

International Journal of Research Publication and Reviews

Journal homepage: www.ijrpr.com ISSN 2582-7421

Progress and Prospect of Education related Sustainable Development Goals in Delhi NCR

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ABSTRACT

Progress and prospects of education-related sustainable development goals in Delhi NCR are crucial for achieving a sustainable future. The National Capital Region (NCR) in India serves as a significant example of regional planning efforts for sustainability. Education plays a vital role in sustainable development, with a focus on quality education and its various targets under SDG 4. The education system must evolve to meet the challenges of the present social, societal, and environmental landscape, emphasizing competencies needed for sustainable development. India is actively working towards achieving SDG targets in education, with innovative flagship programs and a focus on the role of education in sustainable development. By analyzing indicators and progress in education-related SDGs, Delhi NCR can contribute significantly to the overall sustainable development goals by 2030.

Keywords: SDG 4, Sustainable Development Goals, National Capital Region, Education

1. INTRODUCTION

The recent sustainable development goals (SDGs) aim to enhance education and learning, ensuring that inclusive and equitable quality education is provided to all individuals. Education is deemed crucial for the achievement of each of the 17 SDGs, highlighting its essential role in the success of all established goals. It serves as a tool to empower individuals and foster responsive societies. The attainment of inclusive and quality education for all underscores the belief in education as a potent and pervasive mechanism for realizing sustainable development. This underscores that the SDGs are not solely applicable to formal education systems but also encompass education and learning in a broader context, catering to personal and professional development across the lifespan.

The effectiveness of the SDGs in Delhi concerning education will be somewhat contingent on the progress of Goal 4, as education serves as a key catalyst for constructing a sustainable future. India is making strides towards achieving gender parity in education, as evidenced by the advancements showcased in India's National Family Health Survey. Efforts have been made to bridge the gender gap in enrollment, with an increasing number of women pursuing fields of study that align with employment opportunities in sustainable development sectors. India is progressing towards the goal of universal primary education, recognizing the importance of an educated workforce in propelling development. A significant milestone in this endeavor is the enactment of the 2009 Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, which guarantees free education to 8-year-olds up to the value of 1.6 lakh rupees.

Conceptual Framework

A solid conceptual framework is crucial for gaining a comprehensive understanding of the key variables employed in this research study. Its primary objective is to shed light on the diverse interpretations pertaining to the terms utilized in the study titled "Sustainable Development Goals" and "Sustainable Development Goal - 4"

Sustainable Development Goals

Agenda 21 was supported by over 178 countries. At the June 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), a "plan of action to establish a global partnership for sustainable development to improve human lives and protect the environment" was presented. The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) were approved by all 191 United Nations member states in September 2000 (Hansson, Pargman & Pargman, 2021).

The primary goal of the MDGs, which had eight distinct targets, was to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger by the year 2015. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals were adopted by the UN in 2015, subject to certain requirements. Together, the 17 indisputable Sustainable Development Goals provide a unified blueprint for a feasible future state, and the goals are represented by 17 well-known pictures. These 17 objectives contain 169 sub goals (sometimes known as "targets," or "SDG targets" for the near future), which can be further divided into 231 useful recommendations.

All UN member nations agreed to the goals in 2015, and a 15-year plan was developed to achieve them. Although there is progress being made today, overall, the activities needed to achieve the goals are not yet happening at the necessary rate or scope (Bjørner, 2021). The UN's Agenda 2030 has, in one way or another, brought the concept of sustainable development back into the digital era. The current conceptualization of maintainable improvement has extended its extraordinary focus on the possibility of monetary advancement just, to occasionally be implied as "progression that resolves the issues of the current age without compromising the limit of individuals in the future to resolve their issues" as portrayed in an accomplishment report distributed in 1987 (Medaglia, Misuraca & Aquaro, 2021).

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals build upon and integrate the three pillars of maintainability (environment, society, and economy) and extend a wide range of angles associated with supportability, such as social and regular effects of industry. The goals were accepted by all financial development, social development, and biological confirmation (Mensah, 2019). Reducing poverty, maintaining homogeneity in sexual orientation, guaranteeing entry for clinical consideration for everyone, preserving biodiversity, etc.

