Progress Review 2023' Report

Discussion Paper: Multidimensional Poverty in India since 2005-06

NITI Aayog in collaboration with UNDP recently published a discussion paper on the multidimensional poverty in India since the year 2005-06, further building on the results of the National MPI report. This paper specifically focuses on the prevalence of multidimensional poverty in India from 2005-06 to 2022-23, utilizing both NFHS data and projection methods for years when NFHS data was unavailable.

According to the discussion paper, India has experienced a substantial reduction in multidimensional poverty, decreasing from 29.17 percent in 2013-14 to 11.28 percent in 2022-23, resulting in 24.82 crore individuals escaping multidimensional poverty during the 9-year period. Uttar Pradesh saw the most significant decline in the number of MPI poor individuals, with 5.94 crore people escaping multidimensional poverty in the last nine years, followed by Bihar at 3.77 crore and Madhya Pradesh at 2.30 crore.

Additionally, the paper indicates that the pace of decline in the incidence of multidimensional poverty, calculated using the compounded annual rate of change, was much faster between 2015-16 to 2019-21, with 10.66 percent annual rate of decline compared to 2005-06 to 2015-16 with 7.69 percent annual rate of decline.



A snapshot of multidimensional poverty in India

As a result, India is expected to achieve its SDG target of halving multidimensional poverty much ahead of the 2030 deadline. The discussion paper also underscores the diverse range of Government's initiatives that likely contributed to this accomplishment within the given duration.

MOU – NITI AAYOG AND UNDP

Reiterating a mutual commitment towards fast-tracking progress towards the SDGs, NITI Aayog and UNDP India have signed an MoU in August 2023 to formalise a framework of cooperation on a range of areas, including SDG localisation, data-driven monitoring, Aspirational Districts and Blocks, among others.

The MoU was signed for a period of five years. NITI Aayog is the nodal Institution for coordinating the adoption and monitoring of SDGs at the national and sub-national levels. UNDP plays the integrator role in coordinating efforts to fast-track progress on the SDGs within the UN system. The MoU was signed in the presence of CEO, NITI Aayog by Dr Yogesh Suri, Senior Adviser (SDGs), NITI Aayog, and Ms Shoko Noda, Resident Representative, UNDP India.



Signing of MoU – NITI Aayog and UNDP

78TH UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY (UNGA) SDG SUMMIT

The 2023 SDG Summit took place on 18 – 19 September, 2023 in New York. Convened by the President of the General Assembly, the Summit marked the half-way point to the deadline set for achieving the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs. Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog attended the SDG Summit 2023, and made a statement assuring India's firm commitment and actions to integrate the SDGs into its national development strategies and also participated in Leader's Dialogue on '*Strengthening integrated policies and public institutions for achieving the SDGs*' and the second dialogue on '*Financing for Development*' on 20 September, 2023.

Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog chaired the High-level Side Event, focused on the Multidimensional Poverty, where global leaders from States and International organizations shared their

experiences and highlighted role of MPI to drive poverty reduction, guide policy actions, and enhance overall well-being., and a side event at Columbia University Campus by Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) and Columbia India Energy Dialogue by Center on Global Energy Policy, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University.

The Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog also had bilateral meetings with high level representatives from Brazil, Germany and European Commission besides with Director, United Nations Statistics Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs regarding the data related issues of the SDG Index.



Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog at UNGA SDG Summit

GSDP-NITI PROJECT

To take forward the Indo-German partnership for Green and Sustainable Development (GSDP) that was endorsed by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India and Chancellor of Germany in May 2022 during the sixth Inter-Governmental Consultation between Government of India and Federal Republic of Germany. An Implementation Agreement has been signed between NITI Aayog and GIZ India with the aim of SDG implementation and localization through setting up of SDG centres in at least 3 States. These centres are proposed to be set up in states like Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Meghalaya during 2024.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS EVENT IN BONN, GERMANY

Following a bilateral agreement between India and Germany, GIZ (an organization under the Federal Government of Germany) has been commissioned by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) to implement the 'Support to Indo-German Partnership for Green and Sustainable Development (GSDP)' to expedite the achievement of SDGs and fulfill the commitments of the Paris Climate Agreement. Under this project, GIZ India and NITI Aayog are collaborating to strengthen the coherence of SDG implementation and localization, in terms of planning, monitoring and budgeting, at the national and sub-national level in at least three States.

In this context, NITI Aayog participated in a series of meetings organized by GIZ relating to SDGs during 8 - 9 November, 2023 in Bonn, Germany. NITI Aayog was also a key

panelist for the round table on 'Destination 2030: Catalysing Action for the 2030 Agenda' sharing India's strategies in achieving the SDGs. The visit was organized by GIZ to facilitate knowledge exchange among NITI Aayog, BMZ, GIZ and other key German stakeholders on the experiences, learning and best practices towards implementation of 2030 Agenda in both countries and the role of development cooperation.

PANEL DISCUSSION ON 'NATIONAL MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY INDEX AS A POLICY TOOL FOR ADVANCING HUMAN DEVELOPMENT'

UNDP and NITI Aayog jointly hosted a panel discussion at the IHD's Global Conclave 2024 on 12 January, 2024 to focus on identifying the ways in which the NMPI can be leveraged to advance human development. NITI Aayog initiated the discussion by providing a comprehensive overview of the NMPI of India and highlighted key aspects of the NMPI report, setting the stage for a detailed discussion of the potential of NMPI in shaping policy and planning procedures for human development in India. It was attended by the senior officials from UNDP, UN Women, Harvard University, and Planning Commission of Nepal. The discussion focused on disaggregated data collection and monitoring, targeted interventions considering cultural considerations, gender equality, and a commitment to quality beyond basic needs. Best practices in leveraging MPI for policy and planning processes aimed at advancing human development were also shared.

EXPERT WORKSHOP ON 'IMPROVING THE AVAILABILITY AND USE OF MULTIDIMENSIONAL POVERTY AND WELLBEING DATA'

The Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) at the University of Oxford convened a high impact Expert Workshop on 'Improving the Availability and Use of Multidimensional Poverty and Wellbeing Data' focused on improving the collection and availability of multidimensional poverty and wellbeing data using household surveys. The workshop held during 7-9 February, 2024, at Oxford University, UK and brought together experts and leaders in the field of multidimensional poverty measurement and household survey data from across the world. Speakers included representatives from national governments, the World Bank, other UN and regional agencies, research institutions, the private sector, and key household survey providers such as Demographic Health Survey (DHS), Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS). The workshop provided a valuable platform for international collaboration and knowledge exchange on multidimensional poverty measurement and strategies for achieving SDGs. At the workshop, NITI Aayog moderated a session on 'Securing the Future of Multidimensional Poverty Data & Truly Global Measures' presented by OPHI and also presented a keynote address on 'India's Progress in Reducing MPI'.

11TH ASIA PACIFIC FORUM FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (APFSD) 2024

NITI Aayog participated in the '11th Asia Pacific Forum for Sustainable Development (APFSD)' 2024 at Bangkok from 19-22 February, 2024. This regional platform aims to inform, empower, and support Asia-Pacific countries in their efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by identifying regional trends and sharing best practices. The 11th APFSD was

organized under the theme: "Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: The effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions in Asia and the Pacific" at the United Nations Conference Center (UNCC) in Bangkok, Thailand.

At the conference, NITI Aayog presented key initiatives of India on 'Women-led development and the impact of social protection on poverty reduction, along with India's strategies for addressing multidimensional poverty' at the pre-event: 'New Frontiers on Social Protection in a Changing World and participated in the 'Asia-Pacific (LNOB) Meeting' and highlighted India's inclusive and evidence-based policy making strategies for addressing multidimensional poverty and enhancing social protection.



Commemorative photograph of country representatives from the Asia Pacific Region

TOURISM AND CULTURE

The Tourism Division provides strategic and directional guidance for the development of the tourism sector. The Division seeks to develop India into the most preferred destination for tourists through the development of responsible and sustainable tourism policies, focusing on niche tourism, eco-tourism and wellness tourism, infrastructure development, capacity development, and increasing tourist footfall. The Culture Division seeks to develop, preserve and promote India's arts, culture and heritage.

URBANISATION

The Urbanisation Vertical provides data-based policy analysis on manageable, economically productive, environmentally appropriate, and equitable urbanisation. It offers advice and policy guidance to key stakeholders involved in urban planning, development, and management. The Division engages with MoHUA, State Governments as well as Local Governments in formulating policies, programmes, initiatives and reforms. It also collaborates with various national and international academic institutions, research organisations, development partners and eminent experts to advance the discussion towards making a long-term impact on policy approaches for managing urbanisation.

ACCOUNTING REFORMS FOR URBAN LOCAL BODIES

The XV Finance Commission has recommended publishing of audited annual accounts as an entry-level condition for accessing grants for urban local bodies has introduced a sense of urgency to this important reform. Most of the urban local bodies still follow cash-based accounting systems in India. To ease the transition from cash based to accrual-based accounting systems that can also be audited, NITI Aayog along with the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) and ARF (Accounting Research Foundation) prepared a best practices handbook. This report is expected to provide the city governments with insights for structuring their accounting reform efforts towards the ultimate objective of publishing audited annual financial statements.

PLANNING AND ARCHITECTURAL FRAMEWORK FOR HILL REGIONS

Urbanisations in hilly region have its own peculiar issues requiring special considerations. Given the projected trend of urbanization and to address multiple challenges ranging from carrying capacity based urban planning, haphazard construction, vulnerable topography, and sensitive environment; a 'Committee of Experts' was constituted by NITI Aayog with a set of multi-disciplinary experts to prepare 'Planning and Architecture Framework for Hilly Regions'. The Report had contributions from the Swiss Development Cooperation detailing specific strategies for Strengthening the Spatial Planning of Hill Towns.

The final report has recommendations towards strengthening the urban and rural planning system in hill areas for ensuring sustainable urban development and eco-sensitive tourism in hill regions.

ASPIRATIONAL CITIES PROGRAMME FOR GOVERNMENT OF UTTAR PRADESH:

An Aspirational Cities Programme framework was developed in context of Uttar Pradesh aimed at adopting data governance model at Urban Local Body level for improving the living conditions in urban areas. The framework includes KPIs for identifying 100 under developed cities and subsequently monitoring them over a period of time to nudge upward movement of these cities on desired parameters. Taking the proposed framework forward, 'Aspirational Cities Programme' scheme has been announced in the budget session of the State Government of Uttar Pradesh on 20 March, 2023.

CITIES AS ENGINES OF ECONOMIC GROWTH

During the post-budget webinar on 1 March 2023, Hon'ble Prime Minister stated that Urban planning will determine the fate of our cities in Amrit kaal, and it is well-planned cities that will determine the fate of India. India is the second largest urban system in the world, accounting for 11 percent of the total Global Urban Population, with nearly 31 percent of Indians living in urban areas which is projected to increase to around 40 percent by 2036 and 50 percent by 2050. As of 2011, Urban areas are estimated to contribute about 63 percent of GDP, which is projected to rise to 75 percent by 2040.

Urban centres act as powerful catalysts for economic development by concentrating resources like skilled labour, capital, and technology, attracting investments, creating employment opportunities and fostering innovation. Global cities such as New York, London and many others compete with nations in terms of their GDP. However, Indian cities are still behind in key international indices on economic growth and livability. The existing planning and policy-making mechanism in India faces several challenges. Economic development activities for city regions are managed by States and are scattered across multiple State-level Departments. Urban local bodies (ULB) focus largely on maintenance of city services while urban development authorities focus more on land development and city expansion. The approach remains reactive. Moreover, there is neither practice nor a statutory mandate for preparing an integrated economic visioning roadmap for cities. In the absence of an economic vision, the Master Plans formulated by UDAs/ TPDs primarily serve as a regulatory function and not a developmental vision. This siloed approach results in a lack of holistic development perspective and integration of planning. Additionally, even physical planning of cities is confined to the boundaries of ULBs and Development Authorities, neglecting agglomeration economies in the catchment areas that extend beyond administrative boundaries.

In absence of a strategic, multi-sectoral regional economic master plan, the Indian cities are growing organically without any pre-planned economic direction. This is leading to sub-optimal performance of the cities on various fronts.

CITY-REGION GROWTH HUB (G-HUB) INITIATIVE OF NITI AAYOG

Cities have been growing organically or in a haphazard manner beyond their municipal boundaries. To harness the benefits of agglomeration economies, it is crucial to target their economic growth towards growth drivers and structure it in a comprehensive manner. A transformative shift is imperative in India's development planning practices towards a more holistic approach that recognizes the economic relationships of the urban centres and their surrounding areas within a broader geographical context. This approach promises various positive impacts, including achieving balanced growth, reducing regional disparities in infrastructure, employment, and resource access, land and natural resource use optimization, and ensuring better-planned infrastructure connectivity.

Accordingly, NITI Aayog has launched a pilot initiative called the 'City-region Growth Hub Initiative' as a pivotal step in promoting the inclusive development of city regions through a multi-sectoral approach, promoting cities as mega-growth hubs for the nation. The initiative is an attempt to demonstrate the processes of planned economic development by the State and city governments in conjunction with spatial planning. The primary objective is to position city-regions as mega-growth hubs for the nation driving economic development across focus sectors in a structured manner and act as catalysts for overall regional prosperity. Dedicated teams of officials and experts were stationed by NITI Aayog in the State to closely work with the respective departments of the State Government.

The G-Hub Initiative adopts an innovative and pioneering bottom-up approach towards inclusive development planning and implementation. In Phase 1, NITI Aayog along with knowledge partners ISEG Foundation and WRI India are developing economic master plans

for 4 city-regions as pilot. The selected pilot regions represent varying economic sizes (Mega, Large and Mid-size Cities) geographically spread across the country. The pilot phase aimed at developing process templates. The city regions are:

- Mega - Mumbai Metropolitan Region – comprising 5 districts (Maharashtra),
- Large - Surat – comprising 6 districts (Gujarat),
- Large - Visakhapatnam – comprising 8 districts (Andhra Pradesh)
- Mid-size - Varanasi – comprising 6 districts (Uttar Pradesh)

As a way forward in Phase 2, it is proposed to identify 16-20 more city-regions in the country to apply the template and learnings from the pilot phase.

ECONOMIC MASTER PLAN PREPARATION

A five step process leads to the preparation of the economic master plan formulation. These plans are region-specific, thus for each area, the final contours could different even while following the same process template.

Step 1: Preparation of as-is document for Economy & Infrastructure and Sustainability Diagnostics.

