African Journal of Biological Sciences

Journal homepage: http://www.afjbs.com

Research Paper   **Open Access**

ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION IN INDIA: ISSUES AND SOLUTIONS

Dr. A. Royal Edward Williams[1] Mr. I Ajithkumar[2]

Abstract

Swachh Bharat Mission is a massive mass movement that seeks to create a Clean India by 2019. The father of our nation Mr. Mahatma Gandhi always puts the emphasis on swachhta as swachhta leads to healthy and prosperous life. Keeping this in mind, the Indian government has decided to launch the swachh bharat mission on October 2, 2014.The mission will cover all rural and urban areas. The urban component of the mission will be implemented by the Ministry of Urban Development, and the rural component by the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation.

Swachh Bharat Mission For Urban Areas

The programme includes elimination of open defecation, conversion of unsanitary toilets to pour flush toilets, eradication of manual scavenging, municipal solid waste management and bringing about a behavioural change in people regarding healthy sanitation practices. The mission aims to cover 1.04 crore households, provide 2.5 lakh community toilets, 2.6 lakh public toilets, and a solid waste management facility in each town. Under the programme, community toilets will be built in residential areas where it is difficult to construct individual household toilets. Public toilets will also be constructed in designated locations such as tourist places, markets, bus stations, railway stations, etc. The programme will be implemented over a five-year period in 4,401 towns.

The total assistance available for construction of an individual toilet is Rs 4000/- from the Central Government and an amount of Rs 1333/- at least from the State Government. However in the case of the North East States, the states are required to contribute only Rs 400/- per individual toilet. However, there is no bar on releasing any extra funds at any stage by the ULB/State Government through additional resources. The expected assistance for construction of community toilets - Central Government will contribute up to 40% of the cost of construction of community toilet as a VGF/ outright grant. As per SBM guidelines, the States/UTs shall provide

[1] Dr. A. Royal Edward Williams, Assistant Professor of Economics, Sacred Heart College (A), Tirupattur

[2] Mr. I. Ajithkumar, Research Scholar Department of Economics, Sacred Heart College (A), Tirupattur

an additional 13.33% for the said component. The NE and special category states shall be required to contribute 4% only. The balance shall have to be arranged through innovative mechanisms by the urban local body. The approximate cost per seat for a community toilet is Rs 65,000/-. Rs 62,009 crore is likely to be spent on the programme. Of this, the Centre will pitch in Rs 14,623 crore. Of the Centre's share of Rs 14,623 crore, Rs 7,366 crore will be spent on solid waste management, Rs 4,165 crore on individual household toilets, Rs 1,828 crore on public awareness and Rs 655 crore on community toilets. **Source :** Swacch Bharat Mission - Urban

Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin)

The Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan has been restructured into the Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin). The mission aims to make India an open defecation free country in Five Years. It seeks to improve the levels of cleanliness in rural areas through Solid and Liquid Waste Management activities and making Gram Panchayats Open Defecation Free (ODF), clean and sanitised.

Under the mission, One lakh thirty four thousand crore rupees will be spent for construction of about 11 crore 11 lakh toilets in the country. Technology will be used on a large scale to convert waste into wealth in rural India in the forms of bio-fertilizer and different forms of energy. The mission is to be executed on war footing with the involvement of every gram panchayat, panchayat samiti and Zila Parishad in the country, besides roping in large sections of rural population and school teachers and students in this endeavour.

Incentive as provided under the Mission for the construction of Individual Household Latrines (IHHL) shall be available for all Below Poverty Line (BPL) Households and Above Poverty Line (APL) households restricted to SCs/STs, small and marginal farmers, landless labourers with homestead, physically handicapped and women headed households. The Incentive amount provided under SBM(G) to Below Poverty Line (BPL) /identified APLs households shall be up to Rs.12,000 for construction of one unit of IHHL and provide for water availability, including for storing for hand-washing and cleaning of the toilet. Central Share of this Incentive for IHHLs shall be Rs.9,000/- (75%) from Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin). The State share will be Rs.3,000/- (25%). For North Eastern State, and Special category States, the Central share will be Rs. 10,800/- and the State share Rs.1,200/- (90% : 10%). The beneficiary is to be encouraged to additionally contribute in the construction of his/her IHHL to promote ownership.

Source : Swacch Bharat Mission - Rural

India Ranks 128th in Sustainable Development Goals Index

Insiya yadav September 19, 2017 Index & Ranking. India ranks 128th in terms of meeting the United Nations' (UN) health-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. India has scored very low on air pollution, sanitation, hepatitis B and child wasting.

