

India ranks 116 out of 157 nations on SDG index

14th July 2017

IN THE RACE

The 2017 Sustainable
Development Goals Index

Rank	Country	Score
1	Sweden	85.6
2	Denmark	84.2
3	Finland	84
4	Norway	83.9
5	Czech Republic	81.9
6	Germany	81.7
7	Austria	81.4
8	Switzerland	81.2
9	Slovenia	80.5
116	India	58.1

Source: SDG Index and Dashboards Report

The SDG index, that assesses the performance of countries towards achieving the ambitious sustainable development goals (SDGs), has been released for the year 2017.

Key facts on SDG index:

- The SDG Index and Dashboards Report produced by **the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)** and the Bertelsmann Stiftung shows that world leaders need to strengthen their joint efforts to realise the 17 global goals.
- The SDG Index and Dashboard collect available data for 157 countries to assess where each country stands in 2017 with regard to achieving the SDGs.
- The SDG Index ranks countries based on their performance across the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

Performance of countries:

- **Sweden leads the list**, followed by Denmark and Finland. Among the G7 countries, only Germany and France can be found among the top ten performers.
- The United States ranks 42nd on the Index, while Russia and China rank 62nd and 71st respectively.
- **India is ranked 116th** on the index with a score of 58.1, behind countries such as Nepal, Iran, Sri Lanka, Bhutan and China. Pakistan is ranked 122.
- The countries which are closest to fulfilling the goals are not the biggest economies but comparably small, developed countries.
- Many of the richest countries in the world are nowhere near achieving the global policy objectives but also deteriorate the implementation process for poorer countries because of negative spillover effects.
- One of the greatest obstacles to achieving the global goals for high-income countries are poor performances regarding sustainable consumption and production. All countries that score lowest on electronic-waste generation, for example, are high-income countries.
- Not only does a rising trend of nationalism and protectionism impede the implementation of the goals, but as the report shows, industrialised countries are not serving as role models.

SDGs:

The SDGs are **a set of 17 goals and 169 targets aimed at resolving global social, economic and environmental problems**. SDGs replaced the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) which were adopted in 2000. Aiming to encompass almost every aspect of human life, the main themes of the SDGs are ending poverty, tackling inequality and combating climate change.

To be looked in UPSC Paper 2 Topic: Important International institutions, agencies and fora, their structure, mandate.