- Delineation of region
- Base map preparation for Land cover and Land utilization
- Reporting economic indicators:
 - » Current, Sectoral and district-level GDP
 - » GDP Per sq. km. / GDP Per capita / Historical growth rates
 - » Global Trade and Export Orientation
 - » Employment; Resources
 - » Government Policies
 - » Entrepreneurship Ecosystem
- Identify Strategic infrastructure
 - » Existing Infrastructure
 - » Requirement analysis for Infrastructure Development
- Measuring Quality of Life
- Social development
 - » Demographic Dividend
 - » Cultural and Historical Significance
- Implementable City Disaster Management Plan
- Climate change & sustainability:
 - » Net zero benchmarking – renewable EV, energy efficient buildings etc.
- Quality of Governance

Step 2: Benchmarking of top-down economic, sustainability and physical infrastructure vision.

- Projected GDP calculation for 2035 and 2047
- Frame top-down economic, sustainability and physical infrastructure vision based on step I and stakeholder consultations
- Set aspirations and economic benchmarking (e.g. vision for zero slums in the city)
- Analyse top-down sectoral investment required for achieving aspirations

Step 3: SWOT and endowments analysis of the city

- Identify past economic drivers, current champion sectors, delta growth, potential sunrise/new sectors
- Identify the top 10 growth drivers based on the city's endowments

Step 4: Listing out the top 5-7 or more economic growth drivers for the city region

- Detailing of the top sectoral growth drivers with requirement analysis for funding, infrastructure and connectivity, availability of skilled labour force, and investment drivers. Some examples of such growth drivers may include port city, tourism hub, aerocity hub, healthcare services hub
- Identify investible projects and key KPIs and details of return on investment

Step 5: Implementation Framework

- Organizational and financial unlocks required and milestone planning for the short-listed growth drivers
- Preparation of plans for funding of loan component (multi-laterals, municipal bonds etc.) for identified cities and projects
- Leadership and administrative structure for the economic vision

G-HUB INITIATIVE - A CASE STUDY ON COOPERATIVE FEDERALISM

The key to the success of this approach is to evolve a robust institutional framework that has defined roles and responsibilities of the central government, state government, knowledge partners and private sector.

National level:

- NITI Aayog is leading and supporting the initiative in close collaboration with the State Government. A National Steering Committee has been formed by NITI Aayog.
- ISEG Foundation and WRI India were identified as knowledge partners who are working with NITI Aayog to extend necessary professional support for grounding the initiative.

State level: In each of 4 regions following institutional mechanism was put at the outset.

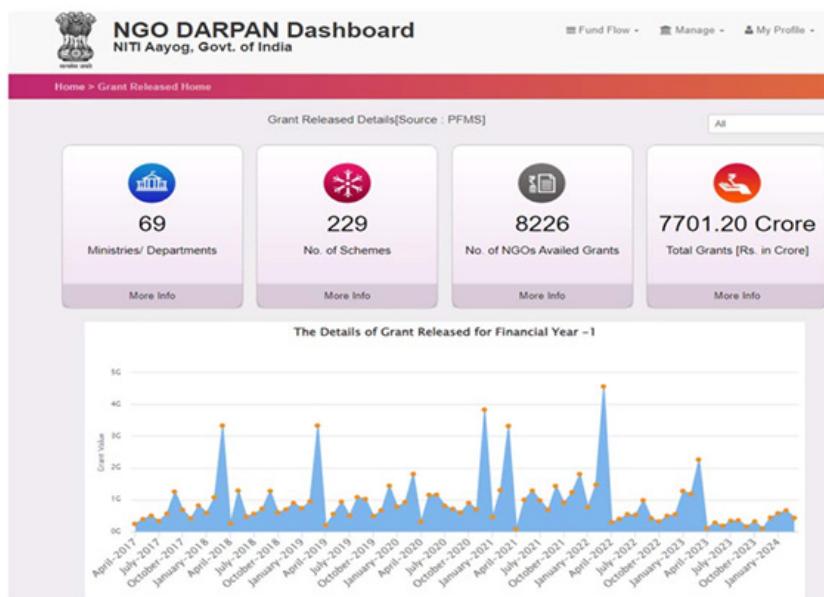
- Steering Committee, chaired by Chief Secretary with representatives of concerned departments and other entities have been formed in all 4 States.
- G-Hub Crack Unit at city-region level were formed with dedicated officials from relevant entities to address operational matters;

- 3-4 full-time personnel were embedded in the cities for detailed understanding, coordination and consultation
- A nodal officer (Secretary or an officer of similar rank) has been appointed as a nodal officer for overall coordination.

The above approach has allowed development of economic master plans which are collectively examined, deliberated upon and recommended by all stakeholders with the respective State governments leading the process.

VOLUNTARY ACTION CELL

The Voluntary Action Cell is responsible for maintaining an electronic database of Non-Profit Organisations (NPOs) through the NGO Darpan Portal. This portal aims to promote transparency, accountability and ease of doing business in the sector. As of 26 March, 2024, approximately 2.06 Lakh NGOs/VOs have registered on the NGO-Darpan Portal.



WATER AND LAND RESOURCES

The Vertical works towards ensuring equitable access to water and land resources while focusing on the sustainable development of the nation. It formulates policy directions and advisories to harness the potential of advanced and ready-to-use technologies and promotes research and development to achieve excellence in water and land resources management. The Vertical aims to enhance the standard of living of all citizens by enabling hassle-free access to these two crucial resources, and to equip all stakeholder organisations in attaining higher standards of service delivery without hampering sustainable development. The vertical plays a crucial role in the formulation of policy recommendations for the Water and Land Resources sectors. It shares expertise and best practices with States, offer a strategic policy perspective to the Government, and addresses challenges through on-going interactions and discussions. Appraisal of various water sector and land resources schemes/programmes/policies is also done in the vertical.



A brief on the important works undertaken in the year 2023-24 is given below.

a. Publication of Compendium of Best Practices in the Water Resources Sector

There are numerous best practices adopted and succeeded by various government agencies, NGOs, civil societies etc. The vertical has analysed and documented selected best practices 3.0 covering Agriculture, Groundwater, Watershed, Water Infrastructure and Climate Risk & Resilience which can be replicated across the country. The compendium of best practices in Water Management 3.0 was published in July 2023.

b. Preparation of standards and guidelines for assessment of water neutrality, water positivity and water negativity

Water conservation, efficiency improvement, waste water treatment, reuse and recycle are paramount in ensuring water security. As more and more Industries are striving to achieve circular use of water, clear standards and methodology to define and assess water neutrality and water positivity are required. NITI Aayog constituted a steering committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. Ramesh Chand, Member, NITI Aayog with Secretaries of the departments concerned as members for proposing standards and guidelines for assessment of water neutrality. Based on it, vertical published a report on *Water Neutrality - Standardization of definition and approach for industry* in July 2023 that covers standardization of the existing definitions and frameworks on water status for the industry that can provide improved understanding and a robust framework for water use status evaluation.

c. Preparation of Strategy paper Reuse of Treated Wastewater in Urban/Peri- Urban Agriculture in India

The document highlights the scope of reuse of treated wastewater for urban/ peri-urban agriculture, its challenges and the way forward. The potential of reusable treated wastewater keeps on increasing as the urban centres grow out to accommodate the fast pace of urbanization. Moreover, the Nitrogen and Phosphorous contained in treated wastewater

give it an advantage over the freshwater, while using for agriculture. It is heartening to observe that many states have been coming forward with specific policy for reuse of treated wastewater. This publication is expected to strengthen the ongoing efforts, and encourage interested stakeholders in making effective reuse of this valuable resource.

APPRAISAL

In 2023-24, the vertical appraised 4 Cabinet Notes, 3 Public Investment Board Memorandums during the year pertaining to the water sector.

WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

The Women and Child Development (WCD) Division provides policy inputs for gender empowerment and improve the nutritional outcomes of women and children. The division designs strategic and long-term policy and programme frameworks and initiatives for improving the nutrition of women and children, and monitors their progress and their efficacy. It provides advice and encourages partnerships between key stakeholders and international and national think tanks, educational and policy research institutions. The Division also maintains a state-of-the-art resource center on nutrition.

DEVELOPMENT OF ACTION PLAN FOR COMBATING ANEMIA

Anemia continues to be a major public health issue in the country with more than 50 percent of children, adolescent and women being anaemic as per NFHS surveys. Government of India launched Anemia Mukt Bharat (AMB) programme in 2018 as a universal strategy for addressing anemia. However, despite these efforts over the last 50 years, the reduction in the prevalence of anemia in India has remained below 1 percent per year. NITI Aayog has undertaken an initiative to understand the potential gaps in research and implementation challenges of AMB programme.

A series of National Consultations with 18 states/UTs were held to deliberate on the programmatic gaps. Representatives from states/UTs Departments shared the current status of programme, implementation related challenges of anemia related interventions, and best practices adopted to enhance the uptake of these interventions.

A national level rapid assessment of the implementation of the 6X6X6 interventions of AMB in 15 States was conducted by INCLEN trust. NITI Aayog also held multiple rounds of scientific review meetings to deliberate on the impact of each of the six interventions of AMB with ICMR and priority research areas were identified.

Expert group meetings were held with experts from NCAER-A, AIIMS, New Delhi, Institute of Economic Growth, UNICEF, IFPRI and independent experts on anemia from various institutes of India to brainstorm on the evidence on the identified research gaps.

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT, CARE AND EDUCATION (ECDCE)

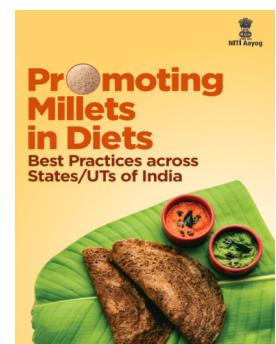
The first six years of life is a unique period of opportunity when the foundations for optimum health and development across the lifespan are established. This is a critical window in life's journey when neuronal connections are made and pruned.

With the idea of developing a comprehensive approach toward assuring the highest possible early childhood development, care and education of children, NITI Aayog conducted in-depth desk review of literature including global ECD models and consulted States/UTs; Ministries of Women and Child Development, Education, and Health & Family Welfare; NGOs, Civil Society Organizations, UNICEF, WHO, academia and other experts in multiple consultations, specifically to understand ECD initiatives for 0-3 years.

Based on insights received from these consultations, a proposal for a Mission on Early Childhood Development, Care and Education (ECDCE) for 0-6 age group has been conceptualised in NITI Aayog.

COMPENDIUM ON BEST PRACTICES ACROSS STATES/UTs TO PROMOTE MILLETS IN DIETS

A compendium of best practices titled Promoting Millets in Diets: Best Practices across States/UTs of India was launched in April, 2023. The report presents a set of good and innovative practices adopted by states governments and organizations in various aspects of millet value-chain especially production, processing and consumption. The report in three themes i.e. (a) State Missions and initiatives to promote millets; (b) Inclusion of millets in ICDS; (c) Research and development and use of technology for innovative practices. The report will serve as a guiding repository to revive and mainstream millets in diets.

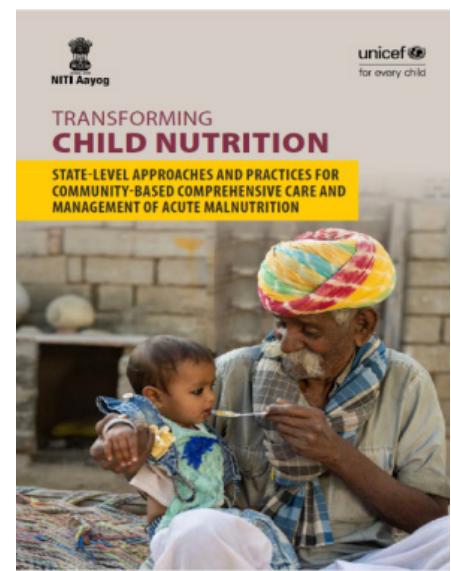


RCH- POSHAN TRACKER INTEGRATION

NITI Aayog is coordinating between Ministry of Women and Child Development, MoH&FW and NHA to effectively integrate RCH and POSHAN Tracker. Several meetings with Secretary, MoWCD, NITI Aayog and representatives of NeGD, and MoHFW have been held to monitor the progress of the integration.

COMMUNITY BASED MANAGEMENT OF ACUTE MALNUTRITION

NITI Aayog released a report "Transforming Child Nutrition: State-Level Approaches and Practices for Community-Based Comprehensive Care and Management of Acute Malnutrition" in December 2023. The report delves into key thematic areas crucial for the community-based management of acute malnutrition. It commences with community mobilization and awareness, emphasizing the importance of timely growth monitoring and intervention. Quality services, including nutritional, medical management, and education, are underscored, with frontline worker skills and product supply identified as integral components. The report also outlines the establishment of recording, reporting, and monitoring mechanisms and the need for continuous capacity building.



GENDER FRIENDLY WORKPLACE POLICY

Women in India effectively play an important role in the economic growth of the country and their economic empowerment is critical to achieve the target of a five trillion economy. However, women will be unable to participate fully and effectively without a conducive ecosystem ensuring their safety, security and dignity.

In this context, NITI Aayog conducted a series of internal meetings with all the women employees to understand their needs and existing gaps from a gender perspective at NITI Aayog. Subsequently, a draft of gender-friendly policy at workplace was prepared by NITI Aayog and shared with the MoWCD.

SCALING UP OF CRÈCHE ECO-SYSTEM IN INDIA

Crèches provide group care to children, usually up to 6 years of age, to enable caregivers to go to work, study or other such undertakings. Considering the requirement of more 30 lakh crèches in India, NITI Aayog held discussions with States/UTs States/UTs and organizations working in this domain with a focus on development of models for scaling up crèches network in rural and urban areas.

CELEBRATION OF NARI SHAKTI WEEK

NITI Aayog organised Nari Shakti week from 4 – 8 March, 2024 to celebrate International Women's Day. The Nari Shakti Week was launched with a *Workshop on Prevention of Sexual Harrasment (PoSH)* with a theme of *Fostering Safe Spaces* on 4 March, 2024. A Women's Self Defense Training Workshop for women employees of NITI Aayog was conducted by Delhi Police on 5 March, 2024.



Launch of Nari Shakti Week to celebrate the International Women's Day At NITI Aayog

To discuss about women's roles and challenges, NITI Aayog invited eminent women from different walks of life like Kiran Bedi (First woman IPS officer), Gitanjali J Angmo (Co-founder & CEO, HIAL), Shivani Mallik (Director, Da Milano Italia), Ekta Bhyan (Para athlete

& Gold medalist, 2018 Asian Para Games), Anu Acharya (CEO, Mapmygenome), Debjani Ghosh (President, NASSCOM), Lavanya Nalli (Vice-chairperson, Nalli Silk Sarees), and Premlata Agrawal (first Indian woman to scale the 7 highest continental peaks of the world) for an event *Celebrating Women's Achievements and Breaking Barriers* on 6 March, 2024. Organisations like Air India Limited, Accenture, Taj Hotels, Genpact, EY, HDFC Bank, and Tech Mahindra were also invited to share their initiatives they have undertaken to foster a women-friendly culture in their organisations.



