



सत्यमव जयते

NITI Aayog

ANNUAL REPORT

2024-25



ANNUAL REPORT

2024-25

TABLE OF CONTENTS



SECTION 1 NITI AAYOG: FRAMEWORK

Constitution.....	2
Objectives and Features	5
Appointments.....	6
Programme/Subject Allocation.....	6
Governing Council of NITI Aayog.....	8
Fourth National Conference of Chief Secretaries.....	9



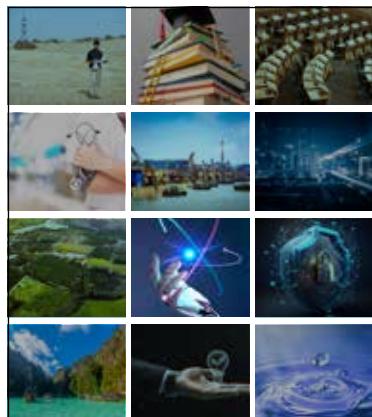
SECTION 2 NITI FOR STATES

Aspirational Districts Programme.....	13
Aspirational Blocks Programme	14
State Coordination.....	17
State Support Mission	17
NITI for States Platform.....	19
Visioning Exercise for States @2047	22
Other Engagements with States.....	24
NITI-State Workshop Series.....	28



SECTION 3 THINK-TANK ACTIVITIES

NITI In-House Lecture Series.....	39
Engagement with Academia and Think Tanks.....	42
Energy Modelling And Data Management: India	
Energy Security Scenarios 2047 (IESS 2047).....	43
International Cooperation	44



SECTION 4

SECTORAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Agriculture.....	49
Data Management and Analysis.....	51
Economics & Finance -I	52
Economics & Finance -II.....	54
Education.....	55
Electric Mobility	57
Green Transition, Energy, Climate & Environment	59
Governance.....	64
Health & Family Welfare, Nutrition	66
Industry.....	70
Information Technology and Telecommunications (including Frontier Technology Hub).....	75
Infrastructure-Connectivity (Transport).....	79
Island Development.....	81
North East States.....	81
Public Finance and Policy Analysis.....	82
Public Private Partnership (PPP).....	83
Research	85
Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Institutions.....	86
Science & Technology.....	86
Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Labour & Employment.....	88
Social Justice & Empowerment	89
Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).....	90
Security	100
Services	100
State Finance	101
Tourism & Culture	101
Urbanisation.....	102
Voluntary Action Cell.....	104
Water & Land Resource	104
Women & Child Development.....	106



SECTION 5 MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office	111
Output-Outcome Monitoring Framework	111
Transforming Data Governance in India: DGQI Initiative.....	112
Global Indices for Reforms and Growth (GIRG).....	112
Sector Review.....	113
Evaluations	113
Capacity Building	113



SECTION 6 ATAL INNOVATION MISSION

Atal Innovation Mission 2.0	117
Atal Innovation Mission 1.0	118
Atal Tinkering Labs	118
Atal Incubation Centers.....	122
Atal Community Innovation Centers.....	126
Atal New India Challenge.....	128
AIM Ecosystem Development Programs	132
AIM ICDK Water Challenge	132
State Innovation Mission Workshops.....	133



SECTION 7 ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPPORT UNITS

Administration/Human Resources	137
Career Management Section.....	140
Rajbhasha (Hindi) Section	141
Karmayogi	142
Library and Documentation Center	142
OM&C Section.....	143
RTI Cell.....	144
Communication Cell.....	145
Governing Council Secretariat	149
Parliament & Coordination.....	149



SECTION 8

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF LABOUR ECONOMICS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Training Programmes during 2024-25	153
New Initiatives during 2024-25.....	153



ANNEXURES

Annexure I	157
Annexure II.....	159

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ABP	Aspirational Blocks Programme
ACIC	Atal Community Innovation Centres
ADAS	Advanced Driver Assisting Systems
ADB	Asian Development Bank
ADP	Aspirational Districts Programme
AEDP	AIM Ecosystem Development Programme
AI	Artificial Intelligence
AIC	Atal Incubation Centers
AICTE	All India Council for Technical Education
AIIF	Australia-India Infrastructure Fund
AIIMS	All India Institute of Medical Sciences
AIM	Atal Innovation Mission
AIMED	Association of Indian Medical Device Industry
AMB	Anaemia Mukt Bharat
ANIC	Atal New India Challenge
APFSD	Asia Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development
ASSET	Accelerating Sustainable State Energy Transition
ASSOCHAM	Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India
ATL	Atal Tinkering Labs
BBNJ	Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction
BDS	Block Development Strategies
BES	Battery Energy Storage
BIPARD	Bihar Institute of Public Administration & Rural Development
BIS	Bureau of Indian Standards
BSMR	Bharat Small Modular Reactor
BSR	Bharat Small Reactors
BTC	Bodoland Tribal Council
CBAM	Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism
CBC	Capacity Building Commission
CBSE	Central Board of Secondary Education
CCS	Carbon Capture and Storage
CCUS	Carbon Capture Utilisation and Storage
CDSCO	Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation

CEA	Central Electricity Authority
CeNSE	Centre for Nano Science and Engineering
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CERC	Central Electricity Regulatory Commission
CESL	Convergence Energy Services Limited
CIFOR	Centre for International Forestry Research
ICRAF	International Centre for Research in Agroforestry
CII	Confederation of Indian Industry
CITaG	Centre for Innovation and Transformation in Governance
CM	Chief Minister
CoC	Champions of Change
COP	Conference of the Parties
CPPGG	Centre for Public Policy and Good Governance
CPSEs	Central Public Sector Enterprises
CRA	Commission on Revenue Allocation
CRISPR	Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats
CRL	Commercialisation Readiness Level
CS	Central Sector
CSIR	Council of Scientific & Industrial Research
CSS	Centrally Sponsored Schemes
CWSN	Children with Special Needs
DARTP	District Agri-Rural Transformative Plan
DBT	Direct Benefit Transfer
DC	District Collector
DEA	Department of Economic Affairs
DG	Director General
DGQI	Data Governance Quality Index
DM	District Magistrate
DMA	Data Management and Analysis
DMEO	Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office
DoF	Department of Fisheries
DoHE	Department of Higher Education
DoPT	Department of Personnel and Training
DPAC	Departmental Project Approval Committee
DPI	Digital Public Infrastructure
DRI	Deendayal Research Institute

ANNUAL REPORT 2024-25

E&F-I	Economics & Finance I
E&F-II	Economics & Finance II
EBCs	Economically Backward Classes
EBR	Expanded Board of Railways
ECDCE	Early Childhood Development, Care and Education
EFC	Expenditure Finance Committee
EIA	Energy Information Administration
ELVs	End of Life Vehicles
EMPS	Electric Mobility Promotion Scheme
EMS	Electronic Manufacturing Services
EPI	Export Preparedness Index
EVs	Electric Vehicles
FAME	Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Electric Vehicles
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
FICCI	Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry
FPSs	Fair Price Shops
FSP	Future Skills Prime
FY	Financial Year
GaN	Gallium Nitride
GC	Grand Challenge
GCAM	Global Change Analysis Model
GCC	Global Capability Centres
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
G-Hub	Growth Hubs
GIFT City	Gujarat International Finance Tec-City
GIL	Government Innovation Lab
GIRG	Global Indices for Reforms and Growth
GMP	Good Manufacturing Practice
GoI	Government of India
GRIT	Gujarat Rajya Institution for Transformation
GSDP	Gross State Domestic Product
GTC	Green Transition, Climate and Environment
GVCs	Global Value Chains
HLEOA	High-Level Event on Ocean Action
HLPF	High-Level Policy Forum

HSRC	Himalayan State Regional Council
ICAR	Indian Council of Agricultural Research
ICDS	Integrated Child Development Services
ICE	Internal Combustion Engines
ICED	India Climate & Energy Dashboard
ICEMF	India Climate Energy Modelling Forum
ICMR	Indian Council of Medical Research
IESS	India Energy Security Scenarios
IFC	International Finance Corporation
IGC	Inter-Governmental Consultations
IIM	Indian Institute of Management
IIPDF	India Infrastructure Project Development Fund
IIS	Indian Institute of Science
IISER	Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research
IIT	Indian Institute of Technology
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IMMT	Institute of Minerals & Materials Technology
IMO	International Maritime Organisation
InvIT	Infrastructure Investment Trust
IOM	The International Organisation for Migration
IoT	Internet of Things
IP	Intellectual Property
IREDA	Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited
ISEG	Institute for Sustainability, Employment and Growth
ISRO	Indian Space Research Organisation
ITA	Institute for Transforming Arunachal
ITPs	International Training Programmes
JLoI	Joint Letter of Intent
JNARDDC	Jawaharlal Nehru Aluminium Research Development and Design Centre
JPKs	Jan Poshan Kendras
KAATC	Karbi Anglong Tribal Council
KPIs	Key Performance Indicators
LCA	Life Cycle Assessment
LG	Lt Governor

ANNUAL REPORT 2024-25

LIPI	Language Inclusive Programme of Innovation
LKI	Lead Knowledge Institution
MCA	Model Concession Agreement
MDoNER	Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region
MEDEF	Mouvement des entreprises de France
MeitY	Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
MHA	Ministry of Home Affairs
MITRA	Maharashtra Institute for Transformation
ML	Machine Learning
MMR	Mumbai Metropolitan Region
MoEFCC	Ministry of Environment, Forest, & Climate Change
MoES	Ministry of Earth Sciences
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MoHFW	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
MoHUA	Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs
MoPNG	Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas
MoPSW	Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways
MoRD	Ministry of Rural Development
MoRTH	Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
MOSPI	Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
MoTA	Ministry of Tribal Affairs
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPI	Multidimensional Poverty Index
MSME	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
MTal	Medical Technology Association of India
NABARD	National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
NaBFID	National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development
NALCO	National Aluminium Company
NAP- AMR	National Action Plan for Antimicrobial Resistance
NCAER	National Council of Applied Economic Research
NCDC	National Centre for Disease Control
NDAP	National Data and Analytics Platform
NDLD	New Delhi Leaders' Declaration
NDMF	National Disaster Mitigation Fund
NEBP	National Electric Bus Programme

NEC	North Eastern Council
NEERI	National Environmental Engineering Research Institute
NEP	National Education Policy
NESIDS	North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme
NFS	NITI for States
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NHA	National Health Authority
NHFS	National Family Health Survey
NIEPA	National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration
NIF	National Indicator Framework
NIFTEM	National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship and Management
NILERD	National Institute of Labour Economics Research and Development
NIoT	Nagaland Institute of Transformation
NITI	National Institute for Transforming India
NMHC	National Maritime Heritage Complex
NML	National Metallurgical Laboratory
NMP	National Monetisation Pipeline
NOS	National Occupational Standards
NPOs	Non-Profit Organisations
NSQF	National Skills Qualification Framework
NUP	New Urea Policy
NZ	Net Zero
OAMS	Online Assurance Monitoring System
OBCs	Other Backward Classes
OEM	Original Equipment Manufacturer
OOMF	Output-Outcome Monitoring Framework
PAC	Project Appraisal Committee
PDS	Public Distribution System
PFPA	Public Finance & Policy Analysis
PIB	Press Information Bureau
PIU	Programme Implementation Unit
PM	Prime Minister
PMAY	PM Awas Yojana
PM-DevINE	Prime Minister's Development Initiative for North-East Region
PMO	Prime Minister's Office

ANNUAL REPORT 2024-25

PM-STIAC	Prime Minister's Science, Technology & Innovation Advisory Council
PNNL	Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
PPAC	Petroleum Planning & Analysis Cell
PPP	Public Private Partnership
PQ	Parliament Question
PSM	Payment Security Mechanism
PTAs	Public Transport Authorities
PVTGs	Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups
R&D	Research and Development
RBM	Results-Based Management
RCE	Revised Cost Estimate
REEs	Rare Earth Elements
RISE	Rapid Innovation and Start-up Expansion
RITI	Rajasthan Institute of Transformation and Innovation
RSNA	Research Scheme of NITI Aayog
RTI	Right to Information
RYSK	Rashtriya Yuva Sashaktikaran Karyakram
RySS	Rythu Sadhikara Samstha
SAFE	Site Adjacent Factory Employee
SAGE	South Asia Group for Energy
SATH-E	Sustainable Action for Transforming Human Capital-Education
SCs	Scheduled Castes
SDAP	State Data and Analytics Platform
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SDP	Special Development Package
SER	Surat Economic Region
SERC	State Electricity Regulatory Commissions
SETU	State Institute for Empowering and Transforming Uttarakhand
SFC	Standing Finance Committee
SIC	School Innovation Council
SIT	State Institution for Transformation
SITA	State Innovation and Transformation Aayog
SITK	State Institute for Transformation Karnataka
SIT-M	State Institute for Transformation, Mizoram

SIT-S	State Institute for Transformation, Sikkim
SMC	Senior Management Council
Sol	Statement of Intent
SOMs	Senior Officers Meetings
SPC	Strategic Partnership Council
SSM	State Support Mission
STC	State Transformation Commission
STs	Scheduled Tribes
TCs	Technology Centres
TIFAC	Technology Information Forecasting and Assessment Council
TIIT	Tripura Institution for Transformation
TRL	Technology Readiness Level
TTDF	Telecom Technology Development Fund
UFRMP	Urban Flood Risk Management Programme
UHC	Universal Health Coverage
UKIIFB	UK-India Infrastructure Financing Bridge
UN	United Nations
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNGA	United Nations General Assembly
UNOC	United Nations Oceans Conference
UNSDCF	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
USIBC	U.S.-India Business Council
UT	Union Territory
VAC	Voluntary Action Cell
VBSR	Viksit Bharat Strategy Room
VGF	Viability Gap Funding
VVP	Vibrant Villages Programme
WASH	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
WEP	Women Entrepreneurship Platform
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organisation
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organisation
WRI	World Resources Institute



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 platform for the Government of India to bring States to act together in national interest and thereby foster cooperative federalism.

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



Hon'ble Prime Minister
Shri Narendra Modi
Chairman



SHRI SUMAN BERY
Vice Chairman

FULL-TIME MEMBERS



DR VK SARASWAT
Member



PROF RAMESH CHAND
Member



DR VK PAUL
Member



DR ARVIND VIRMANI
Member



SHRI B.V.R. SUBRAHMANYAM
Chief Executive Officer

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

Ex-officio Members

Shri Amit Shah
Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs
and Minister of Cooperation



Shri Rajnath Singh
Hon'ble Minister of Defence

Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman
Hon'ble Minister of Finance and
Minister of Corporate Affairs



Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan
Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture
and Farmers Welfare; and
Minister of Rural Development

SPECIAL INVITEES



Shri Nitin Jairam Gadkari
Hon'ble Minister of Road
Transport and Highways



Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda
Hon'ble Minister of Health
and Family Welfare; and
Minister of Chemicals and
Fertilizers



Shri H. D. Kumaraswamy
Hon'ble Minister of Heavy
Industries; and Minister of
Steel



Shri Jitan Ram Manjhi
Hon'ble Minister of
Micro, Small and Medium
Enterprises



**Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh
alias Lalan Singh**
Hon'ble Minister of
Panchayati Raj; and
Minister of Fisheries, Animal
Husbandry and Dairying



Dr. Virendra Kumar
Hon'ble Minister of
Social Justice and
Empowerment



**Shri Kinjarapu
Rammohan Naidu,**
Hon'ble Minister of
Civil Aviation



Shri Jual Oram
Hon'ble Minister of
Tribal Affairs



Smt. Annpona Devi
Hon'ble Minister of
Women and Child
Development



Shri Chirag Paswan
Hon'ble Minister of Food
Processing Industries

OBJECTIVES AND FEATURES

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, recognising 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, in areas that are specifically referred to it, that 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 and 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 help their dissemination to stake-holders.
- To actively monitor and evaluate the implementation of programmes and initiatives, including the identification of the needed resources so as 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, and the objectives mentioned above.

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 Office (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 categorised into four key areas:

- Promoting knowledge and innovation
- NITI for States (cooperative and competitive federalism)
- Driving transformational change
- Monitoring and Evaluation

APPOINTMENTS

In pursuance of the approval of the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Cabinet Secretariat conveyed the revised composition of NITI Aayog in July, 2024 with Shri Suman K Bery as Vice Chairperson and Dr. V.K. Saraswat, Prof. Ramesh Chand, Dr. Vinod Kumar Paul and Dr. Arvind Virmani as Full-Time Members of NITI Aayog. Rao Inderjit Singh was also reappointed as the Minister of State for Planning (Independent Charge). Besides, Government included 11 Hon'ble Ministers as the special invitees in NITI Aayog viz- Shri Nitin Jairam Gadkari, Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda, Shri H. D. Kumaraswamy, Shri Jitan Ram Manjhi, Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh, Dr. Virendra Kumar, Shri Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu, Shri Jual Oram, Smt. Annpurna Devi, Shri Chirag Paswan and Rao Inderjit Singh. Shri Suman K Bery was also assigned the additional charge of Chairman, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM) w.e.f. 11 November, 2024.

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, subjects including special initiatives/programmes is given below while their functional area and key activities during 2024-25 are mentioned in Section (4).

S. No.	Divisions and subject allocation
1.	Administration/Human Resources including General Administration, RTI
2.	Agriculture Policy
3.	Agriculture Technology
4.	Communications
5.	Data Management & Analysis
6.	Drinking Water & Sanitation
7.	Economics & Finance I: Economic Modelling, Scenario Building, Capital Markets
8.	Economics & Finance II: i. All other Economic & Finance matters not mentioned in E&F-I including G20, Multilateral Institutions and Disinvestment; ii. Trade & Commerce
9.	Education
10.	Electric Mobility
11.	Governance
12.	Governing Council Secretariat
13.	Green Transition, Energy, Climate & Environment

ANNUAL REPORT 2024-25

S. No.	Divisions and subject allocation
14.	Health & Family Welfare, Nutrition
15.	Industry & Foreign Investment
16.	Information Technology and Telecommunications (including Frontier Technology Hub)
17.	Infrastructure – Connectivity (Transport-Roads)
18.	Infrastructure-Connectivity (Transport-Railways, Ports, Shipping, Waterways, Civil Aviation)
19.	Island Development
20.	Law
21.	North-East States
22.	Parliament & Coordination
23.	Public Finance and Policy Analysis
24.	Public Private Partnership (PPP) including High Speed Train and Asset Monetisation
25.	Research & Networking
26.	Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Institutions
27.	Science and Technology
28.	Security & External Affairs
29.	Services
30.	Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Labour & Employment
31.	Social Justice & Empowerment, Voluntary Action Cell
32.	State Finances
33.	States i) State Coordination ii) State Support Mission (SSM) iii) Aspirational Districts Programme (ADP) iv) Aspirational Blocks Programme (ABP)) v) National Chief Secretaries Coordination Division
34.	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
35.	Tourism and Culture
36.	Urbanisation
37.	Viksit Bharat - Perspective Planning & Visioning
38.	Water and Land Resources
39.	Women and Child Development

OTHER SPECIAL INITIATIVES/PROGRAMMES:

1.	Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)
2.	Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO) – Attached office
3.	Economic Intelligence Unit
4.	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 UT with legislatures and Lt Governors of other UTs, came into effect on 16 February, 2015 via 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, nine 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. The special invitees of NITI Aayog are also the special invitees of the Governing Council.

NINTH GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING

The Ninth meeting of the Governing Council of NITI Aayog on the theme of 'Viksit Bharat@ 2047' was held under the chairmanship of the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 27 July 2024 at Rashtrapati Bhawan Cultural Centre, New Delhi. It was attended by Chief Ministers/Lt Governors representing 20 States and 6 UTs. Select Union Ministers also participated in the meeting as Ex-officio Members and as Special Invitees; Vice Chairman, full-time Members of NITI Aayog; Cabinet Secretary, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister; CEO, NITI Aayog; and select Secretaries, GoI and other senior officials from the Prime Minister's Office, Cabinet Secretariat and NITI Aayog also attended the meeting.

The Governing Council also deliberated upon the agenda of 'Ease of Living' set during the third National Conference of Chief Secretaries held in New Delhi between 27 to 29 December, 2023, which included sub-themes viz. (i) Drinking Water: Access, Quantity and Quality, (ii) Electricity: Quality, Efficiency and Reliability, (iii) Health: Accessibility, Affordability and Quality of Care; (iv) Schooling: Access and Quality; (v) Land & Property: Accessibility, Digitisation, Registration & Mutation, and additional special agenda items on emerging challenges in cyber security; stories from the ground of Aspirational Blocks and Districts Programme; role of States in rationalisation of schemes & autonomous entities & enhancing capital expenditure; and AI in governance.

Prime Minister stressed that our country has already made a lot of progress in the past ten years by strengthening social and economic infrastructure. From being a predominantly import-driven country, India now exports many products to the world. The country has made its mark on the world stage in wide ranging sectors like defence, space, start-ups and sports.

Prime Minister appreciated the Aspirational Districts Programme anchored by NITI Aayog and observed that the key to its success was continuous and online monitoring of measurable parameters, which led to healthy competition among districts to improve their performance in different government schemes.

Chief Ministers/Lt. Governors gave various suggestions for the vision of Viksit Bharat @ 2047 and also discussed steps being taken in their States. Some of the key suggestions and best practices highlighted were in the field of agriculture, education and skill development, entrepreneurship, drinking water, reducing compliances, governance, digitalisation, women empowerment, cyber security, etc. Several States also shared their endeavours to create a State Vision for 2047. Prime Minister directed NITI Aayog to study the suggestions made by States and UTs during the meeting.



Hon'ble Prime Minister with CMs/LGs of States/UTs and other dignitaries at the 9th Governing Council meeting held on July 27, 2024

FOURTH 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 on an annual basis. Four such conferences have been held till date. The fourth conference was held during 13 to 15 December, 2024 at New Delhi after preparation of over 8 months with both Centre and State officials deliberating on various aspects of the conference theme. The theme of the fourth conference was 'Promoting Entrepreneurship, Employment & Skilling - Leveraging the Demographic Dividend'. The six sub-themes discussed during the conference were (i) Creating enabling Ecosystem - focus on Tier 2, 3 cities: Manufacturing; (ii) Creating enabling Ecosystem - focus on Tier 2, 3 cities: Services; (iii) MSME & Informal Employment: Rural Non-farm (iv) MSME & Informal Employment: Urban; (v) Opportunities in Green Economy: Renewable Energy; and (vi) Opportunities in Green Economy: Circular Economy.

Apart from these, special sessions were also held on the themes, viz. (i) Frontier Technology for Viksit Bharat; (ii) Capacity Building Through Mission Karmayogi; (iii) Economic Reforms in States for Investment; (iv) Developing Cities as Economic Growth Hubs; and (v) From Gridlock to Growth: Oxford study on the impact of PRAGATI in India.

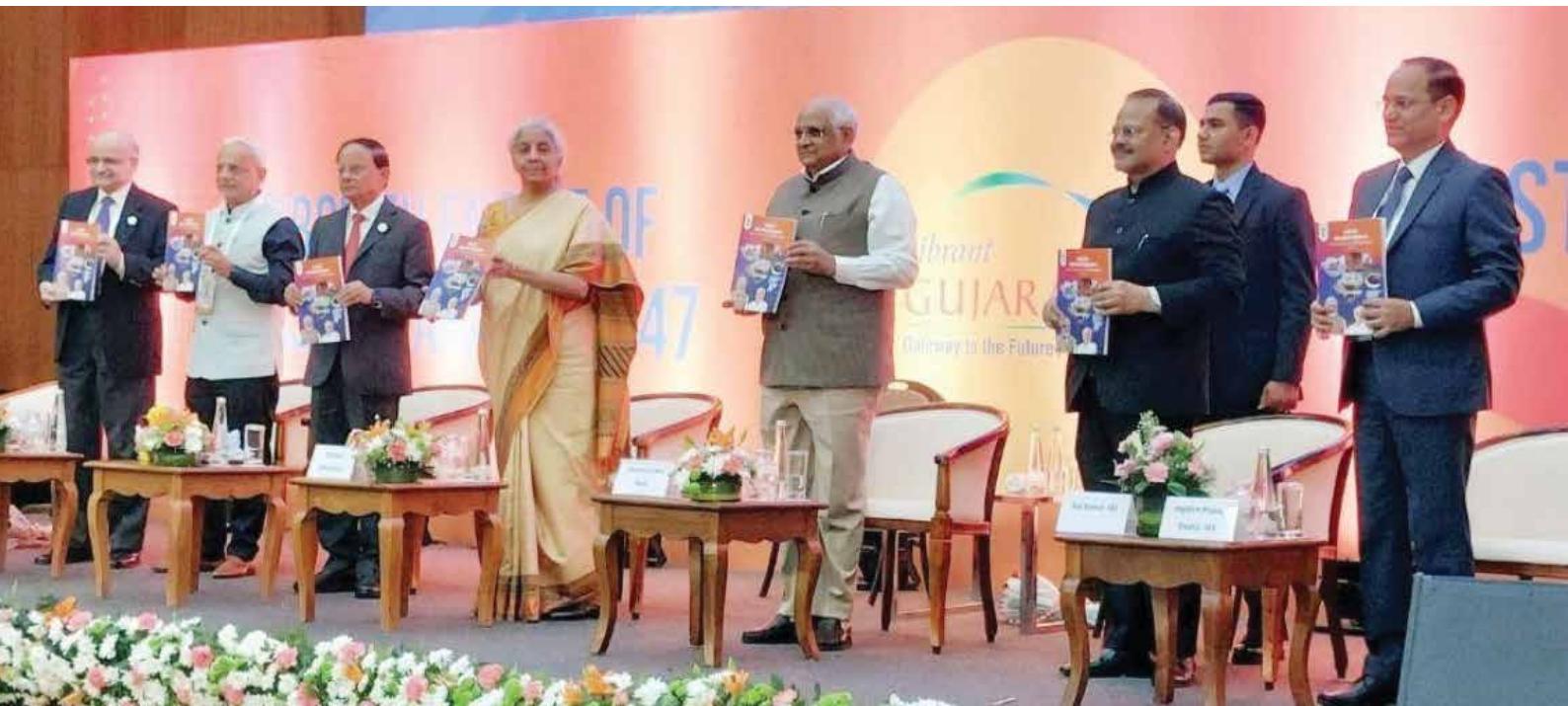
Besides these, focused deliberations were also made on Atmanirbharta in Agriculture – Edible Oils & Pulses; Care Economy for the Ageing Population; PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana implementation; and Bharatiya Gyan Parampara during thematic meals. Best practices from States/ UTs under each of the themes were also presented at the Conference so that the States could draw insights from the success achieved by a State. The outcome of the fourth National Conference of Chief Secretaries is expected to contribute to the agenda for the 10th Governing Council Meeting.

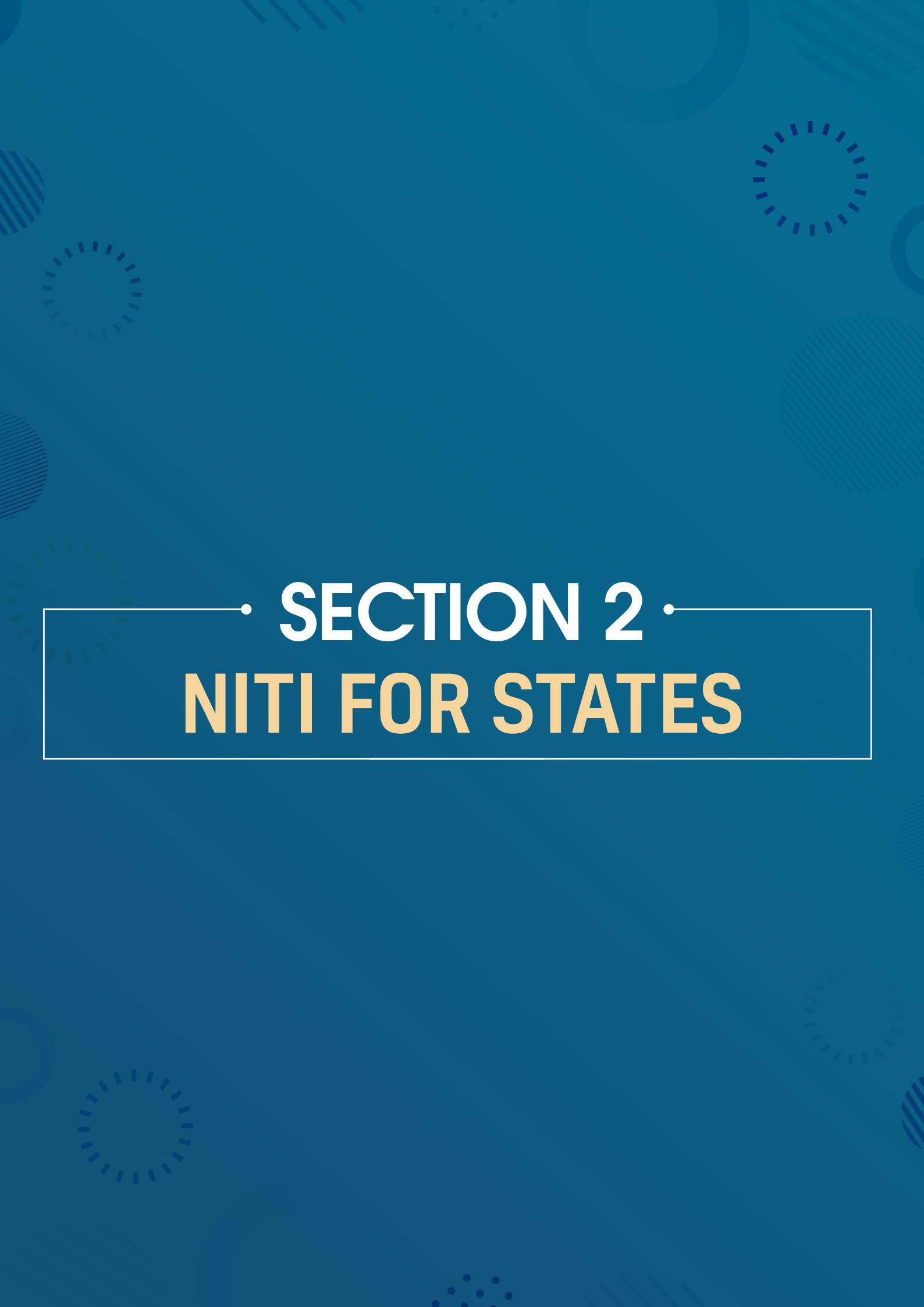
The actionable points in each of these sectors are being taken forward, incubated, and institutionalised by the Centre, States, and UTs together as Team India. To institutionalise the conference, a knowledge and monitoring platform has also been developed by NITI Aayog wherein all the conference material is being uploaded and the action taken is reported by the nodal ministry.

This conference, having participation of more than 200 people comprising of representatives of the Central Government, Chief Secretaries and other senior officials of all States/Union Territories, is a crucial step towards further advancing the partnership between the Centre and the State Governments. It paved the way for synergies between the Centre and the State Governments and collaborations among various stakeholders for achieving better quality of life for both rural and urban populations by strengthening the delivery mechanisms of government interventions.



Hon'ble Prime Minister at the Fourth National Conference of Chief Secretaries of States / UTs at New Delhi in December, 2024





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, recognising 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 programme, NITI has strengthened its State Support Mission as an overarching umbrella initiative to reinvigorate ongoing engagement with the States and UTs in a more structured and institutionalised 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, capacity building of States/ UTs, sharing of knowledge & best practices, launching indices to promote competition and tailor made strategies for specific areas such as education, monitoring & evaluation, SDGs and area specific initiatives for North Eastern & Himalayan region, Island development, coastal States, etc.

ASPIRATIONAL DISTRICTS PROGRAMME

The Aspirational Districts Programme (ADP), as it marks seven years of implementation in January, 2025, 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 KPIs. The emphasis on data is a strategic acknowledgement 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, development 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 a common goal of uplifting.

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.

NITI Aayog actively disseminates success stories and best practices through various channels. This knowledge-sharing initiative is crucial in celebrating achievements and also serves 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, fostering a culture of continuous improvement and innovation.

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 in January, 2023, 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 emphasises 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 programme tracks progress across 40 indicators, with data directly sourced from central ministry databases to ensure accuracy and reduce the data entry burden on field functionaries. Since, the baseline March, 2023, quarterly rankings have been released, utilising delta rankings to effectively measure improvements in these indicators over time.

In the first year of the Aspirational Blocks Programme (ABP), capacity building of block-level officials was conducted focusing on preparation of Block Development Strategies (BDS). Nearly 4,500 officials underwent leadership training, followed by *Chintan Shivirs* with local stakeholders for preparing the BDS. This culminated in the launch of 'Sankalp Saptaah', a weeklong initiative to build awareness and drive saturation of services across Aspirational Blocks. The Block level officials also underwent sectoral trainings to devise theme-specific strategies and interventions.

The brand "Aakanksha" was launched in March, 2024, to consolidate and promote traditional products from 500 Aspirational Blocks under a unified identity. This "Vocal for Local" initiative underscores the economic potential of traditional products while fostering regional craftsmanship and entrepreneurship. By providing a national platform through "Aakanksha," it strengthens local economies and promotes livelihood of the citizens.

SAMPOORNATA ABHIYAN: A FOCUSED INITIATIVE FOR SATURATION OF KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Sampoornata Abhiyan was launched to prioritise the saturation of few indicators in a time bound manner. Launched as a three-month initiative (July to September, 2024), it aimed to achieve saturation in six critical Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) related to health & nutrition, education, agriculture, social development, and basic infrastructure. Led by NITI Aayog, the initiative focused on participatory planning, behavioural change, and data-driven strategies to address developmental challenges in these regions. By aligning efforts at both district and block levels, the campaign demonstrated the effectiveness of time-bound interventions in driving inclusive growth.



Ensuring a Healthier Future: Diabetes Screening Campaign in Chandel District, Manipur



Building Healthy Beginnings: Immunisation Drive for Children in Maddikera (East) Block, Kurnool District, Andhra Pradesh

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 to emphasise the critical role played by the district collectors/magistrates 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.

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 comprises 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 Visualisation 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 3rd party survey data, and upload block level or gram panchayat level data as well for analysis.

One of the most important features of 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 Prabhami Officers/State Prabhami Officers and the Chief Secretaries of the State, detailing their performance on various indicators.

PERFORMANCE DASHBOARD: CHAMPIONS OF CHANGE, ASPIRATIONAL BLOCKS PROGRAMME

Aspirational Blocks Programme Key Performance Indicators Best Practices CHAMPIONS OF CHANGE Fishing Learning Resources Block Development Strategy A/F/A+ DATA / 10

Building Strategies.
Bridging Gaps.
Bolstering Progress.

Improving the quality of life and service delivery, fostering sustainable communities and moving to create circular village economies across India.

Join us on this journey of empowering, uplifting, and transforming lives. Together, we will build brighter, better and progressive futures.

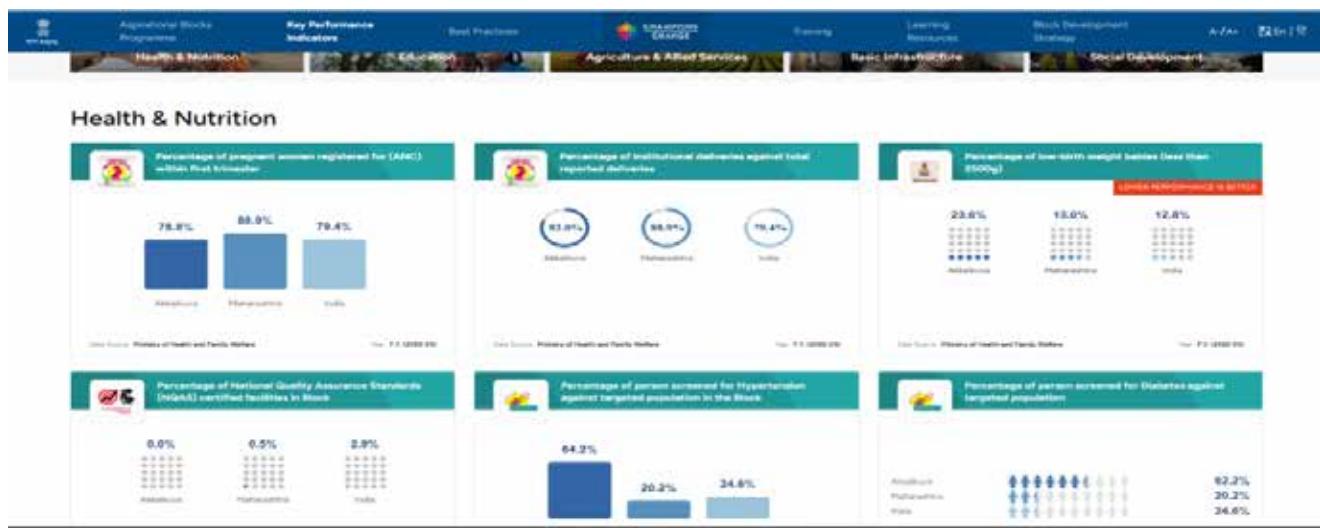
[Know More →](#)

Champions of Change
Aspirational Blocks Programme

The Aspirational Blocks Programme portal, accessible to the public, serves a 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 incentivising proactive measures towards development.

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



Performance Dashboard: Champions of Change, Aspirational Blocks Programme

STATE COORDINATION

The State Coordination Division of NITI Aayog plays a pivotal role in facilitating robust communication and collaboration between the Centre and the States. It ensures seamless coordination of issues and work between multiple Ministries/Departments and States/UTs by allocating specific States/UTs to senior officers in NITI Aayog, monitoring State engagements led by various subject matter divisions, and maintaining comprehensive records of State visits and discussions. This division serves as a crucial bridge to address issues raised by States/UTs with central ministries and vice versa, fostering effective resolution through dialogue and collaboration.

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 institutionalised 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, with a special focus to the core strength areas of the respective State/UT.

Under this mission, NITI Aayog is supporting interested States to establish State Institutions 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 SIT 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.

STATE INSTITUTION FOR TRANSFORMATION (SIT) UNDER SSM

The States/UTs have established State Institution for Transformation (SIT) to reimagine the role of their existing institutions, such as Planning Departments and Boards, with the support of NITI Aayog. SIT being the 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.

As on date a total of 26 SITs have been notified under SSM. These are actively working to identify State specific growth drivers and growth enablers to boost their socio-economic growth and thereby facilitate to develop State and sector specific implementation and development strategies. The following States/UTs have successfully started the work under SSM:

S.No.	State/UTs	Name of SIT
1	Andhra Pradesh	State Institute for Transformation - AP
2	Assam	State Innovation and Transformation Aayog
3	Arunachal Pradesh	Institute for Transforming Arunachal (ITA)
4	Chandigarh	State Institute for Transformation - Chandigarh
5	Chhattisgarh	Chhattisgarh State Planning Commission (SPC)
6	Dadar 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)
19	Meghalaya	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 (TIIT)
15	Uttar Pradesh	State Transformation Commission (STC)
16	Uttarakhand	State Institute for Empowering and Transforming Uttarakhand (SETU Aayog)

17	Nagaland	Nagaland Institute of Transformation (NIoT)
18	Himachal Pradesh	State Transformation Cell (STC)
19	Delhi	State Institute for Transformation-Delhi
20	Rajasthan	Rajasthan Institute of Transformation and Innovation (RITI)
21	Bihar	State Institute for Transformation - Bihar
22	Manipur	State Institute for Transformation - Manipur
23	Gujarat	Gujarat Rajya Institution for Transformation (GRIT)
24	Jammu & Kashmir	Centre for Innovation and Transformation in Governance (CITaG)
25	Lakshadweep	Directorate of Planning, Statistics and Taxation
26	Tamil Nadu	State Planning Commission

LEAD KNOWLEDGE INSTITUTIONS (LKI)

The Mission recognises the crucial role of cross-sectoral partnerships to bring expertise and sectoral domain knowledge to support the SIT. Therefore, to foster such partnerships, States/ UTs are encouraged to designate a Lead Knowledge Institution (LKI) by on boarding institutions such as IIMs/ IITs/ Central and State Universities/ any research-based organisation of excellence in the State/UT/region. The States/ UTs are in process of engaging LKI and to date, 2 LKIs have been officially on-boarded viz- Chandragupt Institute of Management (LKI of Bihar) and IIM Calcutta (LKI of Tripura).

NITI FOR STATES PLATFORM

In order to facilitate cross learning and evidence-based decision making through sharing of best practices, policies and data sets, a NITI for State Knowledge Platform, comprising of a NITI for States Portal and an experience room called *Viksit Bharat Strategy Room* (VBSR) have been launched by NITI Aayog in March, 2024 under the State Support Mission.

