

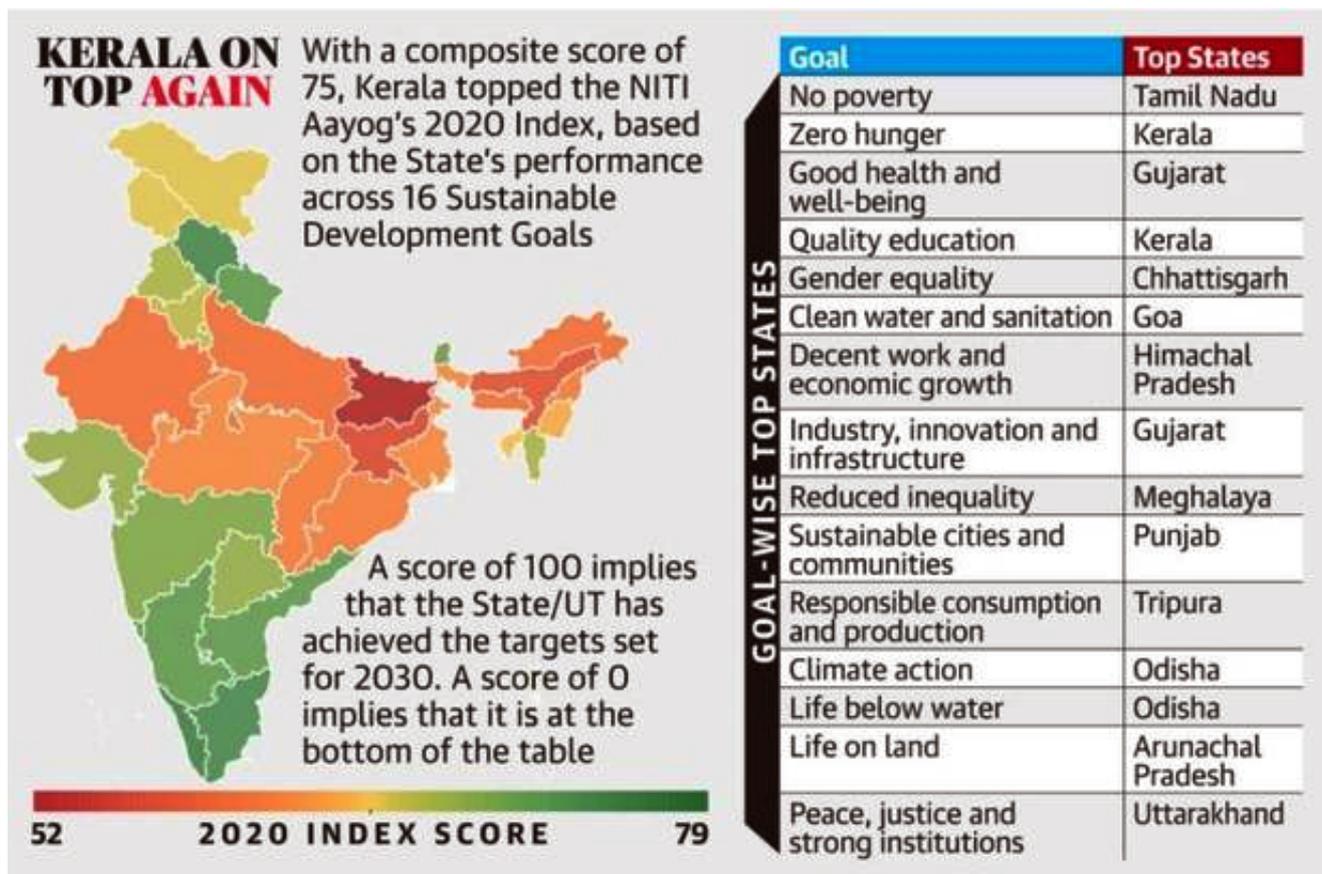


# SDG India Index 2020-21: NITI Aayog

## Why in News

Recently, the **third edition** of the [Sustainable Development Goals \(SDG\) India Index and Dashboard 2020-21](#) was released by [NITI Aayog](#).

- The SDG India Index 2020-21 is **developed in collaboration with the [United Nations](#) in India.**



## Key Points

- **About:**
  - The NITI Aayog **launched its index in 2018** to **monitor the country's progress on the goals through data-driven assessment**, and foster a competitive spirit among the States and Union Territories in achieving them.
  - NITI Aayog has the **twin mandate to oversee the adoption and monitoring of the SDGs in the country**, and also **promote competitive and cooperative federalism** among States and UTs.

- The index represents **the articulation of the comprehensive nature of the Global Goals under the 2030 Agenda** while being attuned to the national priorities.
- In **2015**, the **UNs General Assembly adopted the 2030 Agenda** for Sustainable Development.
- The 17 SDGs are a **bold commitment to finish what the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) started, and tackle some of the more pressing challenges.**
- The SDG India Index 2020–21 is also **live on an online dashboard**, which has cross-sectoral relevance across policy, civil society, business, and academia.

#### ▪ **Methodology:**

- The SDG India Index **computes goal-wise scores on the 16 SDGs** for each State and Union Territory.
- These **scores range between 0-100**, and if a State/UT achieves a score of 100, it signifies it has achieved the 2030 targets.
  - The higher the score of a State/UT, the greater the distance to target achieved.
- States and Union Territories are classified in **four categories** based on their SDG India Index score: **Aspirant** (0–49), **Performer** (50–64), **Front-Runner** (65–99), **Achiever** (100).

#### ▪ **Comparison with Previous Editions:**

- The SDG India Index 2020–21 is **more robust than the previous editions** on account of wider coverage of targets and indicators with greater alignment with the **National Indicator Framework (NIF)**.
- The 115 indicators **incorporate 16 out of 17 SDGs**, with a qualitative assessment on Goal 17, and cover 70 SDG targets.
- This is an **improvement over the 2018-19 and 2019-20 editions** of the index, which had utilised 62 indicators across 39 targets and 13 Goals, and 100 indicators across 54 targets and 16 Goals, respectively.

#### ▪ **National Analysis:**

- The country's **overall SDG score improved by 6 points** - from 60 in 2019 to 66 in 2020-21.
  - Currently, there are **no states in the aspirant and achiever category**; 15 states/UTs are in the performer category and 22 states/UTs in the front runner category.
- India saw significant **improvement in the SDGs related to clean energy, urban development and health in 2020**. However, there has been a **major decline in the areas of industry, innovation and infrastructure as well as decent work and economic growth**.

#### ▪ **State Wise Performance:**

- **Kerala retained its position at the top** of the rankings in the third edition of the index, with a score of 75, **followed by Tamil Nadu and Himachal Pradesh**, both scoring 72.
- At the other end of the scale, **Bihar, Jharkhand and Assam were the worst performing States**. However, all States showed some improvement from last year's scores, with Mizoram and Haryana seeing the biggest gains.

# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



**Source: PIB**

PDF Refernece URL: <https://www.drishtias.com/printpdf/sdg-india-index-2020-21-niti-aayog>