The SDGs function as a catalyst for association and reasoning to help us make the best decisions now to improve people's lives in the future on an economic level. They provide definite guidelines and resources that all nations may use in accordance with their unique needs and the common struggles faced by the global community. The SDGs are a comprehensive plan. They address the underlying cause of poverty and work together to improve conditions for both people and the environment (Chowdhury, Sohag, Mosabbir & Nur, 2018).

Sustainable Development Goals – 4 (Quality Education)

Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG 4) seeks to guarantee fair and comprehensive quality education and encourage continuous learning opportunities for everyone. Education serves as the foundation for personal empowerment, societal advancement, and economic expansion. Within the Indian setting, SDG 4 plays a crucial role in tackling the educational obstacles of the nation and nurturing a sustainable and thriving future. This paper delves into the present condition of education in India, the advancements made in reaching SDG 4, the significant hurdles encountered, and the tactics employed to support inclusive and quality education throughout the country.

About Delhi

Delhi, the National Capital Territory (NCT) of India, is a city and a union territory that encompasses New Delhi, the capital of the country. Situated on both sides of the Yamuna river, predominantly to the west or on its right bank, Delhi shares its borders with Uttar Pradesh in the east and Haryana in other directions. It was designated as a union territory on 1 November 1956 and as the NCT in 1995. Covering an area of 1,484 square kilometers (573 sq. mi), the NCT is home to a significant population. As per the 2011 census, the city proper of Delhi had a population exceeding 11 million, while the overall population of the NCT was approximately 16.8 million. The urban agglomeration of Delhi, which includes satellite cities like Ghaziabad, Faridabad, Gurgaon, Noida, Greater Noida, and YEIDA city within the National Capital Region (NCR), boasts an estimated population of over 28 million. The nominal per capita income in Delhi stands at ₹461,910 in F.Y 2023-24.

Education in Delhi NCR throughout the years

The educational landscape in India has undergone significant transformations in response to the evolving needs of society. Education plays a crucial role in the development and progress of a nation, serving as a catalyst for social change and facilitating economic growth. Recognized as a fundamental human right by our constitution, education has been a cornerstone of India's journey since gaining independence in 1947. During this period of transition, the country faced the challenge of revitalizing its once prestigious educational institutions to establish a sense of national identity and purpose. Leaders understood the pivotal role of education in achieving their objectives. The recognition of the disparities between rural and urban areas, as well as the context of the third world, prompted a shift in educational policies. The educational framework outlined by various educational commissions continues to shape the system today. A significant milestone was reached in 1968 with the introduction of a uniform educational system under the Education Policy of 1968, coinciding with Delhi's recognition as a state and the establishment of numerous schools to ensure widespread access to education. Subsequent revisions in 1986 further influenced the contemporary education system. The impetus for these changes was articulated by India's first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, who highlighted the urgent need for revolutionary reforms in education to address the system's shortcomings. Presently, the education sector in India is characterized by gradual progress and ongoing policy adjustments driven by political considerations, research findings, and assessment reports. These initiatives aim to elevate Delhi's education standards to align with global benchmark.

Current Scenario of Education in Delhi

The three-tier model of education consists of elementary schools, secondary schools, and postsecondary education in universities or other similar establishments. One of the top agencies in charge of education matters is the Delhi government's Education Department. Children between the ages of six and fourteen are required to attend school on a compulsory basis, according to the Right to Education Act of 2009. In all private schools, 25% of the seats are set aside for pupils from lower-class backgrounds. The Directorate of Higher Education is in charge of overseeing postsecondary education.

In Delhi, there are 5691 accredited schools with around 44.76 lakh pupils enrolled. There are 1230 government and government-aided schools in Delhi, which makes up 21.61% of all schools in the city. In contrast, 37.18% of students enrolled in all Delhi schools in 2019–20 attend government and government-aided schools. Delhi's literacy rate has been rising steadily, and the gap in literacy has been closing. This is the result of the government's numerous programs and coordinated efforts to improve the education sector. The rates of literacy for men and women are trending rising. In 1991, the literacy rate was 75.29%; it rose to 86.20% in the census of 2011.