NITI for States (NFS) Platform supports 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 Capacity Building Commission (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.

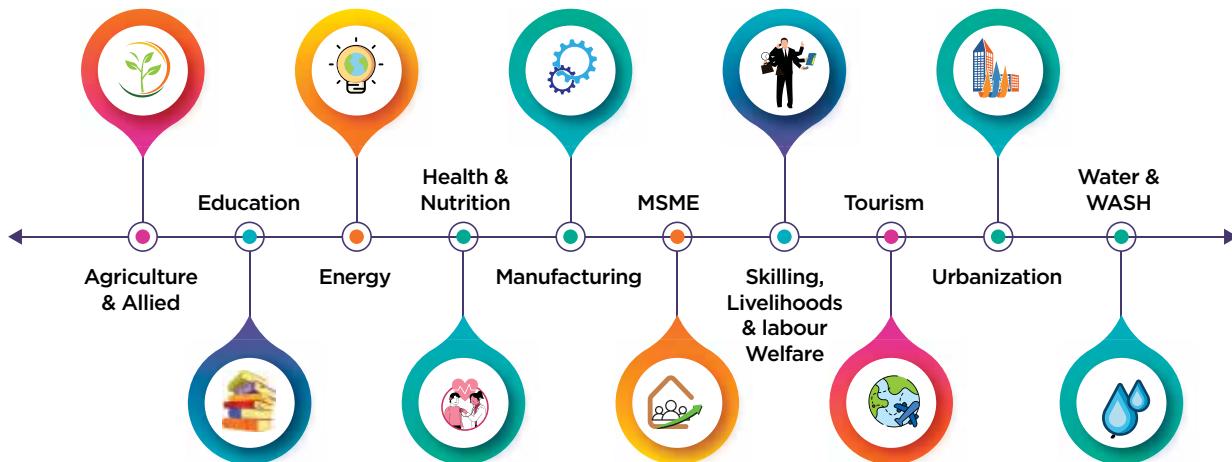
POLICY

5,087
Policies

94
Sector-at a-glance

65
Policy-at a-glance

• EXPLORE POLICY RESOURCES BY SECTOR & STATE/UTs •



• POLICY REPOSITORY EXAMPLE •



Read more at www.nitiforstates.gov.in

BEST PRACTICES

7,483
Best Practices

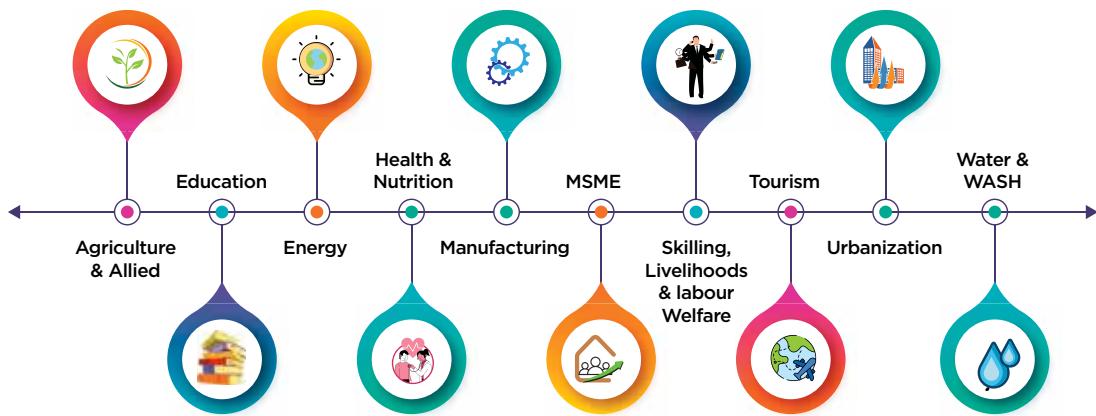
1,078
Case Studies

1,036
Videos

10
Audio Bytes

10
Sectors

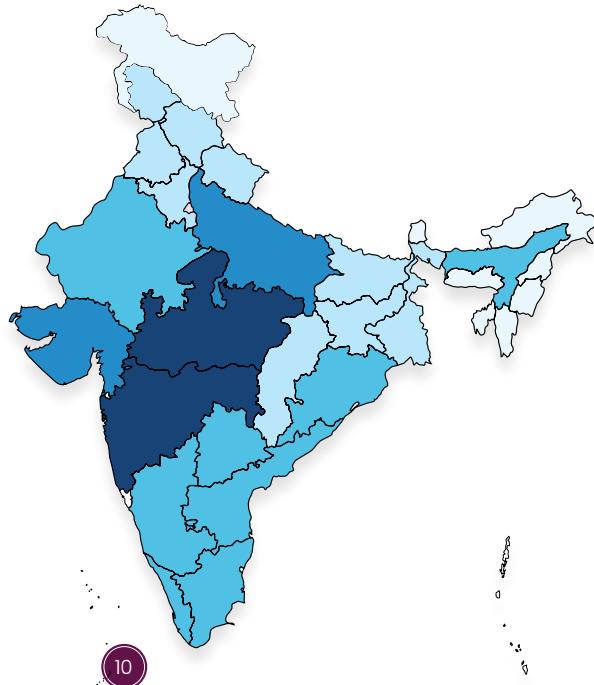
• EXPLORE BEST PRACTICES ACROSS SECTORS •



• EXPLORE BEST PRACTICES BY STATE/UTs •

India
Best Practices

Number of Best Practices
Low High



VIKSIT BHARAT STRATEGY ROOM

Viksit Bharat Strategy Room was set up at NITI Aayog as a prototype to showcase how to enable effective decision-making using data rich visualisation. VBSR is a digitally immersive experience that enables rich visualisation and engagement with insights, information and knowledge to enable effective in-person decision-making. It is an interactive space where users will be able to visualise data, trends, best practices and policies in an immersive manner allowing them to make a holistic assessment of any problem statement.

Various States have shown interest in adopting the framework of VBSR and to develop similar experience room in their states. Bihar has launched GenNext Lab located at Bihar Institute of Public Administration & Rural Development (BIPARD) on the similar line of NITI's VBSR, boosting data-driven governance & planning.



A few glimpses from the Viksit Bharat Strategy Room set up by NITI Aayog

VISIONING EXERCISE FOR STATES @2047

During the 9th Governing Council Meeting of NITI Aayog held on 27 July, 2024, the Hon'ble PM stressed that Viksit Bharat can be realised through Viksit States and that the aspiration of Viksit Bharat should reach the grassroots level. Observing his call for States to prepare their vision @2047, NITI Aayog has been actively supporting the States with the preparation of State-specific vision documents for 2047. The visioning exercise has been launched in the States of Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh.

To facilitate this process, dedicated teams have been constituted within NITI Aayog to assist in the preparation of the vision documents. This aims to help States to draw strategies for all round growth and development in alignment with the policies of Central Government towards Viksit Bharat @2047. It is also expected to drive strategic transformation across every aspect of the citizen's lives, economy and governance. The initiative is part of NITI Aayog's larger mandate to foster cooperative federalism by strengthening State capacities and ensuring alignment between national and State-level policies. By aiding States in the visioning exercise, NITI Aayog promotes a cohesive development framework, ensuring that States shall contribute to India's overall economic and social progress in a more proactive manner.

LAUNCH OF VIKSIT GUJARAT @2047

NITI worked closely with the State to devise a 'Vision Document' for the 'Amrit Kaal'. The Viksit Gujarat@2047 document was launched at the 10th Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit 2024 held during 10 to 12 January, 2024 by Hon'ble Union Finance Minister. Viksit Gujarat roadmap is expected to drive strategic transformation across every aspect of the citizen's lives, economy and governance.

LAUNCH OF SWARNA ANDHRA-2047 VISION DOCUMENT

NITI Aayog partnered with the State of Andhra Pradesh for preparation of the State's comprehensive roadmap towards Viksit Bharat@2047. 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. Pursuant to widespread consultation, the vision document of Andhra Pradesh, 'Swarna Andhra-2047' was launched on 13 December, 2024. The vision document aims at achieving a wealthy, healthy, and happy Andhra Pradesh. It encompasses 10 principles 'Padi Sutralu' and one vision to accomplish a golden future for the State. The Swarna Andhra 2047 Vision aligns the State with India's global aspirations of Viksit Bharat @2047.



The Launch of vision document of Andhra Pradesh by Hon'ble Chief Minister in December, 2024

VIKSIT ODISHA @2036 AND 2047

NITI Aayog in collaboration with the State of Odisha is preparing an actionable roadmap towards Viksit Odisha @2036 and 2047. The vision document for "Viksit Odisha @ 2036 and 2047" outlines a transformative roadmap for the State as it approaches the centenary of its formation in 2036 and of independence of India in 2047. Anchored in the broader framework of "Viksit Bharat @ 2047," this vision aims to position Odisha as a critical driver of India's development voyage by harnessing its abundant natural resources, strategic location, young demographics, and innovative broad-based policies.

The vision exercise involves extensive consultations with State and domain experts. Viksit Odisha @2036 and 2047 charts a course towards a brighter future with wellness, equity, dignity, and prosperity as its foundational pillars.



Deliberations for preparation of Viksit Odisha vision document

MADHYA PRADESH VISION@2047

NITI Aayog is playing a pivotal role in assisting Madhya Pradesh State in crafting its State Vision Document to align with national development goals stated in India's Vision @2047. This document would serve as a roadmap for long-term socio-economic growth tailored to the unique needs and aspirations of the State.

NITI Aayog is providing technical expertise, guidance, and best practices to ensure the vision document to be comprehensive, evidence-based, and focused on inclusive growth. It encouraged the State to prioritise key sectors such as manufacturing, food processing, health, education, infrastructure, and sustainable livelihoods. During the consultation meeting held on 4 November, 2024 the organisation helped the State in identifying their strengths, challenges, and opportunities for growth.



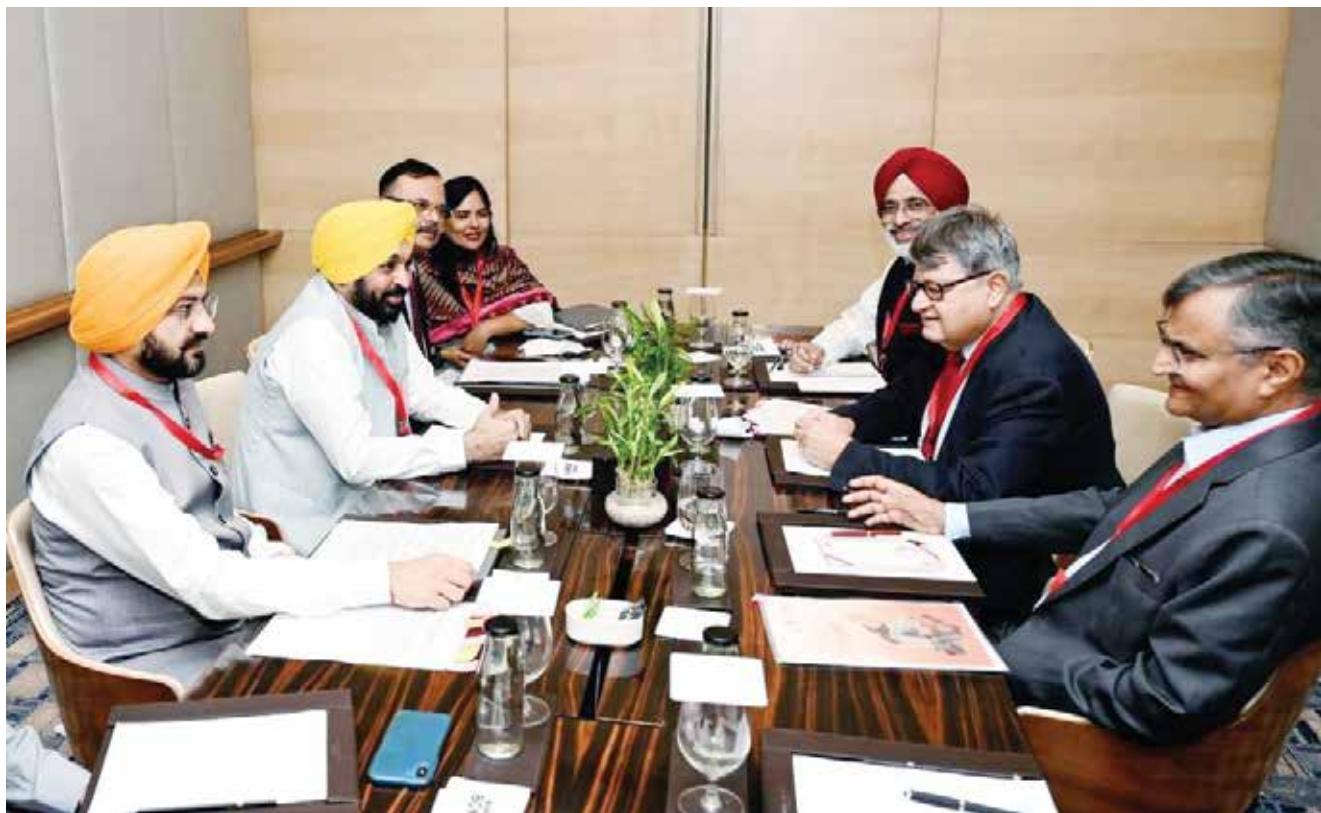
Deliberations for preparation of Viksit Madhya Pradesh vision document

OTHER ENGAGEMENTS WITH STATES

In line with its mandate of fostering cooperative federalism and acting as a platform for constructive deliberations on national developmental agenda, NITI Aayog undertakes multiple consultations with States/UTs which include the visits of Vice Chairman, Members and CEO of NITI Aayog to States/UTs.



Meeting with Hon'ble Chief Minister of Uttarakhand



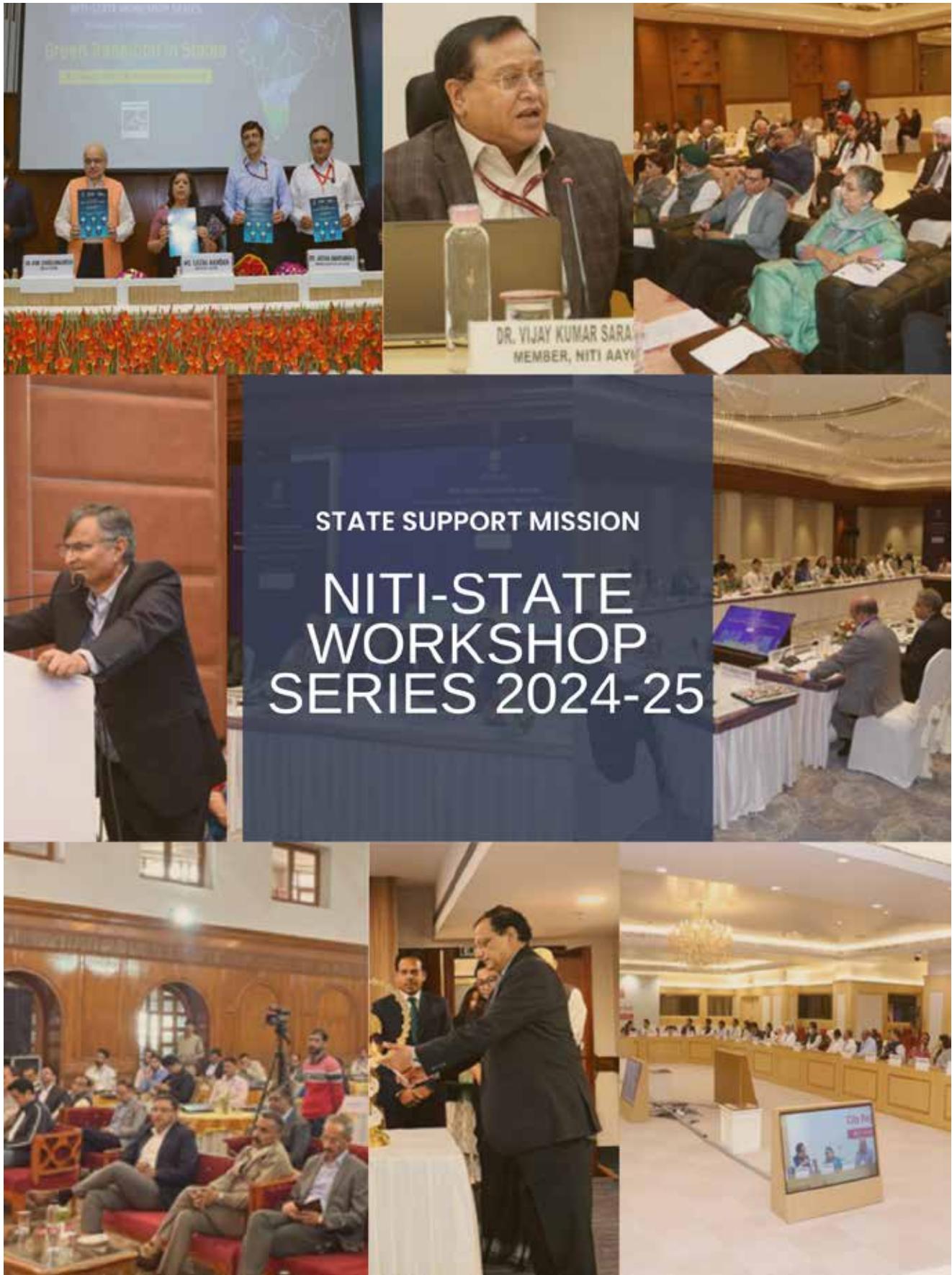
Meeting with Hon'ble Chief Minister of Punjab



Meeting with Hon'ble Chief Minister of Puducherry



Meeting with Hon'ble Chief Minister of Karnataka

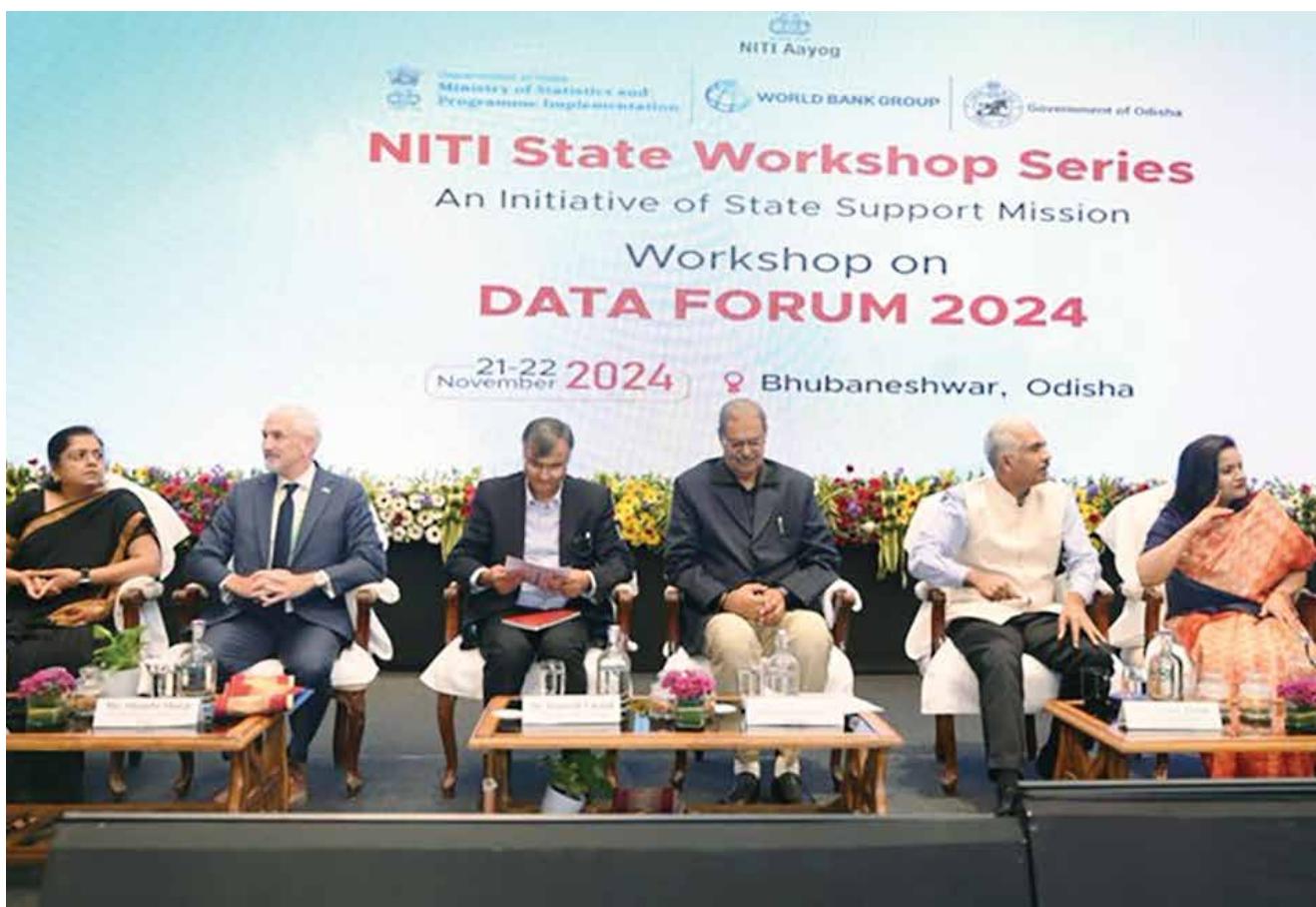


NITI-STATE WORKSHOP SERIES

NITI Aayog had launched 'NITI-State Workshop Series' in FY 2023-24 under its core mandate of fostering cooperative and competitive federalism. The workshops focused on themes relevant to socio-economic development of the States/UTs and other emerging areas of national and global interest. The workshops were initiated under State Support Mission (SSM) to provide 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 and UTs. These workshops were anchored by Divisions of NITI Aayog. During 2024-25, 13 workshops until December, 2024 have been organised on themes relevant to State development and other areas of national and global interest. These are given in the following paragraphs.

DATA FORUM

The Second Data Forum 2024, under the NITI State Workshop Series by the State Support Mission, was organised on 21 to 22 November, 2024 in Bhubaneswar. Inaugurated by Sh. Kanak Vardhan Singh Deo, Hon'ble Deputy CM, Odisha, the forum saw participation from key dignitaries, including Prof. Ramesh Chand, Member NITI Aayog, Shri Shombi Sharp, UN Resident Coordinator, Mr. Manoj Ahuja, Chief Secretary, Government of Odisha and Ms. Anna Roy, Principal Economic Adviser, NITI Aayog.



The second data forum organised on 21 to 22 November, 2024 at Bhubaneshwar

In collaboration with the World Bank, Government of Odisha, and MOSPI, the 2-day forum gathered senior officers from Government of India and different States and UTs besides academia and the research community to advance India's data ecosystem. With the launch of the First Data Forum Report, discussions focused on exploring new ideas to ensure the vision of Viksit Bharat @2047 seamlessly.

STATES AS DRIVERS OF EXPORT GROWTH

Under the NITI for States initiative, NITI Aayog organised a one day workshop on the theme “States as Drivers of Export Led Growth” in Chandigarh on 12 March, 2024. Representatives from the Government of Punjab, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, and the UT Administration of Chandigarh were among participants. Dr. Arvind Virmani, Member, NITI Aayog, gave the keynote speech and emphasised the potential of export as a driver of growth. Shri Sanjeet Singh, Sr. Adviser, NITI Aayog, set the context of the workshop. The discussions covered the promotion of the ecosystem for exports in states, the need for technology adoption and the challenges of aligning states with the Global Value Chain. Other eminent speakers included Dr. Harjinder Talwar, Member, and National Board for MSMEs, Shri. Pravakar Sahoo, Sr Adv, NITI Aayog, Mr. Vikas Verma, UNDP North Zone, and Dr. Abhay Sinha, DG, Services Export Promotion Council.



Workshop on “States as the drivers of export-led growth” held on 12 March in Chandigarh

SECURING THE FUTURE: CYBER POLICIES

NITI Aayog hosted a Roundtable Workshop on “Securing the Future: Cyber Policies & Governance” on 22 October, 2024 in Delhi. In the event, experts engaged in in-depth discussions on critical themes like strengthening India’s cyber security architecture, fortifying resilience against 5G and IoT vulnerabilities, the National Cybersecurity Strategy, and balancing regulatory compliance with innovation. It emphasised

identifying emerging cyber threats to national infrastructure, the role of legal frameworks, and the impact of cyber forensics. The workshop also focused on how the government and industry can collaborate to build national resilience and safeguard India's cyberspace in the face of advancing cyber threats and technologies.

The workshop was attended by the National Cybersecurity Coordinator, Academicians and Industrialists. The outcomes focus on strengthening India's cybersecurity through a national legal framework, enhanced R&D in cybersecurity, and fostering collaboration and convergence between government, academia and private sectors.



Workshop on "Securing the Future: Cyber Policies & Governance" held on 22 October, 2024 in Delhi

SECURING TOMORROW: UNRAVELLING THE INTERSECTION OF AI AND CYBERSECURITY

NITI Aayog conducted the National Workshop on the topic "Securing Tomorrow: Unravelling the Intersection of AI and Cybersecurity", on 22 May, 2024 in NITI Aayog, New Delhi. The workshop was chaired by Dr. V K Saraswat, Member, NITI Aayog, Lt Gen MU Nair, National Cyber Security Coordinator, National Security Council Secretariat, and was coordinated by Dr. Asheesh Shah, Founder Samanvaya. The sessions were graced by esteemed dignitaries from different Central and State Ministries; and industry representatives like FICCI, ASSOCHAM, CII, Google, Siemens, etc.

The workshop explored the strategic policy perspective on bridging the gap between India's current capabilities and global parity in the realm of Artificial Intelligence (AI) driven Cybersecurity. It also served as a platform for States/ UTs to express their distinct perspectives, experiences, and innovative visions for securing and enhancing India's digital landscape.



Workshop on “Securing Tomorrow: Unravelling the Intersection of AI and Cybersecurity” on 22 May, 2024 in New Delhi

CURRENT TREND OF DEMAND & SUPPLY IN CAREGIVING

The NITI-State Workshop series session on ‘Care Services for India and beyond’ was hosted at IIM Shillong on 30 August, 2024. It was in collaboration with the Government of Meghalaya and IIM Shillong. The discussions focused on addressing the demand and supply of care services, sharing best practices, and overcoming challenges on India’s journey towards Viksit Bharat @2047. Dr. V.K. Paul, Member, NITI Aayog, inaugurated the day-long workshop. The event gathered senior officials from Central Ministries, State Governments, international agencies like ADB, World Bank, ILO, WHO, UNFPA, IOM, National Institutes, and academic experts.



Workshop on ‘Care Services for India and beyond’ was hosted on 30 August, 2024 at IIM Shillong

CITY REGION AS GROWTH HUBS

The National Workshop on ‘City Regions as Growth Hubs (G-Hub)’ was hosted by NITI Aayog on 23 October, 2024 in New Delhi. It was a national workshop on City Regions as Growth Hubs where urban development leaders gathered to explore how urban regions can serve as engines of India’s economic transformation.

Panel discussions with experts from NITI Aayog, ISEG and WRI drew strategic insights into shaping thriving, resilient cities as India moves toward becoming a \$30 trillion economy by 2047. Indian cities contribute 70-80% of national GDP and making city regions as growth hubs can unlock their full potential. Launched in 2023, NITI Aayog’s Growth Hub (G-Hub) aims to redefine urban planning for liveability and sustainability. Pilot projects in Surat, Mumbai, Varanasi, and Visakhapatnam are already advancing, with blueprints approved for Surat and Mumbai.



Workshop on ‘City Regions as Growth Hubs (G-Hub)’ on 23 October, 2024 in New Delhi

NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON “STRENGTHENING SENIOR CITIZEN CARE IN INDIA”

NITI Aayog organised a National Workshop on “Strengthening Senior Citizen Care in India” at Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, on 27 September, 2024, in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment and the Department of Social Justice, Government of Kerala. The purpose of the workshop was to elicit views from states and other stakeholders on gaps and challenges in senior citizen care and to learn best practices from sectoral and technical experts.



National Workshop on “Strengthening Senior Citizen Care in India” held at Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala

ALL WEATHER TAP WATER SUPPLY

A two day workshop on ‘All Weather Tap Water Supply in Higher Reaches of the Himalayas’ was organised by NITI Aayog with the State Government of Himachal Pradesh on 22 and 23 October, 2024. Presided by Dr. Vinod Paul, Member, NITI Aayog, over the plenary session of the two day workshop, he encouraged the participants to find solutions to technical challenges in providing all weather tap water supply to each household in the cold and higher reaches of the Himalayan States.

It was discussed that the Jal Jeevan Mission, envisioned by Hon’ble Prime Minister, has effectively enhanced ease of living and empowered women by saving their time and effort. Eight Himalayan States, IITs and technological institutions, grassroots organisations and development partners participated in the workshop.



Keynote Address by Hon’ble Member Dr. V.K. Paul during Workshop on “All Weather Tap Water Supply in Higher Reaches of the Himalayas”

FUTURE READY UTTARAKHAND

NITI Aayog in collaboration with SETU Aayog and the Government of Uttarakhand, organised ‘Future Ready Uttarakhand: A Workshop on Skills & Employment’ under the NITI State Workshop Series, on 19 November, 2024. Inaugurated by Hon. Chief Minister Sh. Pushkar Singh Dhami and Hon. Minister Sh. Saurabh Bahuguna, the workshop brought together State Government officials, NITI officers, academicians, and industry leaders. Discussions in this workshop focused on youth empowerment, leveraging technology, and addressing urban-rural employment challenges for inclusive growth.



Workshop on “Future Ready Uttarakhand” held on 19 November, 2024

SITE ADJACENT FACTORY EMPLOYEE (S.A.F.E.)

NITI Aayog organised a workshop on “Site Adjacent Factory Employee (S.A.F.E.) Accommodation” on 7 August, 2024. It was aimed at focusing on empowering India’s workforce by enhancing their well-being and productivity through on-site accommodations. It was discussed that on-site accommodations for factory workers are key to a thriving manufacturing sector. It aimed at driving manufacturing growth, reducing transportation costs, and boosting productivity.



Workshop on “Site Adjacent Factory Employee (S.A.F.E.) Accommodation” on 7 August, 2024

GREEN TRANSITION IN STATES

Spotlighting State-Led Renewable and Clean Energy Efforts NITI Aayog organised a symposium titled ‘Green Transition in States’ on 11 November, 2024 offering a platform for States to showcase their innovative green transition initiatives, exchange knowledge, and share best practices. The symposium saw participation from over 25 States and UTs. As part of the symposium, a new initiative named ‘Accelerating Sustainable State Energy Transition (ASSET)’ was launched by Shri B.V.R. Subrahmanyam, CEO, NITI Aayog along with Shri Pankaj Kumar, Secretary, Ministry of Power, Shri Prashant Kumar Singh, Secretary, Ministry of New And Renewable Energy, and Ms. Leena Nandan, Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change of India. The initiative is a significant step towards achieving India’s energy transition plans at the State level. Through this initiative, NITI Aayog, in collaboration with knowledge partners and multi-national agencies, will help states realise their energy transition plans.



Workshop on “Green Transition In States” in November, 2024

MSMEs AS A DRIVER OF THE EXPORT GROWTH

NITI Aayog and the Government of Punjab organised a workshop on 'MSMEs as a Driver of Export Growth: Strategies, Opportunities, and Challenges' on 23 October, 2024 in Chandigarh. The event focused on raising awareness about the pivotal role of MSMEs as export hubs. It also provided a platform for discussing key challenges faced by industries in global expansion, while exploring strategies for internationalisation and fostering collaboration.



Workshop on MSME as a driver of export growth (12th in series)

STAKEHOLDER CONNECT WORKSHOP INDUSTRIAL POLICY-2024

The Stakeholder Connect Workshop organised by NITI Aayog in collaboration with the Government of Chhattisgarh served as a pivotal platform for discussing Chhattisgarh's new industrial policy, export promotion, and investment facilitation. Held on 4 December, 2024, at Nava Raipur, the workshop featured insightful sessions, including a panel discussion on job-intensive industrial development, strategies to enhance export competitiveness, and deliberations on iron, steel, and aluminum-based manufacturing industries. Key stakeholders, including government officials, industry leaders, and policymakers, engaged in meaningful discussions on policy support, reducing compliance burdens, and equipping industries for global markets. A significant highlight was the rollout of 'Invitation to Invest' letters, reinforcing the state's commitment to fostering industrial growth. The event concluded with key takeaways and a networking dinner, further strengthening collaboration between the public and private sectors to drive economic development.



Workshop on Industrial Policy in Chattisgarh





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 like-minded 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, academia, experts and civil society to facilitate the 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 GoI in the year 2022-23. These lectures aim to sensitise the participants about the major initiatives of the government, enhance their knowledge, build capacity, create a more productive and inclusive environment, provoke innovative thinking and develop shared commitments for meeting the developmental objectives of the nation.

The 14th lecture of NITI Aayog in-house lecture series was held on 28 June, 2024 on the topic "Strategic Perspectives in the Defence Domain" at New Delhi. Lt Gen (Retd) Harinder Singh, Former Director General of Military Intelligence delivered an informative discourse on the crucial topics of Competing Notions of Security, Contemporary Security Threats, and Readiness in the Defence Sector. The discussion revolved around different dimensions of security which have varied connotations in the emerging scenario.



Glimpses from NITI Aayog's 14th in-house lecture series on the theme 'Strategic Perspectives in the Defence Domain'

The 15th lecture of the series was held on 29 August, 2024 on the topic "Clean Energy Deployment in India: Technology, Innovation & Financing". Mr. Sumant Sinha, CEO, ReNew and Ms. Anjali Bansal, Founding Partner, Avaana Capital shared the panel for the discussion. Shri Suman Bery, VC, NITI Aayog also addressed the seminar. In line with India's commitment to achieving net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2070, the seminar provided insights into the challenges and opportunities associated with deploying large-scale clean energy sources such as solar, wind, biomass, nuclear, hydro, electric vehicles, hydrogen for various applications, Carbon Capture Utilisation and Storage (CCUS), energy storage, etc.



Glimpses from NITI Aayog's 15th In-house lecture series on the theme 'Clean Energy Deployment in India: Technology, Innovation & Financing'

The 16th in-house lecture was held on 1 October, 2024 titled "Reclaiming Our Heritage: Unlocking the Potential of Tourism". The session was attended by Sh. Amit Pasricha, Renowned Indian photographer, Sh. Aman Nath, Co-Founder and Chairman of the Neemrana Hotel, Ms. Latika Nath, author, photographer and wildlife conservationist. The session delved into the immense possibilities of leveraging India's rich cultural heritage and historical monuments to enhance heritage tourism. The speakers shared strategies for maximising the value of heritage tourism, highlighting the importance of discovering and documenting our historical and cultural assets for preservation. The discussions also emphasised the vital role of entrepreneurship and public-private partnerships in fostering sustainable tourism practices, ensuring the holistic development of local communities while mitigating risks of degradation.



Glimpses from NITI Aayog's 16th in-house lecture series on the theme 'Reclaiming Our Heritage: Unlocking the Potential of Tourism'

The 17th NITI In-House Lecture was held on 30 October, 2024 on the topic 'Natural Farming for Sustainable Agriculture in Amrit Kaal'. The experts endorsed natural farming as a powerful alternative, promoting both public health and environmental stability. The NITI lecture was attended by experts from Rythu Sadhikara

ANNUAL REPORT 2024-25

Samstha (RySS), Dr. YS Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Center for International Forestry Research and World Agroforestry (CIFOR-ICRAF), ICAR, Prof. Ramesh Chand, Member, NITI Aayog and Shri Suman K. Bery, Vice-Chairman, NITI Aayog along with NITI Aayog team. The sessions focused on exploring an approach rooted in ecological balance and resilient food systems for India's future by fostering a 'one health' approach that cares for soil, livestock, ecology, and human health.



Glimpses from NITI Aayog's 17th In-house lecture series on 'Natural Farming for Sustainable Agriculture in Amrit Kaal'

The 18th lecture of the series was held on 30 November, 2024, focused on the theme 'India's Statistical System: Opportunities and Challenges'. The session highlighted how cutting-edge technologies like AI, machine learning, and big data can address issues of data quality, standardisation, and infrastructure, enabling evidence-based policymaking for a brighter future. The event featured insightful discussions Dr. Saurabh Garg, Secretary, MoSPI, Prof. S Chandrasekhar, IGIDR Mumbai, and Dr. Karan Nagpal, India Country Director, IDinsight.



Glimpses from NITI Aayog's 18th In-house lecture series on the theme 'India's Statistical System: Opportunities and Challenges'

ENGAGEMENT WITH ACADEMIA AND THINK TANKS

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

HON'BLE PM'S INTERACTION WITH ECONOMISTS ON 11 JULY, 2024 AND 24 DECEMBER, 2024

In 2024-25, Hon'ble Prime Minister visited NITI twice for comprehensive interactions with leading economists. The first meeting was held on 11 July, 2024. The meeting focused on "An Agenda to Accelerate Growth and Employment across Regions and Sectors." The second meeting was on 24 December, 2024 and the meeting focused on "Maintaining India's Growth Momentum at a time of Global Uncertainty." In both the meetings, the Hon'ble Finance Minister, Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister, Minister of State for Planning (I/C), Members of NITI Aayog, Cabinet Secretary, Chief Economic Adviser, and CEO of NITI Aayog were also present.

During the deliberations, participants proposed practical measures to accelerate growth and employment across various sectors and regions, crucial for balanced economic development and social prosperity. Recommendations covered enhancing employment opportunities, sector-specific strategies, and reinforcing India's resilience amidst global challenges through diversification. There was consensus on India's emergence as a bright spot amid global economic uncertainties.

INDIA POLICY FORUM 2024

In the past two decades, the India Policy Forum has engaged in policy conversations that have contributed to a profound transformation of the Indian economy and society. This year, India Policy Forum was organised in July 2024 by the National Council of Applied Economic Research in collaboration with NITI Aayog and The World Bank. The conference was inaugurated by Dr P K Mishra, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister and Mr Nandan Nilekani, President of NCAER Governing Body. It was attended by distinguished academics from India and abroad; participants from NITI Aayog, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister; Department of Economic Affairs, top policy analysts and editors from the financial dailies. Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog; CEO and many other dignitaries from NITI Aayog also addressed the 2-day conference.



India Policy Forum organised in July 2024

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON FINANCING: A BIG INVESTMENT PUSH

NITI Aayog collaborated with the University of California, Berkeley, and the Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR) to host an “International Workshop on India’s Multiple Transitions: Financing a Big Investment Push” in Mumbai. The workshop brought together global scholars, policymakers, and financial experts to strategise on mobilising resources for India’s development agenda. Vice Chairman Shri Suman K. Bery highlighted India’s journey to becoming the 5th largest economy, emphasising structural reforms, rising domestic consumption, and infrastructure development. Chief Economic Advisor Dr. V. Anantha Nageswaran underscored the need to unlock domestic savings, deepen financial markets, and invest in innovation for India to achieve high-income status by 2047.

The workshop focused on tackling fiscal challenges brought about by repeated adaptation expenditures and the need for developing active corporate bond markets to meet investment needs. Experts discussed the next-decade challenges, including improving productivity, addressing financial dimensions of climate change, and formulating a public-led private investment strategy. Sessions focused on policy approaches such as channelling savings, tapping into voluntary carbon markets, and intervention with regulation to balance capital flows. Discussions also focused on futuristic fiscal policies, emphasising non-tax revenue mobilisation, quality fiscal expenditure, and flexible deficit targets.

The success of the conference highlighted the significance of investing in energy transition, infrastructure, urbanisation, and human capital to sustain 7-8% long-term GDP growth over decades. A strong research agenda was framed covering macro-economic management, freeing capital movements, and building a modern financial architecture. The discussions reaffirmed India’s potential to overcome the transition into a sustainable and high-growth economy and also provided critical inputs to global welfare.



NITI-Berkeley-IGIDR International Conference held in December, 2024

ENERGY MODELLING AND DATA MANAGEMENT: INDIA ENERGY SECURITY SCENARIOS 2047 (IESS 2047)

NITI Aayog released Revamped IESS 2047 on 20 July, 2023 to assess the integrated impact of various green energy policies of Government of India. This tool analyses the demand and supply of energy in India, considering factors like emissions, cost, land, and water requirements up to 2047. It is an interactive tool that helps ministries and departments develop diverse energy transition scenarios to achieve net zero. It enables the calculation of the country’s energy needs and estimates, thus reducing reliance on external agencies. The tool is now being utilised for building scenarios up to 2070 for decarbonisation strategy.