Highlights of the report

- It is the first comprehensive analysis of trends from 1990-2014 and projections to 2030 for 188 countries.
- It ranks countries on an overall health-related SDG index
- Singapore, Iceland and Sweden are the three performers.
- Somalia, Central African Republic, and Afghanistan are the worst performers.
- United States is ranked 10.
- India ranked 128th with low scores on air pollution, sanitation, hepatitis B and child wasting. Wasting, also known as wasting syndrome, refers to the process by which a debilitating disease causes muscle and fat tissue to "waste" away.
- Only 7% of countries were projected to meet the target on HIV/AIDS, and no country was projected to reach the SDG target on tuberculosis.

About SDGs

- The sustainable development goals (SDGs) are a new, universal set of goals, targets and indicators that UN member states will be expected to use to frame their agendas and political policies over the next 15 years.
- The SDGs follow and expand on the millennium development goals (MDGs), which were agreed by governments in 2001 and are due to expire at the end of this year.
- The SDGs include 232 individual indicators to monitor 17 goals and 169 targets, ranging from energy, climate change, economic growth, health and education.

17 proposed goals are

1) End poverty in all its forms everywhere
2) End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture
3) Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages
4) Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
5) Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
6) Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
7) Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
8) Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all
9) Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation, and foster innovation
10) Reduce inequality within and among countries
11) Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
12) Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
13) Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts (taking note of agreements made by the UNFCCC forum)
14) Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development
15) Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification and halt and reverse land degradation, and halt biodiversity loss
16) Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels
17) Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

We are at the brink of a global transformation. The international community, through the United Nations, has set in motion a historic plan – 17 Sustainable Development Goals – that aims to build a more prosperous, more equal, and more secure world by the year 2030.

The 17 SDGs and 169 targets are part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted by 193 Member States at the UN General Assembly Summit in September 2015, and which came into effect on 1 January 2016. These goals are the result of an unprecedented consultative process that brought national governments and millions of citizens from across the globe together to negotiate and adopt the global path to sustainable development for the next 15 years.

Transforming our World

The SDGs and targets will stimulate action in the following critically important areas: poverty, hunger, education, health and well-being, education, gender equality, water and sanitation, energy, economic growth and decent work, infrastructure, industry and innovation, reducing inequalities, sustainable cities, consumption and production, climate action, ecosystems, peace and justice, and partnership. This comprehensive agenda recognises that it is no longer sufficient just to focus on economic growth, but on fairer and more equal societies, and a safer and more prosperous planet. It recognises that the tasks of peace, justice, environmental protection, and industrial development are not disconnected from each other, but part of the same change. It recognises, above all, that global and interconnected challenges can only be fought with global and interconnected solutions. It is an ambitious plan that will require a renewed global partnership between governments, businesses, the civil society, and individuals. As we make progress towards achieving the 169 targets, we will reorient national and global development on a more sustainable, more resilient path.

Leave No one Behind

At the core of this global agenda for 2030 is the principle of universality: 'Leave No One Behind'. It is critical to the implementation of these targets that they should be relevant to all governments and actors. Development in all its dimensions must be inclusive of all people, everywhere, and should be built through the participation of everyone, especially the most vulnerable and marginalised.

India's Leading Role

The Government of India is strongly committed to the 2030 Agenda, including the SDGs, as evidenced by the statements of the Prime Minister and other senior Ministers at national and international meetings. India's national development goals and its "sab ka saath, sab ka vikas" or "development with all, and for all," policy

initiatives for inclusive development converge well with the SDGs, and India will play a leading role in determining the success of the SDGs, globally. As Prime Minister Narendra Modi noted, "These goals reflect our evolving understanding of the social, economic and environmental linkages that define our lives".

National Action On The SDGS In India

NITI Aayog, the Government of India's premier think tank, has been entrusted with the task of coordinating the SDGs. NITI Aayog has undertaken a mapping of schemes as they relate to the SDGs and their targets, and has identified lead and supporting ministries for each target. They have adopted a government-wide approach to sustainable development, emphasising the interconnected nature of the SDGs across economic, social and environmental pillars. States have been advised to undertake a similar mapping of their schemes, including centrally sponsored schemes.

In addition, the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) has been leading discussions for developing national indicators for the SDGs. State governments are key to India's progress on the SDG Agenda and several of them have already initiated action on implementing the SDGs.

State Governments - Crucial Driving Force For SDG Progress

State governments are key to India's progress on the SDG Agenda as they are best placed to 'put people first' and to ensuring that 'no one is left behind'. Many of the Government's flagship programmes such as Swachh Bharat, Make in India, Skill India, and Digital India are at the core of the SDGs. State and local governments play a pivotal role in many of these programmes.