With significant public funding for education, the government of the National Capital Territory (NCR) of Delhi has been working tirelessly to change people into kind, morally-driven, and responsible citizens of their nation. The government allots around 25% of its yearly budget to Delhi's higher education and school systems in order to enhance the quality of learning outcomes, build highly qualified teaching staff, and improve infrastructure. Novel approaches to education, sports talent development, etc.

The Delhi education approach is now highly regarded both domestically and internationally. Delhi's education model is distinct due to its highly inventive teaching techniques, which continuously enhance children's learning experiences by making them more engaging and joyful. In order to create lasting connections in society, students were able to learn skills like as empathy, critical thinking, problem solving, communication, and teamwork thanks to the Happiness Curriculum implemented in schools. Quality learning outcomes are beginning to be produced via a number of quality improvement programs implemented in schools, such as Chunnauti, Mission Buniyad, Pragati learning materials, Spoken English lessons, etc.

In Indian Higher Education Institutions, the New Education Policy 2020 places a strong emphasis on institutional and structural improvements to regulation, governance, and the encouragement of multidisciplinary academics and research. The policy also encourages accountability, affordability, equality, and accessibility. According to the sustainable development goal (SDG-04) of the 2030 agenda, the government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi has already begun striving to achieve inclusive and equitable quality education and to promote lifetime opportunity for all by 2030

Sustainable Development Goals in Education

Overview of Sustainable Development Goals in Education

In recent years, there has been a growing emphasis on the importance of sustainable development goals in education, particularly in the context of Delhi NCR. These goals, set by the United Nations, aim to address various global challenges related to education, such as access, quality, and equity. The key objectives of these goals include ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education for all, promoting lifelong learning opportunities, and fostering a culture of peace and sustainability. In Delhi NCR, efforts have been made to align educational policies and practices with these goals, in order to enhance the overall effectiveness and impact of education in the region. Despite the progress made, there are still significant challenges to overcome, such as addressing disparities in access to education, improving quality standards, and promoting gender equality in the education system. Moving forward, it is essential for stakeholders in Delhi NCR to continue working towards the realization of these sustainable development goals in education, in order to create a more inclusive and equitable education system for all individuals in the region.

Sustainable Development Goals in Delhi NCR

In Delhi NCR, the progress towards achieving Education Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) has been commendable over the past few years. The region has seen significant improvements in access to education, quality of education, and gender parity in schools. Initiatives such as the implementation of innovative teaching methods, the establishment of more schools in underserved areas, and increased investments in education have played a crucial role in advancing towards the SDGs. However, challenges such as inadequate infrastructure, teacher shortages, and disparities in educational outcomes still persist in certain areas of Delhi NCR. To further accelerate progress, there needs to be a continued focus on improving teacher training, strengthening educational infrastructure, and increasing collaboration between government, civil society, and private sector stakeholders. By addressing these challenges, Delhi NCR can continue to make strides towards achieving the Education SDGs and ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education for all.

Importance of education related SDG

The key dimension of the sustainable development goal is built around the aim to 'ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all'. This can be seen clearly in the UN's first sustainable development goal that aims to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure prosperity for all. This is a unanimous goal for nations worldwide and spans across all socio-economic and geographic regions. In order to ensure that all individuals have the resources to receive quality education and lifelong learning opportunities, India and more specifically the Delhi NCR must recognize the existing issues of systematic disparities across gender, ethnicity, income, disability, and geographic location, in order to target those most in need to facilitate they are not left behind. Specific policies to promote educational equality, target marginalized populations, and provide additional resources are necessary to bridge the gap between different social groups in which will ensure equal learning opportunities and promotion of lifelong learning for all.