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 synthesises data to monitor India's progress towards clean energy transition. With over 500 parameters, 2000 infographics, and interactive visualisations, ICED 3.0 provides a detailed view of India's energy sector and a number of interactive visualisations, 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 datasets, all sourced from government publications.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

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

Several activities were successfully taken up under the Sustainable Growth Pillar which includes engagements under South Asia Group for Energy (SAGE 2.0) to support research, analysis and capacity building on energy/climate modelling and low carbon technologies. Four training sessions were organised by Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) for NITI Aayog team which included the Global Change Analysis Model (GCAM). A Webinar on addressing biomass data challenges in India was organised on 10 May, 2024 by NITI Aayog and PNNL which saw presentations by National Institute of Bioenergy from India and the Energy Information Administration (EIA) from USA. Other participants included MoPNG, TIFAC, PPAC, NITI Aayog and US agencies (including US Department of Energy, US Department of State's Bureau of Energy Resources and US Department of Commerce's Commercial Law Development Programme) who agreed to a Work plan on Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) Technical Cooperation. Under this framework, a study tour was organised from 29 April to 2 May, 2024 in USA and a joint Workshop on CCUS was organised in New Delhi from 22 to 23 August, 2024. As part of an action plan for 2024-25, NITI Aayog organised webinar on LCA and will continue engagement on capacity building to effectively use versions of the GCAM model and Carbon Capture Utilisation and Storage.

COOPERATION WITH DUTCH EMBASSY

NITI Aayog and the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands released a report titled 'LNG as a Transportation Fuel in Medium and Heavy Commercial Vehicle Segment' on 6 February, 2024, at India Energy Week. NITI Aayog and the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands have been actively collaborating in the field of energy transition under the Statement of Intent (SoI) partnership since 2020.

UK-INDIA INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCING BRIDGE (UKIIFB)

The UK-India Infrastructure Financing Bridge (UKIIFB) initiative is a collaborative effort between the UK and India to boost investment and enhance infrastructure development in India. Launched after the 12th Economic and Financial Dialogue, UKIIFB is designed to foster knowledge exchange, innovative financing solutions, and cooperation on sustainable infrastructure projects. In a recent advancement, an exchange of letters was formally signed between NITI Aayog and the City of London in September, 2024 in London, setting out the structure, roles, and working group composition. This milestone solidifies the framework for UKIIFB, enabling both nations to work towards India's development goals through strategic partnerships and capacity-building initiatives.

INDIA-SAUDI ARABIA STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

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 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 divisions 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 to 29 October, 2019 across several fields. Several opportunities were identified and actively pursued during deliberations of the 4 Joint Working Groups on Energy, Agriculture, Technology & IT and Industry & Infrastructure.

Pursuant to the visit of the Hon’ble Prime Minister to Riyadh in October, 2019, 14 more (MoU/MoC/other Collaborations) have been signed with the Saudi Government under Strategic Partnership Council. Out of these, 6 MoUs have been signed on the side-lines of the G20 Summit held in September, 2023. Also, 2nd Ministerial Meeting of the Economy and Investment Committee under the India-Saudi Strategic Partnership Council was held on 30 October, 2024 in Riyadh which was co-chaired by Shri Piyush Goyal, Union Minister of Commerce and Industry of India and His Royal Highness Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman Al-Saud, Minister of Energy, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The Committee reviewed the progress achieved by the four Joint Working Groups: Agriculture and Food Security; Energy; Technology and Information Technology; and Industry and Infrastructure. They noted the deepening of bilateral economic partnership between India and Saudi Arabia and deliberated on ways to enhance trade and investment.

FRANCE-INDIA BUSINESS COUNCIL OF MEDEF

A significant meeting was held between the Delegation of France-India Business Council of MEDEF International as well as the Dignitaries from the Embassy of France in India and the Senior Officials of NITI Aayog on 26 November, 2024 at NITI Aayog,

The meeting focused on Investment Possibilities for French companies in India and identifying areas of mutual cooperation between the two nations such as infrastructure, decarbonisation, renewable and green energy, emerging technologies, health and urban mobility. Discussions were also held on challenges faced by foreign investors in these sectors, highlighting success stories by Indian officials, future opportunities and further enhancing and strengthening Indo-French relations in the future.

INDIA-GERMANY ENGAGEMENT

This year is the 25th year of India-Germany Strategic Partnership. India has established a roadmap for a developed India, #ViksitBharat, for the next 25 years. The German cabinet has released the “Focus on India” document, which outlines a blueprint for how the world’s two leading economies and democracies can collaborate to become a “Force for Global Good.” NITI Aayog, India and German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) had identified five core areas of cooperation: Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), climate action, energy transition, emerging technologies and Agro-ecology. Both sides are working towards the same to produce tangible outputs and learnings for India and Germany.

Hon’ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Federal Chancellor Olaf Scholz co-chaired the seventh round of India-Germany Inter-Governmental Consultations (7th IGC) on 25 October, 2024 in New Delhi.

INDIA-KENYA ECONOMIC COOPERATION: STRENGTHENING FISCAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL PARTNERSHIPS

In alignment with India’s global development outreach, NITI Aayog’s Economics and Finance-II Division played a pivotal role in fostering bilateral engagement with Kenya, particularly in areas of fiscal governance, financial discipline, and competitive federalism. A high-level discussion with the Kenyan Commission on Revenue Allocation (CRA) held on 26 November, 2024 provided an opportunity to share best practices in taxation, digital infrastructure, and outcome-based governance.

INDIA-RUSSIAN FEDERATION

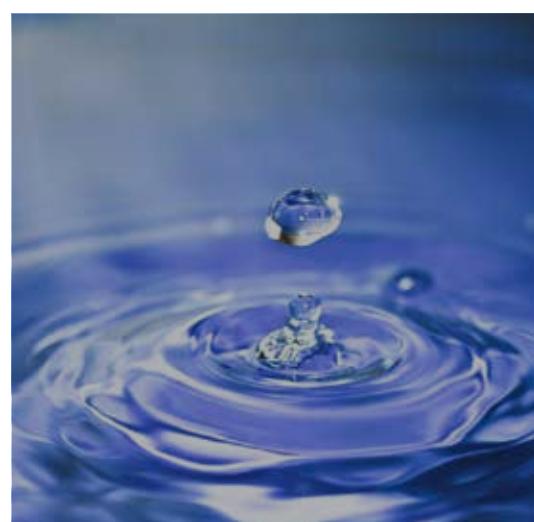
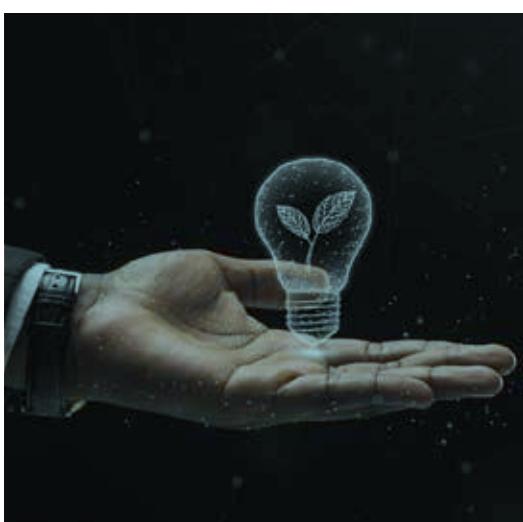
NITI Aayog and the Ministry of the Russian Federation for the Development of the Far East and the Arctic signed the “Programme of India-Russia cooperation in trade, economic and investment spheres in the Russian Far East for the period from 2024 to 2029, as well as of cooperation principles in the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation”, to strengthen India-Russia trade, economic, and investment cooperation in the Russian Far East and the Arctic zone of the Russian Federation. This was signed by the Hon’ble External Affairs Minister on behalf of NITI Aayog on 8 July, 2024.

The signed MoU on the above programme sets the foundation for strategic action plans to be implemented between the two countries. These strategic action plans aim to leverage the competitive advantages of the Russian Far East while fostering long-term India-Russia trade, economic, and investment cooperation.

INDIA ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT

NITI Aayog delegation’s visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt during 2 to 10 March, 2024 served as a productive platform for exploring potential areas of collaboration between the two nations. The delegation gained valuable insights into Egypt’s development initiatives, particularly the ambitious Haya Karima project.

The delegation identified potential for collaboration between NITI Aayog and IDSC. The Egyptian Cabinet Information and Decision Support Center in areas like impact assessment, policy development, knowledge exchange, and capacity building. The visit to the New Administrative Capital and the Suez Canal Economic Zone showcased Egypt’s commitment to infrastructural development and attracting foreign investment. The Haya Karima initiative serves as a model for rural development, focusing on social welfare, infrastructure improvement, and economic empowerment. The delegation’s visit to Fares village provided a first-hand look at the project’s impact on local communities.





SECTION 4

SECTORAL ACHIEVEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

The various Divisions and Units are the spokes of the wheels that drive NITI Aayog. Each Division 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 Divisions 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

REPORT ON PATHWAYS AND STRATEGIES FOR ACCELERATING GROWTH IN EDIBLE OILS TOWARDS ATMANIRBHARTA

NITI Aayog released a report titled “Pathways and Strategies for Accelerating Growth in Edible Oils towards the Goal of Atmanirbharta” on 28 August, 2024, aimed at achieving self-sufficiency in edible oils. The report emphasises the retention and diversification of oilseed crops, the expansion of cultivation areas—such as rice fallow lands; wastelands and the improvement of yields via advanced farming practices and technology. Additionally, it adopts a State-wise quadrant approach to tailor interventions according to area and yield potential.

The report details strategic interventions, combining both horizontal and division expansion techniques that offer a potential solution for reducing import dependency. Implementing these measures could increase India's domestic production of edible oil by 43.5 MT. This substantial increase not only seeks to bridge the import gap but also steers India towards self-sufficiency in edible oils. Farmers, especially in major oilseed growing regions, will gain from increased production and revenue, while consumers will enjoy more stable prices and reduced reliance on imports. Additionally, the agricultural sector will benefit from advancements in technology, improved processing facilities, and enhanced collaboration between the public and private sectors.



Report Launch event in NITI Aayog on 28 August, 2024

REPORT ON STRATEGY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF SEAWEED VALUE CHAIN

NITI Aayog released a “Strategy for the Development of the Seaweed Value Chain” report in June, 2024. The report is the first of its kind in India for the promotion of seaweed farming and entrepreneurship. It includes technical and economic feasibility studies for seaweed farming (both onshore and offshore), environmental considerations, identification of sites suitable for seaweed cultivation, best practices from around the globe, processing technologies, policy recommendations, and a way forward.

The report has also recommended that Certificate and Diploma Courses should be offered in Seaweed Farming and Entrepreneurship. The Agriculture Division has also developed a “Model Curriculum for Diploma in Seaweed Farming and Entrepreneurship” (yet to be launched). This model curriculum may be adopted by any of the fisheries and agriculture universities / vocational training institutions across India having the required capacity and infrastructure to impart them.

ADVANCING DISTRICT-LEVEL AGRI-RURAL TRANSFORMATION THROUGH DARTP INITIATIVE

The District Agri-Rural Transformative Plan (DARTP) is an important ADP/ABP Programme initiative. For its initial rollout, seven districts across seven different states were chosen: Parvathipuram Manyam (Andhra Pradesh), Barpeta (Assam), Dantewada (Chhattisgarh), Damoh (Madhya Pradesh), Bolangir (Odisha), Hanumangarh (Rajasthan), and Dhalai (Tripura). To support this initiative, the Agriculture & Allied Sector Division of NITI Aayog has identified knowledge partners to assist in its execution. From 20 November to 6 December, 2024, stakeholder consultations with these knowledge partners occurred for all seven districts. These discussions aimed to develop a detailed strategy and roadmap for DARTP. This collaborative endeavour seeks to prioritise interventions within relevant sectors and themes in each district, thus speeding up implementation and ensuring the achievement of key performance indicators.

HARNESSING OPPORTUNITIES IN DEEP SEA AND OFFSHORE FISHING

On 13 June, 2024, a consultation titled ‘Harnessing the Potential of Deep Sea and Offshore Fishing’ was held at NITI Aayog, chaired by Dr. J. K. Jena (DDG, Fisheries, ICAR). The aim was to explore the possibilities for deep sea and offshore fishing in India. This event brought together representatives from various ministries, research institutions, and regulatory bodies, emphasising the vital collaboration needed to address challenges and seize opportunities in this sector. Discussions centred on the sustainable and responsible use of deep-sea and offshore fisheries resources, embracing technological advancements in deep-sea fishing, aquaculture, and seafood processing, and tackling issues like illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing.



Consultation on ‘Harnessing the Potential of Deep Sea and Offshore Fishing’ at NITI Aayog

DATA MANAGEMENT AND ANALYSIS

The Data Management and Analysis (DMA) division primarily deals with issues relating to streamlining data usage for public policy. The core functions broadly cover:

- Data management and integration on National Data and Analytics Platform (NDAP) including development of data collection strategies and coordination with Ministries; monitoring Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) of NDAP; product strategy and roadmap for furthering the evolution of NDAP.
- Formulation of policy papers and strategy documents in collaboration with experts from the Government, academia and industry, and conducting seminars and workshops on data management and use in policy making.
- Document issues related to data management and usage, and leverage technology for improved statistical systems and processes.
- Function as the Secretariat for Women Entrepreneurship Platform, an initiative taken by NITI Aayog in 2018 to address information asymmetry towards building a robust women entrepreneurial ecosystem. In 2022 WEP transitioned to a public private partnership model.

NATIONAL DATA AND ANALYTICS PLATFORM (NDAP)

The National Data and Analytics Platform (NDAP) was launched in May, 2022 with a vision to improve data dissemination by enabling seamless use of published government data through an intuitive, user-friendly platform. It hosts datasets from various government agencies, presents them coherently, and provides tools for analytics and visualisation. Standardised data in a common schema, in machine readable format and several user-centric features enables seamless data analytics by different segments of users. As on date the data hosted on NDAP is categorised for 52 Ministries and 31 sectors.

STATE DATA AND ANALYTICS PLATFORM (SDAP)

To promote evidence-based policy making and data-driven governance, customised State Data and Analytics Portal for respective State Governments are being developed with all functionalities of NDAP. Two Portals for the States of Karnataka - KADAP, and the State of Meghalaya - MegDAP, have been developed. The efforts are underway for establishing SDAP for States such as Tripura, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat. Such a Portal would focus on user-friendly and easy access to data thereby enabling data discovery.

NDAP 2.0

Under NDAP 2.0, the development of a next-generation platform with an advanced analytic layer is envisaged to enhance data discoverability, utility, cross-sectoral analysis, and streamline data-driven decision-making processes. The vision is to enhance platform usability, increase user engagement, and improve data discoverability, fostering a more intuitive and efficient data exploration experience. The proposed approach to building analytical layer under NDAP 2.0 include specific indicator pages with readily available insights in the form of pre-curated visualisations, charts, etc.; specific domain-wise analytical layer; harmonisation of micro level data; improve visualisation through UI/ UX enhancements; AI/ML-based Search engine analytical layer that provides AI-based responses to user questions, etc.

WOMEN ENTREPRENEURSHIP PLATFORM (WEP)

The Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP) was launched in 2018 as an aggregator platform on a public-private partnership model to build a comprehensive ecosystem supporting women entrepreneurs across India. WEP aims at empowering women entrepreneurs by overcoming information asymmetry and

providing continuum of support across different pillars- Access to Finance; Market Linkages; Training and Skilling; Mentoring & Networking; Compliance & Legal Assistance and Business Development Services.

In its next phase of growth trajectory, WEP aims to replicate its unique model at State-levels by establishing State chapters and grow the network through a hub & spoke framework. In the spirit of cooperative federalism this initiative would help in reaching out to the last mile. The first State chapter has been established in the State of Telangana, with other State chapters in the pipeline.

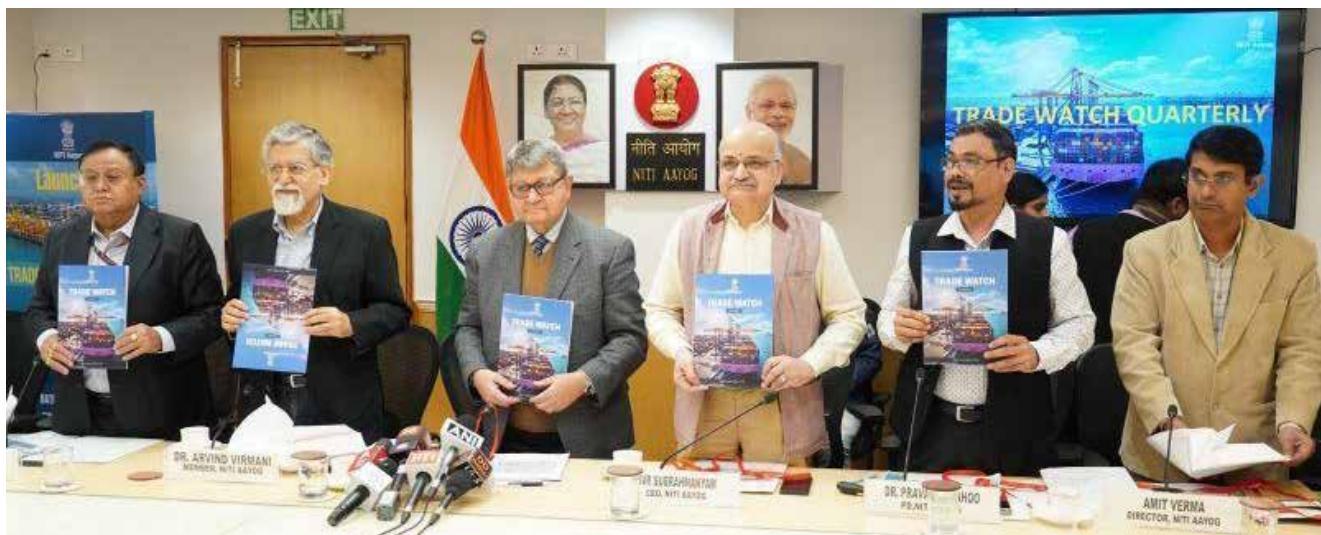
ECONOMICS & FINANCE - I

The Economics and Finance division aspires to ensure that India remains on a sustainable path as the world's fastest-growing large economy. The division strives to achieve this by driving policy reforms to increase productivity, accelerate capital formation, enhance global competitiveness in strategic sectors, improve access to finance, lower cost of capital for the Indian economy, and improve the quality of living while expanding opportunities for every citizen.

TRADE WATCH QUARTERLY- A REPORT

The Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog, Sh. Suman Bery released the first edition of the "Trade Watch Quarterly" brought out by the division on 4 December, 2024 in the august presence of Members and Senior Official.

Trade Watch Quarterly will be a periodic publication focusing on India's trade developments and emerging opportunities, insights of which shall be leveraged for evidence-based policy interventions. The publication offers a holistic snapshot of India's trade position, combining global demand-supply perspectives, sectoral performance, and insights into emerging trade opportunities. This initiative is aligned with the commitment to strengthening India's trade competitiveness in line with the aim to capitalize on India's trade potential for Viksit Bharat@2047 and to ensure sustainable growth in a rapidly changing global trade environment.



The Release of the first edition of the "Trade Watch Quarterly" in December, 2024

FISCAL HEALTH INDEX (FHI) 2025

On 24 January, 2025, Dr. Arvind Panagariya, Chairman of the 16th Finance Commission, launched the inaugural issue of NITI Aayog's "Fiscal Health Index (FHI) 2025" report, in the presence of Shri Suman Bery, Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog, Shri B.V.R. Subrahmanyam, CEO of NITI Aayog, as well as Members and other senior officials of NITI Aayog.

This report marks the launch of an annual series aimed at delivering data-driven insights into the fiscal health of India's states, supporting informed policymaking and strategic interventions. The FHI 2025

provides a comprehensive evaluation of the fiscal performance of 18 major states, based on five key sub-indices: Quality of Expenditure, Revenue Mobilisation, Fiscal Prudence, Debt Index, and Debt Sustainability. By emphasising key fiscal indicators, the FHI encourages states to align their fiscal strategies with national objectives, supporting a fiscally stable and prosperous India. The Report also highlights State-specific challenges and areas for improvement. Designed as a tool for policymakers, the Report serves to identify critical areas requiring attention and support strategic planning to strengthen States' fiscal health.



Launch of inaugural issue of Fiscal Health Index (FHI) 2025 Report in January, 2025

STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATIONS

Economic & Finance-I division organised various expert brainstorming consultations during 2024-25 to gather sectoral insights, identify structural challenges and gather solutions to provide relevant policy insights and give a boost to India's economy. The sessions were organised across the following sectors: Agricultural Sector Reforms, Education, Skill ECE, Health Sector, Financial Sector, Tax issues, Infrastructure financing, External Sector, Private Investment, Infrastructure Sector, Asset Monetisation, Banks, Financial Sector, Tax issues, Infrastructure financing, External Sector, Private Investment, Service Sector, Manufacturing, MSME, Labour, etc.

SCENARIO BUILDING AND FORECAST PROJECTIONS FOR "VISION INDIA@2047"

Economic & Finance-I division estimated various macro-economic models and projections for the Vision India@2047 document. The division is also involved in building macroeconomic goals/projections and social indicators for health, demographics, education etc. for the vision document of various states viz. Assam, Bihar, Gujarat and Odisha.

SECTORAL EXPERT MEETINGS AND ENGAGEMENTS

Economic and Finance division of NITI Aayog is mandated to undertake research and suggest economic/policy recommendations to States/UTs as an overall component of promoting cooperative federalism. In this connection, a series of deliberations were organised with distinguished experts from various sectors such as fiscal policy, international trade etc. for developing critical indicators such as those of "Fiscal Health Indicator" to provide a comprehensive state wise progress in fiscal and developmental landscape.

ECONOMICS & FINANCE -II

The Economics and Finance Division-II aspires to ensure that India remains on a sustainable path as the world's fastest-growing large economy. The Division strives to achieve this by driving policy reforms to increase productivity, accelerate capital formation, enhance global competitiveness in strategic sectors, improve access to finance, lower cost of capital for the Indian economy, and improve the quality of living while expanding opportunities for every citizen. This Division 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. Professionals within this field analyse economic trends, evaluate financial risks, and actively contribute to policymaking, driving advancements in both theoretical understanding and practical applications.

MACROECONOMIC ANALYSIS: STATE OF THE ECONOMY

The division facilitates undertaking a rigorous and dynamic process of monitoring the state of the economy, leveraging a broad set of high-frequency indicators to assess the performance of both the Indian and global economies. This comprehensive approach enables timely, evidence-based policy formulation and strategic decision-making. 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 INDIAN ECONOMY: RESILIENCE AND LEADERSHIP AMIDST GLOBAL UNCERTAINTY

The Division facilitated the preparation of high level presentation on global situation and its potential ramifications on the Indian economy. The presentation included analyses of different unfolding scenarios and proposed strategies to navigate challenges posed by global headwinds. Additionally, the Economics and Finance Division-II conducted a Household Sentiment Analysis as part of this comprehensive assessment.

INDIA'S INVESTMENT AND SAVINGS RATE AND CURRENT ACCOUNT BALANCE

Savings and investments are pivotal for economic growth and development. In the context of India's aspiration to become a \$5 trillion economy, bridging the savings and investment gap is critical. During the Kautilya Economic Conclave commemorating India@75, the Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog presented a comprehensive analysis of this issue, focusing on the contributions of households, the private sector, and the public sector.

STRATEGIC DISINVESTMENT AND PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT OF CPSEs

The Economics and Finance Division-II has the responsibility to analyse and provide suggestions for the disinvestment of central public sector enterprises (CPSEs) in strategic sectors. The disinvestment of Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) has been a critical component of India's economic reforms, aimed at enhancing operational efficiency, reducing the fiscal burden, and unlocking value for stakeholders. The Division plays a pivotal role in this process by analysing and providing actionable recommendations for CPSEs in strategic and non-strategic sectors as also in driving reforms in CPSEs.

HAND TOOLS, POWER TOOLS AND SPORTS GOODS OPPORTUNITY FOR INDIA

India is emerging as a key player in global manufacturing and exports. The hand tools, power tools, and sports goods sectors represent significant opportunities for growth, driven by rising global demand, India's cost competitiveness, and advancements in manufacturing capabilities. This research explores the potential, challenges, and strategies to enhance India's position in these export markets. By addressing existing

challenges and leveraging strategic opportunities, these sectors can become key contributors to India's \$5 trillion economy goal.

ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL ENGAGEMENTS

The Division has the responsibility to analyse, India's economic and financial engagements with national and international stakeholders which play a critical role in shaping its development trajectory. Effective governance and evidence-based policy support are essential to navigate complex challenges, such as fluctuating global markets, climate change, supply chain disruptions, and technological advancements, while capitalising on opportunities for trade, investment, and innovation. These include organisations like World Bank, IMF, IFC, ADB, etc. The Division also performs inputs for Parliamentary questions, G20 initiatives, and PM's Economist Meet.

GOVERNANCE AND POLICY SUPPORT

Good governance and effective policy support are foundational to achieving sustainable economic growth, social equity, and ensuring environmental sustainability. As India continues its ascent as a global economic powerhouse, the need for agile, transparent, and accountable governance has become critical. Simultaneously, evidence-based policy frameworks are required to address dynamic challenges such as economic volatility; technological disruption; climate change; and global geopolitical shifts.

1. State Support Mission Workshops: Conduct workshops to strengthen state-level policy implementation and governance.
2. Tax Policy and Financial Analysis: Assist in tax policy formulation and financial governance strategies.
3. Strategic Inputs: Provide insights on key economic and financial matters, ensuring alignment with national and global goals.

THE EXPORT PREPAREDNESS INDEX

The Export Preparedness Index (EPI) is a specific metric or tool used to assess the suitability or effectiveness of export activities, it would be essential to consult the relevant documentation or experts in the field for accurate and up-to-date information.

The Index seeks to rank all the States/UTs based on their export preparedness and export performance. The primary goal of EPI is to provide crucial policy insights to States & UTs to enhance their export competitiveness. EPI also helps in inculcating healthy competition and facilitate peer learning among States and UTs in India in order to enhance their export preparedness and thereby improve their export performance.

NITI Aayog is in the process of preparing a fourth edition of 'Export Preparedness Index' (EPI) in order to rank all the States/UTs of India on their export readiness and export performance.

EDUCATION

HIGHER EDUCATION DIVISION

The Higher Education Division at NITI Aayog is dedicated to fostering evidence-based, research-driven knowledge creation and dissemination in the higher education sector. It actively collaborates with Central Ministries, State Governments, academics, subject experts, think tanks, and other stakeholders. Guided by the vision of the National Education Policy 2020, the division undertakes policy research studies that would help transform India into the world's largest higher education ecosystem and a global hub for talent and entrepreneurship by 2035.

The ongoing policy research studies at the Division include:

- Expanding Quality Education through States and State Public Universities
- Internationalisation of Higher Education in India
- Education & Skills for the Future
- Financing Indian Higher Education
- Incubator Ecosystem for Indian Higher Education
- International Incubator Ecosystems in Higher Education
- Research, Innovation and Entrepreneurship in State Public Universities

SCHOOL EDUCATION DIVISION

The Education Division is concerned with all aspects of developmental planning in the field of Education, Sports and Youth Affairs. The Education Division covers (a) pre-primary, Elementary, Secondary, Higher secondary, Higher, Technical and Teacher Education; (b) formal and non-formal education including Adult Literacy; and (c) areas of special focus such as education for Girls, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Minorities and also Children with Special Needs (CWSN).

Education Division aims to gather evidence and shape policies focusing the key areas highlighted in the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 like providing education access, improving quality and preparing students for the future etc.

The Division strives to facilitate the fields of Learning Outcomes, Quality Education, Teacher Education, School Readiness Programmes, Learning Enhancement Programme socio-emotional learning, and grade-level competency amongst children.

The Division also works in the area of high-quality research related to Education and the allied sectors. The ongoing Research Studies include:

- Transforming Indian Vocational Education Ecosystem.
- Estimating Schooling Requirements for 21st Century.

The Education Division has successfully implemented Project SATH-Education (Sustainable Action for Transforming Human Capital-Education) in Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, and Odisha, and is currently implementing the Project SATH-Education in Arunachal Pradesh.

PROJECT SATH - ARUNACHAL

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 03 years (2022-25) duration. The Project covers over 2 lakh children of Grades 1-12 of Arunachal Pradesh. Key Intervention included academic reforms, capacity development, governance & accountability and community engagement.

YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS

The Division also looks after the work related to Youth Affairs and Sports Sectors. During 2024-25, officials of the Education Division represented NITI Aayog in various meetings like Project Appraisal Committee (PAC) meetings, Departmental Project Approval Committee (DPAC) meetings, Project Appraisal Committee (PAC) meetings of various schemes like Khelo India, Fit India, Rashtriya Yuva Sashaktikaran Karyakram (RYSK) etc.

MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES

The Education Division also examined (i) Proposals sent by NGOs and Trusts for funding research studies/ evaluation studies, (ii) Issues raised by the Hon'ble Chief Ministers of the States (iii) State education briefs with respect to the Hon'ble Prime Minister's visit. The State issues in education, sports, and youth affairs have been taken up to the line Ministries and coordinated to find logical solutions. The Division also handled VIP/ PMO references, Public Grievances, RTI-related matters, Parliament-related work, and provided material for inclusion in the President's Budget Speech, Parliament, and various budget-related issues. Under the NITI Internship Programme, interns from various leading institutions across the country have been provided internship training under the Division's leadership.

ELECTRIC MOBILITY

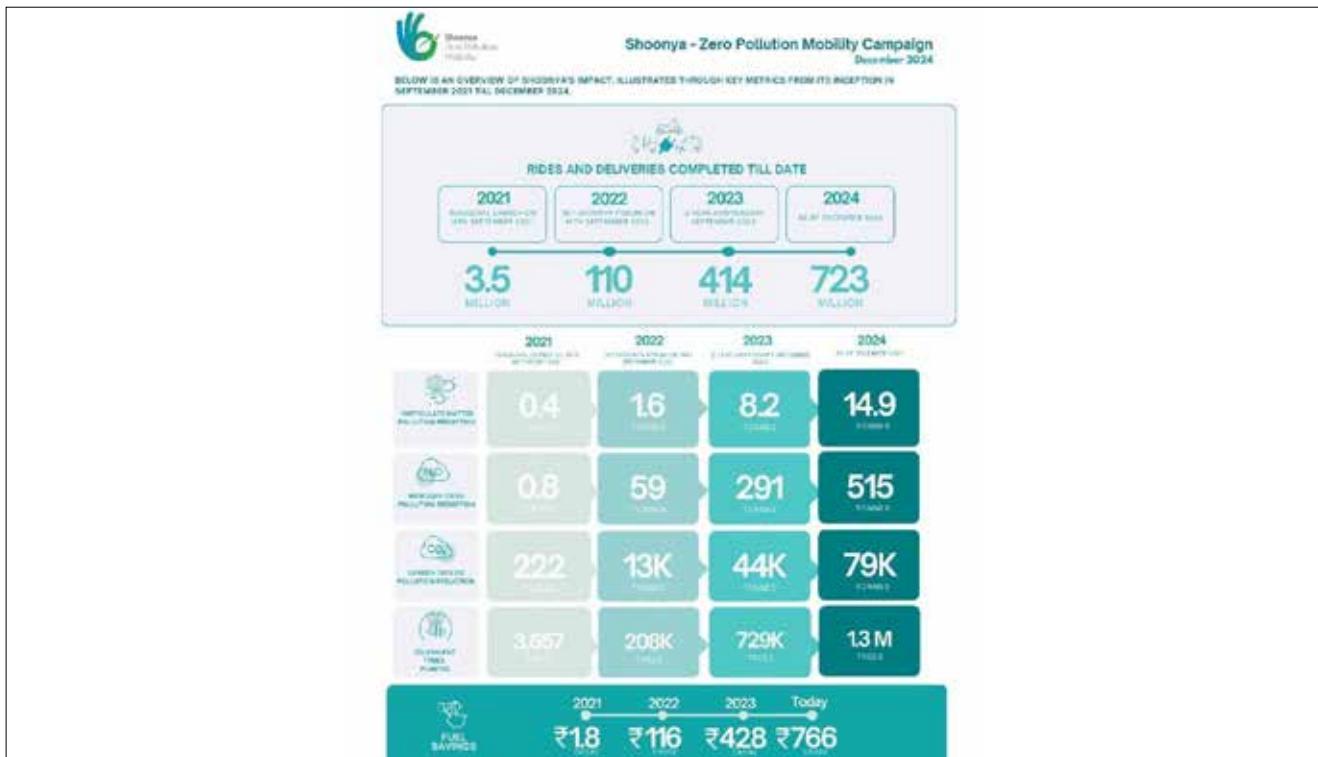
NITI Aayog is collaborating with multiple stakeholders to take the global disruption of Electric Mobility forward. It has contributed in all aspects of its ecosystem – demand creation, manufacturing, charging infrastructure, standards and specifications, recycling and circularity, awareness and regulatory provisions. The in-house team in collaboration with multiple global knowledge institutions and think tanks has come out with possible solutions to the issues and challenges and strategies to increase the adoption of Electric Mobility in India.

'SHOONYA' – ZERO POLLUTION MOBILITY CAMPAIGN

Shoonya (launched on 15 September, 2021) is an ongoing pan India consumer awareness campaign coordinated by NITI Aayog in partnership with leading companies working in the electric vehicle (EV) ecosystem in India. The principal aim of Shoonya is to nudge delivery systems and ride hailing towards clean mobility. Improving urban air quality, enhancing public health and contributing to the nation's sustainability goals are other positive spin offs.

The campaign has so far (up to Dec., 2024) has completed approximately 723 million rides and deliveries on Electric Vehicles and has impacted by bringing about fuel savings of approximately ₹766 Crore and planting of about 1.3 million trees. It has also engaged approximately 10 crore citizens through multiple channels and created awareness among them in favour of pollution-free delivery. Three brand films have been released on 25 January, 2022, 19 July, 2023 and 4 April, 2024 that have been viewed by around 70 million people. So far, 220+ corporate partners (domestic and global) have collaborated together in this campaign initiative.





Shoonya Impact

PM ELECTRIC DRIVE

NITI Aayog was involved in curating the process of PM Electric Drive Revolution in Innovative Vehicle Enhancement (PM E-DRIVE) Scheme. It was notified on 29 September, 2024. Built up on the earlier FAME I (2015-19), FAME II (2019-24) and EMPS (April – July, 2024), PM E- DRIVE has an outlay of ₹10,900 crore as demand incentive. It has special focus on charging infrastructure, e-Ambulances, induction of e-buses in Public Transport System, e-trucks for heavy duty freight electrification and upgradation of testing agencies. The Focus on e-ambulances is for integrating EVs into health sector for Greener healthcare solutions. Modernisation of testing agencies of MHI to deal with new & emerging technologies to promote Green mobility is also being taken.

PM-EBUS SEVA-PAYMENT SECURITY MECHANISM (PSM) SCHEME

NITI has been actively involved in developing PM-eBUS Sewa-Payment Security Mechanism (PSM) Scheme for procurement and operation of e-buses by Public Transport Authorities (PTAs). PSM provides a safety net for timely payments to OEMs/operators for the services of e-bus contracted by Public Transport Authorities (PTAs). With an outlay of ₹3,435.33 crore, it will support procurement and operations of 38,000 or more e-buses. CESL will oversee the execution of the scheme.

NATIONAL ELECTRIC BUS PROGRAMME

NITI has been involved in the National Electric Bus Programme (NEBP) – an aspirational programme to deploy 50,000 e-buses across India by 2030. It is expected to significantly reducing emissions and improving air quality. NEBP builds on the success of the Grand Challenge (GC), a 5,450 e-bus procurement initiative managed by Convergence Energy Services Limited (CESL) that achieved up to a 50% reduction in e-bus prices through demand aggregation and standardised contracts. This initiative, involving 5 of 9 eligible cities (with 4 million+ population), demonstrated that the operational costs of e-buses can be lower than diesel or CNG buses.

NEBP expands this model nationwide, targeting cities with over one million people and state capitals. CESL, as the implementing agency, is responsible for demand aggregation, standardised contracting, and ecosystem development.

E-FAST INDIA - ELECTRIC FREIGHT ACCELERATOR FOR SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT

e-FAST India is a national electric freight platform coordinated by NITI Aayog. The grand aim is de-carbonisation of freight sector which despite constituting 4% of vehicle fleet contributes 40% of road emissions.

It has created a collaboration of 72 industry players, 9 OEMS and 19 knowledge partners. Over 6 stakeholder convening and 25+ pilot discussions have so far been organised. It has sensitised the stakeholders and aggregated a demand of 7750 e-freight vehicles by 16 companies.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE COLLABORATION WITH ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (ADB)

There is an ongoing collaboration between NITI Aayog and ADB where ADB has committed to provide technical assistance on following core themes:

- Providing credit enhancement for EV fleet operators to facilitate EV adoption;
- Complete supply chain assessment for scaling up EV manufacturing in India;
- Mapping Global Best Practices and Benchmarking analysis;
- Develop strategies for scaling up EV Charging infrastructure;
- Develop Comprehensive E-Mobility Plans for selected cities;
- Capacity building activities for aiding transition to EV based mobility.

It will help in developing understanding and addressing the challenges in EV adoption. Based on this understanding strategies for scaling up EV Charging infra and comprehensive e-Mobility plans for three Tier-I cities can be taken up.

GREEN TRANSITION, ENERGY, CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENT

The overarching mission of the Green Transition, Climate and Environment (GTC) division 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, addressing the challenges of climate change adaptation, and promoting a circular economy. This includes promoting resource efficiency, minimising waste, and encouraging recycling to reduce environmental impact.

The Division also 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 Division 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.

The GTC Division aims to reduce reliance on virgin resources and build a resilient, sustainable economy aligned with environmental and economic goals. The division 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.

Carbon Capture, Utilisation & Storage (CCUS): India's primary energy mix is heavily fossil fuel dependent with more than 85% in the primary energy basket. While many countries have set net-zero targets for 2050, India has committed to achieving net-zero by 2070. This ambitious transition will require significant efforts in technology development, infrastructure expansion, and financing.

To decarbonise the economy and mitigate emissions, Carbon Capture, Utilisation, and Storage (CCUS) technologies will play a pivotal role. Efficient utilisation of coal reserves and emission reductions in hard-to-abate sectors that rely on coal, oil, and gas necessitate the adoption of advanced technologies and carbon abatement mechanisms.

Recognising this, NITI Aayog has undertaken initiatives to facilitate the deployment of CCUS in India. These efforts aim to support the country's transition toward a sustainable and low-carbon future. The key initiatives include:

- i) NITI Aayog presented the 'role of CCUS in decarbonising the economy' during the 25th Prime Minister's Science, Technology & Innovation Advisory Council (PM-STIAC). OM-STIAC decided that the Ministry of Power will drive the CCUS implementation in mission-mode and the CCUS mission to be prepared and approved by the cabinet.
- ii) A two-day workshop was held on the "Legal & Regulatory Frameworks and Technical Considerations for CCUS" on 22 to 23 August, 2024 in, New Delhi. The workshop was jointly organised by NITI Aayog, US Department of State's Bureau of Energy Resources, US Department of Energy's office of Carbon Management and US Department of Commerce's Commercial Law Development Programme. The active participation of the government, industry, think tanks, and international speakers provided valuable suggestions, shared best practices, and facilitated global knowledge exchange to advance the CCUS implementation framework in India.



Workshop on "Legal & Regulatory Frameworks and Technical Considerations for Carbon Capture Utilisation and Storage" (CCUS)

ROLE OF SMALL MODULAR NUCLEAR REACTORS IN ENERGY TRANSITION

India's current nuclear capacity is 8 GW, while NITI Aayog estimates that at least more than 100 GW of nuclear capacity is required to achieve India's Net Zero goal by 2070. This calls for scaling construction capabilities, funding, advanced technology, and domestic manufacturing capacity. Globally, Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) are gaining attention for their shorter construction time, reduced land needs, and enhanced safety. Around 80 SMR designs are under development worldwide.

Recognising nuclear energy's role in the energy transition, during the Budget (FY 2024-25), it was announced that "the Government will partner with the private sector for (1) setting up Bharat Small Reactors (BSR), (2) research & development of Bharat Small Modular Reactor (BSMR), and (3) research & development of newer technologies for nuclear energy." NITI Aayog jointly with Department of Atomic Energy is working towards implementation of the announcements.

