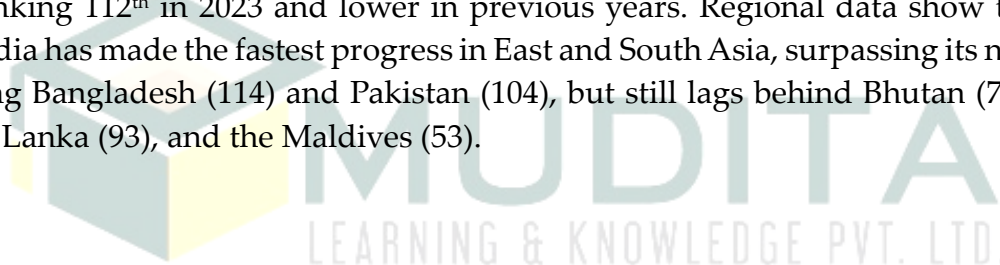
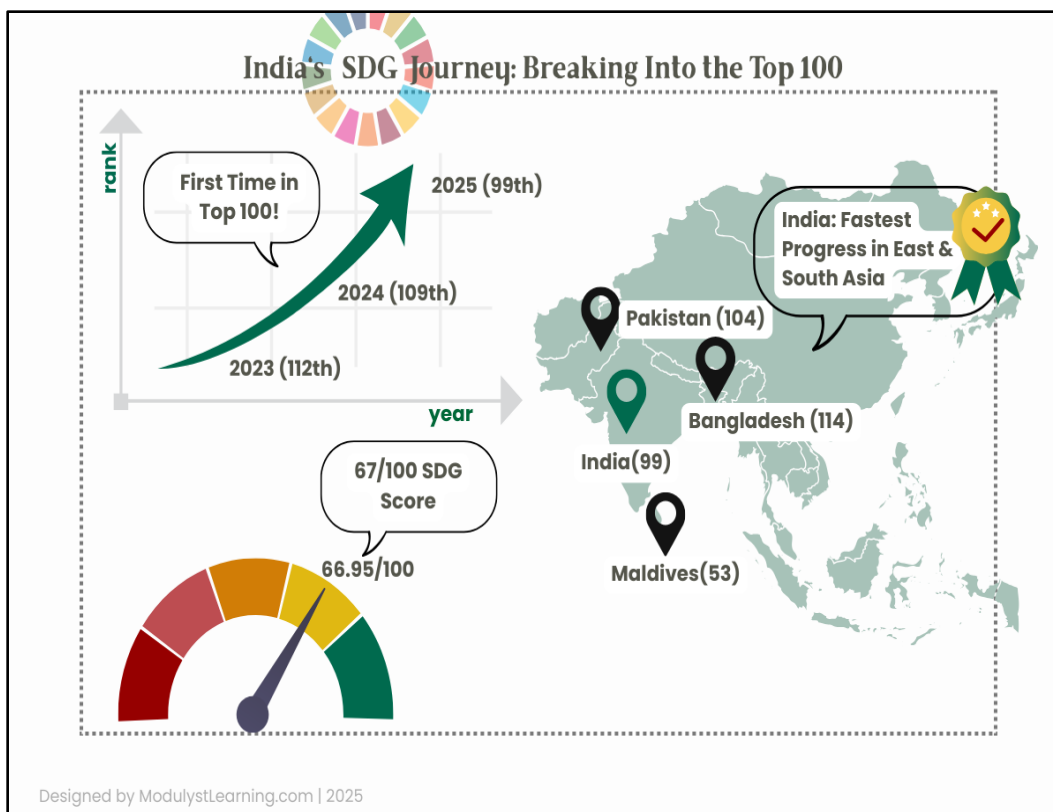


SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2025 AND INDIA

1. The 2025 Sustainable Development Report, released by the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) in June 2025, celebrates its 10th edition, marking a decade since the SDGs were adopted in 2015. Its central theme is “Financing Sustainable Development to 2030 and Mid Century.” The report introduces a new, simplified SDG Index (SDGi), which uses one key indicator per SDG to minimize data bias. It includes data from 167 of the 193 UN member states, with rankings and trend analyses since 2015. A crucial finding highlights that only 17% of SDG targets are on track to be realized by 2030, and none of the 17 goals are currently making sufficient progress toward their deadlines.
2. The Sustainable Development Report 2025 ranks India 99th out of 167 countries, marking its first time in the top 100 for SDG performance. The SDG Index score is approximately 66.95, typically rounded to 67, on a 0–100 scale, where 100 indicates full achievement of the SDGs. India’s ranking improved slightly from 109th in 2024 to 99th, after ranking 112th in 2023 and lower in previous years. Regional data show that since 2015, India has made the fastest progress in East and South Asia, surpassing its neighbors, including Bangladesh (114) and Pakistan (104), but still lags behind Bhutan (74), Nepal (85), Sri Lanka (93), and the Maldives (53).





3. India has achieved notable progress in health (SDG 3), with significant reductions in maternal, neonatal, and under-five mortality rates. It has also made improvements in education, poverty reduction, and inequality indicators, all of which show upward trends in the MoSPI's National Indicator Framework (NIF) 2025 report. Social protection coverage increased considerably from 22% in 2016 to 64.3% in 2025. Furthermore, India has made substantial advances in infrastructure sectors, such as electricity access (SDG 7) and digital connectivity (SDG 9), reflecting global progress and its remarkable achievements.