Celebrating Women's Achievements and Breaking Barriers



SECTION

5

**MONITORING
AND
EVALUATION**

DEVELOPMENT MONITORING AND EVALUATION OFFICE

Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO) is the apex monitoring and evaluation office of the Government of India. Under NITI Aayog's mandate of cooperative and competitive federalism, its scope of work also includes technical advice to States. DMEO is headed by the Director General (DG). To have complete functional autonomy, a separate budgetary allocation has been provided exclusively to DMEO.

The role of DMEO is: (i) to monitor the progress and efficacy of strategic and long-term policy and programme frameworks as well as initiatives to facilitate improvements, including the necessary mid-course corrections; and (ii) to actively monitor and evaluate the implementation of programmes and initiatives to strengthen the probability of success and scope of delivery.

In 2023-24, some of the major projects undertaken by DMEO were:

- Output-Outcome Monitoring Framework (OOMF)
- Data Governance Quality Index (DGQI)
- Monitoring of Global Indices for Reforms and Growth (GIRG)
- Evaluations
- Sector Review
- Project with States
- Capacity Building

OUTPUT-OUTCOME MONITORING FRAMEWORK

The Output-Outcome Monitoring Framework (OOMF) exercise was entrusted to DMEO around mid-2017 and has since become an annual exercise. The purpose is to institutionalize outcome monitoring to shift the focus of line ministries of the Government of India from tracking physical and financial progress to tracking the results of work done. Salient features of OOMF are as follows:

- Every year, the Framework has been laid in Parliament along with the Union Budget
- Rule 54, General Financial Rules 2017 makes OOMF an integral process for Ministries/ Departments
- Covers 69 Ministries/Departments
- 400+ Central Sector (CS) and Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) with a cumulative ₹13+ lakh crore annual budgetary outlay
- 3000+ output and outcome indicators tracked on the dashboard through progress and compliance reports

DMEO works closely with all Ministries/Departments (M/Ds) and Department of Expenditure to drive evidence-based decision making by leveraging OOMF data. It is pertinent that this exercise is undertaken by M/Ds throughout the year to understand their respective scheme

performance. Since 2020, annual review meetings related to OOMF of various M/Ds have been conducted under the chairpersonship of the Vice Chairman and Members, NITI Aayog, along with the Secretaries of the concerned M/Ds to primarily review (i) the progress of CS/CSS; (ii) monitor outcomes thereof, specially towards achieving the National Development Agenda and SDGs, (iii) progress on actionable points pertaining to the previous year's OOMF review meeting and (iv) other issues and challenges.

Additionally, it has been DMO's constant endeavor to improve the capacity of officials working at different levels of government. In this connection, a series of knowledge-sharing and capacity-building sessions are also conducted with State (viz., Rajasthan, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Kerala, etc.) and Institutions (like LBSNAA, AIGGPA, NILERD etc.). A total of 9 capacity development programmes have been conducted for various States and UTs during FY 2023-24. Additionally, a knowledge product has been published titled 'Best Practice Compendium on Outcome Budgeting', along with J-PAL/CLEAR SA.

TRANSFORMING DATA GOVERNANCE IN INDIA: DGQI INITIATIVE

Rapid digitization and evolution of emerging technologies have transformed the nature of governance across the world. Increasing demand for transparency, accountability, and public participation has modified the role of data in public policy across its life cycle. Data preparedness allows governments to create well-designed and well-targeted policies and programmes, make mid-course corrections and evaluate impact at the end of its lifecycle to inform future decisions.

Over the last two decades, most M/Ds of the Government of India, as well as State Governments, have developed digital MIS and dashboards for better implementation and monitoring of their initiatives. However, there are significant variations in their data granularity, frequency as well as quality. Data also often exists in silos in non-interoperable formats, making it less useful for cross-functional analytics purposes. Consequently, even though a lot of data is generated in public administration processes, its potential in terms of using it for driving day-to-day decisions and ensuring seamless service delivery needs optimal tapping.

Against this background, the Data Governance Quality Index (DGQI) exercise was initiated in 2020 by DMO along with the support of NIC/NICSI and concerned line M/Ds. The first phase of DGQI exercise was conducted in 2020 in self-assessment mode with 65 M/Ds covering approximately 250 CS/CSS. The M/Ds filled up an online survey, the responses of which were used to come up with the DGQI scorecard. The exercise showed glaring disparities among M/Ds and highlighted a huge scope for improvement across the board. Subsequently, DGQI 2.0 was launched in 2021 with enhanced horizontal (covering all three steps of data preparedness, i.e., data strategy, systems, and data-driven outcomes) and vertical scope (in terms of number of M/Ds and schemes as well as non-schematic interventions) as a regular exercise for monitoring and directing reforms in the direction.

The DGQI exercise focuses on 3 pillars bifurcate into six themes namely data generation, data quality, technology integration, analysis, dissemination, security, and encourages

sharing of best practices. Till date 6 Rounds of the exercise have been concluded, and as part of the 7th ongoing round of DGQI 2.0 exercise, 75 M/Ds are in the process of submitting their responses across around 579 interventions.

Since the inception, many M/Ds have shown tremendous improvement with majority ministries ranking in the excellent range. However, an-in depth analysis of the responses by the M/Ds in the index has highlighted the need for improvement in certain key areas. To address them, DMOE has organized a comprehensive capacity-building workshop where challenges on data sharing and lack of interoperability have been addressed and M/Ds have been encouraged to adopt standardized procedures, formats & open-source documentation platforms to address them. The Data & Strategy units in these M/Ds would need to play a critical role in promoting intra- M/Ds collaboration and maintain data consistency & uniformity among all scheme divisions.

Additionally, the exercise strongly encourages participation from States which would benefit them in policy implementation and planning mechanisms across their departments. DGQI creates a culture of cooperation and learning to share best practices, innovative approaches, and solutions to common challenges. A key benefit is the creation of a best practice repository which showcases innovative data-driven initiatives undertaken by various states.

GLOBAL INDICES FOR REFORMS AND GROWTH (GIRG)

The GIRG initiative of the Government of India aims to leverage the monitoring of 27 Global Indices (GIs) for driving growth and reforms in the country. The 27 GIs selected for monitoring under GIRG are published by 18 unique global agencies (publishing agencies) which include Multilateral Organizations, International NGOs, Private Organizations, and Universities spread across four broad themes namely economy, development, governance, and industry. These 27 Indices have been allocated to 18 nodal Ministries. In addition, the MoSPI, MEA, and MIB have been included to drive GIRG.

The primary objectives of the GIRG initiative are to drive India's performance across important social, economic, and development parameters for improving global perception of India and its global ranking, to drive reforms, and monitor the progress.

DMOE, NITI Aayog has been designated as the knowledge partner and coordinator to engage with different stakeholders for driving this exercise. The GIRG initiative is continuously reviewed at the level of Cabinet Secretary to assess the progress made by the nodal M/Ds for 28 GIs.

During 2023-24, a total of 19 meetings were held with different Ministries/Departments, Publishing Agencies and other international organisations at the level of CEO, NITI Aayog and DG, DMOE. These meetings deliberated on different indices and aimed to chalk out strategies to improve India's performance in these indices. Two review meetings by the Cabinet Secretary and two PMO meetings were also taken covering a whole range of indices.

EVALUATIONS

DMOE undertakes evaluation of schemes of Government of India enabling evidence-based public policy-making. The evaluations are conducted suo motu or at the request of

Ministries. These evaluations based on comprehensive literature review and survey data analysis provide critical insights to improve the functioning of schemes/programmes and facilitate it to achieve its intended objectives and outcomes. The evaluations are conducted with the aim to understand what works, why, for whom, and under what circumstances based on which the programmes/schemes are refined, adapted and mid-course correction are undertaken for the schemes/programmes to achieve their desired objectives.

DMEO has finalized evaluation reports of nine central sector schemes of four Ministries, conducted at the request of the Department of Expenditure. The final evaluation reports have been shared with the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance (MoF), and concerned administrative Ministries. DMEO is also in the process of finalising the evaluation studies of eight other central sector schemes pertaining to four ministries.

DMEO has also been engaging with various States/UTs to strengthen capacities by sharing knowledge and experiences in the M&E sphere under NITI Aayog's goal of fostering co-operative federalism. To further enhance capabilities, augment capacity and leverage existing expertise at the state level, DMEO is undertaking first-of-its-kind initiative of Capacity Building, in the sphere of M&E of the Central and State Universities through their engagement in assessment of eight Government of India schemes spread across ten States.

SECTOR REVIEW

Sector meetings are conducted annually by the Hon'ble Prime Minister to monitor the performance of sectors. DMEO has been facilitating the Sector Reviews for the Hon'ble Prime Minister's Office since 2017 in coordination with concerned M/Ds and NITI verticals. The Sectors covered under the reviews include 10 infrastructure sectors viz. Transport (Roads, Civil Aviation, Railways and Ports), Energy (Power, Coal, Petroleum & Natural Gas and New & Renewable Energy) and others (Digital, Mining).

These reviews provide a unique opportunity to present a cross-ministerial view of the performance of sectors and deep-dive into India's sectoral strengths and weaknesses compared to global peers. By identifying the bottlenecks and suggesting interventions, immediate actions are often initiated from the highest level of government to improve overall development outcomes. The latest meeting was held during June-July 2023 by Hon'ble Prime Minister covering 9 sectors.

CAPACITY BUILDING

One of DMEO's goals is to institutionalize the application of M&E at all levels of Government policy and programmes, thereby improving the efficiency, effectiveness, equity, sustainability, and achievement of results. Over the past year, DMEO has been taking several initiatives to build individual and institutional capacities at the Central and State levels. These initiatives are supported through synergistic partnerships with Government stakeholders, global experts, think tanks and academic organizations.

CAPACITY BUILDING OF STATE-LEVEL UNIVERSITIES

DMEO, in pursuance of the goal of cooperative federalism, is engaging with Central and State universities for knowledge-sharing as well as promoting monitoring and evaluation.

The initial partnership with this network of universities and academic institutions is aimed at conducting quick field-level assessments of important beneficiary-oriented schemes. The first round of the capacity building of the universities is currently under implementation and is being done in 10 States with 10 universities. The second round of the same is underway and is proposed to be done in collaboration with 14 universities from 14 States.

STATEMENT OF INTENT WITH WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME (WFP)

On 23 March, 2023 DMO and the World Food Programme (WFP) signed a MoU to extend the strategic and technical collaboration for strengthening monitoring and evaluation in India. The MoU was signed by Shri Sanjay Kumar, Director General, DMO and Ms. Elisabeth Faure, Representative and Country Director, World Food Programme, India. The partnership between DMO and WFP will focus on technical assistance for undertaking evaluation studies and capacity building for Government officials on M&E as well as collaboration for knowledge dissemination and outreach activities related to M&E.

DMO also hosted 2 events in the 5th edition of the annual gLOCAL Evaluation Week, a global monitoring and evaluation knowledge-sharing movement convened by the Global Evaluation Initiative.

CAPACITY BUILDING OF STATES/ UTs

DMO has been engaging with States/UTs through training programmes for capacity building along with sharing guidelines and toolkits for monitoring and evaluation with individual states as per their requirements. Aligned with NITI's mandate of promoting cooperative federalism, DMO has been engaging with the planning departments of States/UTs.

TRAINING SESSIONS FOR STATES/UTs



To strengthen the M&E capacities across the country, DMEO organized several training sessions during the last year:

DMEO, NITI Aayog conducted three training programmes to empower National and State level officials. A two days (6 – 7 June 2023) training programme was organised for the 19th Round of Phase III, Mid-Career Training Programme (for IAS Officers who have completed 9 to 11 years of service) at LBSNAA, Mussoorie. The training sessions focused on the module - “Monitoring/Evaluation and OOMF for Evidence-based Policy Making” and was attended by 180 IAS officers from 2007 to 2015 batches. Trainings were also organised for officials of the Government of Rajasthan and the Andaman & Nicobar administration.

PROJECTS WITH STATES

DMEO has also developed a diagnostic tool to assist state/UT governments in institutionalizing measures for strengthening evaluation. The DMEO team has conducted interviews with 31 States/UTs. The draft national and state report have been shared for feedback. DMEO is also actively engaging with the SSM team to strengthen M&E capacities in states.



$$f(z) = az + b \bar{b} \text{bar}[z]$$

$$+5 \cdot 5x - 3 = 0$$

$$(a+bc)+(c,d) = (a+c, b+d)$$

$$\hat{R}^E_A = (-A/B)x - C$$

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SECTION 6

ATAL
INNOVATION
MISSION

INTRODUCTION

Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) is the Government of India's flagship initiative to promote a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship in the country. It was set up in 2016. AIM has taken a holistic approach to nurture a problem-solving innovative mindset among school children and create an ecosystem of entrepreneurship in universities, research institutions, private sector and MSME.

All the initiatives of AIM are currently being monitored and managed systematically using real-time MIS systems and through dynamic dashboards. To ensure continuous improvements, AIM has its programmes regularly reviewed by third-party agencies.