ENHANCING DOMESTIC COKING COAL AVAILABILITY TO REDUCE THE IMPORT OF THE COKING COAL

For the substitution of imported coking coal, NITI Aayog has collaborated with National Institute of Advanced Studies to undertake a study on "Enhancing Domestic coking coal availability to reduce the import of coking coal". This study will provide policy inputs to the Government to enhance the domestic production of coking coal suitable for coke-ovens using stamp-charging to enhance the raw material security and competitiveness of India's steel sector.

STUDY OF COST OF TRANSPORTING COAL FROM ONE STATE TO ANOTHER VIS-À-VIS COST OF GENERATION OF ELECTRICITY FROM COAL AND ITS TRANSPORTATION

NITI Aayog has constituted an expert group to analyse the optimal modal combination of transportation that can be put in place to ensure availability of coal to thermal power plants. Multiple stakeholder meetings have been conducted, and the report has been submitted to Ministry of Coal.

DEVELOPING CHEMISTRY AGNOSTIC STANDARDS FOR ENERGY STORAGE TECHNOLOGIES

Emerging Battery Energy Storage (BES) technologies differ in chemistry, materials, and applications, requiring diverse standards to ensure safety, performance, and reliability. Existing standards, limited to specific chemistries, hinder the certification and commercialisation of innovative technologies for electric mobility and grid storage. To address this, NITI Aayog developed a paper on chemistry-agnostic framework based on universal safety and technical parameters. The report includes a sample template and suggests flexible adaptations of current standards to integrate new technologies into electric vehicles (EVs) and stationary storage systems, fostering innovation and growth in India's energy storage ecosystem. On the basis of this report BIS has constituted a committee for developing chemistry agnostic standards for EV's and stationary batteries.

NET ZERO PATHWAYS

India's Net Zero (NZ) commitment, announced at COP 26 in November, 2021, underscores address climate change while balancing aspirations to become a developed nation by 2047. Achieving NZ necessitates transitioning to clean energy across all sectors while managing socio-economic impacts such as job shifts, revenue changes in fossil-dependent states, and resource constraints.

NITI Aayog has constituted six working groups. The work examines NZ trajectories, utilising tools like IESS 2047 and TIMES-VEDA, supported by the India Climate Energy Modelling Forum (ICEMF). They focus on macroeconomic implications, sectoral shifts, climate finance, R&D, supply chains, and social impacts. The working groups, covering key sectors such as power, transport, industry, agriculture, critical minerals, macroeconomic implications of the transition, climate finance, and the social aspects of energy transition and comprising representatives from ministries, academia, industry, and think tanks, have been constituted to develop actionable recommendations and build stakeholder consensus.

This effort will result in a dynamic policy document providing a comprehensive roadmap for India's NZ transition. The document will guide ministries, state governments, and industries, adapting over time to reflect advances in technology, policy, and economic conditions, ensuring a just and sustainable transition.

DECARBONISATION OF HARD-TO ABATE SECTORS

NITI Aayog is developing a comprehensive decarbonisation roadmap for the cement, aluminium, and MSME sectors to guide their transition toward sustainability. The roadmap will identify emission sources along the production value chains and pinpoint key areas for decarbonisation across the end-to-end value chain. It will assess the sectors' competitiveness in light of global developments such as the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) and evaluate the readiness of infrastructure and technologies to support decarbonisation. This includes identifying a suite of commercially viable technologies and exploring financial mechanisms like viability funding, incentives, or tax breaks to make emerging technologies feasible. The plan will also focus on leveraging circular economy principles and improving resource efficiency.

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. Recent updates to this portal include a 'Wind Energy Site Selection Tool'. In collaboration with the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), this tool is being worked on to bring further granularity in terms of supporting states, districts and blocks. The tool is being updated.

STRUCTURING PATHWAYS FOR A NATIONAL GREEN FINANCING INSTITUTION IN INDIA

To support India's developmental aspirations and NZ targets, the present finance flows are much lower than the desired levels. A dedicated National Green Financing Institution may be envisaged to bridge the huge gap. The primary purpose of the Institution will be to aggregate green capital from different sources and lower the cost of capital. NITI is examining structuring mechanisms for operationalising a potential National Green Financing Institution including a bank modelled on NaBFID/NABARD, repurposing existing institutions like IREDA; Climate Fund in GIFT city, Green InvIT, etc. (non-exhaustive) along with analysing best practices from Green Banks around the world.

COAL GASIFICATION

A Steering Committee and Technical Standing Group under the Chairmanship of Dr. V.K. Saraswat, Member, NITI Aayog reviews the programme and projects to take necessary policy decisions in coal gasification initiatives. Ministry of Coal has issued letters of awards (LOAs) to the selected applicants under Categories I and III of the Coal Gasification Incentive Scheme. More private sectors are also participating under Category II of this scheme.

DATA ANALYSIS OF HISTORICAL AMBIENT AIR QUALITY DATA ALONG WITH EMISSIONS FROM COAL BASED THERMAL POWER PLANT FOR DEVELOPING A DECISION SUPPORT SYSTEM

NITI Aayog has partnered with National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (CSIR-NEERI), Nagpur to Study on Analysis of Historical Ambient Air Quality Data along with emission from Coal based Thermal Power Plant for Developing a Decision Support System. After detailed analysis and multiple stakeholder consultation the report has been finalised giving specific recommendations regarding FGDs in thermal power plants, emission regulations, etc.

ELECTRICITY SECTOR REGULATION STUDY

The electricity sector is regulated by the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) and the State Electricity Regulatory Commissions (SERCs). Almost two decades have passed since the governing statute

(Electricity Act 2003) was enacted. In this period, some ERCs have developed a reputation for high-quality regulation, enforcement, and adjudication. However, few ERCs are also criticised for matters such as regulatory capture, delay in tariff orders, and lack of autonomy. A study has been awarded to examine the autonomy, role clarity, capacity and accountability of power regulators.

BIOENERGY POTENTIAL ESTIMATION AND FEEDSTOCK AVAILABILITY FOR COMPETING USES

The study is aimed at estimating the bioenergy potential and feedstock availability for competing uses. Objectives include Biofuel demand estimation considering announced Government targets for Ethanol, CBG, SAF, Biodiesel, Green Hydrogen, Bio-methanol and Biochar. The study will also analyse supply options including assessment of current estimates, potential role of pricing, evaluation of conversion technologies, impact on food security and land requirement estimation. The study is underway.

LIFE CYCLE ANALYSIS OF ETHANOL PRODUCTION IN INDIA

The study “Comparative Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) of Ethanol Production from Sugarcane, Rice, and Maize” evaluates the energy and environmental efficiency aspects that are critical for India’s energy transition strategy. With ethanol blending targets set at 20% by 2025, this study evaluates the environmental and energy implications of producing bioethanol from key agricultural feedstocks. The results underline the importance of optimising crop yield, water productivity, and integrating advanced feedstocks to align with India’s ethanol blending goals while minimising environmental trade-offs.

LANDSCAPE OF CLIMATE FINANCE IN INDIA: FINDING PATHWAYS FOR INDIA’S NDC AND NET ZERO TARGETS- DEMAND SUPPLY, FLOW ESTIMATION

Climate Policy Initiative (CPI) in March, 2024. The Methodology and approach are being finalised and the output of the study will be used for Climate Finance. The CPI has compiled results that were modelled for Supply availability & Financing gap. The report preparation is underway and the final report is proposed to be submitted by March, 2025.

PROJECT ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION

The Division plays a pivotal role in advancing the net zero mission and circular economy initiatives by critically evaluating project proposals for SFC/EFC submissions, providing technical and financial recommendations and supporting externally funded projects. It collaborates with multilateral institutions to develop implementation plans and MoUs, focusing on sustainable development and climate goals. Additionally, the Division prepares Request for Qualification-cum-Request for Proposal documents to engage consultants for feasibility reports and master plans, ensuring alignment with environmental, economic, and climate objectives.

NET ZERO PATHWAY DEVELOPMENT THROUGH INTER-MINISTERIAL WORKING GROUPS

The GTC&E Division is engaged in two key Net Zero working groups: WG 2D, which focuses on reducing emissions in agriculture while ensuring food security and farmer welfare, and WG 5, which addresses the social impacts of energy transition, including employment, health, and migration. Established in April, 2024, these groups are essential to NITI Aayog’s strategy for meeting Net Zero goals. Knowledge partners such as i FOREST, WHO, WRI, and CEEW support the development of strategies to address these challenges effectively.

THE HIMALAYAN STATE REGIONAL COUNCIL (HSRC)

The Himalayan State Regional Council (HSRC) for Sustainable Development in the Indian Himalayan Region, constituted by NITI Aayog in 2018, has been reactivated. The inter-ministerial council is dedicated to the implementation of the action points based on the reports of the five Working Groups namely (i) Inventory and Revival of Springs in Himalayas for Water Security, (ii) Sustainable Tourism in Indian Himalayan Region, (iii) Shifting Cultivation: Towards Transformation, Approach, (iv) Strengthening Skill & Entrepreneurship Landscape in Himalayas, and (v) and Data/information for Informed Decision Making by Multiple Stakeholders'.

CIRCULAR ECONOMY INITIATIVES: PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND WASTE MINIMISATION

In June, 2024, NITI Aayog established five specialised working groups on End-of-Life Vehicles, Tyres, E-Waste, Scrap Metal, and Lithium-Ion Batteries to promote resource efficiency and a circular economy. Meetings with stakeholders for End-of-Life Vehicles, Tyres, Lithium-Ion Batteries, and E-Waste have been conducted, and the resulting policy recommendations are under active consideration for implementation. These meetings engaged manufacturers, recyclers, and ministries to discuss policies, financial mechanisms, and technological innovations. The aim is to reduce waste, enhance recycling, and recover materials to create a sustainable ecosystem. This approach aligns with national environmental and economic goals, minimising reliance on virgin resources while maximising waste value.

GOVERNANCE

The Governance Division of NITI Aayog is responsible for providing policy prescription for matters related to seven Central Ministry Departments viz. 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. The division also coordinates the work relating to Government of India- United Nation Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (GoI- UNSDCF) 2023-27.

CONSTITUTION OF WORKING GROUP ON MODEL FAIR PRICE SHOPS

The National Food Security Act (NFS), 2013 provides legal entitlement to more than 81 crore beneficiaries in the country to receive highly subsidised food grains through the Public Distribution System (PDS) through the network of Fair Price Shops (FPSs).

The FPSs play a crucial role as last-mile delivery agents, making them vital for efficient delivery. To transition from food security to nutrition security the Department of Food and Public Distribution recently initiated a pilot programme to transform 60 FPSs into nutrition hubs called Jan Poshan Kendras (JPKs).

To holistically look at the FPS ecosystem in the country, a Working Group was set up in NITI Aayog under the chairmanship of Prof Ramesh Chand, Member, NITI Aayog. The first meeting was held on 6 December, 2024 at NITI Aayog to deliberate upon the issues pertaining to the viability of FPSs and examine the pilot's implementation and scope for scale-up in Aspirational Districts/Blocks and other parts of the country. Various representatives from State Governments viz. Rajasthan, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, and Telangana were also present at the deliberations.



Glimpses from the First Meeting of Working Group on Model Fair Price Shops held in December, 2024

COMPENDIUM OF ESSAYS ON 'FIGHTING HUNGER AND MALNUTRITION: THE INDIA STORY'

The Governance Division has commenced preparation of a Compendium of Essays on 'Fighting Hunger and Malnutrition: the India Story' in collaboration with the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), to review India's extensive food and nutrition safety nets. Being developed by Senior Government officials, renowned academicians, and pioneers in field of social welfare, the compendium aims to offer a reflective and forward-looking platform that celebrates the progress made while exploring future reforms and innovations in food security programmes. Whilst celebrating achievements and showcasing technologies and innovations, the compendium would be useful for countries in the Global South wishing to learn from India's experience.

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 gases based urea units covered under New Urea Policy (NUP)-2015.

So far two meetings of the expert committee have been held which was attended by Secretary and senior officials of the Department of Fertilizers and NITI Aayog. The meeting also sought views of urea manufacturing companies regarding implementation of energy saving schemes to achieve the energy norms, present status of the energy consumption and CO₂ emission by the urea units, scope of further energy efficiency in the urea sector.

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 Fertilizers to recommend a per-kg subsidy rate for each nutrient Nitrogen, Phosphorous, and 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 fertilizer to farmers at affordable price at appropriate time, to promote smooth production of fertilizer in the country and in case of shortfall, smooth and timely imports of fertilizers and finally to encourage balanced use of fertilizers.

MEETING OF UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION FRAMEWORK 2023-2027

The 2nd meeting of the Joint Steering Committee for implementation of Government of India – United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework was held under the co-Chairmanship of Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog and United Nations Resident Coordinator in India on 16 May, 2024 at NITI Aayog. It was attended by Members, CEO, and senior officers heading the Focal Groups from NITI Aayog, all nodal line ministries of the Outcome Steering Committees and the Leads and Co-Leads from the six Outcome Groups of the UN Agencies. The meeting discussed the work undertaken by the 26 UN Agencies in India and deliberated upon the future road map focusing on addressing knowledge gaps, programme design gaps, and identifying best practices that can be shared as learnings to be replicated and seeded.



2nd meeting of United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2023-2027

HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE, NUTRITION AYUSHMAN BHARAT SCHOOL HEALTH MISSION

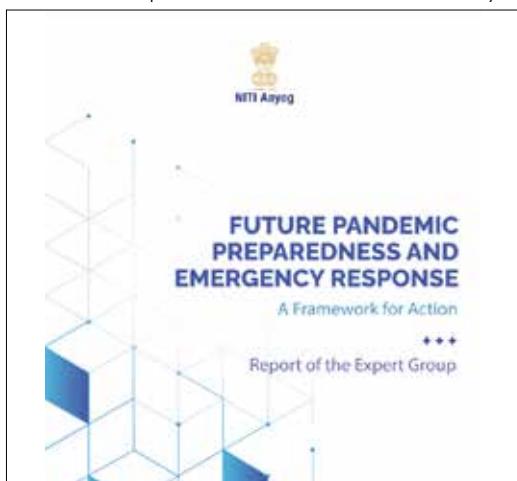
India is home to the largest population of children and adolescents (<18 years) in the world. There is a growing trend of health issues, such as anaemia, nutritional disorders, NCDs, mental health and behavioural issues, reproductive health, and other physical issues in school-age children, which need to be addressed holistically. This highlights the need to develop a comprehensive and holistic school-based programme for school-going children and adolescents for a healthier and stronger future for the nation with a clear strategic policy and framework promoting health literacy, awareness and education, optimum nutrition, healthy lifestyle, and good school health services in a health-promoting school environment.

To formulate a framework for a comprehensive and holistic School Health Program, a series of consultations and meetings were conducted with all concerned stakeholders, and important resources and literature were reviewed by NITI Aayog. Based on this extensive exercise, and with the aim to ensure optimum health, nutrition, and a healthy lifestyle for 25.5 crores of school-going children and adolescents, a framework for a comprehensive Ayushman Bharat School Health Mission has been formulated and six main pillars have been identified under this proposed mission encompassing (i) Health and Nutrition Education through Curriculum and Extra-curricular Activities, (ii) Yoga, Physical Education and Wellness, (iii) Health Promoting School Ecosystem, (iv) Mental Health Promotion, Counselling and Support, (v) Health Check-ups, Referral and Treatment, and (vi) First aid, Acute Care and Special Provisioning. The framework document was shared with the M/o Health & Family Welfare, M/o Education, and M/o Ayush for further course of action in July, 2024. Further, the Government of Tripura launched a pilot project on ‘Ayushman Bharat School Health Mission’, catalysed and guided by NITI Aayog, on 29 November, 2024.

FUTURE PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS

In 2023, NITI Aayog constituted an Expert Group to prepare a Framework for Action for Future Pandemic Preparedness and Emergency Response. The group was to examine how COVID-19 was managed at the national and global levels, pick up learnings both from the success stories and challenges faced and assess key gaps that need to be addressed to prepare and respond more efficiently and effectively in any future public health crisis.

After consulting with over 60 national and international experts from public health, clinical medicine, epidemiology, microbiology, industry and academia, and senior government officials at the Centre and State level at the frontline of the COVID-19 response, the Expert Group has provided a blueprint for the country to prepare for any future public health emergency or pandemic and have a rapid response system in place. This report provides an action plan for a 100-day response to any outbreak or pandemic to be ready with strategies and countermeasures. It outlines the detailed roadmap for preparedness and an implementation phase, indicating the steps on how the outbreak can be tracked, tested, treated, and managed through a well-developed framework in a 100-day time frame. The report was released in September, 2024.



Launch of the Expert Group Report titled “Future Pandemic Preparedness and Emergency Response –A Framework for Action” in the presence of Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog

SENIOR CARE REFORMS IN INDIA: REIMAGINING THE SENIOR CARE PARADIGM

NITI Aayog released a position paper titled “Senior Care Reforms in India: Reimagining the Senior Care Paradigm” on 16 February, 2024, highlighting the existing policies, schemes, provisions of services, challenges, and required efforts beyond medical care. To take this initiative forward, a committee has been constituted in July, 2024 under the chairpersonship of Dr. VK Paul, Member (Health), NITI Aayog. The Committee includes members from central ministries, states, academicians, technical experts, and representatives from reputed senior care organisations and aims to analyse the challenges of the aging population, considering demographic shifts and associated vulnerabilities, such as health, social, economic, digital, safety, security, feminisation, and urban-rural dimensions. It will undertake a situational analysis of existing constitutional provisions, policies, and programs on elderly care, identifying gaps in planning, organisation, implementation, coordination, and monitoring by ministries and organisations. It will develop a strategic framework for holistic care and welfare of senior citizens, outlining the roles of individuals, families, government, community, social organisations, and institutions. Four meetings of the Committee have been held from August, 2024 to December, 2024. So far, discussions have been held with twelve ministries and nine states.

NATIONAL TASKFORCE ON STRENGTHENING BRAIN HEALTH CARE AND SERVICES IN INDIA

The concept of brain health has been emerging as a critical area of focus, encompassing preventive, promotive, and rehabilitative domains to ensure brain health for all. While the national focus has traditionally been on mental health—addressing emotional, psychological, and social well-being—brain health specifically targets

the physical health of the brain. This includes aspects such as neuroplasticity, the prevention of neurological disorders, and the maintenance of cognitive functions. Good brain health is essential for maintaining overall well-being, as it supports good mental health and vice versa. In India, studies over the past three decades have consistently shown a high disease burden for specific neurological conditions, including stroke, epilepsy, headache, Parkinson's disease, and dementia. Despite advancements in healthcare access, disparities persist based on socioeconomic status, age, geography, and gender.

To address these challenges, a pragmatic approach for effective strategies in surveillance, prevention, acute care, and rehabilitation has been initiated by constituting the "National Task Force on Brain Health" by NITI Aayog. This task force comprises technical experts in neurological care and science, alongside concerned ministries, to thoroughly review existing gaps and make informed recommendations. The Task Force aims to recommend pathways to improve accessibility and quality of brain health services at primary, secondary, and tertiary healthcare levels. The task force is also charged with recommending specific actions to strengthen and create a robust, structured system for the effective and timely diagnosis, treatment, and care of patients with neurological disorders. Additionally, it seeks to frame strategies for the promotion, management, and prevention of neurological disorders within Ayushman Aarogya Mandirs.

The task force has already conducted seven meetings, gathering substantial knowledge on the essential pillars and thematic areas from members and external experts from various neurological institutions and associations.

NATIONAL ACTION PLAN ON ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE (NAP-AMR 2.0)

Following the completion of the first National Action Plan for Antimicrobial Resistance (NAP- AMR 1.0) (2017-21), MoHFW/NCDC decided to draft NAP-AMR 2.0 covering the period 2024-2028 to manage the huge burden of Antimicrobial Resistance in India. NAP 2.0 is expected to include specific action plans and roadmaps for individual ministries/departments/organisations that were not a part of the first national action plan.

Led by Dr V K Paul, Member, NITI Aayog was instrumental in bringing together twenty ministries/departments/organisations to conduct a series of brainstorming sessions and plan a systematic roll-out of a strategy for AMR based on the work already done by the Ministries/Departments and the applicable GOI policies. Over seven rounds of consultations, each ministry/department prepared and presented their respective action plan with defined timelines, developed under the concerned strategic objective/s of NAP-AMR 2.0. The specific action Plans received from 16 ministries/departments/ organisations have been collated by NCDC into the final draft of the NAP-AMR 2.0 (2024-2028) strategy document. The MoHFW is expected to release the second national action plan in due course.

DRUGS FOR RARE DISEASES

Realising the unavailability of indigenous treatments and exorbitant prices of drugs imported for rare diseases, NITI Aayog undertook an effort to improve the accessibility and affordability of drugs for rare disease patients in India through fast-tracking indigenously manufactured dosage forms (small molecules) for selected rare diseases. Under this effort, four drugs have already been made available at affordable costs that are 1/60th to 1/100th the cost of the imported drugs. Four more drugs are under process for obtaining necessary regulatory approvals and will be made available at affordable costs, likely by the end of this year. For the management of Sickle Cell Disease, a syrup formulation of Hydroxyurea is also under the process of approval.

CRISPR-MEDIATED GENOME EDITING TECHNOLOGY FOR SICKLE CELL ANAEMIA

CRISPR (Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats) mediated genomic editing is a new technology that opens up possibilities for curing Sickle Cell Disease, which, so far, only a couple of countries have achieved. The Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) has undertaken projects for CRISPR-

related therapeutics and whole-blood PCR diagnostics for the treatment and diagnosis of Sickle Cell Disease. To take forward these projects towards the logical conclusion and delivery to the nation, NITI Aayog, under the chairpersonship of Member (Health), held multi stakeholder consultations involving key partners such as the M/o Tribal Affairs, ICMR, CDSCO, and AIIMS, New Delhi. With these important dialogues, actions are underway for the creation of requisite GMP (Good Manufacturing Practice) research labs, rolling-out of the next phases of clinical trials by firming-up of protocols, opening of regulatory pathways, achieving needed institute ethical clearance for conduct of studies, and seeking support from industry partners, among others.

ISSUES RELATED TO THE IMPORT OF REFURBISHED MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

The Hon'ble Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare directed Dr. Vinod Kumar Paul, Member Health, NITI Aayog, to examine the issue of import of used Medical Devices and submit its recommendations.

Accordingly, a team at the Health Division, NITI Aayog, analysed the various aspects of the issue. Inputs and representations received from the industry representatives, including the Association of Indian Medical Device Industry (AIMED), Medical Technology Association of India (MTA), Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI), U.S.-India Business Council (USIBC), and Intuitive India, SS Innovations, Philips India Ltd. were examined.

On 9 May, 2024, a meeting was convened at NITI Aayog to discuss the issue as requested. The meeting was attended by Dept. of Pharmaceuticals, MoHFW, DGHS, MoEFCC, Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), CDSCO, and medical experts from hospitals. Recommendations and decisions from the meeting were circulated to concerned stakeholders.

AIIMS, NEW DELHI REFORMS

To create a roadmap aimed at transforming AIIMS, New Delhi, into a premier institution for Medical Research and Practice, a committee led by Dr V K Paul, Member of NITI Aayog, has been formed. This committee's mandate involves thoroughly examining the existing systems and processes at AIIMS and proposing significant reforms along with specific timelines for their implementation. The Terms of Reference for the Committee include identifying ways to streamline patient inflow, developing Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to ensure optimal clinical, academic, and research outcomes, enhancing governance and transparency, and recommending strategies for financial prudence, sustainability, and self-sufficiency in managing AIIMS, New Delhi.

TRANSFORMING EMERGENCY AND TRAUMA CARE SYSTEM

Each year, India witnesses around 4.6 lakh road traffic accident injuries, of which 1.6 lakh die every year. The victims largely belong to the young, productive age group, who often are bread-earners. NITI Aayog facilitated a nationwide study on emergency care services in the country. Working with the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW), the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH), State Governments, academics, experts, and other stakeholders, NITI Aayog has developed a comprehensive framework for emergency and trauma care.

Subsequently, in line with its commitment to reduce fatalities due to road accidents and the legal mandate under section 162 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, MoRTH is formulating a scheme to provide cashless treatment to the victims of road accidents caused by the use of motor vehicles. Further, MoRTH, along with the National Health Authority (NHA), has implemented pilot programs for providing cashless treatment to victims of road accidents in the Union Territory of Chandigarh and Puducherry and the States of Assam, Haryana, Punjab, and Uttarakhand.

ACHIEVING UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE

Universal Health Coverage (UHC) refers to the provision of quality health services to the population without causing financial strain. Over the years, India has made significant strides in transitioning from a selective approach to health service delivery to a comprehensive primary healthcare system, seamlessly integrated with secondary and tertiary care through its existing infrastructure. The Ayushman Bharat (AB) scheme, launched in 2018, has played a pivotal role in reducing financial burdens for families.

To further strengthen this endeavour, NITI Aayog, in partnership with CSEP, has attempted to examine the experiences of various countries that have adopted strategies for achieving UHC to gather valuable insights and policy suggestions for India. The draft paper proposes a range of multi-faceted approaches addressing both supply-side and demand-side financing aimed at improving healthcare delivery, accessibility, quality, and affordability. This is an ongoing body of work and envisages extensive government and stakeholder consultations to identify potential pathways tailored to India's specific needs and context.

INDUSTRY

INITIATIVE TO BOOST INDIA'S PARTICIPATION IN GLOBAL VALUE CHAINS IN KEY SECTORS

Manufacturing has historically been an engine of growth for all major economies around the world, driving their per capita incomes, export earnings, and employment across skill levels. India's presence on the global manufacturing landscape has remained modest, where USA, China, Germany, Japan, and South Korea hold dominant positions. Currently, India's share in global manufacturing output stands at 3.3%, with manufacturing contributing only 17% to its overall GDP. A key factor underlying India's limited share in global manufacturing is its relatively low participation in Global Value Chains (GVCs), which account for over two-thirds of international trade.

Recognising the critical need to boost manufacturing for economic growth and job creation in India, the Industry & Foreign Investment Division of NITI Aayog conceptualised an initiative to analyse the challenges impeding India's presence in Global Value Chains and to develop strategies to power up its GVC presence. The initiative focuses on priority sectors where India has growth potential. These include Electronics, Automotive, and Chemicals.

ELECTRONICS: POWERING INDIA'S PARTICIPATION IN GLOBAL VALUE CHAINS

Within a year of beginning the project on the Electronics sector, the Industry Division launched the report, 'Electronics: Powering India's participation in Global Value Chains (GVCs)', on 18 July, 2024. The report extensively analyses India's electronics sector, emphasising its potential, identifying challenges, and recommending a range of fiscal and non-fiscal interventions.

Electronics is a high-growth sector in terms of its market size, export potential, and employability. The electronics market is estimated at US\$ 4.3 trillion globally and at US\$ 155 billion in India (2022). Electronics manufacturing also holds immense opportunities for India. In FY23, India's domestic electronics production surpassed US\$ 101 billion, growing at an impressive rate of nearly 15% annually. Presently, India's electronics manufacturing primarily involves the final assembly of electronic goods. Although brands and design firms have started increasingly outsourcing assembly, testing, and packaging tasks to Electronic Manufacturing Services (EMS) companies, the ecosystem for design and component manufacturing remains at a nascent stage. Further, there are multiple challenges involving a variety of cost disabilities, tax and tariff issues, labour and skill issues, etc.

The Industry Division's initiative involved extensive analysis and secondary research, along with stakeholder consultations and site visits spanning several months – all of which culminated in the report. The report lays out a vision for India's electronics sector by 2030 that is, to grow to US\$ 500 billion in electronics

production, with US\$ 200-225 billion in exports. This is expected to generate large-scale employment opportunities estimated at 5.5 to 6 million. To achieve this vision, both finished goods and components are expected to play key roles, with the former likely to contribute ~ US\$ 350 billion and the latter ~US\$ 150 billion in production.

To turn this vision into reality, the report recommends specific strategies and a range of interventions. It identifies where to intervene, e.g. which segments, components, or sub-systems to concentrate on, which parts of the Value Chain (design, sub-component manufacturing, assembly, R&D, etc.) to focus on, etc.

The interventions suggested in the report aim to address challenges across multiple domains. These include fiscal, financial, trade promotion, technology transfer, regulatory reforms, ease of doing business, hard infrastructure, soft infrastructure, skill development and labour issues, and R&D and design ecosystems.



Launch of the report, 'Electronics: Powering India's participation in Global Value Chains (GVCs)', on 18 July, 2024

AUTOMOTIVE SECTOR: POWERING INDIA'S PARTICIPATION IN GLOBAL VALUE CHAINS

Currently ranked as the 4th largest automotive market globally, the Indian automotive sector contributes 7.1% to the nation's GDP. However, despite its progress, India's share of global auto-component exports remains around 3%.

India's automotive sector is undergoing a transformation, shaped by evolving consumer preferences, technological advancements, and sustainability goals. The rise of electric vehicles (EVs), coupled with innovations in autonomous driving and connected vehicles, is pushing Indian manufacturers to rethink their strategies and invest heavily in research and development (R&D).

The Indian automotive sector is deeply interconnected with the broader economy, creating strong backward and forward linkages that drive demand for raw materials, components, and services across multiple industries. These linkages extend to key sectors such as steel, rubber, glass, electronics, information technology etc. making the automotive industry a critical pillar of India's industrial value chain.

Analysis suggests that within the auto components industry, there are several key product categories that form an integral part of the industry. These include engine and engine components, drive transmission, steering components, cooling system, suspension and braking system, body chassis etc. As technologies

become rapidly advanced and complex with consumers preferring Electric Vehicles (EVs) as compared to vehicles with Internal Combustion Engines (ICE), electrical and electronic components along with battery components are gradually becoming extremely important. In parallel, growing emphasis is also being placed on self-driving technologies and Advanced Driver Assisting Systems (ADAS) in vehicles.

Recognising the importance of this sector, NITI Aayog undertook an exercise of increasing India's footprint in the global automotive ecosystem. This exercise would identify the vision for India's automotive industry, and would lay down a clear roadmap to achieve this vision through specific interventions.

CHEMICALS SECTOR: POWERING INDIA'S PARTICIPATION IN GLOBAL VALUE CHAINS

The Chemicals sector in India has seen remarkable growth with its contribution of around \$190-220 Billion domestic market in 2023. India has now established itself as a significant player in chemical production, underscoring the resilience and dynamism of its economy and highlighting the vast potential of the chemicals industry.

The sector contributes around 7% to India's GDP, making it a cornerstone of the economy and one of the largest globally. Ranking 5th in revenue worldwide in 2023, this highly diversified sector produces over 80,000 products, and provides raw materials to multiple end-use industries, from agriculture to textiles and pharmaceuticals. Employing over 2 million people in India, the industry is both knowledge- and capital-intensive, and serves as a foundation for India's industrial and agricultural development.

Recognising the significance of this sector, NITI Aayog, in collaboration with various stakeholders, launched an initiative, 'Driving accelerated growth for India's share in Global Value Chain for Chemicals'. The primary objective was to identify key strategies and interventions to boost India's competitiveness in the chemicals sector and facilitate its integration into global chemical value chains.

The initiative involved rigorous research, PCPIR visits, consultations with stakeholders, and detailed analysis of industry trends and market dynamics. Through engagements with industry bodies, ministries, think tanks, academia, and key industry players, valuable insights have been gained into the challenges and opportunities facing the chemical sector.

The study underscores the critical need to enhance India's capabilities in chemical manufacturing to ascend the value chain. Its insights will help shape segment-specific policies including institutional reforms, infrastructure development, fiscal incentives and regulatory reforms, enabling India to strengthen its position as a global leader in chemicals manufacturing while fostering innovation, sustainability, and economic growth.

SITE ADJACENT FACTORY EMPLOYEES (S.A.F.E.) ACCOMMODATION

Factory workers' accommodation plays a pivotal role in driving industrialisation and increasing manufacturing productivity in a country. Properly addressing workers' accommodation helps reduce the inefficiencies associated with long commutes and improves overall worker efficiency. Globally, some countries have effectively integrated workers' housing into their industrial complexes.

Hon'ble Finance Minister in the Union Budget 2024-25, announced that rental housing with dormitory-type accommodation for industrial workers would be facilitated in public-private partnership (PPP) mode with Viability Gap Funding (VGF) support and commitment from anchor industries.

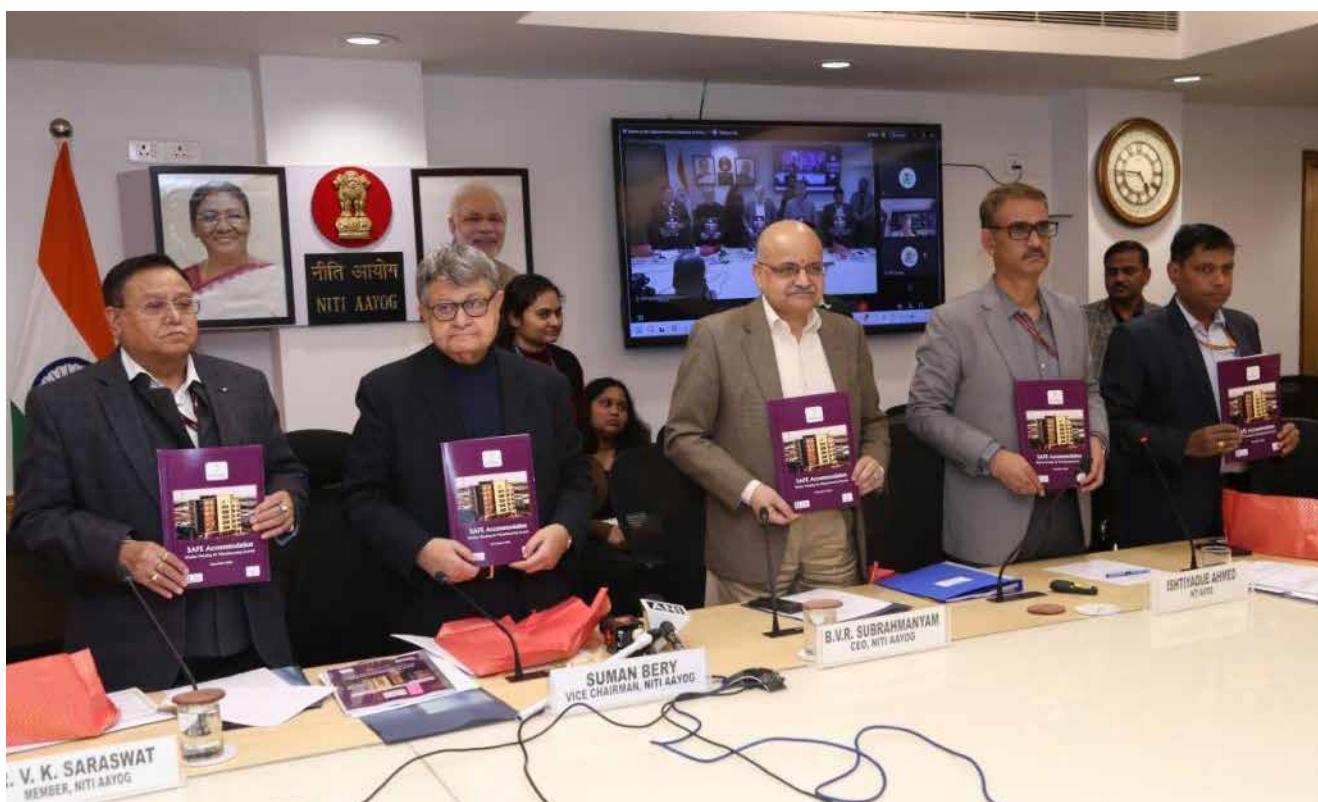
Recognising the importance of addressing worker accommodation, the Industry & Foreign Investment Division organised a workshop on 'S.A.F.E. Accommodation' on 7 August, 2024 in Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. The workshop witnessed participation from concerned Union Ministries/Departments, Industry Leaders, States, Banks and Financial Institutions.

Subsequently, the Division completed a study on this subject. The report, 'S.A.F.E. Accommodation: Worker Housing for Manufacturing Growth', released on 19 December, 2024, recommends scalable solutions focusing on Site Adjacent Factory Employees accommodation.

The report recognises that worker accommodation is essential infrastructure for rapid industrialisation. It identifies two primary bottlenecks that are preventing the market from filling the gap – regulatory barriers and economic constraints.

The report provides specific recommendations, including classification of SAFE accommodation as a distinct category under residential housing, which may interalia get some tax incentive, environmental clearances, etc. Financial support has been envisaged from the Centre, in the form of VGF funding of up to 30% of the total project cost (excluding land), jointly provided by the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) contributing 20%, and the sponsoring nodal Ministry of Government of India contributing 10%, on the lines of ‘Financial support to Public Private Partnerships in Infrastructure’ scheme. The VGF can also be used to retrofit / upgrade existing brownfield worker accommodation facilities.

The Report has been shared with concerned stakeholders such as GoI’s Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA) and Department of Economic Affairs to take the recommendations forward.



Launch of the report, ‘S.A.F.E. Accommodation: Worker Housing for Manufacturing Growth’, released on 19 December, 2024

RESEARCH STUDIES UNDER PROGRESS: STUDY ON INDIA AS A GLOBAL MANUFACTURING HUB

India has immense potential to transform itself into a global manufacturing hub. With its favourable demographics, skilled workforce, and increasing economic growth, India can attract significant investments and become a preferred destination for manufacturing. In this context, Industry & Foreign Investment Division of NITI Aayog initiated a study on identifying potential sectors that can transform India into a global manufacturing hub – these include: (i) Electronics, (ii) Automobile, (iii) Defence & Drones (iv) Textiles, (v) Solar PV Manufacturing, (vi) Capital Goods, (vii) Steel, (viii) Food Processing, (ix) Leather & Footwear, (x) Chemicals, (xi) Pharmaceuticals, (xii) Telecom Equipment, and (xiii) Aircraft Manufacturing. The study involves focused stakeholder consultations to understand the bottlenecks and identify necessary policy interventions in each identified sector.

STUDY ON 'RAPID GROWTH OF LABOUR-INTENSIVE SECTORS IN INDIA' (TEXTILES, LEATHER, GEMS & JEWELLERY)

Industry & Foreign Investment Division's research study on the 'Growth of Labour-Intensive Industries in India' focused on labour-intensive sectors that combine high labour input with capital. The project specifically explored employment trends in four key labour-intensive sectors – Food Processing, Textiles and Garments, Leather and Footwear, and Gems and Jewellery. Findings showed a substantial rise in employment, especially in small enterprises, with a high share of unorganised workers. Focused stakeholder consultations were carried out across sectors to understand bottlenecks and identify necessary policy interventions in each identified sector.

ANNUAL BILATERAL DIALOGUE UNDER INDIA-FRANCE ROADMAP ON BLUE ECONOMY AND OCEAN GOVERNANCE

The 1st Annual Dialogue between India and France, held in October, 2023 in Paris, identified multiple areas of collaboration involving five key Ministries and Departments of the Government of India. A follow-up review meeting was chaired by the CEO, NITI Aayog, in February, 2024 in New Delhi, to evaluate the progress and solidify the action points. The 2nd Annual Bilateral Dialogue would be scheduled in due course in New Delhi.

Progress was made over the year to advance the various action items that emanated from the 1st Dialogue. GoI's Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) led India's formal signing of the Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) Treaty at the UNGA Assembly in September, 2024, showcasing its commitment to ocean governance and sustainable exploration. The Ministry also advanced preparations for the United Nations Oceans Conference (UNOC3), scheduled in Nice for 2025, with initiatives like participating in the High-Level Event on Ocean Action (HLEOA) in Costa Rica in June, 2024.

Ministry of Environment, Forest, & Climate Change (MoEFCC), GoI, prioritised coastal ecosystem valuation and resilience, and is in the process of working out Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) on coastal ecosystem services, marine spatial planning, and coastal ecology.

Department of Fisheries (DoF), GoI, made progress in aquaculture and fisheries management. The Department finalised a loan agreement with AFD (French Development Agency) in March, 2024, for financing fisheries recovery programmes. Preparations were also underway for the ECOPORTS Seminar, which would advance global collaboration on sustainable fisheries.

Department of Higher Education (DoHE), GoI, advanced academic and research partnerships. A Dual Degree Master's Programme in Marine Science and Technology was formalised between IIT Goa and ENIB (École Nationale d'Ingénieurs de Brest), with the first intake planned for August, 2025. Efforts to establish a Centre for Blue Economy at IIT Madras and a Centre of Excellence for Blue Economy and Coastal Resilience at NIT Calicut are in progress, with these institutions set to lead innovation and capacity-building in the sector.

Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways (MoPSW), GoI, focused on cultural cooperation through efforts to work out modalities for establishing the National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC) at Lothal, Gujarat.