4. Key challenges in SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) include rising obesity rates and inadequate nitrogen management. Similarly, SDG 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions) faces challenges related to perceptions of corruption and press freedom. There are still gaps in achieving energy, climate resilience, and biodiversity targets (SDGs 13, 14, and 15), especially concerning negative spillovers and long-term sustainability. India relies on coal for about two-thirds of its energy, despite expanding renewable capacity—over 200 GW added out of the 500 GW target for 2023—but significant obstacles persist.

5. India's National Indicator Framework (NIF) 2025, launched by MoSPI on June 29, 2025, during India's 19th Statistics Day, tracks 284 SDG indicators across all 17 goals using

administrative, survey, and census data. It highlights significant advances in health, education, inequality reduction, and social protection. Nonetheless, it also identifies ongoing gaps in energy access, climate resilience, and universal welfare coverage.

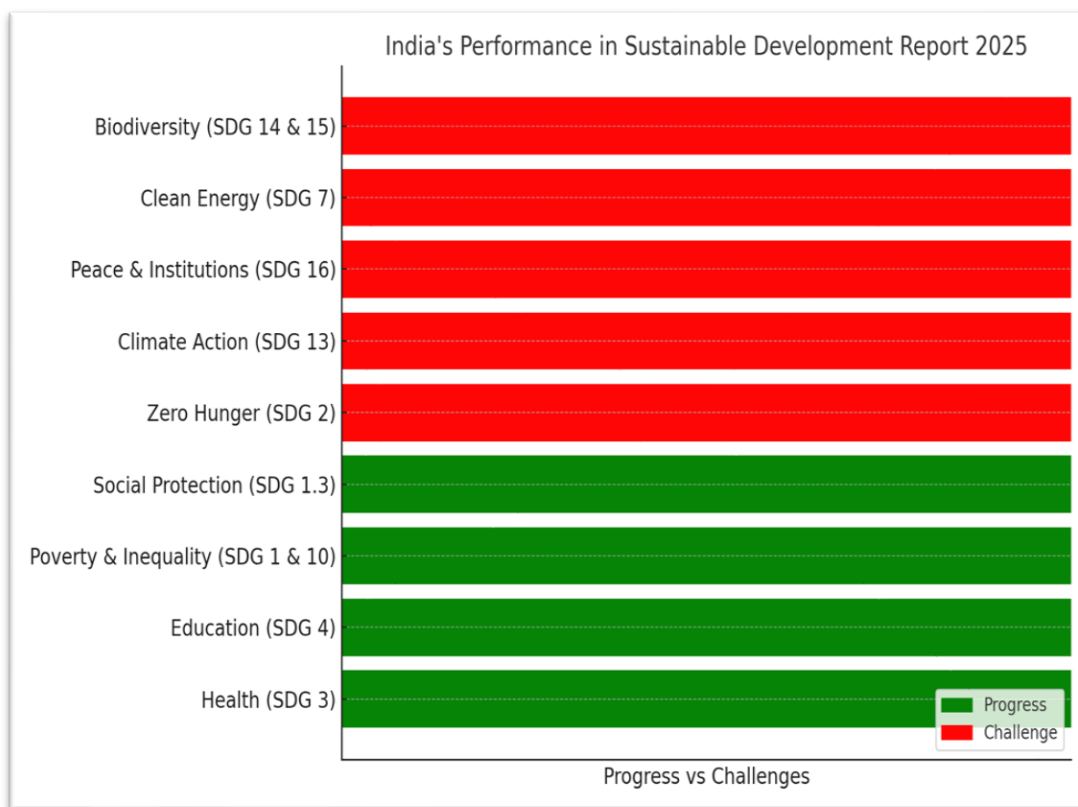
6. India's Sustainable Development Report 2025 ranks 99th overall, marking its first time in the top 100. It scores about 66.95 out of 100, improving from 109th in 2024, indicating a positive trend. Regionally, India ranks among South Asian peers, except the Maldives and Bhutan. The country's strengths include health, education, social protection, poverty reduction, and digital access. Its weaknesses are in nutrition, institutional transparency, biodiversity, climate change, and the energy sectors.

7. Stakeholders, such as the UNGC Network India, emphasize that India faces challenges including coordination gaps, limited funding, and inadequate integration of sustainability into development initiatives. To address these problems –

- It enhanced stakeholder engagement involving state governments, MSMEs, and civil society.
- It established regional hubs and goal-oriented sub-committees to oversee SDG implementation at more detailed levels.

8. Although reaching the top 100 is a significant achievement, India continues to face challenges with several SDG targets, as many goals are still off track on the dashboards. Enhancing financial systems and implementing international fiscal reforms—primarily by increasing funding to developing countries—are essential steps to accelerate progress.

9. India aims to reach the 99th position in the SDG Index by 2025, with a 67% score marking a notable milestone. Improvements are observed in the health, education, and social protection sectors. Nonetheless, significant structural issues persist in areas such as nutrition, climate resilience, governance, and the clean energy transition. Tackling these issues requires improved coordination, increased funding, and greater stakeholder involvement, which are essential for achieving the SDGs by 2030.



Author: Darshita Neeraj
Senior Researcher,
Mudita Learning and Knowledge Private Limited
Email: info@muditabooks.com
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