The role of local governments is equally important; 15 of the 17 SDGs directly relate to activities undertaken by local governments in the country. State governments are paying keen attention to visioning, planning, budgeting, and developing implementation and monitoring systems for the SDGs.

Supporting the Consultative Process, Post-2015

Advocating the broad-based consultative process that characterises the new global agenda process, the United Nations in India supported the participation of civil society organisations, think tanks and the Indian media in discussions at intergovernmental negotiations, seminars on financing for development and sustainable development and side sessions at the International Conference on Financing for Development at Addis Ababa and during the General Assembly in New York

Strategic Support to Address the Interconnectedness of Issues

The UN Country Team in India supports NITI Aayog in its efforts to address the interconnectedness of the goals, to ensure that no one is left behind and to advocate for adequate financing to achieve the SDGs. In close collaboration with NITI Aayog and partners, the UN has supported thematic consultations on the SDGs to bring together various state governments, central ministries, civil society organisations and academia to deliberate on specific SDGs.

Support to State Governments

The UN in India currently supports state governments in localising the SDGs to address key development challenges at the state level.

A New Sustainable Development Agenda

Voices around the world are demanding leadership on poverty, inequality and climate change. To turn these demands into actions, world leaders gathered on 25 September, 2015, at the United Nations in New York to adopt the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The 2030 Agenda comprises 17 new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which will guide policy and funding for the next 15 years, beginning with a historic pledge to end poverty.

The concept of the SDGs was born at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, Rio+20, in 2012. The objective was to produce a set of universally applicable goals that balances the three dimensions of sustainable development: environmental, social, and economic.

The SDGs replace the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which in September 2000 rallied the world around a common 15-year agenda to tackle the indignity of poverty.

The MDGs established measurable, universally-agreed objectives for eradicating extreme poverty and hunger, preventing deadly but treatable disease, and expanding educational opportunities to all children, among other development imperatives.

The MDGs drove progress in several important areas:

- Income poverty
- Access to improved sources of water
- Primary school enrollment
- Child mortality

With the job unfinished for millions of people—we need to go the last mile on ending hunger, achieving full gender equality, improving health services and getting every child into school. Now we must shift the world onto a sustainable path. The SDGs aim to do just that, with 2030 as the target date.

This new development agenda applies to all countries, promotes peaceful and inclusive societies, creates better jobs and tackles the environmental challenges of our time—particularly climate change.

The SDGs must finish the job that the MDGs started, and leave no one behind.

The 2030 Agenda For Sustainable Development

At the Sustainable Development Summit on 25 September 2015, UN Member States adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which includes a set of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to end poverty, fight inequality and injustice, and tackle climate change by 2030.

The SDGs build on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), eight anti-poverty targets that the world committed to achieving by 2015. The MDGs, adopted in 2000, aimed at an array of issues that included slashing poverty, hunger, disease, gender inequality, and access to water and sanitation. Enormous progress has been made on the MDGs, showing the value of a unifying agenda underpinned by goals and targets. Despite this success, the indignity of poverty has not been ended for all. The new SDGs, and the broader sustainability agenda, go much further than the MDGs, addressing the root causes of poverty and the universal need for development that works for all people.

UNDP Administrator Helen Clark noted: "This agreement marks an important milestone in putting our world on an inclusive and sustainable course. If we all work together, we have a chance of meeting citizens' aspirations for peace, prosperity, and wellbeing, and to preserve our planet."

The SDGs will now finish the job of the MDGs, and ensure that no one is left behind.

All 17 SDGs are connected to UNDP's Strategic Plan focus areas: sustainable development, democratic governance and peace building, and climate and disaster resilience. Goals Number 1 on poverty, Number 10 on inequality and Number 16 on governance are particularly central to UNDP's current work and long-term plans.

I. CONCLUSION

The March meeting brought together representatives of more than 120 countries, including Presidents, Prime Ministers and Ministers from over 80 UN Member States to chart a course for the future of global development. Restore water, use eco-friendly things, do not dump electronic gadgets etc. Plastic takes years to decompose and is hazardous If the plastics are burnt or thrown away. So, recycle plastics. So, we should keep our environment clean and green for a smell-free, disease-free live.

"The 2030 Agenda and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), adopted in 2015, provide a coherent, holistic framework for addressing these challenges and their interconnections. (…) They require member states to address the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development in a balanced manner. Their implementation must embody the principles of inclusiveness, integration and 'leaving no one behind'."