MINERALS

NITI Aayog continuously works towards policy support of the mining and minerals sector. In this regard, a MoU was signed 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, for 'Technology Development for Holistic Utilisation of Red Mud for Extraction of Metallic Values & Residue Utilisation'. The project kick-started with effect from 1 October, 2021, with a time frame of 3 years. 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). The project is in the final stages of conclusion.

MSME

MSME in India is a vibrant sector playing a crucial role in the nation's economic and social development. The sector contributes nearly 30% to India's GDP and nearly 45% to exports. It is also the second largest employment generating sector of the country.

MSME play a pivotal role in shaping economies worldwide. As per United Nations, MSMEs represent 90% of businesses, generate 60 to 70% of employment, and contribute 50% to global GDP. These enterprises apart from being economic entities are the backbone of societies, fostering livelihoods and driving inclusive growth, especially among the working poor, women, youth, and vulnerable communities. It also makes important contribution to country's exports and entrepreneurship.

Considering the impact of MSMEs in Indian economy, work on three projects has been initiated in Industry & Foreign Investment Division. The first initiative is on convergence of schemes for MSMEs. This aims to identify global best practices and best practices adopted by States which can be utilised for exploring possible ways for convergence of schemes to optimise benefits for the sector. Another initiative has been on medium enterprise sector in which the objective is to focus on incentives and schemes for medium enterprises. This is done to avoid one size fits all approach for MSME sector, as most of the policies are designed for benefitting the micro and small enterprises. The third work is on enhancing MSME competitiveness. This proposes measures to deepen cluster engagement to improve exports from MSMEs. All the three projects are at the finalisation stage.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS (INCLUDING FRONTIER TECHNOLOGY HUB)

The IT and Telecommunication Division works closely with line ministries on issues pertaining to Information Technology, Telecommunications, and Postal services. It collaborates with the Ministries by providing policy and technical inputs on strategic issues such as enhancing digital infrastructure, encouraging technology adoption, and improving ICT, Postal and Telecommunications services. Additionally, the division aims to steer various initiatives by the ministries to ensure they align with national priorities and are implemented effectively, thereby supporting the overall success of government programmes.

CORE FUNCTIONS

- Examining policy references, Cabinet and 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 and other miscellaneous activities of these Ministries and Departments.
- Examining the performance of schemes of these Ministries/Departments in coordination with the DMO.
- Representation on Inter-Ministerial Committees on Draft Strategy for National Strategy for Robotics, IndiaAI Mission and Spectrum Allocations.

ADVISORY GROUP ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

The 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 meetings of the Advisory Group.

ADVISORY GROUP ON GALLIUM NITRIDE (GAN) ECOSYSTEM ENABLING CENTRE AND INCUBATOR

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has approved the project titled “Establishment of Gallium Nitride (GaN) Ecosystem Enabling Centre and Incubator for High Power and High-Frequency Electronics” at the Centre for Nano Science and Engineering (CeNSE), Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru. The initiative aims to foster advancements in high-power and high-frequency electronics technologies by creating a robust ecosystem for Gallium Nitride research and innovation. NITI Aayog, as a member, participated in various meetings of the Advisory Group.

FRONTIER TECH FOR VIKSIT BHARAT

India stands at a pivotal moment in its journey toward becoming a developed nation (Viksit Bharat) by 2047. Achieving this bold vision requires more than just two decades of sustained and accelerated growth—it demands an exponential transformation that redefines every facet of society and the economy. To ensure that every Indian has access to quality education, healthcare, clean air, clean water, and meaningful livelihood opportunities, we must fundamentally rethink and reimagine how these systems function in a fast-changing world. Frontier Technology is a powerful tool that can enhance achievement of these objectives at a scale, with maximum impact and in a responsible manner.

The Key to Becoming a Frontier Tech Leader is to act early – By proactively embracing emerging technologies before they become mainstream, by investing in research and development, fostering innovation, and building strategic partnerships, India can position itself at the forefront of technological advancements. Early adopters not only gain a competitive edge but also shape industry standards and influence market trends. Additionally, acting early allows us to identify and mitigate potential risks associated with new technologies, ensuring we are prepared for the challenges ahead. In a rapidly evolving landscape, the choices India makes today will shape its future as a frontier tech leader.

NITI FRONTIER TECH HUB: LEADING THE CHARGE

The NITI Frontier Tech Hub was set up in August, 2024 and has been envisioned as a catalyst for India's transformation to a Frontier Tech Nation. Set up as a pioneering Frontier Tech think tank, its goal is to catalyse India's transformation into a developed nation and a global leader in innovation.

NITI Frontier Tech Hub Agenda:

- Enable India's readiness to advance Frontier Tech innovation and use for accelerated economic and societal development towards Viksit Bharat.
- Establish India's leadership by globally promoting adoption of emerging technologies benefitting humanity and the environment - The India Development Model.

NITI Frontier Tech Hub Partner Meet: NITI Frontier Tech Hub kicked off with a highly productive meeting with all key partners to discuss the charter and priorities in the coming year. The meeting was attended by over 41 leaders from the tech industry and resulted in excellent insights to shape the overall agenda.

NITI Frontier Tech Gurukul: NITI Frontier Tech Gurukul, an exclusive initiative under the NITI Frontier Tech Hub designed to bring global tech leaders and innovators into direct dialogue with key Indian government leaders. This initiative seeks to explore the transformative potential of frontier technologies that are shaping the future of governance, industry, and society to foster a deeper understanding of cutting-edge technologies.

First NITI Frontier Tech Gurukul session on AI for Viksit Bharat with Yann Le Cun, Chief AI Scientist at Meta, Turing award winner and a pioneer in the field of artificial intelligence, was held on 25 October, 2024 and featured an insightful discussion between Yann Le Cun and Senior Officials of the Government of India on the future of AI and India's role in shaping the future.

ANNUAL REPORT 2024-25

Vice Chairman, Members, CEO, Distinguished Fellows, and Programme Directors of NITI Aayog, Secretaries of Govt. of India, Heads of various organisations and academic institutes participated in the programme.



First NITI Frontier Tech Gurukul session on AI for Viksit Bharat with Yann Le Cun, Chief AI Scientist at Meta



Booklet on Frontier Technology Unveiled at the Inaugural NITI Frontier Tech Gurukul Session with Yann LeCun, Chief AI Scientist at Meta

As a curtain raiser for the 4th National Conference of Chief Secretaries, NITI FTH explored the transformative potential of frontier technologies—AI, bioengineering, renewable energy and quantum computing—to accelerate India's transformation to a developed nation. Speakers, including Dr. Manish Gupta, Head of Google DeepMind - India, Mr. Mukesh Bansal, serial entrepreneur and leading deep tech investor, Ms. Vrinda Kapoor, the first woman entrepreneur of a semiconductor product company, and Ms Debjani Ghosh, Distinguished Fellow NITI and Chief Architect of NITI Frontier Tech Hub, highlighted how these technologies can reshape India's economy and society, propelling the nation towards Viksit Bharat.

The session aimed to foster a deeper understanding of the importance of frontier tech for India's development goals and how NITI Frontier Tech Hub will gear to work with states to develop a proactive approach to technology-led growth, positioning India as a frontrunner in the global digital economy.



Curtain raiser for the 4th National Chief Secretaries Conference on transformative potential of Frontier Technologies

STARTUP SHOW AT 4TH NATIONAL CS CONFERENCE: A RESOUNDING SUCCESS

The Startup Show organised at the 4th National CS Conference, was a monumental success, attracting tremendous interest from Chief Secretaries, senior executives, industry leaders, and decision-makers from a range of sectors. With its dynamic lineup of emerging startups showcasing groundbreaking innovations, the event offered an unparalleled platform for entrepreneurs to present their ideas. The Startup Show featured a diverse mix of startups from various industries including technology, healthcare, finance, and sustainability.

The event provided valuable networking opportunities, with startups engaging in one-on-one conversations and securing connections that are poised to shape the future of their businesses. Many entrepreneurs walked away with commitments for partnerships, investments, and collaborations from senior leaders who were eager to integrate cutting-edge technologies and solutions into their existing operations.



Start-up Show at the 4th National Chief Secretaries Meeting by NITI Frontier Tech Hub

LAUNCH OF QUARTERLY INSIGHTS BY FRONTIER TECH HUB- “FUTURE FRONT: QUARTERLY FRONTIER TECH INSIGHTS”

NITI Frontier Tech Hub launched its *Quarterly Insights* report, a high-level insight series designed to provide a snapshot of the latest trends and developments shaping the frontier tech ecosystem globally. By offering concise overviews and insights, the series aims to build a foundational understanding of frontier technologies, highlighting their potential opportunities and risks.

This initiative aims to demystify these groundbreaking technologies, offering a high-level understanding of key trends, innovations, and adoption—both globally and within India. This inaugural edition, focused on the fast-evolving landscape of AI and Bioengineering. These technologies are swiftly transitioning from experimental concepts to mainstream disruptors. They are not merely tools for efficiency but hold the potential to become transformative enablers of a new growth paradigm, with the potential to redefine economies, drive social change, and create inclusive opportunities for all.

The Quarterly Insights report is set to become a staple for anyone interested in understanding the transformative power of emerging technologies. With each edition, Frontier Tech Hub aims to strengthen its position as a thought leader in the space and continue to shape the future of innovation.

INFRASTRUCTURE-CONNECTIVITY

The Infrastructure Connectivity (I & II) Divisions engage with the Central Ministries of Road Transport and Highway, Railways, Civil Aviation, Shipping Ports and Waterways, Commerce, and Industries (DPIIT), MoHUA (Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs) and Finance and the State Governments with the view to design, execute, evaluate policies in the areas of transport and infrastructure with a view to bring about efficiencies, enhance effectiveness and intermodal and intersectoral coordination. The Divisions provide policy inputs, suggests interventions in the form of discussions and policy papers to the Line Ministries. They also provide critical inputs to the legislative Bills. In addition, the Divisions appraise the projects / Cabinet Notes of the line Ministries, provides techno economic comments to strengthen the projects and also conduct research studies. The Divisions work with a number of domestic and international institutions to promote mobility in India.

ROADS

During the year 2024-25, 77 projects valuing over Rs.44,000 crores were appraised for the roads sector. These were spread across various Ministries including Ministries of Road Transport and Highways, Development of North Eastern Region, Housing and Urban Affairs, etc. Numerous learnings from appraisals, recommendations and strategies were shared with the Ministries and its agencies elaborating on key issues pertaining to the roads sector.

RAILWAYS

The Division is responsible for monitoring the progress of and giving a strategic direction to the Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC) Project. NITI Aayog is represented in the Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India (DFCCIL) Board. The Division regularly interacted with DFCCIL to solve pending issues with State Governments, suggestions were given to increase private investment, especially in construction of freight terminals and promote feeder routes connectivity. The Division had brainstorming session with NCRTC (National Capital Region Transport Corporation) officials for future expansion of the Rapid Rail Transport System (RRTS). Meeting was also held with Railway officials to strengthen appraisal methodology.

As part of the Expanded Board of Railways, the Division is responsible for policy inputs and development of the Railway Sector. It examined, appraised and gave inputs in Ministry of Railway's proposals to Cabinet worth of Rs.10.47 lakh crore including (a) Connectivity for Energy, Mineral and Cement Corridors; (b) Increasing capacity of high-density routes; (c) Eastern and Western Dedicated Freight Corridor Project; (d) Policy framework for Amrit Bharat Station Scheme; and (e) Augmenting Rail Connectivity to Ports (Rail Sagar). It also examined World Bank's Technical Assistance to Ministry of Railways for Development of Clean Cargo Terminals over Indian Railway Networks. The Division provided policy inputs to increase Railway Modal share to reduce logistic cost, undertake Asset Monetisation, develop Mega Inland Container Depot/ Container Freight Station, Carbon credit trading and Freight charge rationalisation to improve competitiveness of industries.

PORTS AND SHIPPING

The Division examined proposals for providing financial assistance through Sagarmala funds for capacity augmentation of jetties and berths for different projects and construction of beach front facilities and peripheral roads at different islands in Lakshadweep.

The Division's inputs on tweaking the Shipbuilding Financial Assistance Policy (SBFAP) - A Strategy for promoting 'Make in India' initiative in Shipbuilding and Ship Repair Industry and setting up of Maritime Development Fund were duly incorporated by the Ministry. The Division also conducted a research study with a knowledge partner on "Impact of Non-Major Ports on Shipping".

CIVIL AVIATION

For developing the back-end infra and institutional architecture in the civil aviation sector, including MRO services and leasing and financing, its allied services and logistics- a workshop/roundtable 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. Besides, NITI Aayog has also been entrusted with preparing the roadmap for the revival of Alliance Air along with the Ministry of Civil Aviation following the disinvestment of Air India.

LOGISTICS SECTOR

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

Learnings from the report titled "Evaluating Readiness of States & UTs for Faster Adoption of LVC Mechanisms" has been shared with specific relevant national and state agencies for facilitating improvements in LVC&S ecosystem across India. The report captures practices and experiences in implementation of LVC&S

instruments in States/ UTs. The report is based upon extensive literature study, primary survey of States/ UTs, evaluation of respective policies and acts, data analytics, and curation of court judgements.

Building Information Modelling (BIM)

A detailed framework for faster adoption of BIM has been prepared in the form of BIM Action Plan under the collaboration with Foreign Commonwealth Development Office of British High Commission. Relevant stakeholders (Ministries and implementing agencies) are being engaged with for encouraging and facilitating adoption of BIM enabled Common Data Environment. Extensive interactions between the Government agencies and private sector / academia have also been facilitated to enhance digitalisation of infrastructure sector. Initiatives towards integrated PMIS and real-time infrastructure dashboards are also being explored.

De-risking Infrastructure (Resilient Infrastructure)

The Division has extensively engaged and supported the Coalition of Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) by providing inputs for developing a global Guidance Document under Communities of Practice (CoP) for Extreme Heat Management in Public Transport Systems.

PM Gati Shakti & Network Planning Group (NPG)

As a key member of Network Planning Group (NPG) under PM Gati Shakti program, during the year, the Division has participated in 17 meetings evaluating 86 mega projects amounting to a total cost of Rs.24.5 lakh crores across various Ministries. The Division has also collaborated with various Ministries, particularly Ministry of Road Transport & Highways for improving their Vision 2047 for National Highway Network and Ministry of Railways for prioritising projects in their programmes pertaining to High Density Network Routes and Corridors, Energy and Mineral Corridors, and Rail Sagar Corridors. NITI has also been participating at various forums and facilitating interactions for ensuring intersectoral integration and synchronising planning and implementation of multi-modal logistics projects.

ISLAND DEVELOPMENT

“Holistic development of islands” has been given high priority by the Government with their immense potential for contributing towards nation’s development. India has two strategic groups of islands including Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep.

The focus of the development includes creating jobs and generating additional income for the islanders by effectively implementing planned projects while maintaining ecological stability in the region. The development of islands is also vital due to many factors including strategic nature of islands. The Great Nicobar Island is only about 90 km away from the western tip of the Malacca Strait, an important shipping route between the Indian Ocean and the South China Sea. Similarly, Minicoy Island in Lakshadweep lies near the nine-degree channel, one of the busiest shipping routes.

Holistic development of around 10 islands in Lakshadweep and around 20 island sites in Andaman and Nicobar, with master plans, feasibility assessments, and upfront clearances was initiated. The respective line agencies have taken this objective forward by way of further detailing the plans and preparing sustainable projects for tourism promotion, job creation, export promotion of local produce, etc. The development also includes creation of infrastructure such as airport, port, power, water, communication and townships.

Upholding the commitment to sustainability, projects under this holistic development are conceptualised and structured with due regard to environmental aspects and social impact.

NORTH EAST STATES

The North East Division of NITI Aayog works towards the holistic development of the North Eastern States of India. The division undertakes the following functions: -

1. Undertake appraisal of development project proposals for the North-eastern states
2. Study and provide comments on schemes and proposals of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region
3. Carry out physical surveys and formulate policy research papers
4. Undertake capacity-building initiatives and training workshops

SCHEMES

The NE States Division of NITI Aayog does appraisals for projects under the following schemes of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (MDoNER):

- NESIDS: North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme (NESIDS) is a Central Sector Scheme to provide funding to the State Governments of the North Eastern Region for sectors like water supply, power and connectivity, and social infrastructure such as schools and hospitals. The scheme has the following two components: -
 - a. NESIDS (Roads) - Administered by the North Eastern Council. In the Financial year 2024-25, 07 projects were reviewed by NITI Aayog under this scheme.
 - b. NESIDS (Other than Roads Infrastructure (OTRI)) - Administered by the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (MDoNER). In the Financial year 2024-25, 33 projects were reviewed by NITI Aayog under this scheme.
- Prime Minister's Development Initiative for North-East Region (PM-DevINE): PM-DevINE is a central sector scheme for funding infrastructure to advance social development, enhance livelihood activities, and fill social development gaps in various sectors. In the Financial year 2024-25, 8 projects were reviewed by NITI Aayog under this scheme.
- Special Development Package (SDP): The scheme includes a financial assistance package for the Bodoland Territorial Council, a Special Economic Package for the Karbi Anglong Autonomous Territorial Council. In the Financial year 2024-25, 9 Bodoland Tribal Council (BTC) and 3 Karbi Anglong Tribal Council (KAATC) projects were reviewed by NITI Aayog under this scheme.
- North Eastern Council (NEC): NEC is a Statutory Body under the NEC Act 1971 purposed with the role of regional planning. NEC supports overall development in the identified priority sectors important to the North Eastern States. Some of the sectors are Bamboo value chain, Higher Education, Science and Technology, and Telemedicine, among others. In the Financial year 2024-25, 24 projects of NEC were reviewed by NITI Aayog.

PUBLIC FINANCE AND POLICY ANALYSIS

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

- Undertake techno-economic appraisal of major projects and programmes in the public sectors applying the acknowledged principles of Policy Analysis and Public Finance.
- To analyse and give recommendations on all PPR proposals which are likely to culminate into an EFC/PIB proposal at a later stage.
- To represent NITI Aayog as a member of various committees such as EFC/PIB/CEE and EBR.

- 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 through better scheme/project formulation, with emphasis on outputs, outcomes and taking a convergence approach.
- Recommend guidelines and formats for the submission of expenditure proposals for various public funded schemes and projects.
- Recommend best practices for public procurement, contract structuring and project management.
- Assist Central Ministries/States to establish proper procedures for development of schemes and project proposals.
- 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 Division, 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 2024-25 (upto 31 December, 2024), PFPA appraised 143 EFC/PIB/EBR proposals, comprising schemes/projects and involving an outlay of ₹21,13,840.92 crore. The sectoral distribution of schemes/projects appraised during the period is given in **Annexure-1**.

ROAD MAP FOR PURVODAYA STATES

Hon'ble Finance Minister while presenting Union Budget for FY 2024-25, inter-alia stated “The states in the Eastern part of the country are rich in endowments and have strong cultural traditions. We will formulate a plan, Purvodaya, for the all-round development of the eastern region of the country covering Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Odisha and Andhra Pradesh. This will cover human resource development, infrastructure, and generation of economic opportunities to make the region an engine to attain Viksit Bharat.” To fulfil the Budget announcement, an Advisory Committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. Ramesh Chand, Member, NITI Aayog to develop a plan/broad vision for the Purvodaya States.

PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP (PPP)

The Division 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 development and operation of infrastructure (including social infrastructure).

PPP IN EDUCATION

NITI Aayog proactively worked with the Department of Higher Education towards formulating the Viability Gap Funding (VGF) proposals for Development and Operation of Student Housing at IIT Madras, IIM Udaipur and IIIT Nagpur through PPP – developing the project structure and Bid Documents (Request for Proposal

and Model Concession Agreement). The underlying 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 VGF support from the Government under the ‘Scheme for Financial Support to Public Private Partnerships in Infrastructure’. Post receiving in-principle approval for VGF, the said projects are now under bidding.

PPP IN MSME

NITI worked with Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) for channeling private investment towards ‘Development and Operations of MSME Technology Centres’. The projects entail establishment and operation of Technology Centres (TCs) equipped with cutting-edge facilities (including advanced training and production machinery), designed to provide technological (production, design and consultancy services) and skill development assistance (training) to industries particularly Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises, training services. The estimated average investment for one Technology Centre is around ₹200 crore. Projects at 13 locations are undergoing bidding.

PPP IN AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR INDUSTRIAL WORKERS

The Union budget 2024-25 announced that “Rental housing with dormitory-type accommodation for industrial workers will be facilitated in public-private partnership (PPP) mode with Viability Gap Funding (VGF) support and commitment from anchor industries.” Accordingly, as part of ‘SAFE Accommodation Worker Housing for Manufacturing Growth’ Report of NITI Aayog, PPP Division detailed a concession framework. In the recommended framework, private partner is to design, finance, build the Project for industrial/MSME workers at identified location, to also operate and maintain the project and transfer it back to the Authority when the concession ends.

PPP IN HEALTH (PORTS)

Major Ports of Visakhapatnam Port Authority, V.O Chidambaranar Port Authority, Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port structured public private partnership projects for upgradation of their existing Port Hospitals, by leveraging private sector investment and operational efficiencies, into Super Specialty Healthcare Facilities. NITI Aayog worked with the concerned Authorities on formulation of Bid Documents, on the basis of the NITI Aayog’s ‘Concession Agreement – Guiding Principles’ for Hospitals, and the entailing project structure.

PPP IN ROADS

NITI Aayog is closely working with Ministry of Road, Transport and Highways for revision and updating of the ‘Model Concession Agreement (MCA) for BOT (Toll) Project’ to strengthen the concession framework for effective implementation of highway projects on Build Operate Transfer mode. The revised MCA is in the process of finalisation, following extensive deliberations, with the objective of enhancing bid ability, viability and bankability of the said projects.

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 Rs.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 Division 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 2024, funding sought under 8 such proposals have been approved.

NATIONAL MONETISATION 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 monetisation value of around ₹2.3 lakh crore in terms of accruals or private investment were completed.

APPRAISAL OF CENTRAL GOVERNMENT PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS

During the year 2024-25 (1 April to 31 December), 73 PPP projects with total estimated cost of ₹1.41 lakh Crore (including 10 VGF projects with a total estimated cost of ₹4,536 crores) were appraised by PPP Division. Sector-wise distribution of these appraised PPP projects is given in the table hereunder:

Table: PPP Projects appraised from 1 April, 2024 to 31 December, 2024

S. No.	Sectors	Number of Projects Appraised	Total Project Cost (₹ in Crore)
1.	Road	34	1,25,329.23
2.	Sea Port	6	2,589.13
3.	Eco Tourism	5	1,133.74
4.	Hospital	7	968.13
5.	Ropeway	2	6,971.12
6.	Railway Stations	1	637.83
7.	Solid Waste	1	460.95
8.	Technology Centres	14	2,256.85
9.	Student Hostel	3	586.82
	Total	73	1,40,933.80

RESEARCH

RESEARCH SCHEME OF NITI AAYOG (RSNA) GUIDELINES 2024

To strengthen NITI's research ecosystem in line with NITI's mandate to position itself as a knowledge and innovation hub, a new division, Research & Networking (R&N) has been notified on 17 September, 2024. The 'Research Scheme of NITI Aayog (RSNA)' scheme has also been revised and notified. During the year 2024-25 (up to 31 December, 2024), a total grant of ₹163.78 lakh has been released. Proposals for funding 10 new research studies have been approved (Table 1.1) and 10 on-going ones were completed during the year (Table 1.2). Besides, logo support to 20 institutions for events across a wide spectrum of subjects and sectors (Table 1.3). Also, logo supports to two seminars have been extended (Table 1.4). The study reports and seminar proceedings are received both in hard and soft copies. Copies of these reports and proceedings are circulated to concerned divisions within NITI, which then examine these reports and send them to concerned Ministries/departments for further action. Lists of research studies approved, studies completed, and logo support provided are given in Annexure II.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND PANCHAYATI RAJ INSTITUTIONS

The Rural Development division of NITI Aayog provides overall policy guidance to the Department of Rural Development, Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD). The division engages with Department of Rural Development 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 Rural Development.

The Division organised a National seminar on sustainable rural livelihoods on 10 September, 2024. The seminar aimed to create a collaborative platform to discuss integrated approaches for promoting sustainable livelihoods in rural India. It provided an opportunity to examine the challenges and opportunities in areas such as rural infrastructure, inclusive economic growth, and adaptation to climate change. With the expertise and diverse perspectives of the participants, the discussions focused on formulating innovative, actionable solutions that would enhance the resilience and prosperity of rural communities.

NITI Aayog and the Deendayal Research Institute (DRI), Chitrakoot have signed a Statement of Intent in December, 2024 to foster collaboration for development policy and programmes and its implementation, actions of civil society and other related stakeholders.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

INDIA IN THE GLOBAL INNOVATION INDEX

NITI Aayog has been making concerted efforts to improve India's ranking in the Global Innovation Index. With India securing the 39th position out of 133 economies in 2024, the nation's continued ascent in several innovation parameters is affirmed, reflecting a remarkable journey from its 81st rank in 2015 to this notable achievement.

The NITI Aayog has been pivotal in driving India's steady rise in the Global Innovation Index rankings. The country's remarkable progress in data-driven innovation and national initiatives, particularly among middle-income nations, has been evident over the past five years, fuelled by effective policies and coordination. The NITI Aayog also represented in the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) General Assembly side event held in July, 2024 in Geneva, Switzerland, and presented the India Innovation Index and the methodology adopted in the formulation of the Index. By consistently exceeding expectations across various indicators, India is well-positioned to drive economic growth, strengthen resilience, and advance self-reliance through innovation.

NATIONAL R&D DASHBOARD

The S&T Division, in collaboration with the National Informatics Centre (NIC) within the NITI Aayog, has worked on the development and roll-out of a comprehensive dashboard – National R&D Dashboard. The dashboard will serve the crucial purpose of monitoring all the ongoing R&D projects, primarily the scientific Ministries and Departments of the Government of India.

It provides a centralised platform for real-time monitoring, assessment, and evaluation of the progress and status of R&D projects. By encompassing all Ministries and Departments, it ensures that a wide spectrum of R&D activities is systematically accounted for and managed.

Additionally, the Division plans to utilise this dashboard to extend its monitoring capabilities to R&D projects undertaken by the various States and Union Territories across India. This expansion is a significant step in promoting and enhancing both the Technology Readiness Level (TRL) and Commercialisation Readiness Level (CRL) of these projects.

INDIGENOUS ARTIFICIAL HUMAN HEART

A Committee anchored in the NITI Aayog was constituted under the chairmanship of Dr. Rajiv Narang, Professor and former Head, Department of Cardiology, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi, who has actively contributed to the discussions during Consultation Group on Science and Technology, as a Member of the Consultation Group.

After the detailed discussions and deliberations by the stakeholders, a Mission Document has been prepared by the NITI Aayog, which has been submitted to the Department of Science and Technology, for appropriate funding to the R&D institutions of the Government of India, which has the appropriate ecosystem to take up this task of development and commercialisation of Artificial Human Heart in India.

INTERNATIONAL METHANOL SEMINAR 2024

NITI Aayog organised the International Methanol Seminar and Methanol Expo on 17 to 18 October, 2024, at the Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi. The event, inaugurated by Hon'ble Minister of Road Transport and Highways Shri Nitin Gadkari and other eminent dignitaries, highlighted India's commitment to global climate goals and transitioning to a low-carbon economy.

Central topics included innovations in methanol production technologies, infrastructure development, policy strategies, and international collaborations needed to integrate methanol-based solutions into India's energy landscape. Through a series of keynote speeches, panel discussions, and interactive Q&A sessions, participants explored the latest advancements in methanol production technologies, the regulatory landscape, and essential cross-border collaborations. The seminar particularly focused on actionable insights for incorporating methanol into India's energy mix, with discussions highlighting its potential in key sectors like transportation, industrial processes, and power generation. With its forward-looking approach, the seminar not only presented challenges but also the probable approaches for scaling methanol use across the country, ensuring that it plays a crucial role in India's energy strategy.



International Methanol Seminar organised by NITI in October, 2024

REPORT ON "IMPROVING THE CULTURE OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (R&D) IN STATE UNIVERSITIES AND INSTITUTES"

The NITI Aayog has recognised the need to strengthen the culture of Research and Development in State Universities and Institutes to harness their full potential. For this purpose, the NITI Aayog undertook a systematic approach, organised a sequence of meetings with universities and institutes spanning the length and breadth of India. The scope of the report encompasses an in-depth examination of the current status of R&D in State Universities and Institutes and also highlights the challenges impeding its growth.

By delineating the existing landscape, the report sets the stage for formulating strategic interventions and policy measures to invigorate the R&D ecosystem in these institutions. On the foundation of these insights, the report articulates a roadmap for transformative change. It puts forth actionable recommendations, spanning from the establishment of R&D committees and infrastructure development to faculty incentives, industry partnerships, and international collaborations.

SKILL DEVELOPMENT & ENTREPRENEURSHIP, LABOUR & EMPLOYMENT

The Division 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. Some of the key initiatives and activities undertaken by the Division are detailed below:

FUTURE SKILLS PRIME (FSP)

Skill Development & Employment Division, NITI Aayog facilitated the adoption of the Future Skills Prime (FSP) programme in the state of Tripura. Future Skills Prime is an innovative and evolutionary ecosystem designed to equip learners with cutting-edge skills essential in today's rapidly evolving digital landscape. The courses, pathways and industry-backed NASSCOM certification programs are aligned with National Occupational Standards (NOS) and National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF), enabling learners to acquire in-demand skills that are highly valued by employers. In this regard, an MoU was signed between Government of Tripura and NASSCOM in July, 2024.



Signing of MoU between Government of Tripura and NASSCOM for Adoption of Future Skills Prime (FSP) under State Support Mission

SPECIAL INITIATIVE ON RURAL SKILLING AND INNOVATION CENTRES IN THE DISTRICTS UNDER ADP/ABP

As part of the special initiative to establish Rural Skilling & Innovation Centres under ADP/ABP, the SDE division was assigned six districts. A draft framework/template has been developed by the division as a reference guide for Aspirational Districts to implement the initiative effectively. To ensure a collaborative approach, a virtual meeting was organised on 21 November, 2024, with various stakeholders including district officials showcasing template for Rural Skilling & Innovation Centre and AIM made a presentation on Atal Community Innovation Centres. Best practices of the districts were also deliberated upon.

MEETING AT MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT TO DISCUSS ON FRAMEWORK FOR PROVIDING SOCIAL SECURITY AND WELFARE BENEFITS TO GIG & PLATFORM WORKERS

NITI Aayog made a presentation to the Secretary, Labour and Employment on 28 May, 2024 and provided suggestions for social security initiatives for gig and platform workers. Subsequently a committee was established by the M/o Labour and Employment to discuss Framework for providing social security and welfare benefits to gig & platform workers wherein representative from Skill Development and Employment, NITI Aayog is a special invitee and has offered suggestions and inputs for drafting schemes for social security and welfare benefits to gig & platform workers.

INITIATIVE TO DEVELOP MECHANISM FOR REGULAR DATA COLLECTION ON EMPLOYMENT GENERATION

Hon'ble Minister for Labour & Employment chaired an inter-ministerial meeting on the creation of an Employment Data Collection Mechanism in the country. Another meeting under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister for Labour and Employment was held on 7 October, 2024 at, New Delhi. Skill Development & Employment Division made a presentation on 'Employment Data: A Platform Approach for Scalability and Sustainability.' The presentation gave an overview of Government portals related to employment issues, identified gaps and challenges, and proposed strategies for advancing tracking of employment generated through various Government schemes and from States and Industry sources.

SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT

The Social Justice and Empowerment Division, NITI Aayog, 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 major responsibility of the Division is to provide 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. During the year 2024-25, several initiatives have been taken by the Social Justice and Empowerment Division as under:

TALK ON SENIOR CITIZEN CARE

The Division organised a talk on Senior Citizen Care on 31 January, 2024, at NITI Aayog, New Delhi, to discuss the existing caregiver support, mental health assistance for older persons and fostering senior care.

NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON CARE SERVICES IN INDIA AND BEYOND

A National workshop under the State Support Mission initiative of NITI Aayog was organised by Division on 30 August, 2024 in IIM Shillong with the following objectives: a) State Initiatives for Senior Care and Care Services, b) Capacity Building and Employability of Caregivers, and c) International Best Practices and Overseas Opportunities in Senior Care.

DEVELOPMENT OF MODEL VILLAGE UNDER PM- JANMAN

A special initiative is being undertaken by NITI Aayog, in collaboration with the Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA), to develop six PM-JANMAN Model Villages in selected Aspirational Blocks viz- Dumri, Kishanganj, Bhamini, Bajag, Kothagiri, and Muniguda. This effort focuses on implementing 13 interventions, including financial inclusion, a saturation of Assistive Devices, and livelihood opportunities, for Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs), aiming to improve the overall well-being and sustainable development of these communities.

ESTABLISHMENT OF HIGH-CAPACITY TRIBAL HOSTELS

NITI Aayog has taken initiative for establishing two Model High-Capacity Tribal Hostels in collaboration with the Ministry of Tribal Affairs in selected Aspirational Districts of Kanker, Chhattisgarh and Mayurbhanj, Odisha to create model hostels that cater to a larger number of ST students, i.e., 500-1000 students per hostel.

MENTORSHIP PROGRAMME FOR STUDENTS IN HIGHER EDUCATION BELONGING TO VULNERABLE SECTIONS

To address the challenges faced by students from vulnerable sections, especially SCs, STs, and OBCs communities, while pursuing higher education such as dropout, academic preparedness, language barriers, socio-economic disparities, and cultural differences to psychological factors, NITI Aayog is preparing a framework for mentorship programme with an objective to understand the aspects impacting academic performance of students belonging to vulnerable sections in higher education and recommend mechanism to develop a nurturing environment/eco-system to support these students.

POST RETIREMENT OF SOCIAL SECURITY IN INDIA

India is home to a rapidly growing elderly population, with over 138 million people aged 60 years and above. This number is projected to increase to nearly 192 million by 2030, comprising around 12.5% of the total population. Considering the implications of such a rapidly growing population and economic challenges ahead, NITI Aayog is taking up a study to evaluate the possible socio-economic aspects related to post-retirement security of elderly persons in India and propose a framework thereafter.

Besides, the Social Justice and Empowerment Division, as a member of several committees constituted by the Ministries dealing with matters pertaining to vulnerable groups, provides inputs to help the Ministries formulate guidelines/ policies for the welfare of the vulnerable groups.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

INTRODUCTION

The Sustainable Development Goals lay out a uniquely ambitious and comprehensive agenda for global development by 2030. In India, NITI Aayog is the nodal agency for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, leading with the spirit of cooperative and competitive federalism. It is 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 and Dashboard, 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.

Localisation of the SDGs is the key to reach furthest behind first, and therefore a crucial mandate of the division. These efforts have strengthened the statistical systems and developed a monitoring framework covering all the 17 Goals and more than 100 indicators across the country. With this refined and comprehensive edition, NITI Aayog aims to cement India's place as a trailblazer in SDG achievement.

RELEASE OF SDG INDIA INDEX 2023-24: TOWARDS VIKSIT BHARAT SUSTAINABLE PROGRESS, INCLUSIVE GROWTH

SDG India Index 2023-24, the fourth edition of the country's principal tool for measuring national and

ANNUAL REPORT 2024-25

subnational progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) was released today by NITI Aayog in July, 2024. The Index was launched by Shri Suman Bery, Vice Chairperson, NITI Aayog in the presence of Shri B. V. R. Subrahmanyam, CEO, NITI Aayog; Shri Shombi Sharp, UN Resident Coordinator in India; Dr. Yogesh Suri, Senior Adviser, NITI Aayog and Ms. Isabelle Tschan Harada, Deputy Resident Representative, UNDP.

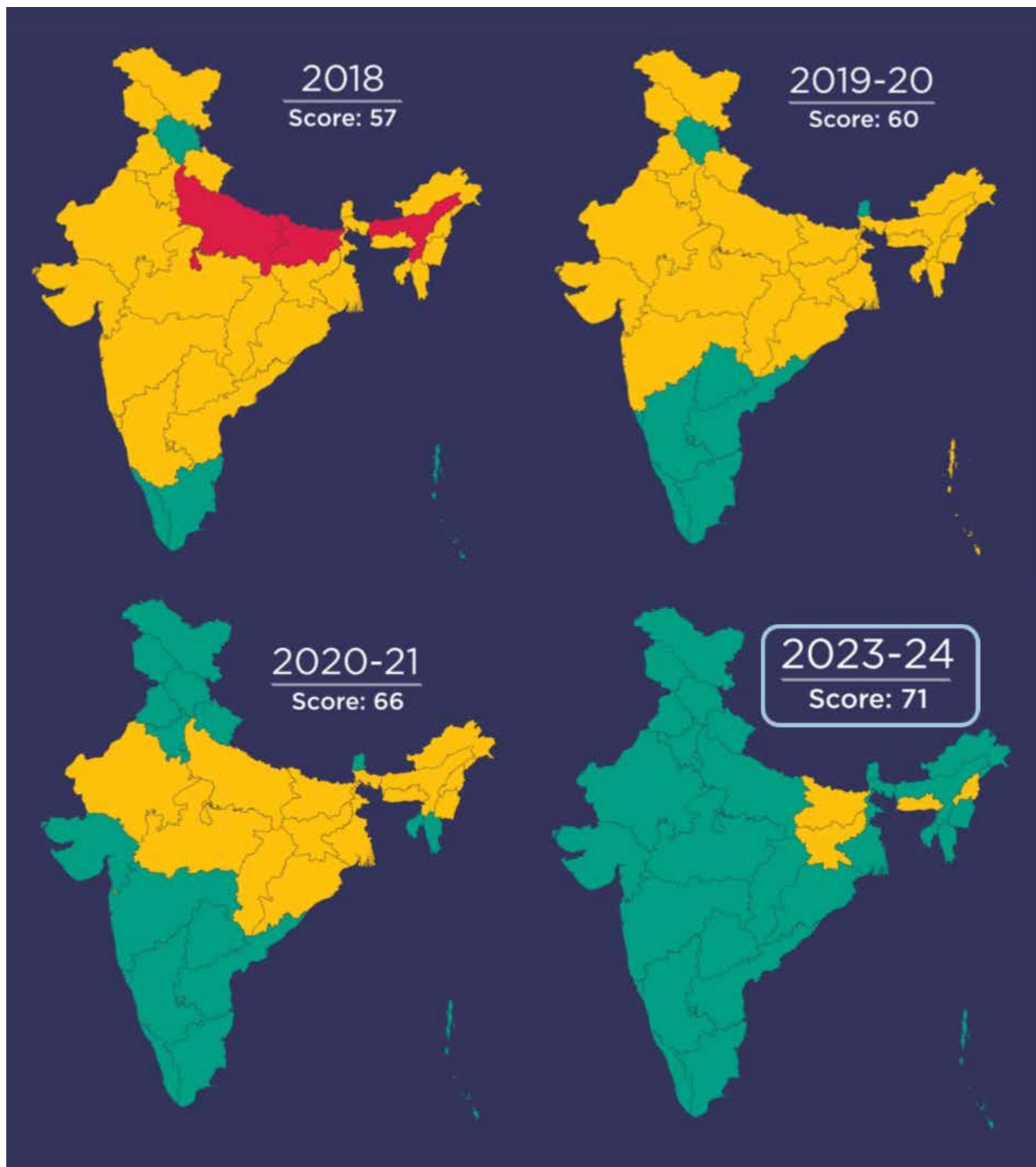


The launch of SDG India Index 2024



First comprehensive measure of SDG performance and localisation with national and State/UT ranking, compositely on all SDGs and as well as on each individual SDG

SDG India Index 2023-24 measures and tracks national progress of all States and UTs on 113 indicators aligned to the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation's (MoSPI) National Indicator Framework (NIF). The SDG India Index computes goal-wise scores on the 16 SDGs for each State and UT. Overall State and UT scores or Composite Scores are generated from goal-wise scores to measure the aggregate performance of the sub-national unit based on its performance across the 16 SDGs. These scores range between 0-100, and if a State/UT achieves a score of 100, it signifies it has achieved the targets. The higher the score of a State/UT, the greater the distance covered to the target.