Education-related sustainable development goals provide a solid foundation for social policy around learning that is transformational in terms of access to education of high quality. Quality education is seen as education that is geared towards comprehensive human development – the awareness of human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship, and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development. It encompasses learning about and acquiring key knowledge and skills that can encourage sustainable development, through addressing sustainable development and global citizenship. This vision of education is strongly aligned with the aim of education in the Delhi NCR as both visions seek to promote an informed, active, and responsible citizenship and implement social, economic, environmental, and political change that can bring about a better future for all.

Initiative for achieving SDGs

Entrepreneurship Development Programme:

The program was made available to students for the 2019–20 school year. Under this initiative, students in classes XI and XII get ₹ 1000 in entrepreneurship seed money to help them build business plans and begin their own ventures. During 2019–20, the program has benefited almost 8 lakh pupils.

Pratibha Fellowship for Promotion of Digital Learning (Govt. schools/RPVV):

The program's goal is to give computer tablets to all students in classes XI and XII in schools under RPVV & SOE, as well as to those who received 80 percent or above in their class 10th Board Exam. 10949 of these students received computer tablets in 2019–20.

Happiness curriculum:

The Happiness Curriculum helps kids learn how to concentrate on their studies while also improving their conduct and relationships with their parents, classmates, and other family members. Through the Happiness Curriculum, they have grown emotionally resilient and more self-assured. During 2019–20, the program was implemented in all DoE government schools, and around 7.95 lakh kids benefited from it. By contracting with a professional organization, DOE introduced a new initiative to enhance government school pupils' communicative and English speaking abilities. Approximately 40,000 students participated in special sessions in 2019–20 to improve their spoken English and communicative competence.

Every day throughout the summer vacation, lessons were held to enhance fundamental skills in math, reading, and writing in addition to painting, music, role-playing, and other activities. 2.28 lakh youngsters attended summer camps run by government schools in Delhi.

In order to encourage pupils in government schools to read, 4513 classroom libraries have been established in the elementary division, and 7.34 lakh volumes have been bought for school libraries.

Samagra Shiksha (SS):

The Government of India's flagship initiative, Samagra Shiksha, offers support for hiring teachers and provides facilities, training, textbooks, and other resources. Three CSS schemes—SSA, RMSA, and Teacher Education—have been merged into the "Samagra Shiksha" plan as of 2018–19. The program's main goal is to accomplish Universalization of Elementary Education (UEE) in a timely way by offering students in the age range of 6 to 14 years free and compulsory education. There are now 790 Special Training Centers (STCs) in place to help mainstream out-of-school youth. Under SSA, 36768 teachers have received training. The number of kids registered in STCs is 30866.

EWS Admission:

In accordance with the RTE Act, 35962 EWS and DG pupils were admitted to private unaided schools in 2019–20 on the basis of an online lottery, as opposed to 32455 EWS admissions in 2018–19.

Enhancements of the physical framework of all Delhi government schools are currently undergoing CCTV installation; of the 728 school buildings, 459 now have CCTV installed.

Student Welfare:

The "Free Supply of Text Books" program has 16,77,764 total beneficiaries for the 2019–20 school year for Delhi Government and Aided Schools; of these, 3,67,186 beneficiaries were reached through ECS and 13,10,578 beneficiaries were reached through ADHAR.

A total of 17,12,198 beneficiaries for Delhi Govt. and Aided Schools were covered under the program "Subsidy for School Uniform to Students." Of these, 13,21,617 beneficiaries were AADHAR seeded, and 390581 beneficiaries were through ECS in 2019–20.

Scholarship Programs:

Students who identify as Muslims or Buddhists/Neo-Buddhist and whose parents earn less than 2 lakh rupees annually will get financial aid of ₹ 500 per year for students in Classes 1 through 8 and ₹ 1000 per year for students in Classes 9 through 12. Through Aadhar-based DBT, 2.57 lakh students from economically and educationally disadvantaged backgrounds received financial assistance in 2019–20. In accordance with the "Chief Minister Scholarship for Meritorious Students" program, students in classes VII through XII at government schools who receive 80% or above in their previous class are awarded 2,500/-per year. This program has no income restrictions. Through DBT, 29508 students in classes VII through XII received a payment of Rs. 2500 in 2019–20.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Various studies have forecasted the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by focusing on specific subsets of indicators, such as poverty, hunger, land, nutrition, energy, electricity access, outdoor air pollution, indoor air pollution, child mortality, educational attainment, education enrollment or graduation rates, and access to water and sanitation. These studies have been conducted by different researchers and organizations, including Burt, Hughes, & Milante (2014), Chandy, Ledlie, & Penciakova (2013), Edward & Sumner (2013), Hughes et al. (2009), Milante, Hughes, & Burt (2016),

