

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PLANNING

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2825**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.12.2023

**UNITED NATIONS SDG REPORT**

†2825. SHRIMATI VEENA DEVI:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether as per the information provided in the United Nations' SDG Report, 2021, COVID-19 global pandemic has adversely affected the progress on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) made by other countries including India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the status of India in comparison to other countries with regard to SDGs; and
- (d) whether global extreme poverty rate has been increased for the first time during the period of twenty years as a result of which 119 to 124 million people have reverted to the position of extreme poverty again in the year 2020?

**ANSWER**

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

**(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)**

- (a) to (b): As per the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Report 2021, the COVID-19 global pandemic has threatened decades of development gains, further delaying the urgent transition to greener, more inclusive economies, and throwing progress on the SDGs even further off track. The pandemic has posed significant challenges to various aspects of sustainable development, such as poverty reduction, access to education and healthcare, gender equality, and economic growth. Progress had been made in poverty reduction, maternal and child health, access to electricity, and gender equality, but not enough to achieve the Goals by 2030. In other vital areas, including reducing inequality, lowering carbon emissions and tackling hunger, progress had either stalled or reversed.

However, the recently released Report titled ‘National Multidimensional Poverty Index: A Progress Review 2023’ by NITI Aayog has indicated that as against the SDG target 1.2 of reducing poverty by half, India’s multidimensional poverty has declined from 24.85 per cent in 2015-16 to 14.96 per cent in 2019-21 resulting in 13.5 crore people escaping multidimensional poverty during the five year period.

- (c) The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Report 2021 does not provide country-wise comparison details with regard to SDGs.
- (d) Yes, Sir. The United Nations SDG Report 2021 highlights that the global extreme poverty rate rose for the first time in over 20 years, and 119 to 124 million people were pushed back into extreme poverty in 2020.

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