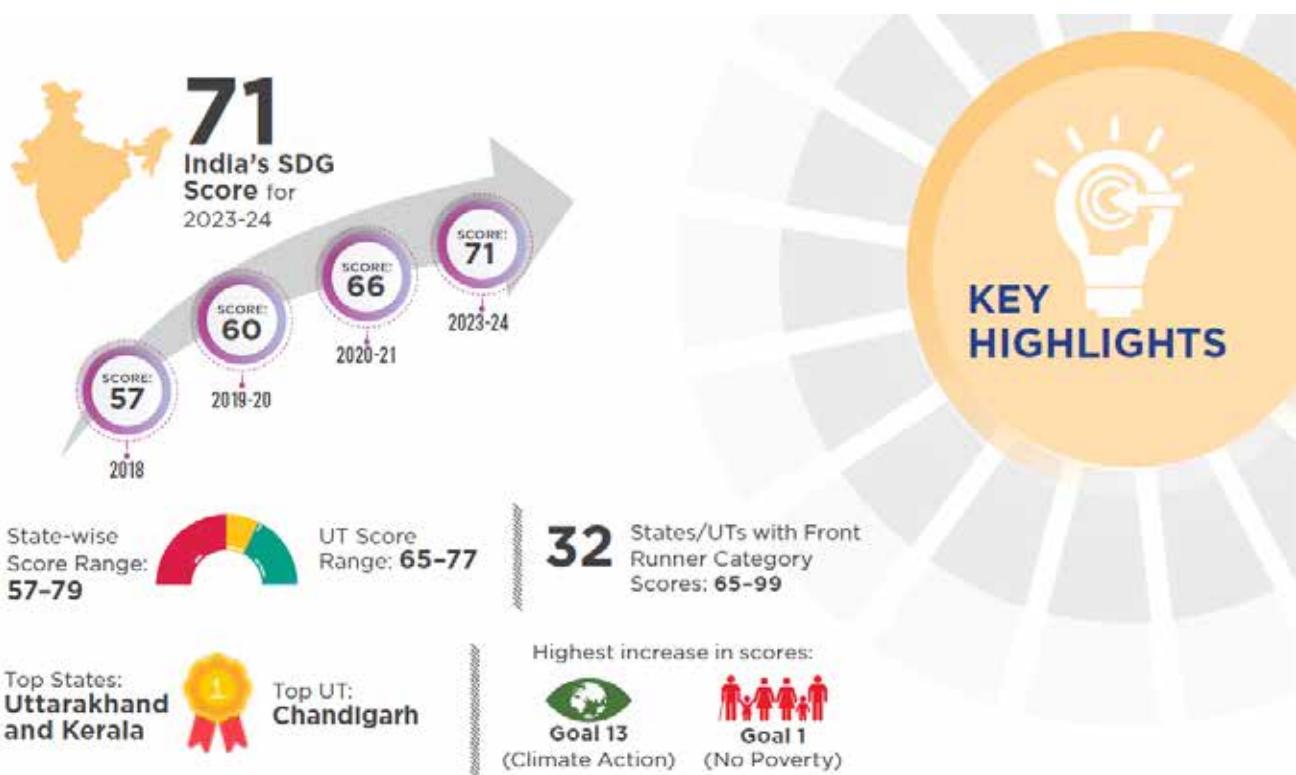
Progress on the SDGs over the last four editions of the Index

India's commitment to the SDGs since adopting the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development is reflected in concerted efforts on SDG localisation spearheaded by NITI Aayog, which works closely with States and UTs. NITI Aayog has the twin mandate to oversee the adoption and monitoring of the SDGs in the country and promote competitive and cooperative federalism among States and UTs. Together with States and UTs, NITI Aayog has focused on the institutionalisation of the SDGs – not only to look at sustainable development as a standalone or parallel framework, but also to make them an integral part of national and subnational thinking about development through institutional ownership, collaborative competition, capacity development, and following a whole-of-society approach.

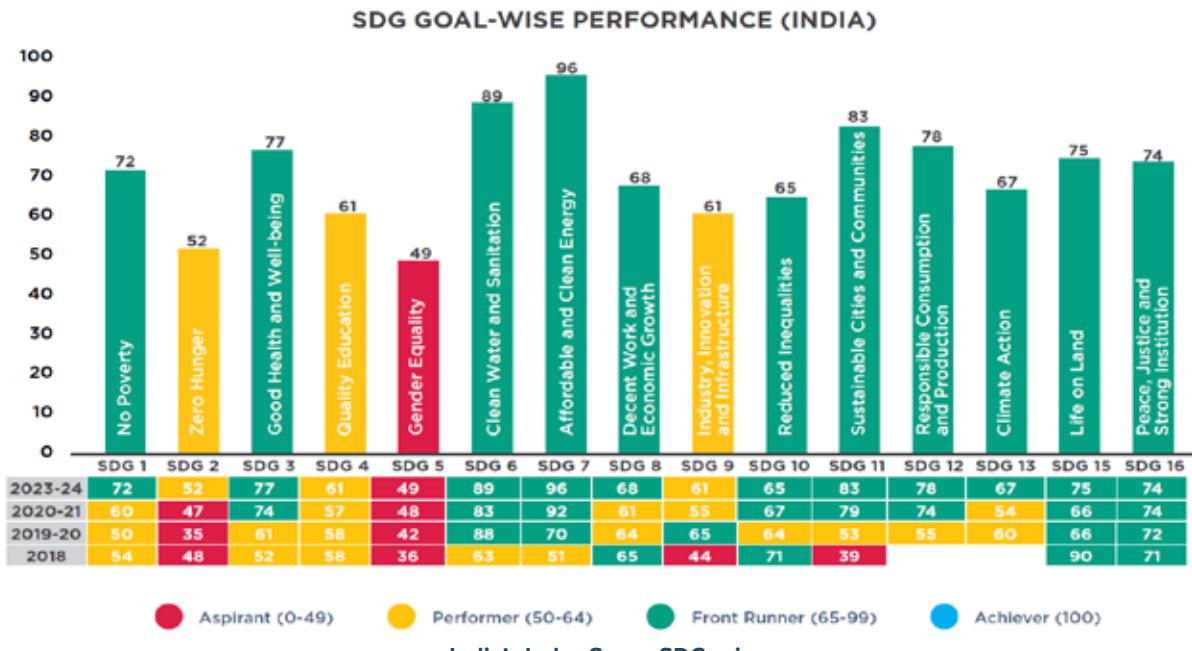
The launch of the SDG India Index in 2018 provided the impetus for the localisation push, reaffirming States and UTs as key stakeholders in this transformative journey. The SDG India Index has been consistently improved over the years to provide a comprehensive and comparative analysis of progress on the goals. By fostering collaborative competition, the Index not only highlights achievements, but also encourages States and UTs to learn from each other to close outcome-based gaps. Grounded in the globally accepted SDSN methodology, the development of the Index followed extensive consultations with the States and UTs (the primary stakeholders); MoSPI; Union Ministries; and UN agencies. The Index represents the articulation of the comprehensive nature of the Global Goals under the 2030 Agenda while being attuned to the national priorities.

Key highlights and results from the fourth edition of the SDG India Index:

- The composite score for India improved from 57 in 2018 to 66 in 2020-21 to further to 71 in 2023-24



- India has taken significant strides in accelerating progress on the SDGs between the 2020-21 and 2023-24 editions of the Index. Noteworthy advancements have been observed in Goals 1 (No Poverty), 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), 13 (Climate Action). These are now in the 'Front Runner' category (a score between 65-99).
- Among these, Goal 13 (Climate Action) has shown the most substantial improvement, with its score increasing from 54 to 67. Goal 1 (No Poverty) follows closely, with its score rising significantly from 60 to 72. The progress underscores the effects of the focused programmatic interventions and schemes of the Union and State Governments in improving the lives of citizens.



- Since 2018, India has witnessed substantial progress in several key SDGs. Significant progress has been made in Goals 1 (No Poverty), 3 (Good Health and Well-being), 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure) and 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities).
- Government's focus on ensuring food & nutrition security, health, education, electrification, housing for all, sanitation, clean cooking fuel &energy has significantly contributed to the improvements.

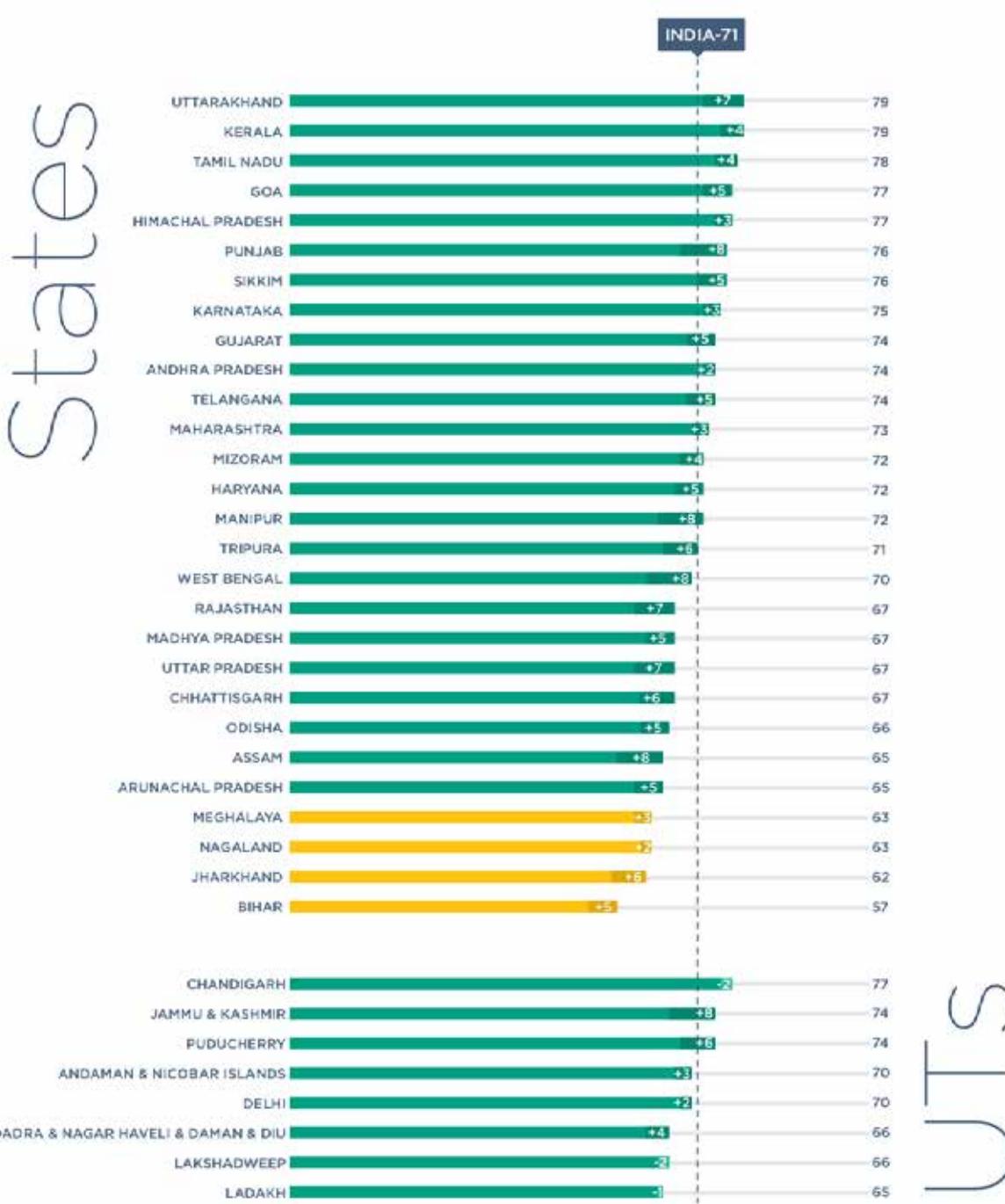
Key interventions facilitating SDG achievements include:

- Over 4 crore houses under the PM Awas Yojana (PMAY),
- 11 crore Toilets & 2.23 lakh Community Sanitary Complexes in rural areas
- 10 crore LPG connections under PM Ujjwala Yojana,
- Tap water connections in over 14.9 crore households under Jal Jeevan Mission
- Over 30 crore beneficiaries under Ayushman Bharat -Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana
- Coverage of over 80 crore people under the National Food Security Act (NFSA)
- Access to 150,000 Ayushman Arogya Mandir which offer primary medical care and provide affordable generic medicines
- Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) of ₹34 lakh crore made through PM-Jan Dhan accounts.
- The Skill India Mission has led to over 1.4 crore youth being trained and upskilled and has reskilled 54 lakh youth
- PM Mudra Yojana sanctioned 43 crore loans aggregating to ₹22.5 lakh crore for entrepreneurial aspirations of the youth besides Funds of Funds
- Emphasis on renewable energy resulted in an increase in solar power capacity from 2.82 GW to 73.32 GW in the past decade.
- Between 2017 and 2023, India has added around 100 GW of installed electric capacity, of which around 80% is attributed to non-fossil fuel-based resource.
- Improvement in digital infrastructure with reduced internet data costs by 97% which has in turn positively affected and fostered financial inclusion

STATE AND UT RESULTS

- The SDG India Index 2023-24 reports a positive trend in the performance of States and UTs in their SDG journey. The scores for States now range from 57 to 79, while UTs score between 65 and 77. This represents an improvement over the 2020-21 scores, where the range was 52 to 75 for States and 62 to 79 for UTs.
- The Index records a significant increase in the number of States and UTs achieving Front Runner status. This year, 32 States/UTs have scored between 65 and 99, up from 22 in the 2020-21 editions. Notably, there are 10 new States and UTs in the Front Runner category. These include Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Odisha, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, and Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu.

The performance of State and UTs in terms of their overall score is given below:



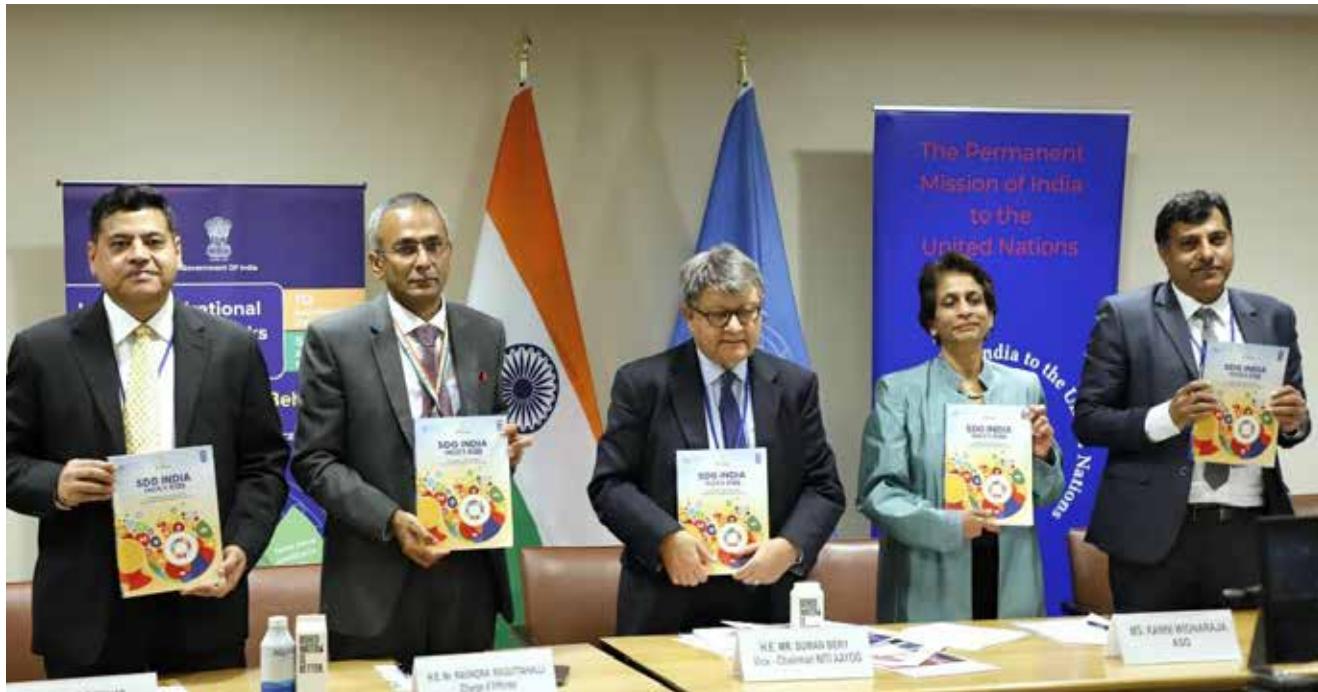
- The SDG India Index 2023-24 demonstrates the increase in composite scores across all States, with improvements ranging from 1 to 8 points. Leading the way in terms of score improvement are Assam, Manipur, Punjab, West Bengal, and Jammu and Kashmir, each achieving a positive change of 8 points since the 2020-21 edition.
- The SDG India Index 2023-24 is also live on an online dashboard. The dashboard provides user friendly visualisations to identify crucial development outcome-based gaps at the national and subnational levels.
- NITI Aayog is committed to supporting all the States and UTs in the localisation and acceleration of SDGs, an important barometer to measure progress towards Viksit Bharat @ 2047. The SDG India Index stands as a key milestone for measuring our progress and will help steer discussions, deliberations, and decisions in the journey ahead.

HIGH LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM (HLPF) 2024

The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) organised the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development, 2024. India was invited for participation at the Ministerial segment of HLPF from 15-17 July, 2024 at UN Headquarters, New York. The theme of the 2024 HLPF was “Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions”.

The HLPF offered the opportunity for the Governments, private sector, civil society and other partners to exchange experiences and showcase innovative solutions aimed at accelerating implementation of the SDGs. Held under the auspices of ECOSOC, this year’s Forum focused on specific goals related to no poverty (SDG1); zero hunger (SDG2); climate action (SDG13); peace, justice and strong institutions (SDG16); and partnerships (SDG17), while stressing the critical need to boost efforts during the six years remaining to meet the 2030 deadline.

The Indian delegation participated in the Ministerial segment on 15 and 16 July, 2024 and was led by Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog. The delegation participated in several events and showcased India’s strategies in achieving SDGs. The delegation also organised a full-fledged side event on ‘Leaving No One Behind: India’s Experience in Accelerating SDGs’ on 16 July, 2024 where SDG India Index was released globally.



Indian Delegation releasing SDG India Index Report at HLPF 2024

EIGHT SOUTH AND SOUTH-WEST ASIA SUB REGIONAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The Eighth South and South-West Asia Sub regional Forum on Sustainable Development was held from 12 to 14 November, 2024 at New Delhi. The event was co-hosted by the NITI Aayog, and UN ESCAP, in collaboration with the UN Resident Coordinator and the Research and Information System for Developing Countries, (RIS). The forum was attended by nine member States from South and South-West Asia sub region comprising participants representing governments, civil society, private sector, academia and think tanks, international and regional organisations, among other stakeholders.

The Forum served as a sub-regional preparatory meeting for the Asia Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD) 2025, which will in turn inform the annual High-Level Policy Forum (HLPF) 2025 to be held in New York. The sub regional forum is a collaborative platform for multi-stakeholders to assess progress and challenges faced in delivering outcomes for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, to highlight national and subregional priorities and issues, sharing of good practices and to collaboratively seek solutions. In alignment with the thematic SDGs which will be the focus of the 2025 APFSD and HLPF, the Forum reviewed progress on the Goals: 3 (good health and well-being), 5 (gender equality) 8 (decent work and economic growth), 14 (life below water), and 17 (partnerships for the Goals).

Representatives from various countries and Indian ministries participated in the workshop, working together to understand the challenges and utilise best practices to progress the SDGs. The sub-regional forum was chaired by Shri Suman Berry, Vice Chairman, who reiterated India's commitment to achieving the SDGs by integrating them into national development plans. Dr. V K Paul, Member (Health), NITI Aayog, highlighted India's determined push to advance public health under Hon'ble Prime Minister's leadership. Other side events included SANS' Policy Dialogue "Climate Change and Carbon Regulations – Way Forward for South and South-West Asia" and Addressing the Digital Divide for Women in South and South-West Asia.



Eighth South and South-West Asia Sub regional Forum on Sustainable Development

Outcomes of the Forum will shape ESCAP's upcoming initiatives aimed at delivering technical support to its member States. The outcomes and recommendations from the Forum feed into regional and global processes, including the abovementioned APFSD (to be held in Thailand in February, 2025) and HLPF (to be held in UN- New York in July, 2025) in the following year.

GLOBAL ALLIANCE AGAINST HUNGER AND POVERTY

Global Alliance against Hunger and Poverty, initiative advocated by the Brazilian G20 presidency, aims to accelerate progress towards eradicating hunger and poverty while advancing SDG. The Global Alliance against Hunger and Poverty was officially launched on 18 November, 2024 at the G20 Leaders' Summit in Rio de Janeiro. Emerging from a year-long process of inclusive dialogue and collaboration, the Alliance is born with 164 members, including 89 countries, the African Union, the European Union, 25 intergovernmental organisations, 9 financial institutions, and 41 philanthropic, academic, and non-governmental partners. The Alliance operates through three core pillars—National, Financial, and Knowledge, designed to mobilise and coordinate resources for evidence-based policies tailored to the realities of each member country. NITI Aayog was appointed as the nodal organisation for this G20 Task Force since it covers a wide gamut of SDGs.

India joined the National and Knowledge Pillar of the Global Alliance by signing the Statements of Commitment which was approved by the Union Cabinet, chaired by Hon'ble Prime Minister on 6 November, 2024. NITI Aayog is designated as the nodal agency for India's engagement with the Alliance under the National and Knowledge Pillar and a senior official from NITI Aayog is appointed as India's representative on the Board of Champions of the Alliance.

India's active participation in the G20 Task Force and joining the Alliance showcases a commitment to fostering international cooperation and sharing best practices, thereby reinforcing the objectives outlined in the New Delhi Leaders' Declaration (NDLD).



Launch of Global Alliance against Hunger and Poverty

INDO-GERMAN COOPERATION ON SDG LOCALISATION AT SHIMLA, HIMACHAL PRADESH

A one-day kick-off event for Indo-German Cooperation on SDG Localisation was held in Shimla, Himachal Pradesh, on 19 November, 2024. The event was organised by the Planning Department of the Government of Himachal Pradesh, in collaboration with the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ). This event was part of the Indo-German cooperation project, 'Support to the Green and Sustainable Development Partnership.'

The discussions revolved around the progress of SDGs at the international, national, and subnational levels. Representatives from multiple state departments participated in the workshop, working together to understand the challenges of implementing the SDGs at the local level and to explore innovative solutions. This event marked a pivotal moment in accelerating the achievement of SDGs in Himachal Pradesh.



Kick-off event for Indo-German Cooperation on SDG Localisation held at Shimla, Himachal Pradesh

KICK-OFF EVENT FOR INDO-GERMAN COOPERATION ON SDG LOCALISATION AT SHILLONG, MEGHALAYA

A one-day kick-off event for Indo-German Cooperation on SDG Localisation was held on 27 November, 2024 in Shillong, Meghalaya. The event was chaired by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Meghalaya. The conference highlighted the collaborative efforts of the Government of Meghalaya, the Government of India, and German partners. It showcased a strong commitment to innovation, data-driven decision-making and inclusive development as essential pillars for advancing the SDGs in Meghalaya. Key initiatives launched during the event include: Meghalaya District Challenge Fund Guidelines, Green and Sustainable Development Partnership (GSDP) Project, and release of Meghalaya SDG Block Index Baseline Report.



Kick-off event for Indo-German Cooperation on SDG Localisation held at Shillong, Meghalaya



Release of the Meghalaya SDG Block Index Baseline Report and District SDG Framework

SECURITY

The Security division at NITI Aayog acts as an interface between the Ministries of Defence, External Affairs, and Home Affairs at NITI Aayog. It is engaged in promoting Self-reliance and Public Private Partnerships (PPP) in Defence Sector. It also supports the Vibrant Villages Programme (VVP).

The division is a Member of the National Maritime Security Council, which in turn is the nodal agency for all Maritime-related issues in the country. As a Member of the National Defence Corridor Steering Committee, the Division contributes to self-reliance in Defence Industry. It is also a member of the Expert Committee to develop a Monitoring Framework for Urban Flood Risk Management Programme (UFRMP) under National Disaster Mitigation Fund (NDMF). The focus of this Committee is on Flood Risk and Disaster Resolution Planning.

The Division is a part of NITI Aayog's Circular Economy Framework, which is working on an implementable policy for End of Life Vehicles (ELVs), Tyres, Lithium-ion Batteries, Scrap-Metal Recycling and Electronic Waste.

As a step further, the division seeks to foster collaboration between the Defence Forces and other Ministries for Vibrant, Stable and secure borders.

SERVICES

The Services Division aims to develop a comprehensive growth strategy for India's tertiary sector as part of the vision "Viksit Bharat @ 2047", to steer India towards a developed nation status. It adopts a holistic approach through multi-dimensional analysis at the economy-wide and sector-specific level from the perspective of value added/output, employment, exports, productivity, FDI among others. Core functions include:

- **Harmonise the domestic regulatory framework in the services sector:** Identify regulatory gaps and recommend reforms to streamline the regulatory framework for the services sector in India.
- **Improve data collection in the service sector:** Guide line-ministries/ departments to collect more granular data and implement standardised reporting frameworks to gather accurate, real-time data for informed decision-making and strategic planning.

- **Expand Global Capability Centres (GCCs) to Tier 2 and 3 Cities:** Promote tie-ups and collaborations between higher educational institutions and large industries to foster the growth of GCCs in Tier 2 and 3 cities.
- **Develop standards in services:** Develop toolkits in collaboration with industry experts to standardise services. Undertake research studies and conduct seminars, workshops and conferences to disseminate knowledge and information.
- **Strategy for exports and branding of services:** Prepare a strategy for diversifying and expanding India's services exports and branding initiatives that highlight the country's expertise in existing and emerging areas such as IT, professional and management consulting, healthcare, education, finance etc.

STATE FINANCE

The State Finances Division has been entrusted with the responsibility of maintaining State-wise database 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 division. The major activities and studies undertaken by the division during 2024-25 are as follows:

REPOSITORY OF DATABASE

The Division maintains State-wise database on key macro, social and financial indicators. The Division 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 2024-25, the Division 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 of the States was also undertaken which is being used in regular interactions/meetings with the State Governments/UTs to provide inputs for future growth. The Division also provides inputs for high level visits to States/UTs/

KNOWLEDGE SHARING

The Division has been proactively engaging with leading institutions and think tanks facilitating knowledge support to States on their fiscal and financial matters.

The Division has also collaborated with National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) for development of a dedicated dashboard on state fiscal and economic indicators.

TOURISM & CULTURE

The Division provides strategic and directional guidance to the Union and State Governments 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, with a greater policy and planning coherence in the sector.

Robust Homestay policy came out as a critical gap in unlocking India's tourism potential. In this connection, the division has initiated a study on "Unlocking Economic Potential of Homestays in India" in collaboration with a knowledge partner. A mid-term review of the study through a workshop was conducted with all stakeholders in October, 2024 in NITI Aayog.

URBANISATION

The Urbanisation division 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 the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, 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.

DEVELOPING CITY-REGIONS AS GROWTH HUBS: PILOT STUDY

Globally, India is the 2nd largest urban system contributing around 63% of the National GDP (2011) and is projected to rise to 75% by 2040. However, the traditional urban planning approach, in India, with a physical/spatial focus tends to undermine integrated economic visioning and being confined to city boundaries, overlooks the need for a regional approach. Thus, the importance of the agglomeration effect of the city-regions which boosts productivity, innovation, and job creation, driving broader regional prosperity is not captured failing to leverage the full potential of urban growth.

Against this backdrop, NITI Aayog in 2023 conceived the Growth Hubs initiative to create a long-term roadmap for economic growth of city-regions. This initiative aims at a paradigm shift in traditional urban development practices by delineating city regions beyond traditional urban boundaries and developing a comprehensive plan centered around three key pillars: (i) Economic and Investment plan; (ii) Quality of Life; and (iii) Inclusivity and Sustainability plan. This initiative, built on the spirit of cooperative federalism, involves state governments collaborating with NITI Aayog to create economic plans through a 5-stage process: (i) diagnostic analysis, (ii) SWOT and capability assessment, (iii) economic visioning, (iv) identifying growth drivers, and (v) implementation frameworks. To develop the process template, four pilot city-regions were identified, viz. Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR), Varanasi, Surat and Vishakhapatnam.

At the outset, an institutional mechanism was put in place wherein a National Steering Committee chaired by CEO, NITI Aayog was set up. Respective State Governments set up Steering Committees under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary for overall guidance and monitoring and designated Cells for operational matters. The Economic plans for Mumbai and Surat were launched in September, 2024, while plans for Varanasi and Visakhapatnam are underway.

ECONOMIC PLAN FOR THE SURAT ECONOMIC REGION (SER)

The Economic Plan for the Surat Economic Region (SER), encompassing 6 districts—Surat, Bharuch, Tapi, Navsari, Valsad, and Dang—is strategically designed to complement and align with the overarching goals of Viksit Gujarat@2047. The plan offers a comprehensive roadmap for the region's development based on the key economic growth drivers, detailed plans including projectisations as well as policy interventions and implementation framework while emphasising inclusivity, sustainability and quality of life. The plan proposes over 50 projects and 20 policy interventions aimed at transforming the Surat Economic Region into a thriving \$1.5 trillion (approx.) economy by 2047. This plan will play a crucial role in making Gujarat a \$3.5 trillion economy by 2047.

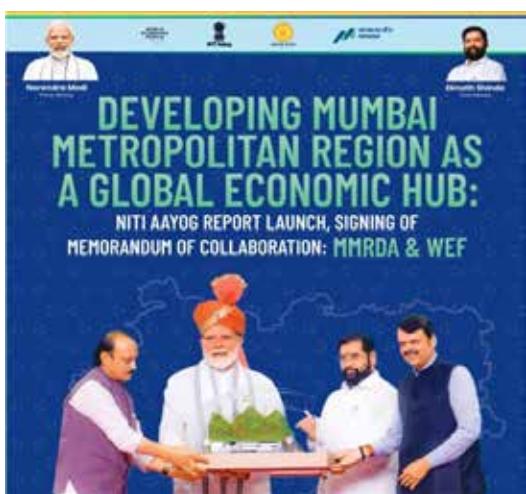
The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Gujarat launched the Economic Plan for the Surat Economic Region (SER) on 19 September, 2024 in Surat. The state government is currently focused on implementing the plan.



Launch of Economic Plan of Surat Economic Region

ECONOMIC PLAN FOR THE MUMBAI METROPOLITAN REGION

The Economic Plan for the Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR) is designed to align with the vision of a "Viksit Bharat by 2047." It outlines a roadmap to transform MMR into a premier city-region by 2030, with a GDP of ₹25 lakh crore, 30 lakh new jobs (including 10 lakh for women). This plan aims to construct 3 million affordable homes to ensure slum-free living. MMR, contributing over 30% to Maharashtra's GSDP, is poised to enhance its role as a global financial hub, manufacturing base, and cultural capital. With investments exceeding ₹4 lakh crore underway, the plan emphasises infrastructure, private sector collaboration, and inclusivity. Launched by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on 12 September, 2024, this initiative is a key step toward achieving Maharashtra's goal of becoming a \$1 trillion economy by 2047.



Launch of Economic Plan of Mumbai Metropolitan Region

NEW INITIATIVES WHICH ARE IN PROGRESS

- Developing City-Regions as Growth Hubs: Preparing the Process template a framework is being developed for the preparation of economic plans for city-regions that can be adopted by States. The framework with detailed processes is envisaged to be a modular and flexible to cater to diverse socio-economic contexts ensuring scalability and replicability for states. The Division is hand-holding several state governments, including Madhya Pradesh, Odisha and Rajasthan in the identification and planning of growth hubs.

- Implementation of Economic Plans prepared for Surat & Mumbai: The division is currently working with Gujarat and Maharashtra State governments for the implementation of key projects and policy prescriptions of the respective Economic Plan.
- Strategy framework for managing urbanisation in hilly regions: Developing hill towns is crucial for preserving natural ecosystems, promoting tourism, and enhancing resilience to climate change. The Division is working on a comprehensive needs assessment to identify key challenges and opportunities in hill towns. A structured approach is being developed for selecting and prioritising towns, and potential collaborators are being identified to amplify impacts. Growth factors, projects.
- Small City Planning Initiative: Developing small towns is crucial for balanced regional growth in India, which will reduce congestion in metro cities, and will improve the overall quality of life. A comprehensive needs assessment is being conducted by division to identify challenges and priorities in small towns.

VOLUNTARY ACTION CELL

Voluntary Action Cell (VAC) in NITI Aayog maintains ‘NGO Darpan Portal’, wherein Non-Profit Organisations (NPOs), can register themselves to obtain a unique identity number. This number is mandatory for all NPOs who are seeking grants from the Ministries / Departments of Government of India. As per the Prevention of Money Laundering (Maintenance of Records) Amendment Rules, 2023, all financial institutes have been mandated to ensure NGO Darpan Unique ID for opening and operating accounts in any Bank. Similarly, Darpan Unique ID is also required for registration/renewal of FCRA, seeking exemptions under 80-G of Income Tax.

NGO DARPAN PORTAL

The NGO Darpan Portal facilitates entities to obtain a system generated NGO Darpan Unique ID, as and when signed up with all requisite information and documents. As at the end of 2024, about 2.78 lakh NGOs have registered on the NGO Darpan portal. Further, about 22 Central Ministries/ Departments have released grants to NGOs/ VOs under various Central Sector Schemes/ Centrally Sponsored Schemes in FY 2024-25.

WATER & LAND RESOURCE

The Division works towards ensuring equitable access to water and land resources while focusing on the sustainable development of the nation. The primary goal of this Division is to ensure that water and land resources are both used efficiently to support and promote growth across various sectors. It formulates policy directions and promotes research and development to achieve excellence in water and land resources management. The Division 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. 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 with States and other stakeholders. Appraisal of various water sector and land resources schemes/ programmes/ policies is also done in the Division.

EXPERT TALK ON ‘CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES TO MEET INDIA’S WATER NEEDS FOR VISION 2047’

An expert talk by Prof. Asit K. Biswas, a globally renowned water expert, to discuss innovative strategies for water management in India was hosted for the benefit of stakeholders and Ministries. The session emphasised leveraging India’s monsoon-fed terrain to improve living and health conditions while creating employment opportunities. Prof. Biswas highlighted the urgency of adopting sustainable practices to

address India's long-term water needs amidst population growth and environmental pressures. Concluding remarks by Prof. Ramesh Chand, Member, NITI Aayog, highlighted ongoing water management projects and success stories, reaffirming the nation's commitment to water security.



Expert Talk by Prof. Asit K. Biswas on “Challenges and Opportunities to Meet India’s Water Needs for Vision 2047”

JAL UTSAV 2024: A NATIONWIDE CAMPAIGN FOR WATER CONSERVATION

Jal Utsav 2024 was held from 6 to 24 November, 2024, as a flagship 15-day campaign by NITI Aayog along with Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation was aimed at promoting water conservation, management, and sustainability. The campaign engaged communities across 20 Aspirational Districts and Blocks through activities like Jal Bandhan ceremonies, educational programmes in schools, tree-planting drives, cleaning of water assets, and the launch of district-specific “Jal Sampada” fact sheets. It also included activities like Jal Sanchay Diwas, skill development under the ‘Nal Jal Mitra’ programme, and a Jal Utsav Run. The programme fostered community-driven water conservation, creating long-term behavioural changes toward sustainable water practices.



Glimpses from Jal Utsav 2024

EXPANDING THE REJUVENATION OF WATER BODIES INITIATIVE

Building on earlier initiative to rejuvenate water bodies has been proposed to be expanded to 500 Aspirational Blocks in collaboration with the ATE Chandra Foundation. In the phase I of the initiative, 113 aspirational districts/blocks across 25 States/UTs have been chosen for implementation. The project focuses on enhancing water storage capacity, improving groundwater recharge, sensitisation of farmers to natural farming and fostering community participation. This large-scale effort aims to create a sustainable impact on water security and resource management at the grassroots level.



Statement of Intent on “Rejuvenation of Water Bodies” signed in collaboration with ATE Chandra Foundation

WATER BUDGETING EXERCISE IN COLLABORATION WITH GIZ, GERMANY

A water budgeting exercise is initiated in 23 Aspirational Blocks to optimise water resource management and allocation for sustainable drinking water supply. Conducted in collaboration with German Development Agency GIZ, this ongoing initiative employs localised water balance models to enhance water use efficiency, address resource gaps, and empower communities with data-driven insights into water availability and sustainability leading towards water security. States/Districts nodals are entering the data on water usage across various sectors through a dedicated App developed for the purpose.

WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT

DEVELOPMENT OF ACTION PLAN FOR COMBATING ANAEMIA

Anaemia continues to be a major public health issue in the country with more than 50% of children, adolescents and women being anaemic as per NFHS surveys. Government of India launched Anaemia Mukt Bharat (AMB) programme in 2018 as a universal strategy for addressing anaemia. However, despite these efforts over the last 50 years, the reduction in the prevalence of anaemia in India has remained below 1% reduction 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 and Union Territories were held to deliberate on the programmatic gaps. Representatives from State/UT Departments of Health, Women and Child Development, and School Education shared the current status of programme and implementation related challenges of anaemia-related interventions, such as haemoglobin testing, distribution and consumption of preventive and treatment doses of iron and folic acid, 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 and NITI Aayog held multiple rounds of scientific review meetings to deliberate on the impact of each of the six interventions of AMB with Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and priority research areas were identified. Expert group meetings were held and based on the finding of these consultations, a draft of revised strategy for combating anaemia has been developed and shared with Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT, CARE AND EDUCATION (ECDCE)

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 Early Childhood Development models and consulted States/UTs; Ministries of Women and Child Development, Education, and Health & Family Welfare; NGOs, Civil Society Organisations, 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 and discussed with Ministry of Women & Child Development. The Anganwadi system provides early learning to almost 9 crore children around the country through 13.9 lakh Anganwadi Centres. In this regard, a pilot intervention is being undertaken in 10 Aspirational Districts on early childhood care and education through the Anganwadi system, to improve school- and life-readiness for children less than 6 years of age. Rocket Learning is technical partner in this initiative.

PILOTING AND IMPLEMENTATION RESEARCH ON WINGS TO COMBAT MALNUTRITION IN HIMACHAL PRADESH

The Government of Himachal Pradesh expressed interest in replicating the interventions of the Women and Infants Integrated Interventions for Growth Study (WINGS) model in a pilot mode. After discussions and meetings held with Government of Himachal Pradesh, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Department of Biotechnology- Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (DBT BIRAC), Centre for Health Research and Development, Society for Applied Studies (CHRD-SAS) and Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), a pilot of implementation research of WINGS in Una district of Himachal Pradesh has been initiated.

NUTRITION STRATEGY

Let's Fix Our Food (LFOF) is an initiative, led by PHFI and UNICEF. Under this initiative, they have prepared policy briefs on tackling overweight and obesity among children, adolescents, and women in India. The LFOF consortium has been associated with NITI Aayog for developing an Age-Based Life-Cycle Nutrition Strategy, i.e. a 'Strategy for Improving Nutrition in India'. An advisory group and working group have been constituted to work on the strategy document.

WOMEN FRIENDLY WORKPLACES

Women in India effectively play an important role in the economic growth of the country and their economic empowerment is critical to achieve our 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 is preparing a compendium of best Human Resource practices in private sector which facilitate empowerment of women.

REIMAGINING INTEGRATED CHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICES (ICDS)

ICDS boasts 48 years of operations, with its coverage almost universalised to the target of 14 lakh Anganwadi centres. It has been one of the most critical public programmes, especially in reaching out to the vulnerable sections of the population. As we move ahead, there is a compelling need to reimagine the ICDS and system to contextualise it to the changing needs and times in the future. In this regard, a study on “Reimagining Integrated Child Development Services” has been proposed. The study aims to identify the emerging challenges and opportunities, evolving demographic trends, changing needs and aspirations of the society. The study would also identify the gaps in the ICDS programme and recommend a way forward to ensure that ICDS provides high-quality, age and culture-appropriate services by efficient frontline workers.

IMPROVING BEHAVIOUR FOR SOCIAL CHANGE

Behavioural issues play a very important role in the effectiveness of interventions, especially in the social sector. In this regard, NITI Aayog, Behavioural Insights Team and BMGF have signed an SOI to identify interventions for behavioural change to drive social impact in the Aspirational Districts, Aspirational Blocks and other programmes.

The aim is to make a meaningful impact on a number of selected key indicators in Aspirational Districts (ADs) and Aspirational Blocks (ABs): a) Pregnant women and infant health; b) Primary education; c) Public health (focused on tuberculosis eradication and increased hypertension screening); and other areas mutually decided upon.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL- 5 RELATED WORK ON GENDER

Sustainable Development Goal 5 (SDG 5) aims to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. Though as per SDG India Index 2023-24, India's score on SDG 5 has improved from 36 in 2018 to 49 in 2023-24; its performance on SDG 5 has been lower among 15 SDGs monitored. Advancing women-led development and improving our performance in SDG 5 is crucial to achieving our vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047.