Ravallion (2013), World Bank (2015), FAO (2017b), Popp et al. (2017), Dagnachew et al. (2017), JEA (2017), Lucas et al. (2015), Lucas, Dagnachew, & Hof (2017), IEA (2017), Klimont et al. (2017), Stohl et al. (2015), Kuhn, Rothman, Tumer, Solórzano, & Hughes (2016), Liu et al. (2015, 2016), Matheis & Loncar (2006), Murray, Laaksa, Shibuya, Hill, & Lopez (2007), You et al. (2015), Dickson, Hughes, & Irfan (2010, 2016), Kc et al. (2010), Lutz, Butz, & Samir (2017), Lutz & Samir (2013), Anand (2006), Hanasaki et al. (2013), Rothman, Irfan, Margolese-Malin, Hughes, & Moyer (2014).

Recent research on biopolitical differentiation illustrates how interventions in Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) shape populations to fit various forms of ESD, thus tailoring ESD to the specific 'realities' and requirements of students. Knutsson (2021) highlights how the UNESCO-Japan prize for ESD distinguishes between winners by distributing winning projects evenly across income lines. The research reveals how successful organizations adjust their interventions based on the socio-economic circumstances in which they operate, resulting in distinct approaches towards targeting rich and poor populations, assigning them different roles, responsibilities, and environmental identities. In a separate study, Knutsson (2020) examines how ESD programs in South Africa address the significant inequality within the nation. The flexibility of the concept of sustainable development permits diverse methods of governing the affluent and underprivileged, with some populations expected to achieve sustainability within the context of a consumer-driven society, while others within the context of struggles for basic necessities. The study argues that inequality is effectively normalized, and that the differentiated ESD practices suggest a de-politicized view of local 'realities' as fixed and independent entities, rather than interconnected and socially constructed (Knutsson 2020, 650).

Such adaptation to unequal living conditions and differentiation between different populations is also evident in the new global UNESCO initiative ESD for 2030 (Bylund, Hellberg, and Knutsson 2022). The framework emphasizes the need to contextualize ESD approaches to the realities of target populations, particularly those in extreme poverty. It acknowledges that populations in extreme poverty may require more attention to the fundamentals and prioritizes the development of basic life skills and skills necessary for their livelihoods. This approach establishes a hierarchy of populations, indicating that different interventions are necessary for different groups within ESD. Additionally, ESD for 2030 implicitly establishes a biopolitical hierarchy by presenting humans as separate from nature, rather than an integral part of it (Bylund, Hellberg, and Knutsson 2022, 45).

3. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This section includes the data genesis, sample selection, methods that are adopted in the current research.

Objectives of Study

Research on Delhi's Sustainable Education Goals

- Examines the dropout rate, gap analysis, literacy rate, and current status of education in Delhi.
- · Seek to enhance education quality by cooperation with the government Department of Education in Delhi.
- Comprehensive study in 17 years to evaluate how much pupils' abilities and education have improved.

Technique of Sampling

Stratified Sampling: Divide Delhi NCR into strata primarily based on elements which include socio-economic popularity, academic infrastructure, and geographical region (urban, suburban, rural). This ensures representation from diverse segments of the population.

<u>Cluster Sampling:</u> Divide Delhi NCR into clusters (e.g., districts or neighborhoods) and randomly select clusters to look at. This technique helps in reducing costs and logistics, in particular in a huge and diverse area like Delhi NCR.

<u>Systematic Sampling:</u> select each nth school or academic institution from a listing of school in Delhi NCR. This approach provides a established approach even as nonetheless maintaining randomness.