Atal Tinkering Labs (ATLs)

10,000+ Labs
1.1 Cr+ students
16 lac+ Innovation Projects

Atal Incubation Centers (AICs)

72+ Incubators
3500+ Startups
30% Women

Atal Community Innovation Centers (ACICs)

14+ Centers

Atal New India Challenge (ANIC)

50+ National Challenges
53+ Start-ups Supported



AIM Ecosystem Development Program (AEDP)

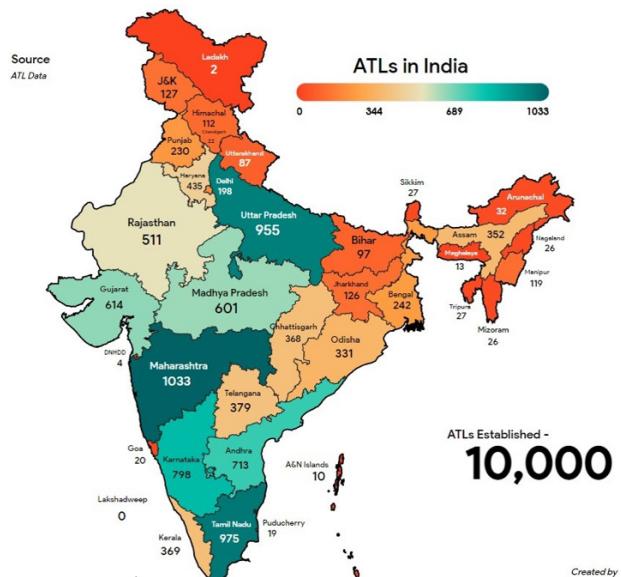
60+ domestic and 16+ international partners

10+ Strategic Programs

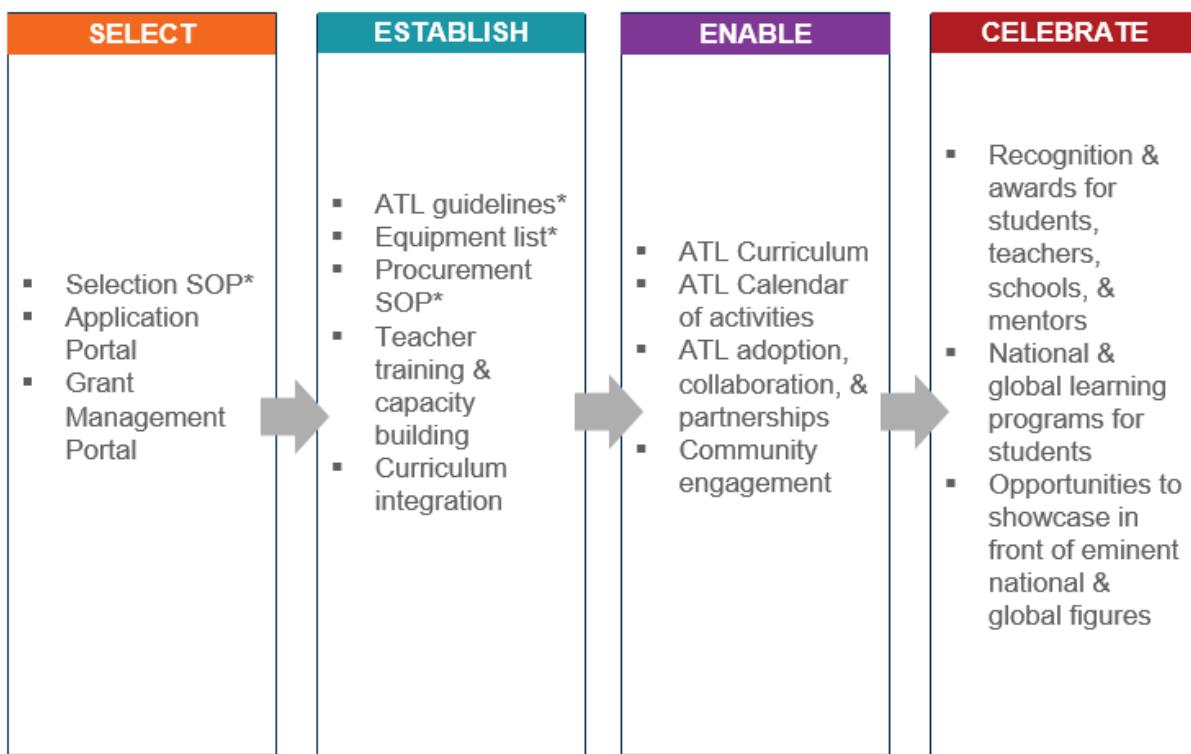
Sector Wise Split of startups supported by AICs/EICs

ATAL TINKERING LABS

Atal Tinkering Labs (ATLs) are a state-of-the-art space established in schools with the goal to foster curiosity and innovation in young minds, between grade 6th to 12th across the country through 21st century tools and technologies such as Internet of Things, 3D printing, rapid prototyping tools, robotics, miniaturized electronics, do-it-yourself kits and many more. The aim is to stimulate a problem-solving innovative mindset within the children of the ATL and nearby communities. AIM has established 10,000 ATLs in schools in 700+ districts across all States/UTs in India.



ATL Statewise Coverage



ATL Programme Framework

KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF THE ATL PROGRAMME

1. ATL Competitions - ATL Marathon, Tinkerpreneur and Space Innovation Challenge

AIM's Flagship Innovation Competition - ATL Marathon 2023-24 based on the theme of India's 75th Republic Day saw a huge participation across India with close to 20,000 innovation projects being submitted by student teams. ATL Tinkerpreneur - the digital skilling bootcamp also saw a participation of 25,000+ teams building digital ventures.

More than 27,000+ entries received in the National Space Innovation Challenge conducted for all school students to solve modern-day space technology problems.

2. Launch of ATL Tinkering Curriculum and Equipment Manual

The ATL Tinkering Curriculum is a structured learning pathway designed to help students develop and hone their innovation skills. The curriculum covers a wide range of concepts, from basic electronics and mechanics to cutting-edge technologies such as 3D printing and Internet of Things. The Equipment Manual contains detailed information about each equipment and tool, including the specifications, applications, and examples of projects that can be built using them.

3. ATL Sarthi

ATL Sarthi, is a comprehensive self-monitoring framework to strengthen the ever-growing ecosystem of ATLs. The initiative has four pillars ensuring the performance

enhancement of ATLs through regular process improvements like a self-reporting dashboard known as MyATL Dashboard and Compliance SOPs for schools to ensure financial and non-financial compliances, on-ground enablement of ATLs in collaboration with relevant local authorities through Cluster-based Approach and providing ownership to schools to analyze their performance through Performance-Enablement (PE) Matrix.

4. State Level ATL Hackathon in Chhattisgarh and Tamil Nadu

State Level ATL hackathon held at Government School, Bilaspur witnessed active participation from ATL schools across all districts of Chhattisgarh. 110 teams from 78 ATL schools participated in the *Tinkerathon*. A similar hackathon held at an ATL School in Thoothukudi witnessed participation from 442 ATL teams of schools across all districts of Tamil Nadu, showcasing the remarkable enthusiasm and interest of young innovators.



State Level ATL hackathon at Bilaspur

5. 3rd Anniversary of NEP 2020 and the 2nd edition of Akhil Bhartiya Shiksha Samagam

27 ATL teams from across India showcased their innovation projects to the Hon'ble Prime Minister at the 3rd Anniversary of NEP 2020 and the 2nd edition of Akhil Bhartiya Shiksha Samagam at Pragati Maidan in July 2023.

ATAL INCUBATION CENTRE

Atal Incubation Centre (AIC) programme was launched in 2017 with a vision to build an ecosystem of business incubators where entrepreneurs can gain access to a variety of facilities, including physical infrastructure, training and education, and access to key stakeholders including investors, other innovators, and mentors. Grant up to ₹10 crores is given to the Green Field Incubators as AICs and Brown Field Incubators as Established Incubation Centres (EICs) over a 5-year period.

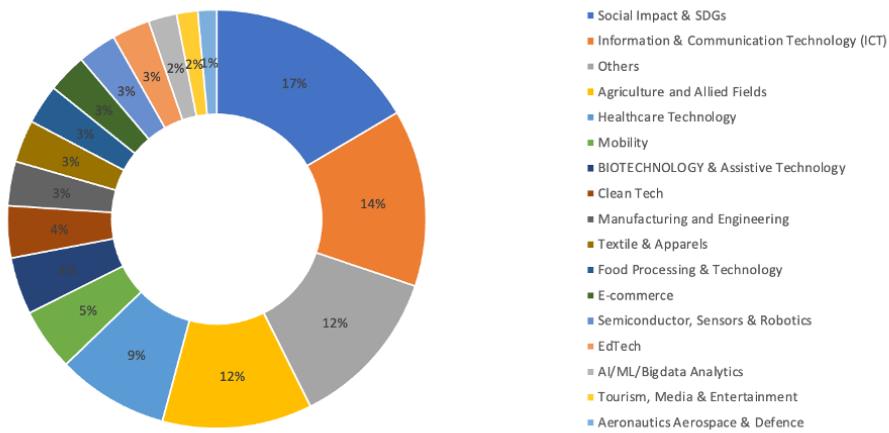


Till now AIM has established 72 AICs in the 21 States and UTs of India in Academic and Non-Academic Institutions. These centres have supported more than 3500 Startups and have generated 40,000+ jobs across the country which works in different sectors and focus.

Split of the same is given below:



Each **△** Signifies Atal Incubation Center (AIC)
Each **○** Singifies Established Incubation Center (EIC)



KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF THE AIC PROGRAMME

1. Assessment Framework for Startup Incubation Centres

AIM launched Assessment Framework for Startup Incubation Centres to monitor and benchmark the performance of AICs in the year 2021. The framework will become an annual exercise for evaluating the performance of incubators and envisages to be a standard framework for evaluating incubators across the country.

The Book Launch of “Assessment Framework for Startup Incubation Centres” was done in July 2023 as a part of the Startup20 Shikhar, summit meeting of Startup20 Engagement group.



Book Launch of “Assessment Framework for Startup Incubation Centres” in July 2023

2. Parivartan Startup Grants Programme

AIM in partnership with HDFC Bank launched the 7th edition of the Parivartan Startup Grants Programme to foster innovation and change. This initiative will give up to `10 crore CSR funding and capacity building support to about 20 incubators and accelerators. These incubators will independently operate thematic/regional incubation/acceleration programmes and further infuse philanthropic capital in selected startups. This programme is expected to help 40-50 startups with scaleup funding, and a significant number of startups will benefit from capacity building programmes run by selected incubator partners.

3. Funding for the Startups and \$1 Million Demo Day

Autocracy - an agritech startup incubated at EIC ALEAP raised \$1.2M	Card 91 - a fintech startup incubated at AIC Great lakes & AIC DSU raised \$13M;	Vecmocon - a startup in EV sector incubated at AIC ISB Mohali raised \$5.2M	Buyo Fuel - a cleantech startup incubated at AIC RAISE raised \$2M
Phyx44 - a startup incubated at EIC CCMB raised \$1.2M	Rises.Ai - a startup incubated at AIC LMCP raised \$1M	Photo1 Energy - a green energy startup incubated at AIC Prestige raised \$550K	Medyseva - a healthtech startup incubated at AIC RNTU raised \$500K

AIM in association with Venture Catalysts launched Second Season of \$1Million Demo Day for the startups associated with AICs & EICs. This initiative aims to support early-stage and sector agnostic startups associated with AICs & EICs to provide them with investment & outstanding networking opportunities to showcase their innovation. Autocracy Machinery won the first edition of the Demo Day and raised a \$1.2 million funding seed round led by Venture Catalysts.

4. Success stories of AIC ecosystem

- ARC Robotics, a startup incubated at AIC-Prestige was selected in top 30 startups under the Swachhata Startup Challenge 2.0 organized by MoHUA, AFD (Agence Française de Development).
- Founders of NeerX, a startup incubated at AIC – ISB Mohali, have been recognized under “Forbes 30 under 30 Asia: Innovators in Manufacturing, Industry and Farming”. This Ahmedabad-based startup helps farmers understand their soil condition using smart sensors.
- 10 startups incubated at AICs in different locations won National Startup Award in 2023. These startups belong to various sectors like Agritech, Energy, and Healthcare

among others.

- CCAMP, one of the Established Incubation Centres supported by AIM, won the National Startup Awards 2022 under the ‘Ecosystem Enabler’ category.

ATAL COMMUNITY INNOVATION CENTRE

Atal Community Innovation Centers (ACICs) have been launched to encourage a spirit of entrepreneurship in the underserved/unerved regions of India by providing enabling infrastructure and facilitating environment for innovation. Till now, 14 ACICs have been operationalized across 9 States, with 36 more centres undergoing compliance check to establish ACIC. AIM intends to establish over 50 ACICs by the end of 2024. A total of Rs. 12+ crores has been disbursed to operationalise ACICs across India. 450+ startups have been supported so far which have generated over 1300 jobs, of which more than 30 percent are led by women/economically weaker sections. Over 300+ outreach and fundraising events have been conducted by the ACICs.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF THE ACIC PROGRAMME

1. Launch of “Stories of Change”

AIM launched “Stories of Change,” a series highlighting the journeys of 15 grassroots change-makers. The initiative is aimed at showcasing impactful stories of individuals who, despite challenges, have made a significant difference in their lives and communities. The series is designed to inspire and encourage entrepreneurship, providing a platform for innovators to share their success and struggles.

2. Graduation of 1st Cohort of Community Innovator Fellowship (CIF)



Community Innovator Fellowship (CIF) Programme is an initiative of AIM in collaboration with UNDP India to facilitate knowledge building and provide infrastructure support to aspiring community innovators essential for their entrepreneurship journey. This is a one-year-long intensive fellowship programme wherein an aspiring community innovator

is hosted at an Atal Community Innovation Centre and acquires SDGs awareness, entrepreneurial skills and life skills while working on her/his idea.

Till date 73 CIFs have undergone training workshops with the help of the network of ACICs and AIM.

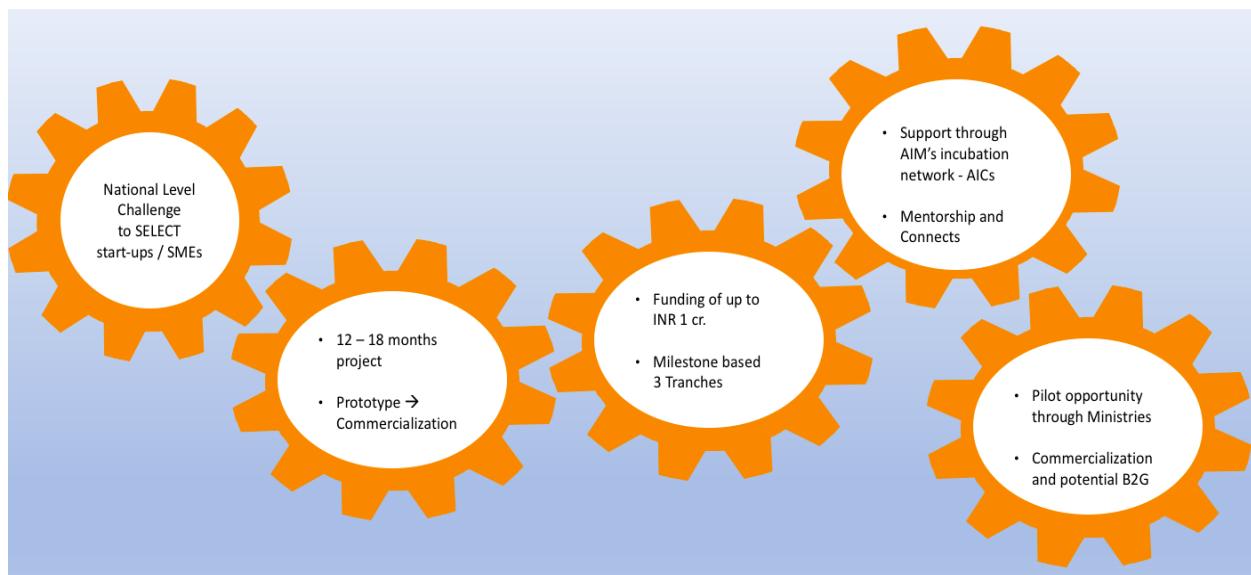
ATAL NEW INDIA CHALLENGE

Atal New India Challenge (ANIC) is a flagship programme of AIM. The programme aims to seek, select, support and nurture technology-based innovations that solve sectoral challenges of national importance and societal relevance. The vision of the ANIC is two-fold:

- (a) help develop technology-based innovations to solve sectoral challenges of national importance and social relevance
- (b) develop an institutional structure to support innovations and absorption of innovation in the government

The primary goal of the ANIC programme is to incentivize innovations in areas critical to India's development and growth – Education, Health, Water and Sanitation, Agriculture, Food Processing, Housing, Energy, Mobility, Space Application etc. ANIC aims support innovators scale over the risks associated with access to resources for testing, piloting and market creation.

