



SDG 4: QUALITY EDUCATION

# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



# INTRODUCTION

- The world today has more knowledge than ever before, but not everyone can benefit from it. Globally, countries have made major strides in increasing access to education at all levels and increasing enrolment rates in schools, and basic literacy skills have improved tremendously.
  - Among youth aged 15-24, the literacy rate improved globally between 1990 and 2016, increasing from 83.2% to 91.4%. Completion rates in primary school were 89.6% by 2016, and has witnessed a decline in recent years dipping from 90.7% in 2012.
  - Few countries have achieved gender equality at all levels of education. In addition, one in five children, adolescents, and youth are out of school, including 64 million children of primary school age, 61 million of lower secondary school age and 138 million of upper secondary age.
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# IMPORTANCE

- A quality education is the foundation of sustainable development, and therefore of the Sustainable Development Goals. As a policy intervention, education is a force multiplier which enables self-reliance, boosts economic growth by enhancing skills, and improves people's lives by opening up opportunities for better livelihoods.
- The Sustainable Development targets for 2030 call for ensuring the completion of primary and secondary education by all boys and girls, and guaranteeing equal access to opportunities for access to quality technical and vocational education for everyone.
- Policy interventions will require improving access and improving quality, as well addressing relevant obstacles which include gender inequalities, food insecurity, and armed conflict.

**THE GLOBAL LITERACY  
RATE IS**

**86.2%**

**BUT**

**63.67**

**MILLION**

**CHILDREN REMAIN  
OUT OF SCHOOL**

# IN INDIA

- In India, significant progress had been made in universalising primary education, with improvement in the enrolment and completion rates of girls in both primary and elementary school. The net enrolment ratio in primary education for boys and girls was at 100%, while at the national level, the youth literacy rate was 94% for males and 92% for females.
- The new national Education Policy and Sustainable Development Goal 4 share the goals of universal quality education and lifelong learning.
- The flagship government scheme, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, is aimed at achieving universal quality education for all Indians, and is complemented in this effort by targeted schemes on nutritional support, higher education, and teacher training.

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- **Free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education:**The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Samagra Shiksha envisages the “school” as a continuum from pre-school, primary, upper primary, secondary to senior secondary levels. The scheme aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education from pre-school to senior secondary stage following Goal 4.
  - This scheme subsumes the three schemes of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) and Teacher’s Education (TE). The primary objectives of the scheme are the provision of quality education and enhancing learning outcomes of students; bridging social and gender gaps in school education through equity and inclusion, promoting vocationalisation of education and supporting the States in implementation of Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009.

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- **Access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education**  
:Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) is an essential foundation for lifelong development and learning, which can have a lasting impact on early childhood development. The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme offers a package of six services, viz. supplementary nutrition, pre-school non-formal education, nutrition and health education, immunization, health check-up, and referral services for children in the age group of 0-6 years, pregnant women and lactating mothers.

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- **Accessible, Affordable and Quality Higher Education** : Consistent efforts are made to expand the formal base of higher education, with a particular focus on technical, professional, and vocational education.
  - **Skill Development and Economic Growth:** The flagship scheme of Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) supports the youth in taking up industry-relevant skill training to secure a better livelihood.
  - **Conducive educational facilities that are child, disabled, and gender-sensitive:**
    - Several schemes encourage girl child education, such as the flagship scheme of Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao.
    - With Swachh Vidyalaya, separate toilet facilities for girls have helped to address the female dropout to a considerable extent.

# FACTS



75.83%

OF ELIGIBLE CHILDREN ARE ENROLLED INTO SCHOOL AT ELEMENTARY & SECONDARY LEVEL.



71.03%

STUDENTS ACHIEVED MINIMUM PROFICIENCY LEVEL IN LANGUAGE AND MATHEMATICS IN CLASSES 3, 5, 8, 10



78.84%

TEACHERS IN SCHOOLS (ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY LEVEL) ARE TRAINED

26.3%

Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in higher education (18-23 years)



Gender Parity Index (GPI) for higher education = 1 for 18-23 years



70.43%

OF SCHOOLS HAVE A PUPIL TEACHER RATIO  $\leq 30$

19.89%

OF CHILDREN AT SECONDARY LEVEL OF EDUCATION DROP OUT OF SCHOOL



61.18%

DISABLED CHILDREN (5 - 18 YEARS) ARE ENROLLED IN A SCHOOL

2.97%

CHILDREN AGED 6-13 YEARS ARE OUT OF SCHOOL



# CHALLENGES

- Challenges lie in ensuring cognitive stimulation for children in Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE). The National Policy on Education aims to strengthen and expand Anganwadi system to include a robust educational component which will be implemented by Ministries of Health & Family Welfare (
- Various learning assessments point at the regional disparity in literacy and numeracy skills among children in primary schools. Data also suggest that a sizable proportion of children still need to meet the level of learning outcomes prescribed for their respective class. Tackling



# CONCLUSION

- Achieving inclusive and quality education for all reaffirms the belief that education is one of the most powerful and proven vehicles for sustainable development.
  - This goal ensures that all girls and boys complete free primary and secondary schooling by 2030. It also aims to provide equal access to affordable vocational training, and to eliminate gender and wealth disparities with the aim of achieving universal access to a quality higher education.
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