

## 2. THE UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The United Nations General Assembly has adopted 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with 169 targets and 304 indicators, on 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2015 under the official agenda “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”. India being a signatory to the resolution, it is the obligation on the part of the State Government to adopt these 17 SDGs for its Vision Plan.

The SDGs cover a broad range of social and economic development issues. These include poverty, hunger, health, education, climate change, gender equality, water, sanitation, energy, urbanization, environment and social justice. The goals were developed to replace the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) which ended in 2015. Unlike the MDGs, the SDG framework does not distinguish between "developed" and "developing" nations. Instead, the goals apply to all countries.

These 17 SDGs are as under:-

- 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 well-being for all at all ages.
- 4) Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote life-long 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 industrialization 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.
- 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 deforestation, 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 revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.

India has played an important role in shaping the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the country's national development goals are mirrored in the SDGs. As such, India has been effectively committed to achieving the SDGs even before they were fully crystallized. As one of the forty countries that have volunteered to take part in the Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) at the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) 2017, India appreciates the focus on 'Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world'. India's statistical system and institutions gather data and report on defined parameters in various sectors. National SDG indicators are being currently constructed to better capture the context of India and its needs. Along with the development of the national SDG indicators, the statistical system is also geared to measure achievements at sub-national levels.