–António Guterres, United Nations Secretary-General

By implementing on it we can reduce pollution, get fresh air, live peaceful life without any problems. So, are you all from now going to keep your environment/surroundings clean?

II. REFERENCES

1) Walinder, R., et al., Nasal patency and lavage biomarkers in relation to settled dust and cleaning routines in schools. Scandinavian Journal of Work and Environmental Health, 1999. 25(2): p. 137-143.
2) Raw, G.J., M.S. Roy, and A. Leaman, Further findings from the office environment survey: Productivity. in Indoor Air '90 The Fifth International Conference on Indoor Air Quality and Climate, 1998.
3) Wargocki, P. and D.P. Wyon, Perceived air quality, SBS-symptoms, and productivity in an office at two pollution loads, Indoor Air '99 The Eigth Interntaional Conference on Indoor Air Quality and Climate, 1999.

- Vijayakumar, N., Mayakkannan, R. (2021) Impact on risk quantification of Indian equity markets adopted by beta analysis Turkish Journal of Physiotherapy and Rehabilitation, 2021, 32(2), pp. 1923–1928
- R.Mayakkannan (2018) Impact of Buying Behaviour of Consumers towards Instant Food Products in Nagaland District; International Journal of Pure and Applied Mathematics Volume 119 No. 12 2018, 16279-16286; ISSN: 1314-3395 (on-line version)url:http: Yoganandan, G. (2015). Carrying out and understanding MBA Students' summer project - A practical guide. The International Journal of Business & Management, 3(1), 73-76.
- Raman, M., Kaliappen, N., Suan, C.L. A Study on Machine Learning Classifier Models in Analyzing Discipline of Individuals Based on Various Reasons Absenteeism from Work 2020 International Conference on Decision Aid Sciences and Application, DASA 2020, 2020, pp. 360–364, 9317017
- Dr.S.Chinnammai and Bathmanaban (2016) A Study on Agriculture Contribution in GDP; Emperor International Journal of Finance and Management Research PP 459-466
- S Chinnammai(2005) Effects of globalization on education and culture; ICDE International Conference; November 19-23, 2005, New Delhi
- Srinivasan Chinnammai(2013) A Study on currency and coinage circulation in India; International Journal of Trade, Economics and Finance; Volume 4 Issue 1 Pages 43 Publisher IACSIT Press
- R.Mayakkannan (2018) //www.ijpam.eu Special Issue (PDF) Impact of Buying Behavior of Consumers towards Instant Food Products in Nagaland District. Available from: https://www.researchgate.net/publication/340633912_Impact of Buying Behaviour of Consumers towards Instant Food Products in Nagaland District [accessed May 02 2020]
- Thiruchelvam, C., & Mayakkannan, R. (2011) An Empirical Study of Indian Individual Investor's Behavior. Singaporean Journal Scientific Research, Vol.4, No.2, pp.315- 322.
- R.Mayakkannan(2017) A Study on Stress Knowledge and Stress Coping Techniques adopted by Workers of Retail Sectors in Kanchipuram District; International Journal of Applied Business and Economic Research; ISSN : 0972-7302 Volume 15 No.15 page 369-376 Serials Publications New Delhi Nov 2017
- R.Mayakkannan(2016) A Study on Knowledge Management about IT Sector in Nagaland; International Journal in Commerce, IT& Social Sciences Impact Factor: 4.218; ISSN: 2394-5702 Vol.03 Issue-11, Special Issue Pages :15 - 24 Nov, 2016
- R.Mayakkannan(2017) A study on Employee Perception on Public Sector Banks in Nagaland City" International Journal of Applied Business and Economic Research; ISSN : 0972-7302 Volume 15 No.15 page 369-376 SerialsPublications New Delhi Nov 2017
- R.Mayakkannan(2018)Micro Finance in India Challenges and Solution Framework; Emperor International Journal of Finance and Management Research; Volume IV. Issue IIIMarch 2018
- R.Mayakkannan(2022) Livestock in nutrition and food security in India; IJFANS International Journal of Food and Nutritional Sciences; ISSN PRINT 2319-1775 Online 2320-7876 Research paper © 2012 IJFANS Journal Volume 11,S Iss 3, Dec 2022
- R.Mayakkannan(2022) Growth performance of food grains- an economic analysis in Tamilnadu; IJFANS International Journal of Food and Nutritional Sciences; ISSN PRINT 2319 1775 Online 2320-7876 Research paper © 2012 IJFANS Journal Volume 11,S Iss 3, Dec 2022