ANIC solicits innovations in the prototype stage and supports the selected start-ups through to the commercialization stage over a course of 12 – 18 months by funding up to ₹1 crore and other associated support from the AIM innovation ecosystem.

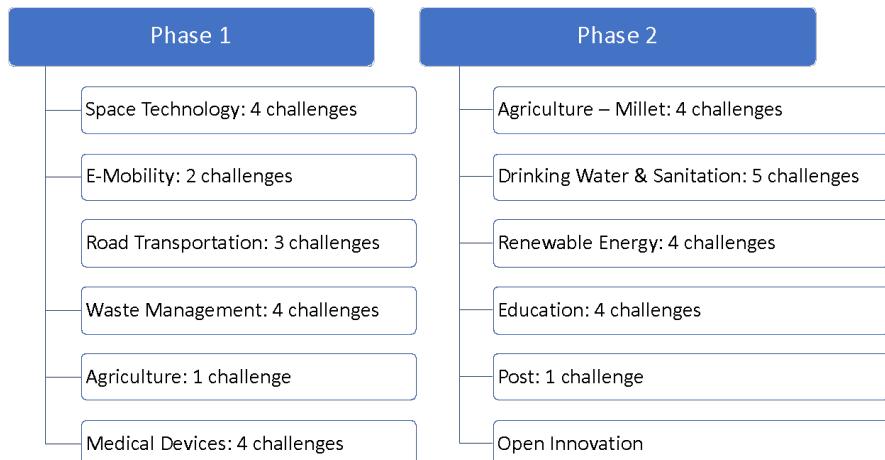


SOME KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF THE ANIC PROGRAMME

ANIC launched 2nd phase of the programme titled “ANIC 2.0”. Under ANIC 2.0 – 36 challenges were launched in 2 phases covering 12 sectors.

120 start-ups/MSMEs have been selected under ANIC 2.0 for funding and other associated support from AIM. Previous cohorts of ANIC – ANIC 1.0 and ANIC-ARISE had 39 challenges launched in association with 9 Ministries. Presently 55 start-ups/MSMEs are being supported with an approved Grant-in-Aid of more than 33 crores and incubation support through AICs. The 1st cohort of start-ups have shown signs of success having generated 400+ jobs and raised external funding of ₹150+ crores

Some notable success coming out of ANIC are:



Climate Smart Agriculture

- Agri-Biologicals – patented SNIPR technology
- increase **efficiency of inputs**, reduce crop loss and increase **shelf life** at post harvest stage
- Impacted > 1 lakh farmers in 4 states
- > 20 cr. incremental farmers income
- Reduced urea consumption of 30 lakh kg



[Bioprime Video](#)



Waste Management

- Hygiene Management solution that completes the loop of **menstrual hygiene economy** by generating harmless, **recyclable output** out of soiled pads



[Padcare Video](#)



Circular Economy: Cities

- Inclusive and Sustainable Waste Management System
- **cityloop** system creates traceable and trackable waste monitoring
- Impacted > 1500 waste workers empowered
- > 17000 MT waste diverted from landfills
- 10+ city level interventions



recity

+ CIRCULAR CITIES
CLOSING THE LOOP ON SOLID WASTE IN CITIES
+ CIRCULAR PACKAGING
DEGRADABLE & HIGH QUALITY RECYCLATE
+ WASTE INTELLIGENCE
END TO END AND SECURE MATERIAL MGMT.

AIM ECOSYSTEM DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

AIM Ecosystem Development Programme (AEDP) is the horizontal cutting across all strategic AIM programmes strengthening the innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem by building networks of relevant stakeholders to provide additional value to AIM beneficiaries beyond the framework of structured programmes.

AEDP has forged over 70+ partnerships (both domestic and international) across various corporations, foundations engaging with industry leaders and faculty that support AIM beneficiaries through infrastructure and technology, market and investor access, creation of modules, and adoption of ATLs.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF THE AEDP

1. Startup-20 Engagement Group

Startup 20 Engagement Group has been initiated under G20 India presidency of 2023 to create a global narrative for supporting startups and enabling synergies between startups, corporates, investors, innovation agencies and other key ecosystem stakeholders.

The purpose of this group is to provide a common platform for startups from G20 member countries to come together to develop actionable guidance in the form of building of enabler's capacities, identification of funding gaps, enhancement of employment opportunities, achievement of SDGs targets & climate resilience, and growth of an inclusive ecosystem.

This engagement group was involved in 4 key events with national and international delegates:

- **Startup20 Hyderabad Inception Meeting:**

The G20 Startup20 Engagement Group held its inception meeting in Hyderabad featuring delegates from G20 nations and nine special invitees from observer countries, representatives from multilateral organizations as well as the Indian startup ecosystem. The group formed under G20 after India assumed the presidency convened its first meeting from 28 – 29 January, 2023 anticipating a productive development of policy recommendations on entrepreneurship and innovation priorities of and across G20 countries. The meeting created a global narrative for supporting startups and fostering synergies between startups, corporates, investors, innovation agencies, and other key ecosystem stakeholders.

- **Startup20 Sikkim Sabha:**



2nd Meeting of the Startup-20 Engagement group in Sikkim

The 2nd meeting of the Startup-20 Engagement group was held in Gangtok, Sikkim. The taskforce members (comprising of delegates from the G20 nations) of the Engagement Group discussed and deliberated upon the first draft of the official policy communiqué. The Sikkim Sabha was graced by 300+ dignitaries from G20 members and invitee countries and international organisations. The Sikkim Sabha forwarded the agenda finalised during the inception. During the meeting, the objectives, and deliverables of the three taskforces, namely Foundation and Alliances, Finance, and Inclusion and Sustainability, were reworked to incorporate suggestions from all the delegates.

• Startup20 Goa Sankalpana:

Embracing the spirit of “*Sankalpana*”, a Sanskrit term for collective resolve, the 3rd meeting in Goa brought together international delegates and experienced members of the Indian Startup Ecosystem, fostering collaboration and knowledge exchange. The focal point of the meeting was to build consensus on the Draft Policy Communiqué, which the Startup20 had published for public feedback. The meeting featured a startup showcase, exciting talks as part of the Startup20x series, cultural experiences, and discussions on the implementation and benefits of the ideas outlined in the document.

• Startup20 Shikhar Gurugram:

The Startup20 Shikhar Summit held in Gurugram in July 2023 represented significant achievement, celebrating the successful completion of Startup20's inaugural year and the release of the final Policy Communiqué.

An integral part of the summit was the Startup Conclave, where startups showcased their innovative products and services, engage in investor pitches, mentoring sessions, and network with industry professionals. The event also incorporated art and cultural elements, creating an enriching experience for all participants. The event featured prominent dignitaries, highlighted Brazil's continued participation, and focused on defining startups and seeking \$1 trillion in investments. It underscored India's commitment to fostering an enabling environment for startups and reinforcing its position as a global innovation leader. The Startup20 Sikhar Summit showcased 100+ domestic startups incubated by various ministries, along with startups from 15+ countries. Separate investment pitch sessions led to soft commitments on investments for 25+ startups by 20 VC firms.

NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY WEEK 2023

National Technology Week was organized from 11 - 14 May, 2023, at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi to showcase the latest technological advancements in India. The theme of National Technology Week 2023 was “School to Startup: Igniting Young Minds to Innovate”. The theme was chosen to highlight the importance of innovation and entrepreneurship in India's economic growth and development.

The event was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister, who highlighted the importance of supporting and nurturing young scientists in the country. The exhibition saw the participation of more than 5000 school students, 1500+ other visitors, 800 exhibitors, 200+ student exhibitors, and 100+ startups from various sectors showcasing their innovations and products. The event aimed to promote and recognize the contribution of technology in India's progress and development. More than 20+ AIC supported startups participated in National Technology Week where they exhibited the innovative solutions.



Glimpses of the Hon'ble Prime Minister interacting with participants at the National Technology Week organised in May 2023 at New Delhi



National Technology Week organised in May 2023 at New Delhi

LAUNCH OF CSR FOR INNOVATION

To promote and leverage CSR financing towards the innovation ecosystem in India, AIM has partnered with Sattva consulting to bring - corporates, incubators, accelerators, R&D institutions and other key stakeholders in the ecosystem together - to enable the CSR collaborations for nurturing innovation in the country.

INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS

- AIM-ICDK:** As part of Indo-Danish Bilateral Green Strategic Partnership, AIM in partnership with Innovation Centre Denmark (ICDK) - a unit under Embassy of Denmark and Denmark Technical University (DTU) designed, planned and implemented the Water Innovation Challenges in India. AIM on-boarded academic partners - IIT Delhi, IIT Bombay and International Centre for Clear Water at IIT Madras and Incubator partners - AIC- Sangam and AIC FISE to guide the teams. Teams were provided mentorship support by a carefully curated and illustrious panel of water experts.
- Dubai/GITEX:** GITEX is one of the biggest and one of its kind youth entrepreneurship, innovation and leadership development events, which is part of North Star Dubai that took place at the Dubai World Trade Centre from 10-13 October, 2023. The Mission Director (MD), AIM visited as a special guest and speaker for GITEX YouthX. MDs' participation helped build ties between the Indian and Gulf Startup ecosystems and increased visibility of the Indian ecosystem through multiple Indian Startups, educational institutions and students.
- Visit by senior delegation of World Intellectual Organization (WIPO) led by Director General (DG) – WIPO:** AIM along with Indian Patent Office and DPIIT organized a one-day Innovation Ecosystem exposure visit for the Director General, World Intellectual Organization (WIPO) and delegation of 8 members from WIPO. The strategic meeting helped in building awareness amongst the international fraternity about Indian Innovation and Entrepreneurship ecosystem especially the ATL.



नीति आयोग

राष्ट्रीय एकता दिवस

शपथ समारोह

31/10/2023



SECTION

7

ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT UNITS

INTRODUCTION

The NITI Administration functions in accordance with the service rules and Government of India instructions issued by DoPT. The administration is concerned with all aspects of service conditions of officers and staff, recruitments, promotions, postings, transfers, retirements, deputations, court cases related to service matters, and provides information under the RTI Act on these matters as well. It is also entrusted with the strategic communications of NITI's policies in the public domain. The Rajbhasha (Hindi) section continued its efforts towards the greater use of Hindi in official work during the year.

ADMINISTRATION/HR INCLUDING GENERAL ADMINISTRATION, RTI

ADMINISTRATION/HR

The administration in NITI Aayog functions in accordance with the Recruitment Rules/Procedure/Service rules and other existing Government of India instructions issued by the DoPT, on issues related to personnel management of employees working in NITI Aayog. The administration is concerned with all aspects of service conditions of officers and staff, viz. recruitment, promotion, postings, transfers, retirement, deputation, court cases related to service matters, besides providing information under the RTI Act on these matters. It is also entrusted with the responsibilities relating to an internship scheme for students pursuing undergraduate/postgraduate degrees or who are research scholars enrolled in any recognized university/institution in India or abroad.

During the year, NITI Administration has advertised for the 3 posts of Senior Adviser/Adviser in the areas of Health policy, Science & Technology, Agriculture Policy and 10 posts of Sr. Specialist/Specialist in the areas of Climate Change, PAMD, Rural Development, Economic Policy, Public Private Partnership, Agriculture, Infra Connectivity, Urban Economics, Econometrics Modeling/Strategic Planning, Industries/Manufacturing in the Flexi Pool. One post of Senior Lead/Lead in the area of Sustainable Development Goals has also been filled.

Two Senior Associates and one Assistant Photostat-cum-Equipment Operator were also appointed in NITI Aayog. NITI Aayog has also advertised for engagement of retired Central Government Principal Private Secretaries/Private Secretaries to work as Consultants in NITI Aayog on contract basis. One post of Library & Information Officer (LIO) was created in the NITI Aayog Library. The framing of Recruitment Rules for the post of LIO is under process. One post of Officer on Special Duty in the personal staff of Vice Chairman was also created.

NITI Aayog is mandated to function as the apex public policy think-tank and has a significant role in promoting cooperative federalism. In order to fulfill its diverse responsibilities arising from its core functions, it has to be a dynamic and forward-looking organization. Therefore, it needs to work continuously on new and emerging ideas and provide strategic solutions. NITI Aayog engages Senior Consultants/Consultants Grade-2/Consultants Grade-1/Young Professionals (YPs) on contract basis to create a pool of diverse skill sets as per the continuously changing needs of governance. They are expected to deliver in such areas where in-house expertise is not readily available within the framework of NITI Aayog.

They are high-quality professionals, capable of lending their expertise in fields such as Economics, Finance, Education, Public Health, Social Sciences, Engineering, Urban Planning, Infrastructure, etc. as per the requirements of NITI Aayog.

The NITI Consultancy Guidelines has been revised in July 2023 bringing out significant changes in the engagement procedure of Consultants/YPs by launching a Resource Pool Portal, to be opened throughout the year, to enable interested and eligible candidates to register their profiles on the portal, creating a pool of resources, from where requirement of Consultants/YPs will be met as and when arises. The ceiling of Consultants and YPs for NITI Aayog has also been increased from the earlier 95 to 450. In the first cycle of selection, engagements of 154 Consultants/YPs have been initiated and 121 selections have been made so far (till March, 2024) for NITI Aayog.

