

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PLANNING

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *390
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.03.2026

DEVELOPMENT INDICATORS AND POLICY SUPPORT TO KERALA

*390 SHRI SANDOSH KUMAR P:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) Kerala's ranking in major national development indices, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Index and Multidimensional Poverty Index, during the last three years;
- (b) whether any district in the State of Kerala have been identified under the Aspirational Districts Programme and the progress achieved therein;
- (c) details of policy support and technical assistance provided by NITI Aayog to the State during the last three years;
- (d) whether the Government of Kerala has sought special consideration in view of its ageing population and climate vulnerability; and
- (e) steps taken to ensure balanced regional development within the State, particularly in Northern districts?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS
& PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION; MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT
CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF CULTURE

(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION No. *390 FOR ANSWER ON 30.03.2026 REGARDING DEVELOPMENT INDICATORS AND POLICY SUPPORT TO KERALA BY SHRI SANDOSH KUMAR P

(a) As per Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) India Index reports released by NITI Aayog, Kerala's composite score and ranking is given as under: -

Sl. No.	Reports	Composite Score	Rank among States
1	SDG India Index & Dashboard (2019-20) Report	70	1
2	SDG India Index & Dashboard (2020-21) Report	75	1
3	SDG India Index (2023-24) Report	79	1

Further, as per National Multidimensional Poverty Index (NMPI) report released by NITI Aayog in 2023, the proportion of people living in multidimensional poverty in Kerala has declined from 0.70 percent to 0.55 percent between National Family Health Survey (NFHS)-4 (2015-16) and NFHS-5 (2019-21). The head count ratio of people living in multidimensional poverty is the lowest in Kerala.

And as per the Fiscal Health Index report released by NITI Aayog in 2025 for FY 2022–23, Kerala ranked 15th among the 18 major states. The State retained its 15th position in the Fiscal Health Index 2026 report for FY 2023–24.

(b) Yes Sir, the District Wayanad from Kerala has been identified under the Aspirational Districts Programme (ADP). The overall composite score of Wayanad district has improved by 28.7 % from the inception of the ADP (The composite score of the Wayanad district was 34.70 in June 2018 (Baseline) and has now reached to 63.40 in September 2025).

(c) Under the mandate of fostering co-operative federalism, NITI Aayog supports all the States/UTs through structured support initiatives and engagement with the States/UTs on a continuous basis. Among the various State facing initiatives, NITI Aayog launched State Support Mission, through which financial and technical support is provided to the States/UTs for establishing State Institutions for Transformation (SITs) or strengthening existing State Planning Departments/Boards that can act as a multi-disciplinary resource center to steer the development strategies in the States/UTs. The State of Kerala is yet to join the State Support Mission.

(d) No sir.

(e) The Government of India implements several schemes and programmes aimed at the overall development of States and Union Territories. These, *inter alia*, include Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, Jal Jeevan Mission, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban & Gramin),

National Health Mission, Samagra Shiksha, Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana, Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana, and Smart Cities Mission. The benefits under these programmes are extended across the districts of all States/UTs.
