

The Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), recently has released the State of India's Environment Report, 2022. The report is the annual publication of the Centre for Science and Environment which is public interest research and advocacy non-government organisation based in New Delhi. The report focuses on climate change, migration, health and food systems. It also covers biodiversity, forest and wildlife, energy, industry, habitat, pollution, waste, agriculture and rural development. Following are the salient points of the report-

1. India has slipped by three places to rank 120 on the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) adopted as a part of the 2030 agenda by United Nations in 2015. In 2021 India ranked 117 among 192 nations. India's overall SDG score is 66 out of 100. India's rank dropped primarily because of major challenges in 11 SDGs including zero hunger, good health and wellbeing, gender equality and sustainable cities and communities. India also performed poorly in dealing with quality education and life on land aspects. In 2021, India had suffered on the fronts of ending hunger and achieving food security, achieving gender equality and building resilient infrastructure, promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and fostering innovation.
2. There are at least 17 government targets that have a deadline in 2022. The country, unfortunately, is most likely to miss almost all of the targets because of the slow progress made so far.
3. The target for the economy is to raise the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) to nearly USD 4 trillion by 2022-23. But by 2020, the economy has grown only to USD 2.48 trillion. The economy has largely shrunk during the Covid-19 pandemic, making it even more difficult to meet the deadline.
4. Another target is to increase the female labour force participation rate to at least 30% by 2022-23. It stood at 17.3% in January-March 2020.
5. In housing sector, the targets are to construct 29.5 million housing units under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY)-Rural and 12 million units under PMAY-Urban. Only about 46.8% and 38% respectively of the targets under 'Housing for All' have been achieved.
6. In agriculture, the target is to double farmers' income by 2022. While the average monthly income of an agricultural household has increased to Rs 10,218 from Rs 6,426, this increase is largely due to increase in wages and income from farming animals. The share of income from crop production in the average monthly income of an agricultural household has, in fact, dropped — to 37.2% in 2018-19, from 48% in 2012-13.
7. For drinking water, the target is to provide safe piped drinking water to all by 2022-23. Only 45% of the target has been achieved.

8. Another target is to digitise all land records by 2022. While states like Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal and Odisha have made good progress, states like Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh and Sikkim languish at 5%, 2% and 8.8% digitisation of land records, respectively. Overall, the target is unlikely to be met, particularly because 12 states have witnessed deterioration in the quality of land records since 2019-20. Haryana achieved a land record score of 35.9 out of 100 i.e. 35.9% digitisation of land records in year 2020-21.
9. In the field of air pollution the target is to bring down Particulate Matter (PM) 2.5 levels in Indian cities to less than 50 micrograms per cubic metre ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ). In 2020, when vehicular movement was restricted due to the pandemic, 23 of the 121 cities monitored for PM<sub>2.5</sub> exceeded 50  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ .
10. In the field of Solid waste management the target is to achieve 100% source segregation in all households. The overall progress is 78%, and while states like Kerala, H.P and Union territories like Puducherry have achieved the target, others like J&K, West Bengal and Delhi are woefully behind. In Haryana, 64.98% of wards reported 100 per-cents source segregation of municipal solid waste. Manual scavenging is targeted for eradication, but India still has 66,692 manual scavengers.
11. In forestry the target is to increase the forestland to 33.3% of the geographical area, as envisaged in the National Forest Policy, 1988. By 2019, 21.67% of India was under forest cover.
12. In energy sector the target is to achieve 175 GW of renewable energy generation capacity by 2022. Only 56% of this target has been achieved thus so far.
13. Haryana State ranks 8<sup>th</sup> position with an overall score of 67 (Indian average 66) in terms of achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDG-2030). Jharkhand and Bihar are the least prepared to meet the SDGs by the target year 2030. Kerala ranked first, followed by Tamil Nadu and Himachal Pradesh in the second position. The third position was shared by Goa, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Uttarakhand. Among the Union Territories, Chandigarh was ranked first, followed by Delhi, Lakshadweep and Puducherry in the second place and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands on the third.
14. In Haryana environmental crimes have been increased by 9.6% in-between 2019-2020.
15. In Climate action 13 Indian states and 2 UTs score below the national average. The poor performers are Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, west Bengal, U.P, Tripura, Telangana, Goa, M.P, Rajasthan, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu and Puducherry. Haryana and Punjab ranks at 13<sup>th</sup>

position with a score of 51 as against the Indian average of 54. This ranking is based on the progress made by States and UTs in integrating climate change measures, disaster risk measures and sustainable natural resource management into national development strategies.