Composition of NITI Aayog staff (NITI Aayog, DMO and AIM)

S. No.	Level of Officers	Government	Lateral Entrant Professionals	Other Professionals outsourced	Total
1.	Additional Secretary and equivalent	12	1	0	13
2.	Joint Secretary and equivalent	10	0	8	18
3.	Director and equivalent	19	9	19	47
4.	Deputy Secretary and equivalent	28	2	0	30
5.	Under Secretary and equivalent	61	7	27	95
6.	Research officer/ Associate in Level 10 and equivalent	17	9	11	37
7.	Section Officer and equivalent	37	0	113	150
8.	Assistant Section Officer(Level 7) and equivalent	70	0	0	70
9.	Other support staff	153	0	4	157
10.	Outsourced Personnel	0	0	135	135
	Total	407	28	317	752

Apart from the Consultancy positions, NITI Aayog has its Distinguished/Resident/Non-Resident Fellowship programme. The objective of the Fellowship Programme is to leverage sectoral expertise to meet the emerging requirements in various sectors by tapping into the best minds from across the world. The programme seeks to draw up global expertise across sectors of national importance to move beyond conventional planning in formulating government policy. It is a competitive fellowship that will allow senior and mid-career professionals of caliber to work hands-on on policy initiatives. It will provide for them to carry out substantive research and interact with a wide range of actors in the Indian Policy circuit, from senior government officials, diplomats and scholars.

NITI Aayog has NITI Internship Scheme also that seeks to engage students pursuing Undergraduate/Graduate/Post Graduate Degrees or Research Scholars enrolled in recognized Universities/Institutions within India or abroad, as "Interns". These Interns are given exposure to various Verticals/Divisions/Units within NITI Aayog and are expected to supplement the process of analysis within NITI Aayog through empirical collection and collation of in-house and other information.

Career Management

The Career Management (CM) Section in the NITI Aayog handles the training and career management related matters as well as foreign training and foreign visit -related matters of all the officers/personnel of all levels in NITI Aayog.

- Between 1 January, 2023 to 31 March, 2024, 97 officers/personnel were deputed to attend various International events (Conferences/Workshops/Seminars/Meetings etc.) held in different foreign countries. These officers, who were deputed for attending foreign events, included officers of NITI Aayog (Vice Chairman, some Members, CEO and some other officers/personnel), while some of these officers/personnel were from the AIM office, the attached office of DMEO, and the Office of the Economic Advisory Council to Hon'ble Prime Minister (EAC to PM).
- Between 1 January to 31 December, 2023, 132 officers/staff/personnel of NITI Aayog were nominated for attending various domestic training programmes (cadre training or other training programmes) conducted by the ISTM of the DoPT or by training institutes of other Ministries/Departments or by some other training Institutes/Organisations. 4 officers of NITI Aayog were nominated for attending foreign training programmes during the said period. Among the aforesaid 132 officers/personnel nominated for various domestic training programmes, a few officers/personnel were nominated for various Industry Immersion or attachment Programmes with some Industry Organisations. These Industry Immersion or attachment programmes were arranged by the Capacity Building Commission (CBC) during the period as part of capacity building initiative.
- A three day internal Induction-cum-orientation training programme for the newly appointed flexi-pool officers/staff (viz. senior Associates/Associates/senior Specialists /Specialists etc.) and contractual individual consultants personnel (i.e. YPs/Consultants etc.) of NITI Aayog, including some such officers/personnel from the Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) and the Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO), was also

conducted at NITI Aayog during 13 - 15 June, 2023 with a view to familiarize the newly appointed officers/personnel with the broad structure, role, functions and flagship initiatives/programmes of the NITI Aayog including those of the AIM and the DMO. During the said Induction-cum-Orientation Training programme, the participants were imparted with a broad overview of the administrative set up and processes in the NITI Aayog, basic overview of the Manual of Office Procedures (MOP) - such as different forms of official communication, basic concepts of Conduct Rules and some other important law/rules/guidelines relevant to those working in the Government set up, detailed theoretical and practical inputs on the use of E-office and inputs on few other useful topic(s) - such as broad concepts of public policy.

- An exposure visit with interactive session on Overview of the Role and Functions/ Initiatives of NITI Aayog was organized at NITI Aayog for ISS Probationers (2023 Batch) on 16 June, 2023. Exposure visit programmes with interactive sessions for Indian Diaspora youths visiting India from different countries of the world under 64th to 74th editions of Know India Programme (KIP) of the MEA were also organized at NITI Aayog, on the request of the MEA between January, 2023 to February, 2024. A day-long interactive instructional exposure visit programme was also organized at NITI Aayog on the 1 September, 2023 for senior defence officers who visited NITI Aayog from the Army War College, Mhow. An exposure visit programme with interactive session on Overview of the Role and Functions/Initiatives of NITI Aayog (including the DMO) was also organised at NITI Aayog on the 21 September, 2023 for the senior civil servants of the Republic of Gambia, who were attending a capacity building training programme at the National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG) under the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DAR&PG), wherein these senior civil servants of the Republic of Gambia attended the said interactive exposure session programme at NITI Aayog on 21 September, 2023 along with the consular officials of the Gambian High Commission, Delhi.
- An exposure visit of IFoS Officers was organized on 1 February, 2024 in NITI Aayog for interaction under the 15th Mid-Career Training (Phase IV) Programme. An exposure visit was also organized for IA&AS officer trainees (2023 Batch) from NAAA Shimla on 8 - 9 February, 2024. An Interaction Programme with Post Graduate Students of IIDL Indian Institute of Democratic Leadership was organized to NITI Aayog on 15 February, 2024. The delegation consisted of 20 students from 12 states. Also, an Interaction with officials of Government of Sri Lanka was also organized on 27 February, 2024 in NITI Aayog. An exposure visit with students of Department of Law, University Of Michigan, was organized in NITI Aayog on 28 February, 2024.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Rajbhasha (Hindi) Section

The Rajbhasha Section as always continued its efforts towards the maximum use of Hindi in official work during the year, keeping in view the annual programme issued by the Department of Official language, Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), and the Official Language Policy of the Union for implementation of the Official language Act, 1963 and Official language Rules, 1976 made thereunder.

Quarterly progress reports were sent to the Department of Official Language and those received from attached offices were reviewed regularly. The Hindi Section translated various documents like Annual Report, Demands for Grants, material related to the Parliamentary Standing Committees, Cabinet Notes, Parliament Questions, Notifications, Orders, OMs, MoUs, RTI matters, forms and drafts, letters, etc.

IMPLEMENTATION

1. Implementation of Section 3(3) of Official Language Act-1963:

In pursuance of the Official Language Policy, all documents covered under Section 3(3) of the Official Language Act-1963 are issued both in Hindi and English. The annual programme and other orders/instructions issued by the Department of Official Language were forwarded to all the sections of NITI Aayog and its attached offices for information and directives.

2. 12th World Hindi Conference (Fiji Conference):

The 12th World Hindi Conference was held in Nadi, Fiji during 15 – 17 February, 2023. This conference was organized by Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) in collaboration with the Government of Fiji for proliferation of Hindi. Sh. Navin Kumar Toppo, Assistant Director (Rajbhasha) participated in the conference as a representative from NITI Aayog.

3. Third All India Official Language Conference (Pune Conference)-

To promote the official language Hindi, All India Official Language Conferences are being organized by the Department of Official Language, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India. The 3rd conference was organized during 14-15 September, 2023 in Pune, Maharashtra. In this conference, Dr. Ashish Kumar Panda, Deputy Secretary (Rajbhasha and Administration), Shri Suraj Prakash Badgujar, Consultant (Rajbhasha) and Shri Ram Baboo, Senior Translation Officer, Ms. Tapoja Dutta, Senior Translation Officer participated on behalf of NITI Aayog and received training related to official language implementation.

PROMOTION

1. Incentive Scheme for Original Noting and Drafting Work in Hindi:

The incentive scheme for noting and drafting in Hindi introduced by the Department of Official Language was continued in 2022-23. The scheme carries two first prizes of ₹5000 each, three second prizes of ₹3000 each, and five third prizes of ₹2000 each. Under this scheme, Rewards and Certificates were distributed to eight prize winners.

2. Cash Prize Scheme for Dictation in Hindi:

An incentive scheme for officers for dictating in Hindi is in operation. Under this scheme, there is a provision of two cash prizes of ₹5000 each (one for Hindi-speaking and the other for non-Hindi-speaking staff).

3. Hindi Diwas and Pakhwada:

Like previous years, Hindi Diwas and Hindi Pakhwada programmes were organised in NITI Aayog from 14 - 30 September, 2023. During this period, a total of 13 competitions

were organized in which 116 participants participated and a total of 53 officers/employees were given awards and certificates. On 14 September, 2023, the Minister of State for Planning had issued appeal instructing the officers/ employees of NITI Aayog to carryout maximum of their government work in the official language Hindi.

4. Hindi Salahkar Samiti (Hindi Advisory committee):

The committee has been reconstituted according to the resolution No. E-11011/1/2018-Hindi, Dated 5 May, 2022. The committee headed by the Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Planning consists of 15 non-official members and 13 official members. After the reconstitution of this committee, first meeting was held on 15 December, 2022 and second on 4 August, 2023. Follow-up actions were taken on the decisions taken by the Minister and on the suggestions given by the Members in these meetings.

5. Official Language Implementation Committee:

The Official Language Implementation Committee (OLIC) functions under the chairpersonship of Joint Secretary (Administration). Meetings of this committee were held every quarter. In these meetings, quarterly Hindi progress reports are reviewed. The Committee suggest appropriate measures for effective implementation of the Official Language Policy of Central Government. The offices under the control of NITI Aayog have also been instructed to organize meetings of the Official Language Implementation Committee regularly.

6. Hindi Workshops:

During the year, four Hindi workshops on different pragmatic aspects of Official Language were organized and a considerable number of participants took part therein and got benefited. Experts with vast experience and knowledge took the workshop and shared relevant and useful information.

7. Charcha-paricharcha Programme:-

Hindi Section, NITI Aayog organized life-enhancing discussion sessions to promote the official language and to develop interest among the staff towards Hindi. So far, detailed discussions were held by subject experts on 04 Important topics like 'Disaster management, Mental health and stress management, Cardiac arrest-its causes and prevention, Women empowerment' and the queries of the participants were resolved.

8. Inspection of sections and attached offices of NITI Aayog by Rajbhasha Section:

Officers/Officials from NITI Aayog did the inspection work of all the 42 sections of NITI Aayog and the concerned sections were given various directives, inputs and appreciation for promotion of Hindi in official use. In addition, the attached Offices DMO and NILRD were also inspected and inputs given.

LIBRARY AND DOCUMENTATION CENTRE

The NITI Aayog Library is one of the oldest and most extensive libraries in the Ministries of Government of India.

The library has a collection of over 1.88 Lakh approx. books, reports, journal-bound volumes, and 1326 audio-visual items (Albums & CDs). It has a collection of documents from the Planning Commission era. It subscribes to 147 journals, magazines, and newspapers in both English and Hindi. It is also equipped with modern facilities, such as access to 12 online Databases, 8 e-journals, 10 e-newspapers (Indian and foreign), 4 e-books Database (English & Hindi) and 5 e-tools and licenses for analytical tools to support policy planning and research. The NITI Aayog Library is successfully categorised as a Category IV Library as per orders of M/O Finance. The library provides access to this rich database to all officials of other departments outside NITI Aayog as well as research scholars enrolled with various institutions/universities.

The current Library Committee is composed of a Senior Adviser as Chairman, Advisers and Assistant Director (Rajbhasha) as Members, and a Director (Library) as Member-Convenor. Two committee meetings are held annually to select books for the library at regular intervals.

The library is fully automated with the help of the software KOHA and uses Online Public Access Catalogue for searching the exact location of a document. Members can now remotely access the diverse content of the NITI Library through a single platform search. This library may also be accessed through a mobile app (mLibrary), which is available on the Play Store on Android and the APP Store on iPhone. NITI Aayog also offers DELNET services to access the catalogue of different libraries.

As part of its regular services, the library curates:

- Daily Bulletin containing global and national news on Economy, Finance and Policy.
- Daily Digest (parts A & B) containing news articles pertaining to NITI Aayog and op-eds on different topics published in various newspapers,
- Weekly Bulletins covering key updates on specific sectors such as Agriculture and Rural Development, Education, Energy, Health, Industry and Infrastructure.

The NITI Aayog Library also provides practical training/internship to the students/professionals of Library Science studying/ working in various institutions in India from time to time.

The library is an institutional member of the Indian Library Association (ILA), Central Government Library Association (CGLA), and Delhi Library Association (DLA). The Director (Library) and other officers regularly attended/participated in International and National Conferences/Seminars/Meetings of ILA, IASLIC, and CGLA from time to time.

OM&C SECTION

OM&C Section is handling Public Grievances online through CPGRAMS since January 2018 and also redressal of Public Grievance Appeals.

The vertical is also responsible for organizing International Day of Yoga. The 9th International Day of Yoga (IDY) was organised on 21 June, 2023 around the themes “Yoga for Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam”.

As per directives of Ministry of AYUSH, following activities were undertaken:

- Issued internal guidelines giving the background of the observation of International Day of Yoga (IDY)-2023 and also Common Yoga Protocol issued by Ministry of AYUSH for information on NITI Portal.
- IDY logo was displayed on NITI Aayog website.
- Yoga Break (Y-Break Practice) mobile application launched by Ministry of AYUSH, a five-minute yoga protocol designed for working professionals was circulated on NITI Portal to familiarise the employees/staff of NITI Aayog.
- A Yoga Training Session was organised in NITI Aayog including activities like Yoga Workshop, Yoga Demo and Yoga Lecture by Experts in collaboration with Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga (MDNIY), Ministry of AYUSH from 15 – 20 June, 2023. This has been organized in order to create interest, encourage everyone to practice, adopt yoga and for the benefit of Officers/Employees of NITI Aayog.
- Yoga Day 2023 Ceremony has been organized on 21 June, 2023, inaugurated by Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog. All the Officers/staff of NITI Aayog has participated in the event.
- Organized “Rashtriya Ekta Diwas Pledge” (National Unity) administered by Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog on 31/10/2023 for all the Officers/Officials of NITI Aayog/DMEO/ AIM.
- Organized “Constitution Day – Reading of Preamble to the Constitution” by CEO, NITI Aayog on 26 November, 2023 for all the Officers and staff of NITI/DMEO/AIM.
- Circulated Induction Material of NITI Aayog on NITI Portal for information.
- Uploaded consolidated data on the representation of SC, ST & OBC and PWD as on 1 January, 2023 on DoPT.
- Conducted Special Campaign 3.0 from 2-31 October, 2023 to dispose of Public Grievances, References from MPs and State Govts, Inter Ministerial Consultations, Parliamentary Assurances etc.
- Distribution of Invitation Cards for 15th Civil Services Day, 2023 (20-21 April, 2023) for the Officers of NITI Aayog, received from DARPG.