<u>Comfort Sampling:</u> encompass educational institutions which are without problems reachable or have with ease available records. While this technique may additionally introduce some bias, it is able to be beneficial for preliminary exploration or as a supplement to other sampling methods.

<u>Purposive Sampling:</u> mainly goal academic institutions or stakeholders that are regarded to have good sized have an impact on or specific views on schooling-related SDGs in Delhi NCR.

Statistics collection methods:

Quantitative: Surveys/questionnaires to acquire statistics on key indicators associated with training and sustainable development.

Qualitative: Interviews with stakeholders which include authorities officials, educators, students, and representatives from NGOs and civil society corporations.

Sampling technique: Stratified random sampling to make certain representation from different demographic corporations and educational institutions.

Data analysis: Statistical evaluation of quantitative records the usage of software program inclusive of SPSS, and thematic evaluation of qualitative records.

Quantitative evaluation: Descriptive statistics, inferential information (e.g., correlations, regression analysis), and assessment of statistics throughout distinctive subgroups.

Qualitative analysis: Thematic analysis to perceive habitual topics, styles, and insights from interview transcripts.

Barriers to examine in study of methodology at the technique and prospects of education related to Sustainable improvement dreams (SDGs) in Delhi NCR:

Pattern length and Representativeness:

Restricted sample size: due to constraints together with time, assets, and accessibility, the sample length won't fully represent the various population of stakeholders involved in education and sustainable development in Delhi NCR.

<u>Sampling bias:</u> not withstanding employing a stratified random sampling method, there is probably demanding situations in attaining a simply representative pattern, leading to capacity biases within the findings.

<u>Lack of diversity:</u> The observer can also inadvertently exclude sure demographic companies or academic establishments, restricting the breadth and depth of views captured.

Generalizability of Findings:

<u>Context-particular findings:</u> The research focuses on schooling associated with SDGs in Delhi NCR, which can also restrict the generalizability of findings to different regions or contexts with one of a kind socio-monetary, cultural, and academic landscapes.

<u>Specificity of stakeholders:</u> Findings may be precise to the stakeholders interviewed (authorities officers, educators, college students, NGO representatives, and so on.) and won't absolutely capture the views of other applicable actors inside the education quarter.

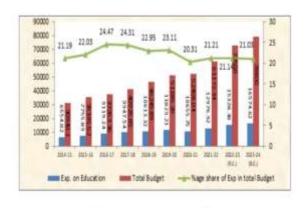
<u>Statistics availability:</u> accessing applicable information, mainly secondary information related to schooling and sustainable improvement in Delhi NCR, may additionally pose demanding situations because of boundaries in statistics availability or statistics best.

<u>Stakeholder engagement:</u> Securing participation from key stakeholders, which include government officers or representatives from civil society groups, can be difficult due to busy schedules, competing priorities, or reluctance to participate in research activities.

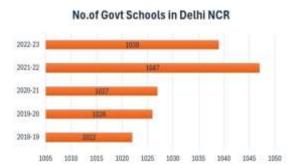
4. DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

Between 2014–15 and 2023–24, the total amount spent on education—including sports, the arts, and culture—rose from 6554.82 crore to 16574.62 crore. In the Delhi government's 2023–24 budget, the education sector would account for 21.03% of total spending. The proportion of Delhi's Gross State Domestic Product that is allocated to education in 2023–2024 is 1.50%. The annual rise in education spending.

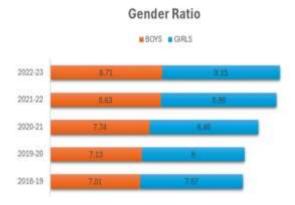
EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION



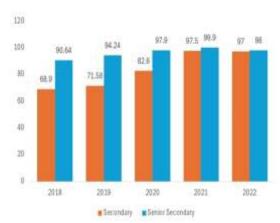
In Delhi, there are 5488 accredited schools with around 46.29 lakh pupils enrolled. There are 1240 government and government-aided schools in Delhi, which makes up 22.59% of all schools in the city. In 2022–2023, the percentage of students enrolled in Delhi's government and government-aided schools would be 41.61% of all students enrolled in Delhi's schools.



