



KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY
Only IAS Academy by Grandson of "Perunthalsivier Kamarajar"

No time to rest

Published On: 28-06-2025

Context

- India has been **ranked among the top 100 countries in the Sustainable Development Report** for the **first time** since this data began to be published by the **Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)** since 2016.
- The SDSN is an independent body under the aegis of the **UN**, whose publications are tracked by policymakers and governments.
- In 2016, India was ranked 110th out of 157 countries, making steady progress to reach **99 this year out of an expanded basket of 167 nations** with better metrics and more granular comparisons.

Goals in which India made progress

- From a developmental perspective, the SDSN ranks India as having **fared better in poverty reduction (SDG 1)** even as India's poverty estimation continues to be mired in controversy due to a lack of publicly available consumption expenditure data since 2018 and the **poverty line** (Rangarajan line ~₹33/day rural, ₹47/day urban) **not having been updated**.
- Proxy data suggest a considerable poverty reduction, **almost halving between 2012 (22% based on NSSO data) and 2023 (World Bank – 12%)**.
- **Electricity access (SDG 7)** is another indicator where India has done well.
- While the country has achieved **near universal household electrification** in the past two decades, the quality of power and duration vary vastly based on regions and urban/rural fault lines.
- It is, however, laudable that India today ranks as the **fourth largest renewables capacity deployer, mainly solar and wind**.
- India has bettered its score in **infrastructure provision (SDG 9)**

Goals where we are still lacking

- **SDG 2 (zero hunger)** has remained a cause for concern
- The **National Family Health Survey (NFHS)** estimates that **over a third of children under 5 (35.5%) were stunted** (low height for age) in NFHS-5, 2019-21, only marginally better than 38.4% (NFHS-4, 2015-16).
- **One third of children under 5 (32.1%) were underweight** (low weight for age) in NFHS-5, 2019-21, only marginally better than 35.8% (NFHS-4, 2015-16).

Kamaraj IAS Academy

Plot A P.127, AF block, 6 th street, 11th Main Rd, Shanthi Colony, Anna Nagar, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600040

Phone: 044 4353 9988 / 98403 94477 / Whatsapp : 09710729833

- Similarly, **wasting**, which is **low weight for height**, reduced from **21.0% to only 19.3%**.
- **Obesity in the working age population (15-49 years)** has almost **doubled** between 2006 and 2021, and concentrated in wealthier urban areas.
- Throughout the Modi years, India's performance in **governance, the rule of law, press freedom and strong and independent institutions (SDG 16)** has been lagging