- Forwarded details of Officers of the level of Additional Secretary and above of NITI Aayog and its subordinate/attached organizations to India Trade Promotion Organization for issuance of Invitation Cards for India International Trade Fair'23.
- Forwarded details of Officers of the level of Additional Secretary and above of NITI Aayog and its subordinate/attached organizations to Ministry of Defence for issuance of Invitation Cards for Independence Day and Republic Day, 2023.
- Forwarded updated information regarding India Year Book 2024 received from Sections/Divisions/Verticals of NITI Aayog to Ministry of Information & Broadcasting (MIB).
- Work related to appointment of Registered Medical Practitioners as Authorized Medical Attendants (AMA) for the benefit of the employees of NITI Aayog and their family members, who do not have CGHS facility in the area of their residence.
- Organised Swachhata Pakwada, 2023 in NITI Aayog from 15 September - 2 October, 2023.
- The Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog administered the Swachh Bharat Pledge on 2 October, 2023 - in NITI Aayog, followed by Cleanliness drive in the premises of NITI Aayog

RTI CELL

The RTI Cell responds to all RTI queries received online and physically by posts. During the year 2022-2023 and 2023-24, the Cell was engaged in the following activities:

Annual Year 2023-2024 (from 1 January, 2023 to to 31 March, 2024)

- 976 RTI Applications and 63 Appeals were received
- 13 CIC hearings were attended

COMMUNICATION CELL

The Communications Cell of NITI Aayog plays a crucial role in consolidating and disseminating knowledge and insights generated across NITI verticals through various channels, including traditional media (print and audio-visual), social media platforms, and the NITI Aayog website.

OVERVIEW

In the fiscal year 2023-24, the Communication Cell efficiently managed NITI's social media space, handling tasks from content creation to collateral design, hashtag selection, and overall communication strategy. This comprehensive approach ensured seamless coordination of social media content across various campaigns and significant events such as ABP Fellows training, Bharat Ke Badhte Kadam, NITI-For-States, Sankalp Saptah (launch of Champions for Change), Aspirational Blocks Programme, Aspirational Districts Programme, Vocal for Local, Viksit Bharat, and G20 outcome series workshops. Additionally, the cell managed collaterals and press releases, ensuring a cohesive and impactful online presence.

A brief of various creative activities done during 2023-24 as follows:

Bharat Ke Badhte Kadam:

This campaign was developed to showcase transformative stories of change through videos, reels, and infographics originating from aspirational districts. A total of 512 posts were shared across diverse social media platforms, accumulating an impressive overall impression count of 17.63 million.



NITI-For States:

The 'NITI For States' initiative serves as a cross-sectorial knowledge platform designed to become a Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) for Policy and Good Governance. Films and collaterals were designed for the launch of the 'NITI For States' platform, with the film being played at the launch event by Minister of Communications, Railways, and Electronics & Information Technology Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw on March 07, 2024. It was live-streamed nationwide, with all state departments attending the programme virtually.



NITI FOR STATES

Towards a Viksit Bharat @2047

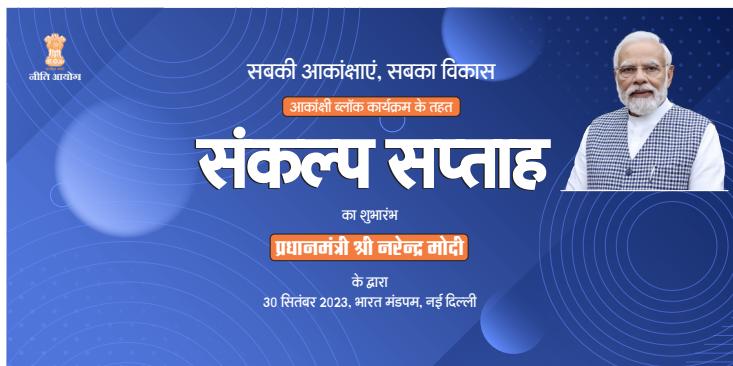
Launch of NITI For States Platform and
Viksit Bharat Strategy Room

7 March 2024

Rang Bhawan Auditorium,
Akashvani Bhawan, New Delhi

Sankalp Saptah:

Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi launched a unique week-long programme for Aspirational Blocks in the country called 'Sankalp Saptah' at Bharat Mandapam on September 30, 2023. Films on the ABP champions of change portal and overall aspirational district programme were prepared.



Viksit Bharat @2047:

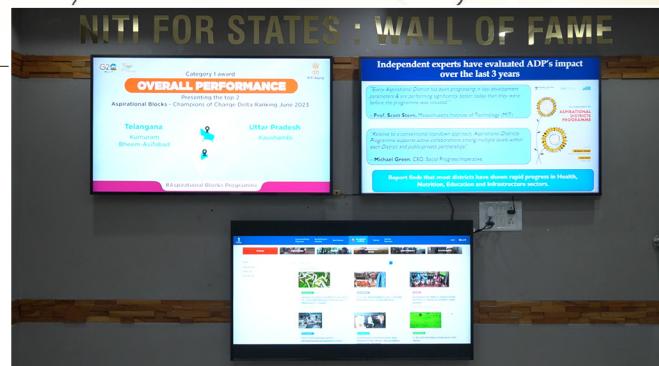
Films were produced for the launch of Viksit Bharat @2047, inviting suggestions from universities and students across India. A sustained social media campaign was conducted for inviting suggestions for the vision document. The film was played at the launch event by Hon'ble PM on December 11, 2023, and live-streamed at all Raj Bhawans across the country, with students attending the programme virtually. As a result of the campaign, more than 15 lakh suggestions from youth of the country were received for the vision of Viksit Bharat @2047.





Launch of Wall of Fame:

A Wall of Fame was designed and launched at NITI Aayog, showcasing the top-ranking districts and their initiatives based on ADP rankings. This initiative aimed to encourage the best practices of districts under the ADP.



NITI - G20 THINK TANK WORKSHOP SERIES			
THEME	TITLE	DATE	VENUE
G20 to G21	India - AU cooperation for a better inclusive world	01 November 2023	Hall - Mumtaz Hotel Taj Palace, SP Marg, Diplomatic Enclave, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi
Data for Development	Harnessing Data for Development	03 November 2023	Hall - Jehangir Hotel Taj Palace, SP Marg, Diplomatic Enclave, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi
Tourism	Implementing the Goa Roadmap for Tourism	04 November 2023	Hall - Desire Hotel Le Meridien Windsor Pl, Connaught Place, New Delhi - 110001
Digital Public Infrastructure	Transformative Technology - Promoting Development, Growth and Innovation	05 November 2023	Hall - Inspire Hotel Le Meridien Windsor Pl, Connaught Place, New Delhi
SDG	Accelerating Progress on Sustainable Development Goals	06 November 2023	Conference Room No. 2 Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi
Trade and GCVs	Inclusive Trade for prosperity	06 November 2023	Hall-Aftab Mahatab Hotel Taj Mahal, No.1, Man Singh Road New Delhi
Indian Development Model	Indian Development Model	07 November 2023	Hall - Desire Hotel Le Meridien Windsor Pl, Connaught Place, New Delhi - 110001
Women Led Development	NariShakti - Towards Women Led Development	08 November 2023	Hall-Yantra Hotel The Park Hotel, 15, Hanuman Road Area, Connaught Place, New Delhi
Reforming MDBs and Climate Finance	Accessing MDB & Global Finance for Development & GreenGrowth	09 November 2023	Hall - Mumtaz Hotel Taj Palace, SP Marg, Diplomatic Enclave, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi
Green Development	Green Development	09 November 2023	Hall - Desire Hotel Le Meridien Windsor Pl, Connaught Place, New Delhi - 110001

By invitation only

G20 Outcome Series Workshops:

The Communication Cell successfully curated and timely delivered all collaterals (detailed and high-quality materials) for the 10 G20 outcome workshops, contributing to the success of these events.

Social Media Outreach:

The Communication team developed a cohesive social media presence, resulting in a significant increase in followers by 170K. Within 6 months, a total of 1678 posts were displayed across all platforms, accumulating an impression of 63.86 million and increasing the total followers to 5.31 million.

**Launch of 'NITI For States' WhatsApp Channel:**

The Communication Cell developed and launched the NITI-for-States WhatsApp channel, serving as a direct line of communication with the community. Within two months, the total number of followers of the WhatsApp channel reached 7000. The Communication Cell plans to create more engaging content buckets, such as interviews under NITI Talks, Impact of Key Government Schemes, Policy in Focus, NITI in a Minute, and Fact Friday, on social media in the coming days.



NITI For States ✅

7,903 followers

Follow
 Forward
 Share

Official WhatsApp Channel of NITI Aayog for the NITI for States initiative.

For more information, visit www.nitiforstates.gov.in

X (Twitter): <https://twitter.com/NITIAayog>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/niti.aayog/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NITIAayog/>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/35688600/admin/feed/posts/>

GOVERNING COUNCIL SECRETARIAT & COORDINATION, PARLIAMENT

GOVERNING COUNCIL SECRETARIAT & COORDINATION

The Governing Council Secretariat coordinates the activities of all the subject matter Verticals/Divisions/Units of NITI Aayog. It also circulates various correspondence received from different Ministries/Departments/States/UTs to the concerned verticals. The Secretariat coordinated the 8th meeting of the Governing Council of NITI Aayog held on 27 May, 2023 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Prime Minister. The Secretariat coordinated with the respective Ministries/Departments for action taken report on the decisions taken during the 8th meeting of Governing Council and preparation of Agenda notes for the 9th meeting of Governing Council. Further actions on the decisions taken at the 8th GCS meeting are underway.

As a coordination focal point, the Secretariat organized weekly Senior Officers Meetings (SOMs), and the Senior Management Council (SMC) under the Chairmanship of the Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog. It facilitated discussion on key policies & priorities and suggestions cross sectoral strategies for their implementation, besides deliberating on research proposals/ projects/ studies to be outsourced by NITI Aayog.

In addition, it coordinated and collated information from the verticals/divisions concerned for the references received from PMO and Cabinet Secretariat specifically pertaining to the achievements/policy decisions pertaining to NITI Aayog in last 9 years, inputs and action points emanating from the Independence Day Speech, action points from PM's interaction with the Secretaries of Central Ministries/Departments, etc.

PARLIAMENT SECTION

There is a full-fledged Parliament Section in NITI Aayog which handles all the Parliamentary work concerning the Ministry of Planning.

The Parliament Section coordinates with the different verticals within NITI Aayog for timely disposal of Parliament Question (PQ) during the Parliament Session. It includes forwarding of PQs to concerned vertical for obtaining the replies and uploading of the answers on the website of Parliament, after seeking due approval from Minister of Planning. The duly approved answers are also submitted to the Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha for laying the same on the table of the House.

In addition to the above, the work related to providing inputs to the issues raised during the Meetings of Consultative Committee, Standing Committees, and various other Committees are also provided in time.

As regards the Parliamentary Assurances, as a part of digital India initiative, Parliament Section regularly monitors the OAMS (Online Assurance Monitoring System) for obtaining the information about the Government Business pending against Ministry of Planning and take necessary steps for disposal of pending Parliament Assurances. The Section also assists in organizing various DDG Meetings (Demand for Grants) during budget session for finalizing the NITI Aayog's Budget.



SECTION 8

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE
OF LABOUR
ECONOMICS RESEARCH
AND DEVELOPMENT
(NILERD)**

INTRODUCTION

The National Institute of Labour Economics Research and Development (NILERD), an autonomous Institute under NITI Aayog is an institute mandated for training and research activities. Over the last 60 years, NILERD has carved out a niche in the field of human resource development, monitoring and evaluation of public policies and programmes evolving itself into newer areas like SDGs, Financial Inclusion, Public Policy and Governance etc. During FY 2023-24, the institute has conducted various training programmes, both at National and International level.

TRAINING PROGRAMMES DURING 2023-24

A. INTERNATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMMES (ITPS) (SPONSORED BY THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS)

NILERD conducts training programmes under the prestigious Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) scheme, sponsored by the Ministry of External Affairs. These are programmes for senior and middle level officials from the Government/Industry/Academia, particularly from the developing nations all across the world. During 2023-24, about 200 participants from more than 40 countries have attended the training programmes in NILERD. In a first, NILERD conducted a training programme on Sustainable Development Goals in Spanish Language that was very well received by the participants.

Following Courses were conducted under ITEC Programme:

i. **Public Policy & Governance (20 September - 10 October, 2023)**

Three weeks ITP on Public Policy and Governance was attended by 28 delegates from 18 countries. The participants also visited NITI Aayog, MeITY and DoCA deliberating different citizen centric policy initiatives undertaken by the Government of India.



Participants of the PPG programme at NITI Aayog

ii Sustainable Development Goals (in Spanish language) (26 October – 8 November, 2023)

A two weeks International Training Programme on SDGs in Spanish Language was conducted by NILERD that was attended by 25 participants from 6 Latin American Countries. This programme was unique and first of its kind, being conducted in Spanish Language. It focused on approaches and strategies being used for achieving SDGs, budgeting of SDGs, and need of reliable and accessible data for attainment of SDGs – National Indicator Framework (NIF), SDG localisation, Targets, Indicators and government initiatives. In addition, participants also visited UN India Office, Central Health Education Bureau and a Common Service Centre as part of their study tour/ Field visit.



Participants at the United Nations India Office

iii Monitoring & Evaluation of Development Projects/Programmes (22 November – 12 December, 2024)

The three weeks programme, aimed to sensitise about the role and importance of a robust M&E system for effective design and planning of public delivery system, use of research tools, concepts and techniques was attended by 27 participants from 25 countries from Asia, Africa and Latin America.

iv Digitalization and Human Resource Management (17 January- 6 February, 2024)

The three weeks programme gave a practical orientation on the impact of the changing digital technology on different HRM activities in relation to the changing nature of the workforce. The course was attended by 30 participants from 30 countries.

v Skill Development, Entrepreneurship, and Innovation (21 February - 12 March, 2024)

The course helped in capacity building of the participants for designing responsive policy, financial architecture, implementation and assessment framework for skills, entrepreneurship and innovation. It gave exposure to successful entrepreneurship, start-ups and innovators at the sectoral level and appreciated the role of grassroot level innovation and social innovation. The programme was attended by 28 participants from 28 countries.

vi SDGs: An Integrated Approach (20 March - 9 April, 2024)

The programme oriented the participants towards the 17 SDGs; it provided a platform to discuss the challenges faced by participating countries, impact information about various roles and responsibilities of elected representatives. It also acquainted the participants with various guidelines of development programmes, shared the usage of new tools & technologies and gave a glimpse of how India is taking it forward.