In Delhi NCR government schools, the gender ratio of boys to girls is 8.63 boys for every 8.99 girls in 2021–2022, and it rises in 2022–2023 with 9.15 girls and 8.71 boys indicates a positive shift in the gender ratio. It also demonstrates that over the past five years, females have outnumbered boys.

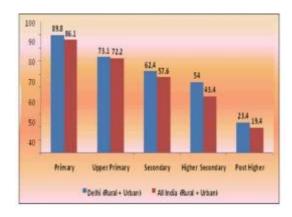


The aforementioned remark suggests that, during the past five years, Delhi's senior secondary pass percentage has exceeded that of all of India. Numerous quality-improvement initiatives implemented by the government in schools, such as Chunnauti, Mission Buniyad, Pragati learning materials, Spoken English classes, Happiness Curriculum, etc., have begun to produce high-quality learning outcomes, and secondary school results have also improved over the previous year.



In compared to all other Indian states and Union Territories, Delhi has a greater net attendance ratio.

Primary schools in 2022–2023 had NARs of 89.8, Upper Primary schools of 73.1, Secondary schools of 62.4, greater Secondary Schools of 54, and Post Higher Education of 23.4 in Delhi, which is greater than in any other state or union territory.



5. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the advancement and future prospects of understanding the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the National Capital Region of Delhi hold great significance for the region's future direction. Serving as a model for regional planning, the National Capital Region embodies India's broader vision for comprehensive development. Education stands at the forefront of this endeavor and is recognized as the driving force behind its success. The efforts made by the National Capital Territory of Delhi in this regard have received commendation, as they have implemented various measures to enhance the accessibility, impact, and quality of education. Nevertheless, there are still challenges to overcome, and educational programs must continue to adapt in order to address the diverse needs arising from current social, cultural, and environmental conditions. The transformative power of education in promoting sustainable development cannot be underestimated. The adoption of innovative teaching methods, such as the National Education Act and various skill development programs, exemplify collaborative efforts aimed at equipping students with the necessary skills to lead and improve their lives in the future. By sharing best practices, forging partnerships, and facilitating knowledge exchange, the National Capital Region can play a crucial role in supporting the development process by 2030. Through unwavering commitment, innovation, and collaboration, the region can unlock its potential to become a frontrunner in sustainable education, benefiting all stakeholders well beyond the year 2030.

The future of the National Capital Region of Delhi and beyond relies heavily on the collective efforts made towards educational progress and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Education lies at the core of these goals, with Goal 4 emphasizing the significance of providing quality and equitable education to all individuals. Recent endeavors to enhance education and training have shed light on the crucial role that education plays in attaining the 17 SDGs, underscoring the belief that education is a potent catalyst for sustainable development. The pursuit of sustainability is intricately linked with the trajectory of development. The strides made towards promoting gender equality in education are evident through the advancements showcased in the National Family Health Survey in India, signifying progress towards inclusivity and fairness in education. The plan to bridge the gender gap in enrollment and create more opportunities for women in sustainable development exemplifies the unwavering commitment of the National Capital Region of Delhi towards propelling the nation forward and supporting society as a whole. Significant progress has already been achieved in this regard, with the implementation of the Children's Rights and Freedom of Education Act 2009, which guarantees free education for children under the age of eight. This landmark legislation represents a major milestone in the efforts of Delhi-NCR to equip its workforce with the necessary skills and competencies that will foster sustainable development.

The achievement of sustainability goals in the National Capital Region hinges on both continuity and innovation. Addressing issues such as quality education, educational inequalities, and aligning education with the evolving needs of society and the economy is crucial. Through the adoption of creative approaches, fostering collaboration among various stakeholders, and placing a strong emphasis on student growth, Delhi-NCR has the potential to establish itself as a prominent educational center. Advancements and possibilities in achieving significant development objectives are within reach for the National Capital Region, showcasing a promising future with notable strides in enhancing education and training opportunities for all.

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