One of the important ways to achieve this aim is to showcase States/UTs performance on SDG 5 indicators and guide/handhold them to improve their performance on the same. In this context, NITI Aayog is collaborating with Gender Centre at the Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad (IIM-A) to help NITI Aayog provide a comprehensive district-level analysis of SDG-5 indicators. The partnership will also include IIM-A as a knowledge partner to handhold the States/UTs to identify key enablers and barriers to women's empowerment and develop localised solutions for women's empowerment, considering district-specific needs and challenges, to ensure accelerated progress in achieving SDG-5 goals.

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 and organisations working in this domain with a focus on development of models for scaling up crèches network in rural and urban areas.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
MONITORING, EVALUATION & LEARNING 2024

SESSION I

Outcome-based Monitoring to Enhance
Evidence-Based Implementation:

*Improving Efficacy of Government Schemes from
Input-Based Budgeting to Outcome-Based Monitoring*

2 May 2024 ; 12:00 PM - 01:30 PM

Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi





SECTION 5

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

DEVELOPMENT MONITORING AND EVALUATION OFFICE

DMEO's mandate is to actively monitor and evaluate the implementation of programmes and initiatives to help innovative improvements, including necessary mid-course corrections and identification of the needed resources so as to strengthen the probability of success and scope of delivery. Its mandate also expands to technical advisory to States, under NITI Aayog's mandate of cooperative federalism. DMEO is headed by the Director General (DG). To have complete functional autonomy, a separate budgetary allocation has been provided exclusively to DMEO. DMEO functions are categorised into i) Monitoring, ii) Evaluation, and iii) Strategic Initiatives encompassing partnerships and capacity building in the field of Monitoring & Evaluation.

In 2024-25, 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)
- Sector Review
- Evaluations
- Capacity Building
- Project with States

OUTPUT-OUTCOME MONITORING FRAMEWORK

The Output-Outcome Monitoring Framework (OOMF) exercise was entrusted to DMEO in mid-2017 and has since become an annual exercise. The purpose is to institutionalise 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 70 Ministries/Departments
- 300+ Central Sector (CS) and Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) with a cumulative INR 12+ 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. During 2024-25, 23 OOMF review meetings conducted till 17 January, 2025 were held with M/DS reviewing their performance under OOMF.

Additionally, it has been DMEO's constant endeavour 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., Uttarakhand) and Institutions (like NILRD etc.). A total of 9 capacity development programmes have been conducted for various States and UTs during FY 2024-25.

TRANSFORMING DATA GOVERNANCE IN INDIA: DGQI INITIATIVE

Rapid digitisation 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 siloes 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 7 Rounds of the exercise have been concluded, and the final reports 7th round of DGQI 2.0 exercise are under review.

DGQI creates a culture of cooperation and learning to share best practices, innovative approaches, and solutions to common challenges.

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 global agencies (publishing agencies) which include Multilateral Organisations, International NGOs, Private Organisations, and Universities spread across four broad themes namely economy, development, governance, and industry. These 27 Indices have been allocated to 18 nodal Ministries/Departments.

The primary objective of the GIRG initiative is to drive India's performance across important social, economic, and development parameters for improving global perception of India and its global ranking, by adopting suitable reforms, and monitoring the progress.

DMO, 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 27 GIs.

During 2024-25, review meetings were held with all nodal Ministries/ Departments for the 27 indices being monitored under GIRG along with numerous interactions with international organisations such as World Bank, WHO, WIPO, WEF, UNDP, FAO etc. The meetings deliberated on strategies to improve India's overall performance in these indices at the global level.

SECTOR REVIEW

Sector review meetings are conducted annually by the Hon'ble Prime Minister to monitor the performance of sectors. DMOE has been facilitating the Sector Reviews for the Prime Minister's Office since 2017 in coordination with concerned M/Ds and NITI divisions. 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 (Telecommunications, 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 set of Sector Review meetings were held during October to December, 2024 under the chairmanship of the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India.

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 them to achieve their 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.

Since its inception in September, 2015, DMOE has completed 155 evaluation studies. In 2024-25, DMOE finalised four evaluation studies covering 8 Central Sector (CS) schemes. The final evaluation reports were submitted to the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance (MoF), and the respective administrative Ministries/Departments. Also, as part of its mandate to evaluate Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) every five years prior to their appraisal in the next Finance Commission cycle, DMOE is currently assessing 72 CSS schemes through nine evaluation packages.

CAPACITY BUILDING

One of DMOE's goals is to institutionalise 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, DMOE 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 organisations.

CAPACITY BUILDING OF STATE-LEVEL UNIVERSITIES

DMOE, 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 was done in 10 States with 10 Central/State universities. The second round of the same initiative, focusing on gaining insights on four Government of India schemes focusing on health and education of students at the school level, is currently underway and is being done in collaboration with 12 universities from 12 States/UTs with 8 unique states. The third round of this initiative is an extension of the second round aimed at building capacities in the remaining 18 states/UTs and currently is in the process of on boarding universities.

CAPACITY BUILDING OF STATES/ UTS

DMEO has been engaging with States and 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, DMEO 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 organised several training sessions during the last year:

- DMEO, NITI Aayog conducted three days (7 to 9 August, 2024) workshop for the senior officials of Uttarakhand Government on Results-Based Management (RBM) and the Output-Outcome Monitoring Framework (OOMF). Over 50+ officials engaged in M&E from 22 departments and Centre for Public Policy and Good Governance (CPPGG) participated in the workshop.
- Orientation sessions on M&E for the states of Sikkim (10 to 12 November, 2024) and Chhattisgarh (23 September, 2024) were also given by DMEO, NITI Aayog as part of the State Support Mission of NITI Aayog.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MONITORING, EVALUATION, AND LEARNING

The two-day National Conference on Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning, was organised at Vigyan Bhawan, on 2 and 3 May, 2024. This interdisciplinary gathering brought together over 400 participants, including Central/State government officials, partner organisations, academicians, and researchers.

The session was attended by Sh. Suman Bery, VC, NITI Aayog and Sh. B. V. R. Subrahmanyam, CEO, NITI Aayog, along with Dr. T. V. Somanathan, the then Finance Secretary, MoF, who delivered his special address, shedding light on the crucial role of M&E in shaping informed public policy. This was followed by insightful sessions on outcome based monitoring, evaluation framework, results based financing, institutional integrity, best practices of States and utilisation of Government data.



Glimpses from the National Conference on Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning held on 2 and 3 May, 2024





SECTION 6

ATAL INNOVATION MISSION

Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) is the Government of India's flagship initiative to create and promote a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship across the length and breadth of our country. Its objective is to create ecosystems across schools, higher education, corporates, industries, state governments, central ministries, and internationally for supporting innovators and entrepreneurs who speak India's 22 official languages.

ATAL INNOVATION MISSION 2.0

On 25 November, 2024, the Union Cabinet, chaired by Hon'ble Prime Minister, approved the continuation of its flagship initiative, the Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), under the aegis of NITI Aayog, with an enhanced scope of work and an allocated budget of Rs.2,750 crore for the period till 31 March, 2028. AIM 2.0 is a step towards Viksit Bharat that aims to expand, strengthen, and deepen India's vibrant innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem.

With India at rank 39 on the Global Innovation Index and home to world's third-largest start-up ecosystem, the next phase of the Atal Innovation Mission (AIM 2.0) is expected to further enhance India's global competitiveness. The continuation of AIM is designed to directly contribute to creating better jobs, innovative products, and high-impact services across sectors.

While building on the accomplishments of AIM 1.0, such as Atal Tinkering Labs (ATL) and Atal Incubation Centers (AIC), AIM 2.0 marks a qualitative shift in the mission's approach. Whereas AIM 1.0 involved implementing programmes that built new innovation infrastructure to strengthen India's then nascent ecosystem, AIM 2.0 involves piloting new initiatives designed to fill gaps in the ecosystem and scaling successes through central and state governments, industry, academia and community.

AIM 2.0 is designed to strengthen India's innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem in three ways: (a) by increasing input (i.e., ushering more innovators and entrepreneurs), (b) by improving the success rate or 'throughput' (i.e., helping more start-ups succeed) and (c) by improving the quality of 'output' (i.e., producing better jobs, products and services).

Two programmes target increasing input to the ecosystem:

- The Language Inclusive Programme of Innovation (LIPI) to build innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystems in India's 22 scheduled languages for lowering entry barrier confronting innovators, entrepreneurs and investors who don't speak English. 30 Vernacular Innovation Centres will be established in existing incubators.
- The Frontier Programme to create customised templates for the innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystems of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K), Ladakh, the North Eastern states (NE), Aspirational Districts and Blocks where 15% of India's citizens live. 2500 new ATLs will be created for template development.

Four programmes target improving the throughput of the ecosystem:

- The Human Capital Development Programme to create a system for producing professionals (managers, teachers, trainers) to build, operate, and maintain India's innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem. The pilot will produce 5500 such professionals.
- The Deeptech Reactor to create a research sandbox for testing ways of commercialising research-based deep tech start-ups that require significantly longer time and deeper investment to get to market. A minimum of one Deeptech Reactor will be piloted.
- The State Innovation Mission (SIM) to assist States/UTs with building a strong innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem that focuses on their areas of strength. SIM will be a component of the NITI Aayog's State Support Mission.

- The International Innovation Collaborations programme to take India's innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem international. Four areas of intervention are identified: (a) an Annual Global Tinkering Olympiad (b) creation of 10 Bi-lateral, multilateral engagements with advanced nations (c) as a knowledge partner, helping the United Nation's World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) spread the models of AIM and its programmes (ATL, AIC) to the countries of the global south, and (d) anchoring the Startup20 Engagement Group of the G20 for India.

Two programmes target improving the quality of output (jobs, products, and services):

- The Industrial Accelerator programme to increase industry involvement in scaling up advanced start-ups. A minimum of 10 Industry Accelerators in critical sectors will be created in Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode.
- The Atal Sectoral Innovation Launchpads (ASIL) programme to build iDEX-like platforms in central ministries for integrating and procuring from startups in key industry sectors. A minimum of 10 launchpads will be built across key ministries.

ATAL INNOVATION MISSION 1.0

AIM's current initiatives include setting up state-of-the-art Atal Tinkering Labs in schools creating problem-solving and innovative mindsets, world-class Atal Incubation Centres in Universities, Institutions and Industry fostering world-class start-ups, launching Atal New India Challenges stimulating creation of innovative products and services with national socio-economic impact through the start-up, MSME industry, setting up Atal Community Innovation Centres in unserved/underserved regions of the country and establishing a national voluntary 'Mentors of Change' network. AIM also collaborates with various Ministries, Industry Partners, NGOs and other countries to meet the above objectives. AIM would continue to evolve and work on new initiatives and programmes to add to the Innovation & Entrepreneurs ecosystem aligned to India's needs.

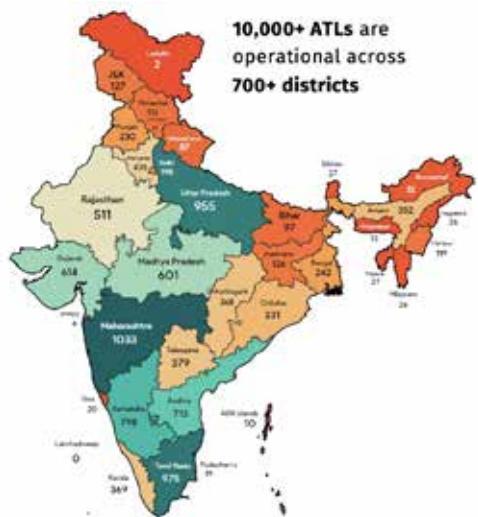
Atal Tinkering Labs (ATLs)	Atal Incubation Centers (AICs)	Atal Community Innovation Centers (ACICs)	Atal New India Challenge (ANIC)	Mentor India
10,000 Labs 1.1 Cr+ students 16 lac+ Innovation Projects	72+ Incubators 3500+ Startups 30% Women	14+ Centers	50+ National Challenges 53+ Start-ups Supported	10,000+ registrations nationwide 6,600+ Mentors

AIM Ecosystem Development Program (AEDP)

60+ domestic and 16+ international partners
10+ Strategic Programs

ATAL TINKERING LABS

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



Hands-On Learning

Allowing students to work on various innovative projects and experiments.



Mentorship

Access to mentors, teachers and professionals, who guide and support them.



Collaborative Environment

Collaborative and creative environment where students can work together on projects.

Key highlights of the ATL Programme

APPOINTMENT & ORIENTATION WORKSHOP OF STATE NODAL OFFICERS FOR ATLs

A two-day Orientation and Capacity-Building Workshop for State Nodal Officers was held on 30 and 31 August, 2024 at the National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA), New Delhi. Organised by the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education, Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) and Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell (MIC), the workshop aimed at orientation and capacity building of the Nodal Officers from all States/UTs. The goal was to enhance the implementation and monitoring of all innovation programmes at the school level, such as the School Innovation Marathon, Atal Tinkering Lab (ATL), and the School Innovation Council (SIC).

Over 40 nodal officers attended the 2-days workshop, representing 30 States and Union Territories, and officers from educational bodies like CBSE, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, AICTE, and the Ministry of Education. The event provided a platform to learn, share experiences, and plan strategies to strengthen the innovation ecosystem in their respective regions.



Appointment & Orientation Workshop of State Nodal Officers for ATLs

INDEPENDENCE DAY 2024 CELEBRATIONS AT THE RED FORT

A total of 6,000 people were invited by the Centre across the country to participate in the celebrations in New Delhi under the theme - 'Viksit Bharat'. Among these, 202 AIM Innovators, students from ATLs and startups from AICs and ACICs joined as special guests to witness the 78th year of Independence at the iconic Red Fort adorned with the tricolor lights, standing as a symbol of the nation's unity and historical significance.



Independence Day 2024 Celebrations at the Red Fort

ATL SARTHI CLUSTERS LAUNCHED IN VARIOUS STATES OF THE COUNTRY

ATL Sarthi is a cluster-based assessment tool and framework that aims to provide a self-sustainable model to enhance the performance of ATLs. Under ATL Sarthi, the ATLs and local authorities/ institutions work in tandem with each other on the ground to form clusters of 20-30 ATLs in a particular region. These ATLs can learn from each other through training, collaborations, events and adopting best practices. This provides a sustainable model that clearly defines and assigns ownership by way of following a decentralised approach and leverages the concept of cooperative federalism. Sarthi Clusters were launched in various States/UTs of the country (Odisha, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, and Pondicherry) in partnership with various stakeholders and partners who function as nodal agencies.



ATL Sarthi Clusters launched in various states of the country

SCHOOL INNOVATION MARATHON 2024 ATTRACTS OVER 1 LAKH SUBMISSIONS

The School Innovation Marathon 2024, an innovation challenge, jointly organised by the Ministry of Education, Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog, the Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell (MIC), AICTE, and UNICEF YuWaah concluded with resounding success. In the School Innovation Marathon, students from schools, with or without ATLs, identified community problems of their choice and developed innovative solutions in the form of working prototypes. The theme for School Innovation Marathon was Viksit Bharat 2047 and over 1 lakh innovation projects have been received from schools across all states and union territories. The innovative solutions spanned healthcare, agriculture, sustainable development, digital transformation and mobility, among others, showcasing the immense problem-solving abilities of young minds. Around 6.7 lakh students from 54,000 schools registered & participated in the innovation challenge organised from August to December, 2024.

STATE-LEVEL HACKATHONS IN TAMIL NADU, CHHATTISGARH, ODISHA AND PONDICHERRY

AIM has been at the forefront of organising hackathons, creating environments where students can transform their ideas into impactful solutions. To create a more vibrant innovation ecosystem at the state level, AIM collaborates with the State education department and other institutions in the state (including ATL schools) to organise state-level hackathons. These hackathons underscore the importance of aligning innovation with local needs, allowing students to create solutions that directly benefit their communities.

Tinkerathon 2024, organised with the support of the Bilaspur District Government, Smart City, and Samagra Shiksha Chhattisgarh, was a celebration of creativity and collaboration. The event brought together over 216 student teams from 158 schools across 32 districts, showcasing the immense potential of youth-driven innovation. With themes ranging from Space Technology, Urban and Rural Development, Healthcare, Agriculture, to the Digital Economy, the students developed projects aimed at solving real-world problems, reflecting their deep engagement with both local and global challenges.

InnovaTN, the Tamil Nadu State Hackathon held in Erode, brought together 517 teams from over 35 districts across Tamil Nadu and Puducherry. The grand finale witnessed 124 teams presenting their solutions to themes based on the SDGs. Professors from various higher educational institutes and CEOs of Atal Incubation Centres participated as jury members for the competition. While the top three teams were awarded a cash prize of ₹50,000 each, the real prize for all participants was the opportunity to embark on a transformative journey of learning and growth. The top 20 teams from InnovaTN 2024 have been selected to participate in the Student Innovator Programme (SIP).

MENTOR ROUND TABLE 2024 IN NITI AAYOG

Mentor Round Table 2024, an annual gathering that serves as a beacon of inspiration and collaboration for our esteemed mentors from across the nation was organised on 17 May 2024. A diverse and talented group of 50+ individuals who have dedicated themselves to the noble cause of mentoring the students participated in the Round Table.



Mentor Round Table 2024

SHESTEM 2024: PIONEERING SUSTAINABLE ENERGY INNOVATION

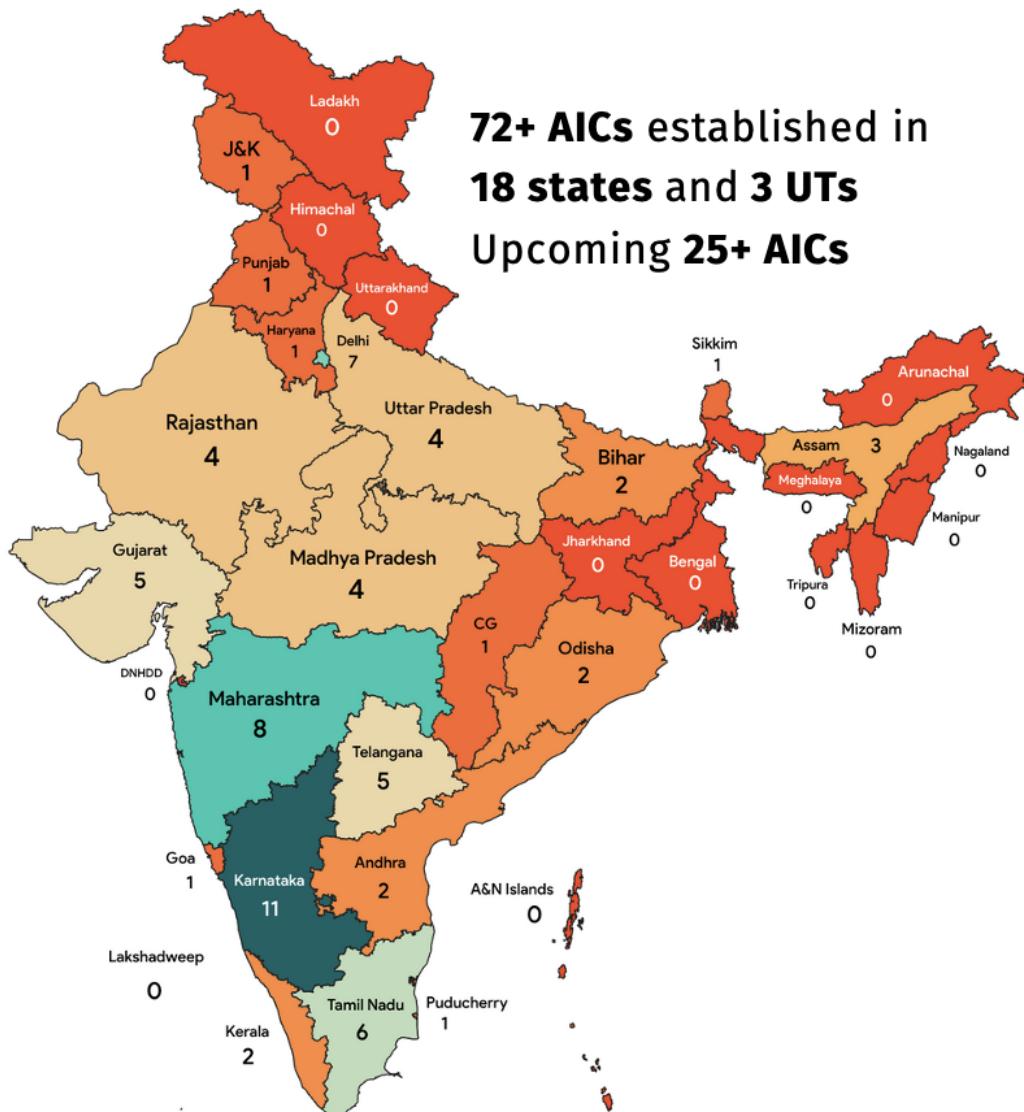
SheSTEM 2024, collaboration between AIM, NITI Aayog, and international partners from Sweden, Denmark, Finland, and Norway concluded with a mega event at the Swedish Embassy. This initiative empowered young minds across India to explore innovative ideas in battery technology and energy storage systems. With over 1,100 creative submissions, the programme showcased the potential of student innovators to address critical challenges in sustainable energy, paving the way for a brighter, greener future.



SheSTEM 2024 organised in collaboration with 4 countries

ATAL INCUBATION CENTERS

Atal Incubation Centres (AICs) are business incubators established by AIM at universities, institutions and corporates to promote innovation and entrepreneurship among young innovators of the country. These AICs aim to foster world-class innovation and support dynamic entrepreneurs, who want to build scalable and sustainable enterprises. Grant up to ₹10 crores is given to the Green Field Incubators as AICs and Brown Field Incubators over a 5-year period. AIM has successfully operationalised 72+ AICs across India. These AICs enable startups by providing technical facilities, resource-based support, mentorship, funding support, partnerships and networking, co-working spaces and lab facilities among others. Over 3500 startups are incubated at these AICs and have created more than 40,000 jobs in the ecosystem. About 30% of startups have a women leader and founder. AICs support start-ups from diverse areas such as Healthtech, Fintech, EdTech, Space and Drone Tech, AR/VR, Food Processing, Tourism, among others.



Features



Infrastructure Support
Well-equipped co-working spaces, offices, and labs for startups to work on their projects



Mentorship
Access to experienced mentors for guidance in business development, strategy, and market entry.



Access to Funding
Assist startups in securing funding through venture capital, angel investors, and government grants and schemes.



Networking Opportunities
Networking events, workshops, and seminars to connect startups with industry experts, potential partners, and investors.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF THE AIC PROGRAMME LAUNCH OF PLANE

Atal Incubation Centre - IISER Pune Seed Foundation launched a programme called “Plan E” on 15 November, 2024, for researchers / PhD scholars to transform their research work into viable enterprises and start-ups. This one-of-a-kind effort plans to bring together PhD scholars from institutions across the country, paving the way for research translation. These scholars will go through a curated incubation programme to help them transform their ground-breaking research into real-world start-ups. This innovative initiative is dedicated to transforming PhD research into thriving start-ups, fostering a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship. A cohort of 27 researchers has been selected under this programme. This programme envisions contributing towards research translation in India.

FORBES INDIA LISTED 2 START-UPS FOR AIM ECOSYSTEM

Forbes India has listed 100 promising start-ups in the Asia-Pacific region. Out of the 17 start-ups from India, 2 are from the AIM ecosystem. EF Polymer, AIC-Sangam Gurugram-supported startup and Digantara, a FSID, IISc Bangalore-supported start-up was mentioned in ‘Forbes India 100 to Watch’, 15 November, 2024 Issue. Start-ups from AIM ecosystem being mentioned in such publications help increase their visibility and brand value. It also shows the prowess of start-up support provided under AIM.

20TH MEDTECH MITRA TECHNICAL ADVISORY MEETING ON 6 SEPTEMBER, 2024

The 20th MedTech Mitra Technical Advisory Meeting was conducted jointly by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) under the guidance of NITI Aayog on 6 September, 2024. The MedTech Mitra initiative aims to empower MedTech innovators and advance healthcare solutions by providing crucial support for clinical evaluation, regulatory facilitation, and the uptake of new products. The journey of MedTech Mitra was presented by ICMR-MDMS in the meeting, highlighting the steps taken to strengthen the ecosystem further by expanding the scope to all healthcare innovations & including other relevant stakeholders.



20th MedTech Mitra Technical Advisory Meeting

UNVEILING OF 5TH EDITION OF INNOVATIONS FOR YOU – SDG

AIM unveiled the fifth edition of ‘Innovations for You’, a coffee table book series spotlighting the endeavours of SDG Entrepreneurs of India in June, 2024. This edition features 60 entrepreneurs from diverse corners of India, each contributing to societal betterment through sustainable innovations. The launch event was graced by Minister Counsellor, Head of Trade Council in New Delhi & Regional Coordinator South Asia, Royal Danish Embassy Soren Norrelund Kannik-Marquardsen.

These start-ups focus on recyclable and renewable materials, green energy, inclusive education, and advocacy for underrepresented communities and local artisans.



Unveiling of 5th Edition of Innovations for You

LAUNCH OF AIM'S 6TH EDITION OF 'INNOVATIONS FOR YOU' COFFEE TABLE BOOK ON LIFE SCIENCES AND BIOTECHNOLOGY

The sixth edition of the 'Innovations for You' coffee table book on Life Sciences and Biotechnology was launched on 6 September, 2024. The book highlights 50 pioneering entrepreneurs incubated under the various Atal Incubation Centres spread across the country, who are driving change through their contributions to Life Sciences and Biotechnology. Within this sector, the publication delineates innovations into subcategories—Diagnostics, Therapeutics, Bioengineering, and Drug Discovery.

The publication is intended to highlight the stories of these innovations and underscore the vast applications and impact on society at large. Intended to both guide and inspire upcoming start-ups, the book also underscores the pivotal role of AIM-supported incubators in fostering innovation and research within these domains.



Launch of AIM's 6th edition of 'Innovations for You' coffee table book on Life Sciences and Biotechnology

MALAWI DELEGATION'S INDIA VISIT UNDER TRIANGULAR COOPERATION WITH INDIA-GERMANY-MALAWI

The Malawi delegation of 5 women entrepreneurs travelled to India to visit AIM-AIC incubators in Delhi & Sonipat and to participate in “Hands-on training on food processing & value-addition” organised at the National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship and Management (NIFTEM), Sonipat, Haryana, India. They also participated in different workshops on “Building women-led enterprises from the ground up & hands-on experience in marketing, technology development and management” & for “Exchange between India and Malawi Entrepreneurs”.

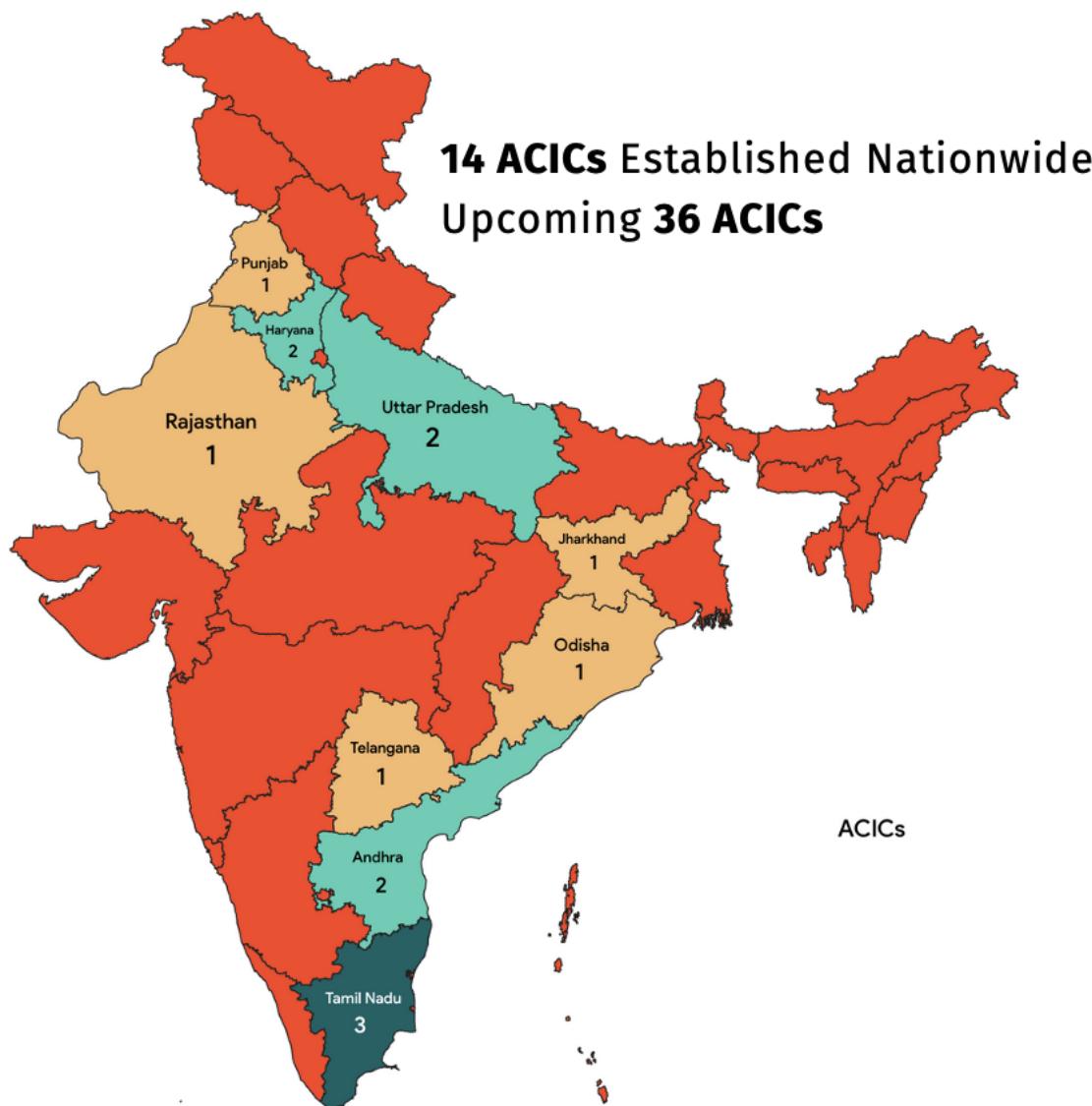
This collaborative initiative established an enabling mindset and collaboration between Malawi entrepreneurs and the AIM ecosystem in India. It is intended to expand the pilot project of the triangular cooperation for the next phase.



Malawi Delegation's India visit under Triangular Cooperation with India-Germany-Malawi

ATAL COMMUNITY INNOVATION CENTERS

Atal Community Innovation Centers (ACIC) are envisaged to serve the unserved/underserved areas of the country concerning the start-up and innovation ecosystem. ACIC saw it to be crucial to reach the innovators at the bottom of the pyramid and give them equitable opportunities, especially by reducing the lab-to-land distance and creating a space for pre-incubation of ideas/solutions. Celebrating the idea of ‘frugal’ which is predominant in Indian communities, ACIC aims to create a formal approach to identify and scale up these innovations using solution driven design thinking and supported by the Public Private Partnerships (PPP) model.

**Features****Knowledge**

Curated content on SDGs and entrepreneurship through toolkits, workshops and a digital learning platform

**Community Immersion**

Local Mitra for on ground, community outreach support and solution validation

**Mentorship**

Mentorship to build business acumen and sector expertise

**Inclusion**

Sensitization workshops for encouraging equitable access innovation ecosystem

**Funding**

Milestone based funding (upto Rs. 2 lakh per fellow) and pitching opportunities

**Infrastructure**

Access to all infrastructure of host ACIC

Key Highlights of the ACIC Programme

COMMUNITY INNOVATOR FELLOWS GRADUATION CEREMONY ON 5 JULY, 2024

The Community Innovator Fellowship Programme is an initiative of Atal Innovation Mission, 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 can apply irrespective of their socio-economic background. During this fellowship, each fellow would be hosted at an Atal Community Innovation Centre and would acquire SDG awareness, entrepreneurial skills and life skills while working on her/his idea. So far 50 CIFs have been incubated in 14 Atal Community Innovation Centres (ACICs) in 3 batches. This is a second batch of CIFs with 15 as a cohort size which have successfully graduated in the one-year-long journey. These fellows come from various socio-economic backgrounds across 10 states.



Community Innovator Fellows Graduation ceremony

CIF CAPGEMINI GRANT FELICITATION

The Community Innovator Fellowship Programme by Atal Innovation Mission is a one-year initiative empowering aspiring innovators from diverse backgrounds to address community challenges. Fellows, hosted at Atal Community Innovation Centres, gain skills in SDG awareness, entrepreneurship, and life skills to turn their ideas into impactful solutions. So far, AIM has funded 58 fellows across the nation. On 19 November, 2024, felicitation of the CIFs cohort took place for the first time where a private organisation supported CIF Cohort. This cohort of 15 fellows is funded by Capgemini India to scale their innovations, with SRF Foundation as the implementation partner. This programme strengthens India's grassroots by enabling social entrepreneurs to create meaningful change. The CIFs went through 2 days of training boot camp on the various 21st century skills like Digital literacy, Pitching an idea, Investment basics, etc. This was followed by a grant disbursement of 1 Lakh per CIF to expand their ideas.

ATAL NEW INDIA CHALLENGE

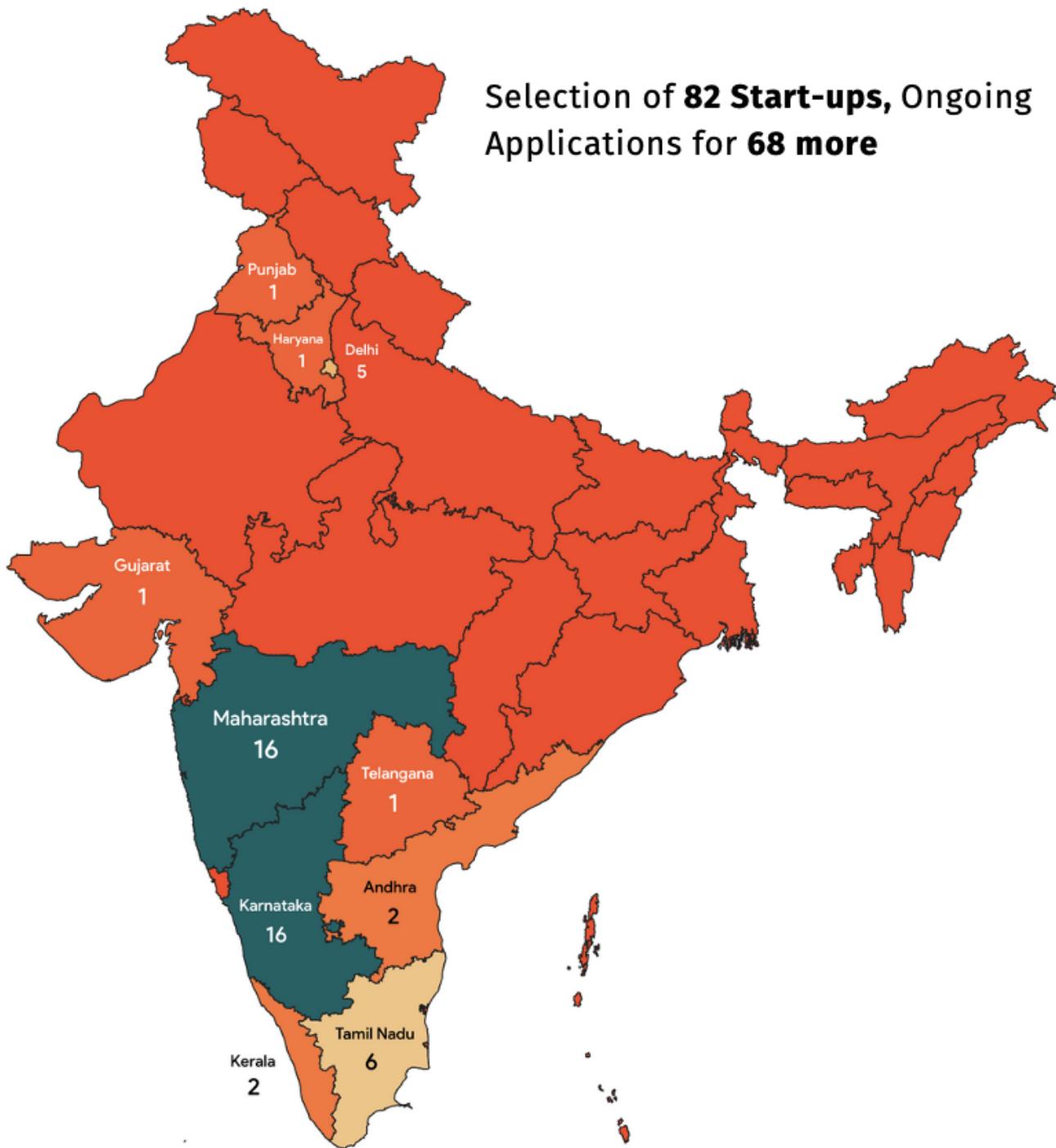
Atal New India Challenge (ANIC) is a flagship programme of AIM. The programme aims to seek, select, support and nurture technology-based innovations that solve sectoral challenges of national importance and societal relevance. The vision of the ANIC is two-fold:

- Help develop technology-based innovations to solve sectoral challenges of national importance and social relevance,

- Develop an institutional structure to support innovations and absorption of innovation in the government.

The primary goals of the ANIC programme are to incentivise 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 to support innovator's scale over the risks associated with access to resources for testing, piloting and market creation.

Selection of **82 Start-ups**, Ongoing Applications for **68 more**



Features

Government Support
Support from government agencies and institutions including funding, mentorship, and resource



Sector-Specific Challenges
Challenges aligning with the Indian government's priorities and development goals



Innovation Focus
Innovative solutions to address the identified challenges emphasizing the development of creative and scalable solutions.



Job Creation
Economic development by supporting innovative projects and startups that have the potential to generate employment opportunities.

Under ANIC, AIM has launched the India Australia Innovation and Technology Programme. India Australia Innovation and Technology Programme is a constituent of the India-Australia Comprehensive Strategic Partnership and forms a part of the Prime Minister's Joint Statement.

Evolved as RISE (Rapid Innovation and Start-up Expansion) Accelerator, it is a programme Co-conceptualised, co-developed and co-run by AIM, NITI Aayog, India and CSIRO, Australia.

RISE Accelerator envisions bringing together the innovation ecosystems of India and Australia to support cohorts of start-ups and SMEs in solving India and Australia's most pressing environment and climate challenges; and accelerate their international expansion through structured support, cross-border pilot and solution validation.

The 1st round of the RISE accelerator focused on Circular Economy and supported 7 start-ups each from India and Australia through a journey of 9 months involving curriculum sessions, market discovery, immersion workshops, field visits and cross-border pilots with support from the innovation catalysts from both countries.



14 participating startups and SMEs



32 cross-border trips between Australia and India



2 Immersion Weeks



11 partnership agreements and MoUs signed



700+ one-to-one mentoring hours



11 pilots and projects launched



47 curriculum hours (in-person and online sessions)



RISE cohort 1: Circular Economy



India start-up field visit in Australian farm

The 2nd round of the RISE accelerator is focused on Climate Smart Agritech and is supporting 5 start-ups each from India and Australia through a journey of 9 months.

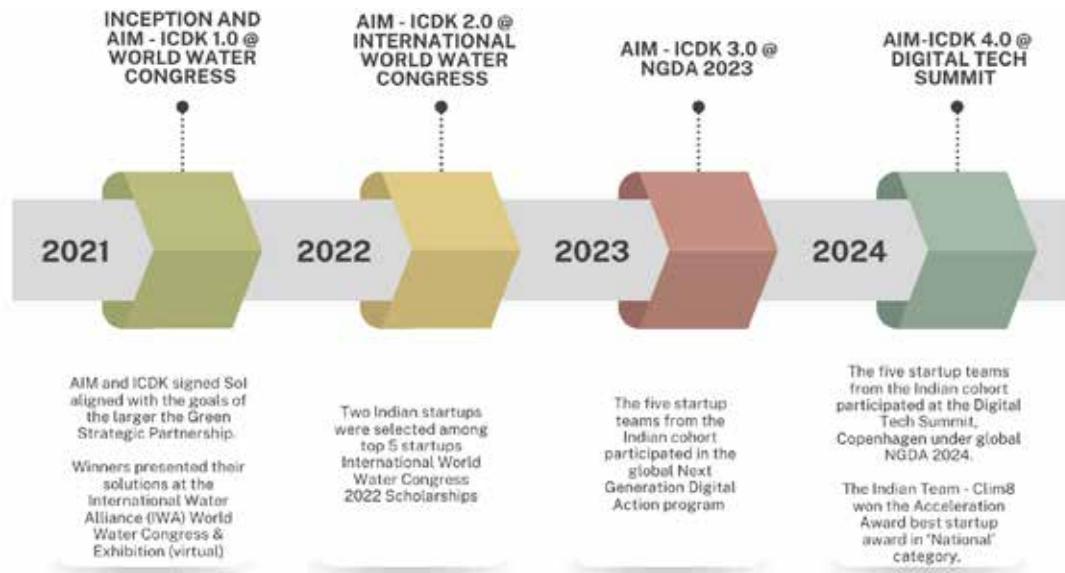
AIM ECOSYSTEM DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

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 60 domestic & 16 International partnerships across various corporations, and 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.