Participants during the inauguration ceremony

vii Citizen Centric Governance and Use of Digital Technology (14 March - 3 April, 2024)

The training programme helped the participants to understand the concept and components of citizen centric governance and acquainted them with India's Journey of using digital technology in governance. It familiarized them with how reforms in governance have led to transformation in public service delivery mechanism in India. The programme was attended by 28 participants from 17 countries.



Inauguration of the Programme on Citizen Centric Governance and Use of Digital Technology

viii Financial Inclusion and Digital Transformation (27 March- 16 April, 2024)

The course covered basic and advanced issues in the field of developmental finance and digital technology and their applications in the field of good governance and financial inclusion. The course was attended by 31 Participants from 28 countries.

ix Health Sector programmes & e-Health Initiatives: India (26 February- 17 March, 2024)

The Training Programme provided a comprehensive knowledge to the participants about various flagship initiatives in health sector, their implementation & monitoring with use of digital technology in India. It was attended by 20 participants from 8 countries.



Valedictory function held at NITI Aayog

x Upcoming International Training Programmes:

Four more residential training programmes and one online programme, scheduled during the current Financial Year 2023-24 include:

- a. SDGs: An Integrated Approach
- b. Skill Development, Entrepreneurship and Innovation
- c. Digitalization and Human Resource Management
- d. Citizen Centric Governance and Use of Digital Technology
- e. Online e-ITEC on Management Information System'

B. DOMESTIC TRAINING PROGRAMMES

These programmes are specially curated for officials of States/UTs or Ministries/ Departments with an aim to build capacity and helping the officers to acquire the requisite knowledge, skills and attitudinal competencies in their domain of work to match the global standards. The details of the courses conducted during 2023-24 are as follows:

i Capacity Building Training Programme on Monitoring & Evaluation 1 – 6 January, 2024 and 8 – 13 January, 2024

This course is a specially designed curriculum for the officials of Jammu and Kashmir. The first batch was attended by 22 officials from the Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Department, Jammu. The second batch of the programme, held during 8 January – 13 January, 2024 was attended by 20 officials from the same department from Kashmir. The programme was commissioned by the UTs of Jammu and Kashmir.

ii National Training Programme on Sustainable Development Goals

The Course, held during 12-16 February, 2024, strove to strengthen the understanding about the SDG Framework, targets and indicators, while deep diving into some of the Goals to understand the reality in a much more granular manner, examining and improving existing efforts, tools and techniques for measuring, monitoring and evaluating results with reference to SDGs. 28 officers from 18 States attended the training programme.



State officials interacting with NITI officials in a brain storming session on NITI for States

iii Awareness Generation and Sensitization Training Programme on Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016

The above course, last of the 10 courses commissioned by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MoSJE) was attended by 43 employees of Public Sectors like MCD, DJB, Banks etc.

iv Knowledge Sharing meet

NILERD and NABARD Consultancy Services co-organised a 2-day Knowledge Sharing Meet that was attended by 48 participants.

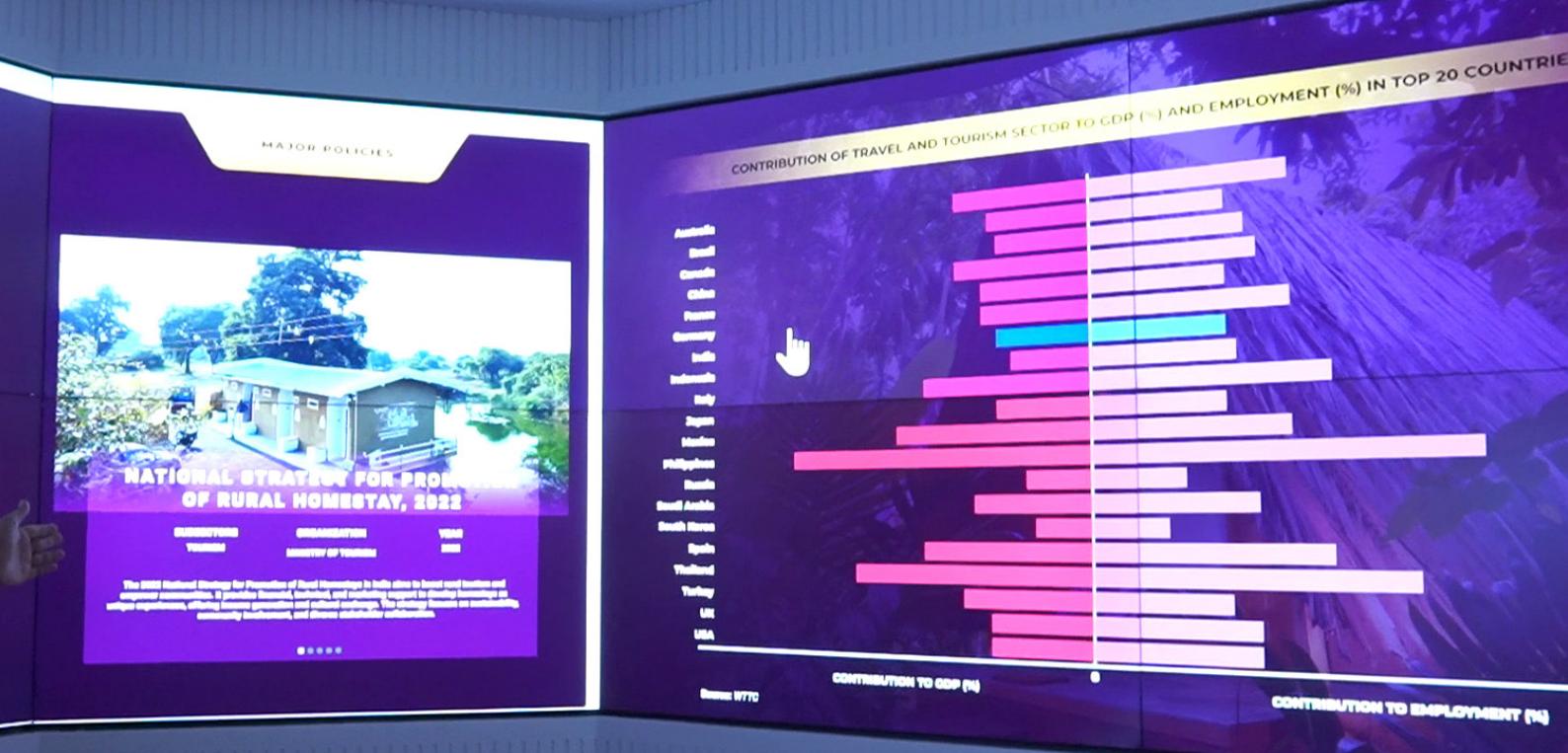
C. COLLABORATION

1. NILERD has been appointed as Central Nodal Agency (CNA) by NITI Aayog for their central sector schemes viz, Atal Innovation Mission, Aspirational Districts Programme and State Support Mission.
2. NILERD has signed an MoU with CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd wherein CSC SPV will utilize infrastructure of NILERD for conducting training for Village Level Entrepreneurs. To start with, one such training programme for district managers was conducted by CSC during 23 – 26 April, 2023 at NILERD campus.

3. In an endeavour to strengthen procurement practices, an MoU was signed between Government e-Marketplace (GeM) and NILERD. This collaboration aims to strengthen capacity-building initiatives through collaborative workshops and specialised training sessions for Central and State Government Ministries, Departments, and Public Sector Units (PSUs).

Annual Report of NILERD (2022-23) has been laid in Parliament during Winter Session 2023

The Annual Report 2022-23 of NILERD along with its Annual Audited Accounts were laid in Rajya Sabha on 12 December, 2023 and in Lok Sabha on 18 December, 2023 by the Hon'ble MOS Rao Inderjit Singh.



ANNEXURES

ANNEXURE-1

**Sectoral distribution of Schemes/ Projects Appraised from
1 January, 2023 to 31 March, 2024**

S.No.	Sectors	2023-24 (1 January, 2023 to 31 March, 2024)		
		Nos.	Cost (Rs. Cr.)	%
1.	Agriculture & Allied Sectors	15	197117.07	6.62
2.	Energy	25	293446.96	9.86
3.	Transport	59	1154530.94	38.78
4.	Industry	23	636009.83	21.37
5.	S&T	4	9880.69	0.33
6.	Social Services	23	100448.15	3.37
7.	Communication	7	244134.14	8.20
8.	Others	46	341296.08	11.46
	Total	202	2976863.86	100.00

Sector-wise number and costs of EFC/PIB Proposals Appraised in PFPA (1 January, 2023 to 31 March, 2024)			
S.No.	Sectors	2023-24 (1 January, 2023 to 31 March, 2024)	
		No.	Cost (Rs cr.)
AGRICULTURE			
1.	Agriculture and Farmers Welfare	10	162092.55
2.	Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying	5	35024.52
ENERGY			
3.	Power	7	59140.20
4.	Coal	2	8962.32
5.	Petroleum & Natural Gas	10	131609.72
6.	New & Renewable Energy	6	93734.72
TRANSPORT			
7.	Railways	38	1035391.45
8.	Road Transport and Highways	4	8320.63
9.	Civil Aviation	10	16973.46
10.	Ports Shipping and Waterways	7	93845.40
INDUSTRY			
11.	Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises	2	16035.33
12.	Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises	5	52088.68

13.	Steel & Mines		
14.	Petro Chemicals & Fertilisers	5	513280.88
15.	Textiles	1	4309.00
16.	Food Processing Industries	1	7200.00
17.	Commerce & Industry	9	43095.94
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY			
18.	Bio-Technology		
19.	Science & Technology	4	9880.69
20.	Scientific & Ind. Research		
21.	Ocean Development		
22.	Earth Sciences		
SOCIAL SERVICES			
23.	Education/HRD	10	24802.39
24.	Culture		
25.	Youth Affairs & Sports	1	3915.50
26.	Health & Family Welfare	2	17466.61
27.	Ayush	1	907.23
28.	Women & Child Development		
29.	Labour & Employment		
30.	Social Justice & Empowerment	1	835.00
31.	Rural Development		
32.	Minority Affairs		
33.	Tribal Affairs	2	30511.00
34.	Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation		
35.	Consumer Affairs Food Public Distribution	6	22010.42
COMMUNICATION			
36.	Information & Broadcasting	1	494.45
37.	Post		
38.	Electronics and Information Technology	3	16164.24
39.	Posts and Communication	3	227475.45
OTHERS			
40.	Home Affairs	8	53182.00
41.	Tourism	2	2298.00
42.	Environment & Forests	1	722.24
43.	Law & Justice	3	4482.03
44.	Jal Shakti	3	38361.99
45.	North Eastern Region (DONER)		
46.	Finance	9	10701.28
47.	Corporate Affairs	1	978.53
48.	Planning Commission/NITI Aayog	2	7130.40

49.	External Affairs		
50.	Statistics & Programme Implementation		
51.	Parliamentary Affairs		
52.	Panchayati Raj		
53.	Housing & Urban Affairs	12	218968.68
54.	Skill Development and Entrepreneurship	1	1000.00
55.	Personnel, Public Grievances and pensions		
56.	Cooperation	2	1715.00
57.	Defence	2	1755.93
	Total	202	2976863.86

ANNEXURE-2

Table-2.1: List of New Research Studies Approved during 2023-24 (till 31 March, 2024)

S. No.	Title of the Study	Name of the Organisation
1.	India at 2047 -The Macroeconomic View	NCAER, New Delhi
2.	Impact of Global Recession on India's Trade	Deloitte LLP
3.	E20 Ethanol from Maize: Impact on Food Security	ICAR-Indian Institute of Maize Research, Ludhiana
4.	Time motion Study of accredited Social Activist (ASHA) workers in India	Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI), Gurugram
5.	Definition, Measurement, and Policy: Poverty Alleviation in India 2004/5 to 2021-22	Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Bangalore
6.	Macroeconomics Forecasting Framework for India at 2047	National Institute of Technology, Kurukshetra, Haryana
7.	Macroeconomics Forecasting Framework for India at 2047	Symbiosis International (Deemed) University, Pune
8.	Macroeconomics Forecasting Framework for India at 2047	IIT Ropar, Rupnagar
9.	Education and Skill profile needed for the future	Institute for Human Development (IHD), New Delhi

10	Transforming Indian Vocational Education System	Deloitte LLP
11.	Rapid Growth of Labour-Intensive Sectors in India (Textiles, Leather Gems, Jewelry & Food Processing)	Institute for Studies in Industrial Development (ISID), New Delhi
12.	Landscape of Climate Finance in India: Financing pathways for India's NDC and Net zero Targets	Climate Policy Initiative (CPI), New Delhi
13.	Impact of Non-Major Ports on Shipping Potential and way forward	Bureau of Research on Industry and Economic Fundamentals (BRIEF), New Delhi

Table-2.2: Studies Completed during 2023-24 (till 31 March, 2024)

Sr No	Title of the Study	Institution/Researcher
1.	Promoting Women Entrepreneurship: A Review of select schemes	MSC India Consulting Private Limited, Lucknow
2.	Setting of an Animation Virtual Effects, Gaming and Comic (AVGC) promotion task force	Deloitte, Gurugram
3.	Integration of an Artificial Intelligence Platform for screening of Diabetic retinopathy in Public Health facilities	PGIMER, Chandigarh
4.	Improving Economic Viability of Gaushalas for Production and Promotion of Bio-Fertilizers	National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), New Delhi
5.	Composite Water Management Index 3.0	Dalberg, New Delhi
6.	India's G20 Presidency	Oliver Wyman, Mumbai
7.	Evaluation Study (Country-wide) on Readiness of States and UTs for faster Adoption of Land Value Capture Mechanism	Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI), Hyderabad
8.	Review of Pre-Independence Law	Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy, New Delhi

9.	Assessment of Atal Tinkering Labs	Athena Infonomics India Pvt Ltd, Chennai
10.	Impact Assessment of Pradhan Mantri Yojana	KPMG, Gurugram
11.	India at 2047 -The Macroeconomic View	National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), New Delhi
12.	Social Audit Applying Survey Sampling and analytics	Indian Statistical Institute (ISI), Kolkata
13.	Rationalization of Explicit Subsidies	National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP), New Delhi
14.	Impact of prohibition of Child Marriage (Karnataka Amendment) Act, 2016	National Law School (NLS), Bangalore



सत्यमेव जयते

NITI Aayog