India and the Hunger Fight

The United Nations has set the year 2030 as the deadline to end global hunger and **India as of now has performed poorly in its efforts to eliminate hunger with most states not on track to meet the UN's Sustainable Development Goal-2 (SDG-2).**

Sustainable Development Goal-2 (Zero Hunger)

- Goal 2 seeks sustainable solutions **to end hunger in all its forms by 2030** and **to achieve food security.**
- The aim is to ensure that everyone everywhere has enough good-quality food to lead a healthy life.
- Achieving this Goal requires better access to food and the widespread promotion of sustainable agriculture**. This entails improving the productivity and incomes of small-scale farmers by promoting equal access to land, technology and markets,** sustainable food production systems and resilient agricultural practices.

Goal-2 is closely related with other goals as below

Goal 1: No Poverty
Which aims to reduce poverty in all its dimensions, which includes onsuring access to safe, nutnitious and sufficient food all year round, particularly for the poor

Goal 3: Good Health and Well-being
by aiming to end all forms of mainutrition, including sturting and wasting

Goal 4: Quality Education
which aims to ensure all children have access to quality early childhood development

Goal 5: Gender Equality
which aims at ending all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere

Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation
which aims to achieve access to adequate sanitation and hygiene, lack of which can be a threat to good health and well being

Goal 7: Affordable and Clean Energy
that seeks to ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services

Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
by aiming to double agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers

Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities
that aims at empowering and promoting the social, economic and political inclusion of all

Goal 12: Sustainable Consumption and Production
aiming to halve per capital global food waste at consumer level and reduce food losses along production and supply chains

Goal 13: Climate Action
by aiming to ensure sustanable food production systems that strengthen capacity for adaption to climate change

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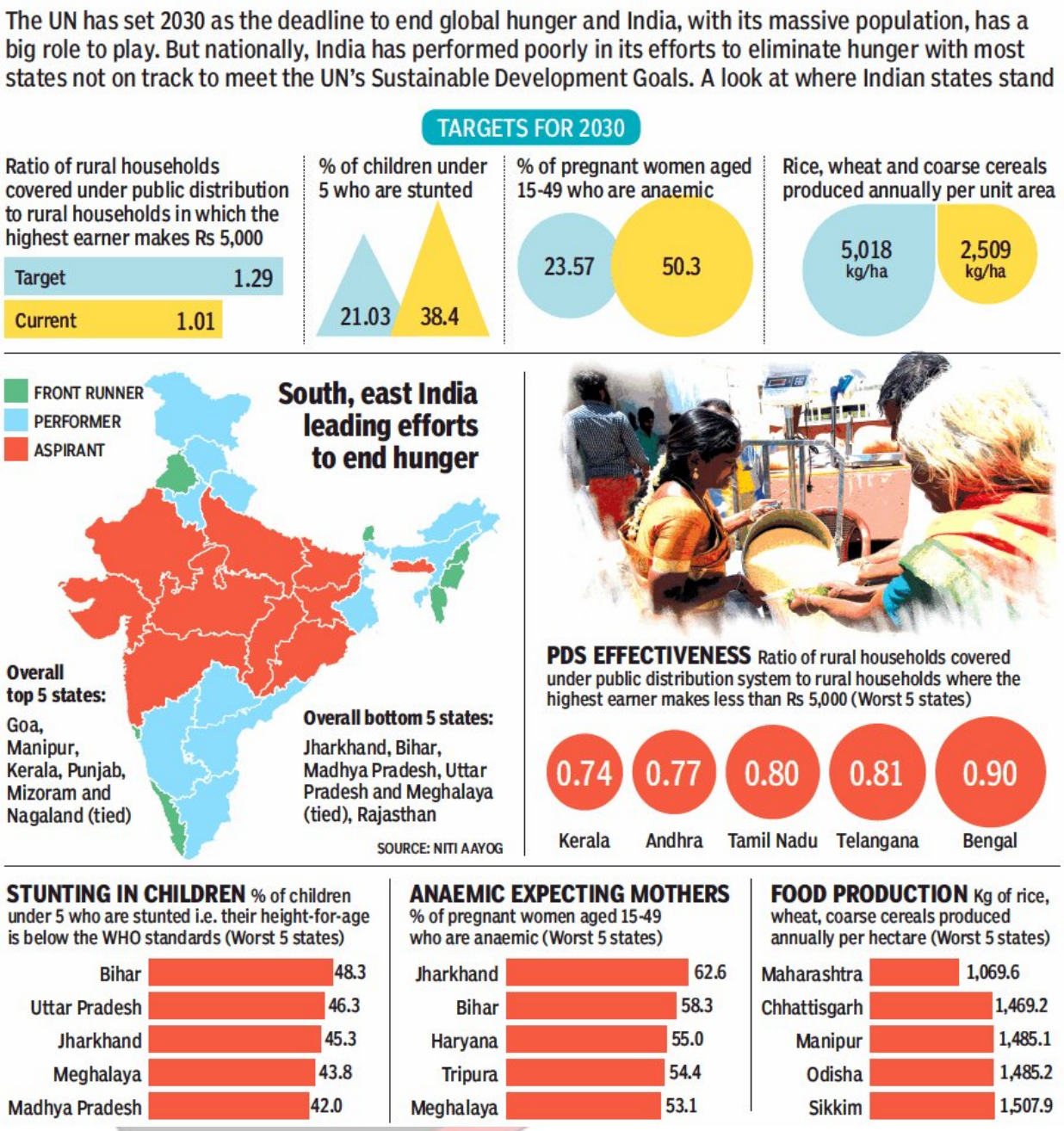
India's Performance (NITI Aayog Baseline Report, 2018)



Government of India Initiatives

- The National Nutrition Strategy aims to accelerate the decline of malnutrition in India. **The National Nutrition Mission monitors growth of children**, as well as checks the pilferage of food rations provided at Anganwadi Centres.
- **POSHAN Abhiyaan**, launched in 2017-18, **aims to reduce stunting, under-nutrition, anemia and low birth weight babies** through synergy and convergence among different programmes, better monitoring and improved community mobilisation.
- **Antoydaya Anna Yojana (AAY)** aims to provide food at subsidized prices to poor families.
- The **Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS)** envisages comprehensive early childhood care and development by focussing on children in the age group of 0-6 years, pregnant women and adolescent girls.
- **Mid-day Meal (MDM)** scheme **aims to improve nutritional levels among school children** which also has a direct and positive impact on enrolment, retention and attendance in schools.
- Under the **Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY)**, Rs.6,000 is transferred directly

to the bank accounts of pregnant women for availing better facilities for their delivery.

- **The National Mission on Agriculture Extension and Technology** enables delivery of appropriate technologies and improved agronomic practices for farmers.
- **The National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture** and the **National Food Security Mission** aims to enhance agricultural productivity, and the **Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY)** aims to improve water-use efficiency.

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