AIM - ICDK WATER CHALLENGE

As a part of the Indo- Danish Green Strategic Partnership, Atal Innovation Mission together with Innovation Centre Denmark Bangalore, Royal Danish Embassy in India, and the Technical University of Denmark (DTU) launch AIM - ICDK Water Challenge every year.

PROGRAMME TIMELINES



Features



Building Skill
and
Mentorship



Innovation Mindset
and Problem Solving
attitude



Sustainable and
Resilient
Solutions

This year, under the 4th edition of AIM – ICDK Water Challenge 4.0 five startup teams from the Indian cohort participated in the global Next Generation Digital Action programme and engaged with young talents from leading universities and innovation hubs of 10 countries (India, Denmark, Ghana, Kenya, Korea, Tanzania, South Africa, Ghana, Colombia and Mexico). The three university student teams and two early-stage start-ups represented India in various challenges given by partner countries and have developed promising sustainable solutions that could solve some of the most pressing global challenges. The Indian team won the Acceleration Award for the challenge statement given by South African of ‘Leveraging Machine learning and Artificial intelligence for Infrastructure Pricing’. They also won the best start-up award in the ‘National’ category.

PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN AIM AND WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANISATION

A high-level delegation from World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) visited NITI Aayog for the signing of a Joint Letter of Intent (JLoI) between Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) and WIPO. The JLoI is aimed at building programmes for Innovation, Entrepreneurship & Intellectual Property (IP) for countries in the Global South. Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Hon’ble Minister for Education and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship in the Government of India graced the occasion with his presence. A workshop was held to enhance knowledge of IP among incubators and educators, with participation from over 70 stakeholders.



JLoI signing between AIM and World Intellectual Property Organisation

STATE INNOVATION MISSION WORKSHOPS

State Innovation Missions (SIMs) are essential to foster local innovation ecosystems that drive economic growth and address state-specific challenges. In India, where innovation and entrepreneurship density vary significantly across states, SIMs aim to provide the framework to nurture entrepreneurial talent, boost economic productivity, and create job opportunities.

The second State Innovation Mission workshop was held in Agartala, Tripura from 29 February to 1 March, 2024 to help North Eastern states learn from each other about where they stand and how they can take the next steps in building their innovation ecosystem. The workshop had peer learning sessions and brainstorms where state representatives and innovation stakeholders from northeastern states discussed

existing policies and strategies for enabling the startup ecosystem and collaborating on developing new ones to foster innovation.



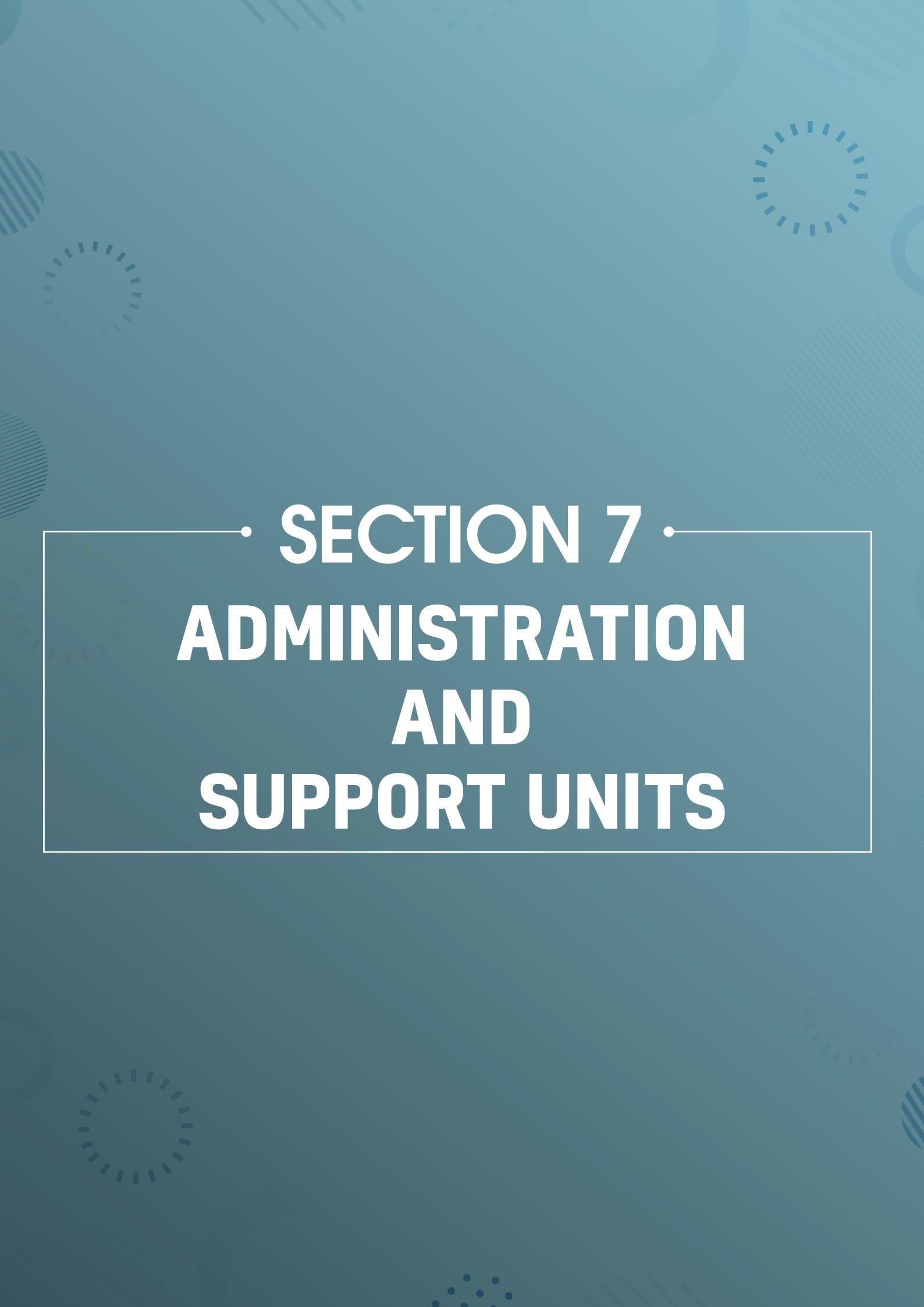
State Innovation Mission Workshops

The third State Innovation Mission workshop was held in Gangtok, Sikkim from 12 to 13 November, 2024 where representatives of all north eastern states came and discussed how to build a robust Innovation Ecosystem within North East and their states. The government officials, incubator CEOs and managers and start-up representatives came together and brainstormed on the next steps toward strengthening the NE innovation ecosystem.



नीति आयोग
राष्ट्रीय एकता दिवस
साधन सम्मेलन





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, deputation, 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/HUMAN RESOURCES

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 recognised university/institution in India or abroad.

During the year, NITI Administration has advertised for the posts of Mission Director in the Atal Innovation Mission (MD, AIM) and Director General in National Institute of Labour Economics Research and Development (DG, NILERD). The Recruitment for one (01) post of Senior Adviser/Adviser in the area of Agriculture Policy under Knowledge Innovation Hub (KIH) and Ten (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 under Flexi Pool are under process. The Recruitment process for the position of Head (Admn.) in Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) has been completed and the post has been filled. The Recruitment process for one post of Senior Adviser in the area of Science & Technology has been completed.

Consequent upon nomination of MoS (I/c) for Min. of Planning, Vice-Chairman and four Members, NITI Aayog, NITI Aayog has created coterminous posts (Total: 69 posts) in their personal staff and appointed personal staff after completing all pre-appointment formalities. Five Canteen Attendant and Two Library and Information Assistants were also appointed. Fresh contract was awarded for hiring of outsourced personnel in clerical grade. Fresh contract was also awarded for upgradation of NGO-Darpan Portal. Vacancy for appointment of Protocol Officer on deputation basis was circulated in the Employment News.

NITI Aayog needs to work continuously on new and emerging ideas and provide strategic solutions. To facilitate this, 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 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 have 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. So far, 8 Senior

Consultants, 26 Consultant Grade II, 71 Consultant Grade I and 116 Young Professionals have been engaged making the tally of professionals engaged in consultancy service as 221 (till 31 December, 2024) in 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.	Principal Economic Adviser and equivalent	1	0	0	1
2.	Additional Secretary and equivalent	7	2	0	9
3.	Joint Secretary and equivalent	10	1	8	19
4.	Director and equivalent	16	5	34	55
5.	Deputy Secretary and equivalent	34	2	0	36
6.	Under Secretary and equivalent	57	5	85	147
7.	Research officer/Associate in Level 10 and equivalent	14	2	0	16
8.	Section Officer and equivalent	43	0	152	195
9.	Assistant Section Officer (Level 7) and equivalent	70	0	0	70
10.	Other support staff	147	0	3	150
11.	Outsourced Personnel	0	0	158	158
	Total	399	17	440	856

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 an Internship Scheme that seeks to engage students pursuing Undergraduate/Graduate/ Post Graduate Degrees or Research Scholars enrolled in recognised Universities/Institutions within India or abroad, as “Interns”. These Interns are given exposure to various 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.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- All administrative and establishment matters pertaining to personal staff of Vice-Chairman, Minister of States for Planning and Members, NITI Aayog.

- All administrative and service matters personnel belonging to CSSS staff of NITI Aayog cadre.
- All administrative matters relating to recruitment, appointment, confirmation, promotion and maintenance of service records in respect of certain GCS posts of NITI Aayog.
- Preparation of bills in respect of daily wagers working in NITI Aayog.
- Outsourcing of staff for giving basic support to dignitaries/Officers/Divisions etc.
- Verification of Children's Educational Allowance/ Tuition Fee reimbursement claim/Medical reimbursement claim/Leave Travel Concession claims in respect of staff dealt within this Section.
- Verification of CGHS application form/govt. accommodation forms.
- Issue of forms for filling up APAR in respect of all staff dealt in Admn. IV Section.
- Grant of House Building Advance.
- Constitution of Departmental Promotion Committee/ cases under FR 56 (J).
- Maintenance of service book/leave account/release of increment, internal audit etc.
- Collection of data from officials for Election duty in Lok Sabha Election, 2024 & Legislative Assembly Election, 2024.

ACHIEVEMENTS DURING F.Y. 2024-2025

- Awarding Financial Upgradations under MACPS, 2009 to the eligible employees in NITI Aayog.
- Prompt disposal of the grant of Non Functional Selection Grade NFSG in Level-6 to the Steno Grade 'D' of CSSS and in Level -10 of Private Secretary.
- Prompt disposal of promotions and subsequent pay fixation matters in the grade of CSSS, in the grades of PA, PS, PPS, Sr. PSO, and PSO.
- Creation of the post of Library & Information Officer in the NITI Aayog Library & framing of Recruitment Rules for the post of Library & Information Officer.
- Awarding of contract for outsourcing of manpower in Clerical Grade and MTS grade.
- Finalisation of contract for upgradation of NGO, Darpan Portal.
- Consequent upon formation of new Govt. in Union and thereby appointment of Minister, Vice-Chairman and Members, NITI Aayog, co-terminus posts were created in different categories in their personal staff.
- Canteen Attendants (total: 5 posts) have been appointed in NITI Aayog's Departmental Canteen through Staff Selection Commission.
- Library and Information Assistants (total: 02 posts) have been filled through Staff Selection Commission.
- Creation of one post of APS on co-terminus basis in personal staff of Hon'ble MoS (I/c) for Ministry of Planning by combination of two posts.
- Appointment of consultants in view of the shortage of regular staff in NITI Aayog for smooth functioning of Organisation.
- Circulation of vacancy in Employment News for filling up the post of Protocol Officer in NITI Ayaog on deputation basis.
- Framing of Tender documents and invitation of Tender at GeM portal for outsourcing of IT professional for NIC, NITI Aayog.

CAREER MANAGEMENT (CM) SECTION

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.

Following is a gist of the training programmes, foreign visit proposals and other important programmes/activities including exposure visits and interactive sessions that were facilitated by the CM Section, NITI Aayog during the period from April to December, 2024 (from 1 April, 2024 to 31 December, 2024) :-

- Fifty one (51) officers/personnel of NITI Aayog/EAC-PM, including Seven delegations, were deputed to attend various International events including Conferences, Workshops, Seminars, Meetings etc. which were held in different foreign countries between the period 1 April, 2024 to 31 December, 2024.
- Seventy (70) officers/staff of NITI Aayog were nominated to attend various domestic training programmes which includes cadre training and other trainings which were conducted by the Institute of Secretariat Training and Management (ISTM) of the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) or by other training institutes. Also, two officers of NITI Aayog were nominated to attend foreign training programmes during the said period.
- Internal Induction-cum-orientation training programmes for the newly appointed flexi-pool officers/staff i.e. senior Associates/Associates/senior Specialists/ Specialists etc. and contractual personnel i.e. Young Professionals/ Consultants etc of NITI Aayog, AIM and DMO were also arranged/conducted at NITI Aayog with a view to familiarise the newly appointed personnel with the broad structure, role, functions of the NITI Aayog on 15 to 16 April, 2024, 23 to 24 April, 2024 and 23 October, 2024. During the Orientation Training programme, the participants were imparted with a broad overview of the setup of NITI Aayog, basic overview of the Manual of Office Procedures (MOP), basic concepts of Conduct Rules, RTI, detailed theoretical and practical inputs on the use of E-office etc.

FOLLOWING EXPOSURE VISITS AND INTERACTIVE SESSIONS WERE ALSO ORGANISED IN NITI AAYOG DURING THE SAID PERIOD

- An exposure visit with the participants of 49th APPPA from Indian Institute of Public Administration was organised in NITI Aayog on 4 April, 2024.
- Visit of the participants of Indian School of Business's Public Policy Programme on 26 June, 2024
- A one (01) day interactive instructional exposure visit programme was also organised on the 5 September, 2024 for Senior Defence Officers of HCC-53 who visited NITI Aayog from the Army War College, Mhow.
- A visit of 12 Young Leaders Delegation from various political parties of Nepal to India was organised on 27 September, 2024.
- CM Section also organised an exposure visit of forty students from Indian School of Public Policy on 1 October, 2024.
- Interactive sessions were also organised for 75th, 77th and 78th delegation of Young People of Indian Origin (PIO) under Know India Programme (KIP) on 25 July, 2024, 19 November, 2024 and 12 December, 2024 respectively.

THE FOLLOWING TRAININGS FOR OFFICERS/STAFF OF NITI AAYOG WERE ALSO ORGANISED FOR AWARENESS ON VARIOUS CONTEMPORARY WORK ISSUES

- A session on 11 September, 2024 for better understanding of the latest developments and procedures available in the GeM Portal

- An awareness session in association with Delhi Police on 14 October, 2024 regarding cyber security awareness.
- An interactive session on EFC/SFC and Budget for YPs/Consultants chaired by faculty from ISTM on 30 August, 2024.
- Various sessions were conducted for different levels of officials to sensitise the launch of Mission Karmayogi and consumption of functional and behavioural courses on iGOT platform.

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.

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 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.

4TH ALL INDIA OFFICIAL LANGUAGE CONFERENCE

For promotion of Hindi, the 4th All India Official Language Conference was organised by Department of Official Language, Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), Govt. of India in Bharat Mandapam, Delhi between 14 and 15 September, 2024. Officials from NITI Aayog took active participation in the same.

PROMOTION: 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 2024-25. The scheme carries two first prizes of ₹5,000 each, three second prizes of ₹3,000 each, and five third prizes of ₹2,000 each. Under this scheme, Rewards and Certificates were distributed to five prize winners.

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 ₹5,000 each (one for Hindi-speaking and the other for non-Hindi-speaking staff).

HINDI DIWAS AND PAKHWADA

Hindi Diwas and Pakhwada was celebrated in NITI Aayog with much enthusiasm and fervour. Various competitions were organised during this period. A total of 13 different competitions were organised and total 49 officers/staffs were given prizes, mementos and certificate during this period.

A new initiative, ‘Charcha Paricharcha’ Programme has been launched to promote the use of Hindi among officers/officials, with the aim of fostering a deeper interest in the language and encouraging its adoption in daily work. The programme has already gained momentum with 10 successful sessions. This lecture series is a treasure trove of knowledge, covering wide range of subjects that are directly relevant to our daily lives.

INSPECTION: OFFICIAL LANGUAGE IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

The Official Language Implementation Committee (OLIC) functions under the Chairpersonship of ‘Joint Secretary (Admin/OL)’. This committee periodically reviews the progress made in connection with the use of Hindi and gives appropriate suggestions and recommends measures to be taken for the effective implementation of the Official Language Policy. The meetings of this committee are held regularly in every quarter and the offices under the control of NITI Aayog are also instructed for convening OLIC meetings regularly.

HINDI WORKSHOPS

During the year, four Hindi workshops were on different pragmatic aspects of Hindi were organised and 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.

KARMAYOGI

NITI Aayog is actively implementing the Mission Karmayogi initiative. This initiative aligns with the Annual Capacity Building Plan of NITI Aayog, prepared by the Capacity Building Commission.

NITI Aayog has successfully onboarded 100% officials, and as of now there have been over 12,000 course completions, indicating an average of approximately 25 courses per person. This reflects a significant engagement with the training programmes available under this initiative. 408 NITI employees have taken up the courses titled ‘Overview of Viksit Bharat 2047’ in October to December, 2024. It covers key areas such as Economic Transformation, highlighting strategies for sustained growth, and Social Commitment, focusing on inclusive development and equitable opportunities. More than 4 lakh employees across ministries and states have enrolled for this course and there have been 3,78,798 completions.

NITI Aayog is developing a “Know Your Ministry” module for newcomers on the iGOT platform. This module aims to familiarise new officials with their respective ministries, enhancing their on boarding experience.

LIBRARY AND DOCUMENTATION CENTRE

The NITI Aayog Library is one of the oldest and most extensive libraries in the Ministries of Government of India. It is a special kind of Library with a collection of subjects related to economic and development policy, area studies, agriculture/rural development, education, energy, health and nutrition, industry, infrastructure, and other fields.

The NITI Aayog Library acts as a Resource and Information Centre and provides complete access to books, journals and reports to all officers of NITI Aayog. An in-house consultation facility was also extended to officials of other Ministries/ Departments and research scholars enrolled with various institutions/universities. The Library has a reading room with a capacity of 30 users and also provides an internet facility for users /research scholars.

The Library has a collection of over 1.85 Lakh books, including reports, journal-bound volumes, and 1326 audio-visual items (albums & CDs). NITI Aayog Library has a collection of documents from the Planning Commission/ NITI Aayog. It subscribes to 127 journals/ magazines and newspapers in both English and Hindi. It is also equipped with modern facilities including e-resources to support policy planning and research.

IT APPLICATIONS IN THE LIBRARY

- Library Automation: The Library is fully automated with the help of the KOHA software. The URL of the Library Portal is <https://library.niti.gov.in>.
- Remote Access: Remote access to the e-resources is also provided to the members of the NITI Aayog Library. The Library may also be accessed through a mobile app, which is available on the Play Store on Android and the APP Store on iPhone. The name of the app is mLibrary.
- Institutional Repository: The Digital Library, known as the knowledge repository, was created with the help of Dspace software (i.e. Open software). About 5000 digital documents are available on the LAN of the NITI Aayog in PDF format. The user may download the required document from the knowledge repository.



DIGITISATION OF GOVERNMENT REPORTS

The Library has various reports published by the erstwhile Planning Commission and reports from various Ministries of Government of India. The Library Committee decided to digitise all the documents/ reports that were copyright-free. The digitisation work is in progress. About 4000 documents/ reports have been digitised and uploaded to the knowledge repository.

OM&C SECTION

- OM&C Section is handling Public Grievances online through CPGRAMS since January, 2018 and also redressal of Public Grievance Appeals through online portal.
- OM&C Section is coordinating with the Ministry of Home Affairs for the purpose of processing of applications & distribution of MHA Temporary Passes & Permanent Identity Cards for the regular/contractual/outsourced employees of NITI Aayog.
- This Division had organised 10th International Day of Yoga (IDY) 2024 on 21 June, 2024 around the themes "Yoga for Self & Society". As per directives of Ministry of Ayush, following activities are undertaken:

- » Issued internal guidelines giving the background of the observation of International Day of Yoga (IDY)-2024 and also Common Yoga Protocol issued by Ministry of Ayush for information on NITI Portal.
- » 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 19 to 28 June, 2024. This has been organised in order to create interest, encourage everyone to practice, adopt yoga and for the benefit of Officers/Employees of NITI Aayog.
- » Yoga Day 2024 Ceremony has been organised on 21 June, 2024, inaugurated by Vice Chairperson, NITI Aayog. All the Officers/staff of NITI Aayog participated in the event.
- Organised “Rashtriya Ekta Diwas Pledge” (National Unity) administered by Hon’ble Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog on 30 October, 2024 to all the Officers/Officials of NITI Aayog/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, 2024 on DoPT URL.
- Conducted DARPG’s Special Campaign 4.0 from 2 to 31 October, 2024 to dispose of Public Grievances, References from MPs and State Governments, Inter Ministerial Consultations, Parliamentary Assurances etc.
- Distribution of Invitation Cards for 16th Civil Services Day, 2024 (21 April, 2024) 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 organisations to India Trade Promotion Organisation for issuance of Invitation Cards for India International Trade Fair’24.
- Forwarded details of Officers and Dignitaries of NITI Aayog and its subordinate/attached organisations to Ministry of Defence for issuance of Invitation Cards for Independence Day and Republic Day, 2024.
- Work related to appointment of Registered Medical Practitioners as Authorised 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, 2024 in NITI Aayog from 17 September to 2 October, 2024.
- The Hon’ble Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog administered the Swachh Bharat Pledge on 2 October, 2024 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 on <https://rtionline.gov.in> and physically by posts. During the 2024-25, the Cell was engaged with 751 RTI Applications and 40 Appeals. 1 CIC hearing was also attended.

COMMUNICATION CELL

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

In the fiscal year 2024-25, 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 Sampoornata Abhiyan, Aspirational Blocks Programme, Aspirational Districts Programme, Vocal for Local, Independence Day celebration, Jal Utsav, and NITI States workshop series etc. Additionally, the cell managed collaterals and press releases, ensuring a cohesive and impactful online presence.

A brief of various creative activities done during 2024-25 as follows:

CAMPAIGNS:

SAMPOORNATA ABHIYAN

One way of accelerating progress is to focus on a few select indicators from Aspirational District Programmes and Aspirational Blocks Programmes at one time and saturate them for quick impact, NITI Aayog launched a 3-month campaign called "Sampoornata Abhiyan" from July to September, 2024. A variety of promotional materials, including standees, banners, booklets, and selfie points, were created to support and highlight the selected indicators. A total of 140 posts were done including infographics, videos and ground photos for every block, and district under ABP/ADP across diverse social media platforms garnering a total impression of 3,751,368.



JAL UTSAV

The Jal Utsav campaign, held from 6 to 10 November, 2024, aimed to raise awareness and foster sensitivity towards the importance of water management, conservation, and sustainability. To effectively reach a wide audience, including the most remote areas, a range of promotional materials were created based on daily themes and activities. In total, 66 engaging posts, featuring infographics and photographs from aspirational districts and blocks, were shared across various social media platforms. These efforts helped amplify the campaign's message and engage communities on the critical issue of water conservation.



'NITI FOR STATES'- PLATFORM

Last year 'NITI For States' platform was launched which, serves as a cross-sectorial knowledge platform designed to become a Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) for Policy and Good Governance. To maximise the platform's reach and ensure its accessibility, a series of informative infographics were created, covering 10 diverse sectors and shared across multiple social media platforms. To cater to a wide audience, the content was made available in both English and Hindi, ensuring that language would not be a barrier to engagement.

NITI FOR STATES

⚡
ENERGY
NITI Aayog

City-Wide Energy Benchmarking in India Improving Office Building Energy Efficiency

Kerala

ISSUE FACED:
Kochi faced challenges including intense urban development pressure on its biodiversity hotspots, gaps in biodiversity management and governance, and the complexity of consulting across 72 wards, which strained time and resources.

INITIATIVE:
To address the gaps in biodiversity conservation and governance, the city of Kochi developed the Local Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan in four stages

OUTCOME:
The participatory approach in developing the LBSAP increased ownership and focused on traditional knowledge and Kochi's LBSAP contributes to the achievement of national commitments and the 2020 global biodiversity framework in a scientifically informed manner

Follow 'NITI Aayog' Channel for more updates

NITI FOR STATES WEBSITE

राज्यों के लिए 'नीति'

🎥
उत्पादन
NITI Aayog

रवनिज प्रबंधन और रवनल निगरानी का समन्वय

उत्पादन

समस्याएः
पर्यावरण वितर्क, जीव विवरण और समाजी-जीवानी विभिन्न राज्यों लेवल पर बाधा डाल रही है।

कालः
संवित प्रबंधन को वित्तीय राज्य के विवरणीय रूप से "एकजुट" प्रोत्तरीय बनाया गया।

परिणामः
राज्य संवित की सुवर्णसंग्रह, वाटर्स और रिसार्च इंडिया के द्वारा केंद्रीय कानून गवाया गया है।

NITI Aayog राज्यों के लिए 'नीति' विवरण

Follow 'NITI Aayog' Channel for more updates

NITI FOR STATES WEBSITE

INTERNATIONAL METHANOL SEMINAR

NITI Aayog, in collaboration with the Methanol Institute, USA, hosted an International Methanol Seminar to explore how global shipping leaders are adopting methanol as a solution to meet the ambitious emissions targets set by the International Maritime Organisation (IMO). To complement the event, a week-long social media campaign was launched, featuring approximately 10 infographics that were shared across various platforms to raise awareness and engage a wide audience.



SDG INDIA INDEX

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) India Index serves as the country's primary tool for measuring progress at both national and subnational levels on the SDGs, tracking 113 indicators across 16 goals. This detailed assessment emphasises the need for targeted interventions and strategic initiatives to drive further progress. To highlight India's achievements, over 12 infographics were shared across various social media platforms, showcasing the country's advancements in achieving the SDGs.



WORK FOR BHARAT

We launched a targeted campaign to recruit experienced professionals for laterals like, Senior Consultant, Consultant, and Young Professional positions at NITI Aayog. These roles span key sectors such as Agriculture, Health, Climate Change, and Data Analytics, offering an exciting opportunity to contribute to India's development journey. As part of the campaign, a recruitment poster, banners were designed and shared across social media platforms and NITI Aayog website to attract qualified candidates and encourage them to apply.



DESIGNING OF THE REPORTS



During this fiscal year, we have developed several key reports, including Trade Watch (Quarterly), Expert Group - Future Pandemic Preparedness and Emergency Response, Pathways & Strategy for Accelerating Growth in Edible Oil toward the Goal of Atmanirbharta, and Electronics: Powering India's Participation in Global Value Chains, among others.

VIDEOS/REELS

This fiscal year, we have produced a series of films and reels to enhance the communication of key events and reports. These include NITI Talks for the NITI for States platform, Viksit Bharat video, NITI for States walkthrough videos, NITI Infrastructure & Resource Pool Portal video for Work for Bharat, Jal Utsav video and montage, Sampoornata Abhiyaan video and montage, and Edible oil report, among others. These visual assets have significantly improved engagement and the clarity of our messaging.



SOCIAL MEDIA OUTREACH

The Communication team developed a cohesive social media presence, resulting in a significant increase in followers by 50K. Within 10 months, a total of 2060 posts were displayed across all platforms, accumulating an impression of 16.77 million and increasing the total followers to 5.37 million.

GOVERNING COUNCIL SECRETARIAT

The Governing Council Secretariat and Coordination Division coordinates the activities of all the subject matter Divisions/Units of NITI Aayog. It also circulates various correspondence received from different Ministries/Departments/States/UTs to the concerned divisions. The Secretariat coordinated the 9th meeting of the Governing Council of NITI Aayog held on 27 July, 2024 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 9th meeting of Governing Council and preparation of Agenda notes for the 9th meeting of Governing Council. Further actions on the decisions taken at the 9th GC meeting are underway.

PARLIAMENT SECTION & COORDINATION

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 divisions within NITI Aayog for timely disposal of Parliament Question (PQ) during the Parliament Session. It includes forwarding of PQs to concerned Division for obtaining the replies and uploading of the answers on the website of Parliament, after seeking due approval from Hon'ble 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 organising various DDG Meetings (Demand for Grants) during budget session for finalising the NITI Aayog's Budget. Moreover, the section closely assists the Hon'ble Minister's Office in preparing the statements/ reports under Direction 73 A of Hon'ble Speaker.

As a coordination focal point, the Secretariat organised 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 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.



राष्ट्रीय अर्थशास्त्र अनुसंधान एवं विकास संस्थान
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF LABOUR ECONOMICS
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT



SECTION 8

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF

LABOUR ECONOMICS

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

The National Institute of Labour Economics Research and Development (NILERD) is an autonomous Institute under NITI Aayog has evolved as a centre of excellence in the field of labour and development. The primary objectives of this Institution include training, research, consultancy and monitoring and evaluation with a focus on inclusive growth and welfare.

TRAINING PROGRAMMES DURING 2024-25

INTERNATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMMES (ITPS)

NILERD conducts International Training Programmes under the ITEC scheme of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India. During 2024-25, NILERD conducted 7 Training programmes that were attended by 204 participants from more than 55 countries, representing Asia, Latin America, Middle East and Sub-Saharan Africa.

Details of the courses are as under:

- Two weeks ITP on Digitalisation and Human Resource Management, held during 30 July to 12 August, 2024, was attended by 33 participants from 32 countries.
- ITP on Developing Human Capabilities, held during 8 July to 19 August, 2024, was attended by 28 officials from 17 countries.
- ITP on Public Policy and Governance was held during 20 August till 2 September. It was attended by 30 participants from 30 countries.
- A women only specially curated ITP on Monitoring and Evaluation of Development Projects/programmes was held during 9 to 24 November, 2024. 28 participants from 27 countries attended the programme.



Participants of the ITP interacting with officials of NITI Aayog

NEW INITIATIVES DURING 2024-25

- For the first time, an ITEC Executive International Training Programme on Data for Development Capacity Building Initiative was held during 23 to 29 October, 2024 which was attended by 35 senior officials from 26 countries.
- Further, an International Training Programme on Sustainable Development Goals (in French language), held during 20 November to 3 December, 2024, was attended by 21 officials from 13 countries.

- An ITP on Circular Economy and Sustainable Governance was initiated during 2024 that was attended by 29 officials from 19 countries.

DOMESTIC TRAINING PROGRAMME

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 2024-25 are as follows:

- A training programme on Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation System in context of Government Projects for State Government Officials of Bihar was held during 24 to 28 June, 2024, that was attended by 12 officials.
- Day training for GeM Officials was organised on 24 to 25 April, 2024. Total 70 participants from across States participated in the training programme.

RESEARCH / STUDIES (ONGOING)

- Impact Assessment of the Digital Library cum Resource Centre Scheme of the CSC Academia, commissioned by CSC e-Governance Services India Limited, Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology.
- Third party verification of the Action Points emerging from the three National Conferences of the Chief Secretaries, commissioned by: Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office, NITI Aayog.
- Impact Assessment and Evaluation Study for DISHA Monitoring Mechanism, to be commissioned by Department of Rural Development, Government of India
- Extension of EPFO's social security benefits to all the eligible Beedi, Jute and Plantation workers in India, to be commissioned by Employees Provident Fund Organisation, Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING OF NILERD

The 104th meeting of the Executive Council meeting of NILERD, under the chairmanship of CEO, NITI Aayog was held on 12 November, 2024.

LAYING OF ANNUAL REPORT OF NILERD (2023-24) IN PARLIAMENT

The Annual Report 2023-24 of NILERD along with its Annual Audited Accounts were laid on 4 December, 2024 in Lok Sabha and on 9 December, 2024 in Rajya Sabha by the Hon'ble MoS Rao Inderjit Singh.



• ANNEXURES •

ANNEXURE I

SECTOR-WISE NUMBER AND COSTS OF EFC/PIB/EBR PROPOSALS APPRAISED IN PFPA (1 January, 2024 to 31 December, 2024)			
S.No.	Sectors	2024-25 (From 1 January, 2024 to 31 December, 2024)	
		No.	Proposed Cost (Rs cr.)
	AGRICULTURE		
1	Agriculture and Farmers Welfare	3	22955.74
2	Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying	3	26438.66
	ENERGY		
3	Power	3	4455.71
4	Coal		
5	Petroleum & Natural Gas	3	73494.00
6	New & Renewable Energy	5	87040.68
	TRANSPORT		
7	Railways	28	82371.62
8	Road Transport and Highways	2	4683.76
9	Civil Aviation	4	8017.95
10	Ports Shipping and Waterways	7	119400.14
	INDUSTRY		
11	Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises	1	12600.00
12	Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises	1	840.00
13	Mines	1	34300.00
14	Steel	1	1783.89
15	Chemicals & Fertilisers	1	1451.84
16	Textiles	1	6874.87
17	Food Processing Industries	3	13000.00
18	Commerce & Industry	4	24343.92
	SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY		
19	Bio-Technology		
20	Science & Technology	1	659.97
21	Scientific & Ind. Research		
22	Ocean Development		
23	Earth Sciences	1	1500.00
	SOCIAL SERVICES		
24	Education/HRD	8	45092.33
25	Culture	1	3800.00

26	Youth Affairs & Sports		
27	Health & Family Welfare	1	6368.00
28	Ayush		
29	Women & Child Development	1	5680.00
30	Labour & Employment	1	107000.00
31	Social Justice & Empowerment	5	56598.06
32	Rural Development	2	674311.00
33	Minority Affairs	1	6472.22
34	Tribal Affairs	5	118952.00
35	Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation		
36	Consumer Affairs Food Public Distribution	6	30657.50
COMMUNICATION			
37	Information & Broadcasting	1	1489.55
38	Post		
39	Electronics and Information Technology	1	22919.00
40	Posts and Communication		
OTHERS			
41	Home Affairs	6	60503.03
42	Tourism		
43	Environment & Forests	1	2054.00
44	Law & Justice	1	998.43
45	Jal Shakti	6	51833.38
46	North Eastern Region (DONER)		
47	Finance	8	20906.87
48	Corporate Affairs	1	845.00
49	Planning Commission/NITI Aayog	2	2700.00
50	External Affairs		
51	Statistics & Programme Implementation	1	1873.92
52	Parliamentary Affairs		
53	Panchayati Raj		
54	Housing & Urban Affairs	8	304938.88
55	Skill Development and Entrepreneurship	2	61000.00
56	Personnel,Public Grievances and pensions		
57	Cooperation		
58	Defence	1	635.00
	Total	143	2113840.92

ANNEXURE II**Lists of research studies approved, studies completed, seminars approved and logo support provided****Table-1.1: List of New Research Studies Approved during 2024-25 (till 31st Dec 2024)**

S. No.	Title of the Study	Name of the Organisation
1.	Sectors for India to be Global Manufacturing Hub-2024	CRISIL, Mumbai
2.	Tourism and Economic Development Strategy for Vibrant Village Clusters in Upper Subansiri	GHE Impact Ventures, Gurugram
3.	Financing Indian Higher Education	PWC India
4.	Incubator Ecosystem for Indian Higher Education	IIT Madras
5.	Reassessment of National Parameters for Appraisal of Public Investment Programmes/Projects in India	ISI, New Delhi
6.	Export Preparedness Index	Deloitte India
7.	Bioenergy potential estimation and feedstock availability for competing uses	Arcus Policy Research, New Delhi
8.	International Incubator Ecosystems in Higher Education	EDII, Gandhinagar
9.	Impact Assessment PLI Scheme	IIM-Ahmedabad
10.	International Trade reforms for enabling manufacturing sector	CSEP Research foundation, New Delhi

Table-1.2: Studies Completed during 2024-25 (till 31st Dec 2024)

S. No	Title of the Study	Institution/Researcher
1.	Macroeconomics forecasting framework for vision 2047 Policy Document by Dr. Ashwani Bishnoi, Asst professor	NIT Kurukshetra
2.	Macroeconomics forecasting framework for vision 2047 Policy Document by Ranjan Kumar Dash	Symbiosis International University, Pune
3.	Regional Trade Modelling and Analysis	Sh. Naman Jain
4.	"Impact of Global Economic Condition on India's Export	Deloitte, Mumbai
5.	Developing Energy Climate Policy Modeling for India (MESSAGEix)	IIT Kanpur
6.	Macroeconomics forecasting framework for vision 2047 Policy Document by Dr. Bhavesh Garg	IIT Ropar
7.	Definition, Measurement and Policy: Poverty Alleviation in India 2004-5 to 2021-22	IIM Bangalore
8.	Enhancing Domestic Coking coal Availability to reduce the import of the Coking coal	National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS), Bengaluru
9.	Time Motion Study of accredited Social Activist (ASHA) Workers in India	Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI), Gurugram
10.	Impact of Non-Major on Shipping: Potential and Way forward	BRIEF, New Delhi

Table 1.3: List of Logo Support Approved during 2024-25 (till 31st Dec 2024)

S. No	Name of the Event	Name of the Organiser
1.	India Space Congress 2024	Satcom Industry Association (SIA), New Delhi
2.	CSR Conclave: Transforming Mira Bhayandar@2047	Mira Bhayandar Municipal Corporation (MBMC), Maharashtra
3.	India Energy Storage Week (IESW 2024)	India Energy Storage Alliance, Pune, Maharashtra
4.	CII Global Summit on Advanced Materials, Critical Minerals & Metals	Confederation of Indian Industry, New Delhi
5.	Financing Sustainable Mobility: Advancing the G20 Agenda on Innovation and Ambition in India and Worldwide	ICCT (International Council for Clean Transportation)
6.	Indian Circular Economy Forum (ICEF 2024)	International Council for Circular Economy, New Delhi
7.	Global Conclave on Plastic Recycling and Sustainability	The All India Plastic Manufacturers Association, Andheri East, Mumbai
8.	Bharat Dalhan Seminar 2024	India Pulses and Grains Association, Mumbai
9.	2 nd National Logistics Summit 2024	PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi
10.	Prawaas 4.0	Bus & Car Operators Confederation of India (BOCI), New Delhi
11.	Windergy India 2024, an International Conference & Exhibition	Indian Wind Turbine Manufacturers Association, New Delhi
12.	Food Policy Entry Points for Healthy Diets in India	International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and M. S. Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF)
13.	5 th Edition of Jal Prahari Samman Samaroh 2024	AMS Creations and Media Private Limited, Delhi
14.	International Material Recycling Convention and Exposition (IMRC)	Material Recycling Association of India, Mumbai
15.	FICCI HEAL 2024	Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI), New Delhi
16.	India Distribution Utility Meet (DUM 2024)	India Smart Grid Forum (ISGF), New Delhi
17.	Livelihoods India Summit	Access Development Services, New Delhi
18.	Knowledge Series-Partnering India's Service Exports	International Chamber of Commerce India (ICC India), New Delhi
19.	9 th India Water Impact Summit (IWIS) & 2 nd Climate Investment and Technology Impact Summit (CITIS)	Centre for Ganga River Basin Management and Studies (cGanga), IIT Kanpur
20.	7 th Edition of UITP Bus Seminar 2024-Advancing Electric Buses in India	Union International des Transports Publics (UITP), India

Table 1.4: List of Seminar Support during 2024-25 (till 31st Dec 2024)

S. No	Name of the Event	Name of the Organiser
1.	32 nd International Conference of Agricultural Economists	Agricultural Economics Research Association, New Delhi
2.	South Asia International Economic Law Network (SAIELN)'s 4 th Biennial Conference (Local approaches to International Economic law),	Centre for Trade and Investment Law (CTIL), New Delhi



सत्यमेव जयते

NITI Aayog

www.niti.gov.in