

Analysis of the President’s Address to Parliament in 2021

The President of India, Mr. Ram Nath Kovind, addressed Parliament on January 29, 2021.¹ In his address, he outlined the major policy priorities of the central government. This note highlights some items outlined in the President’s Address and the current status of the initiatives undertaken with respect to these items based on data available till January 18, 2022. Data sources have been indicated in the end notes.

Policy Announcement	Current Status																																																
Economy and Finance																																																	
<p>India has emerged as an attractive destination for foreign investors. Between April and August, 2020, a record foreign direct investment of 36 billion dollars has been made in India.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FDI: FDI inflows during the first half of 2021-22 (Apr-Sep) stood at USD 31 billion, as compared to USD 30 billion and USD 26 billion for the same period in 2020-21 and 2019-20 respectively.^{2,3,4} <p>Table 1: FDI inflows between 2015-16 and 2021-22²</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Parameter</th> <th>2015-16</th> <th>2016-17</th> <th>2017-18</th> <th>2018-19</th> <th>2019-20</th> <th>2020-21</th> <th>2021-22 (up to September 2021)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>FDI inflows (in USD billion)</td> <td>40</td> <td>43.47</td> <td>44.85</td> <td>44.36</td> <td>49.97</td> <td>59.63</td> <td>31.15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>% growth</td> <td>35%</td> <td>9%</td> <td>3%</td> <td>-1%</td> <td>13%</td> <td>19%</td> <td>-</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> Foreign Exchange Reserves: As of January, 2022, foreign exchange reserves stood at USD 633 billion, 8% higher than reserves of USD 585 billion in January, 2021. <p>Table 2: Foreign exchange reserves as of January each year⁵</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Parameter</th> <th>2016</th> <th>2017</th> <th>2018</th> <th>2019</th> <th>2020</th> <th>2021</th> <th>2022</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Foreign exchange reserves (in USD billion)</td> <td>349</td> <td>360</td> <td>414</td> <td>397</td> <td>461</td> <td>585</td> <td>633</td> </tr> <tr> <td>% change from previous year</td> <td>8.4%</td> <td>3.2%</td> <td>15.0%</td> <td>-4.1%</td> <td>16.1%</td> <td>26.9%</td> <td>8.2%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> Foreign Trade: Between April to December 2021, India’s exports increased by 36% over the same period in 2020, and stood at USD 479.07 billion; whereas, imports increased by 57% and stood at USD 547.12 billion.⁶ 	Parameter	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22 (up to September 2021)	FDI inflows (in USD billion)	40	43.47	44.85	44.36	49.97	59.63	31.15	% growth	35%	9%	3%	-1%	13%	19%	-	Parameter	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Foreign exchange reserves (in USD billion)	349	360	414	397	461	585	633	% change from previous year	8.4%	3.2%	15.0%	-4.1%	16.1%	26.9%	8.2%
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<p>100 per cent digitisation of ration cards was completed and 90 per cent ration cards have been linked to Aadhaar.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of January 5, 2022, 132 crore Aadhaar cards have been issued (97% of India’s population based on the projected population for the year 2021).^{7,8} As of December 3, 2021, more than 93% ration cards of at least one family member have been linked with Aadhaar.⁹ Between 2014-21, around 4.28 crore bogus ration cards have been cancelled.¹⁰ 																																																
<p>More than 41 crore Jan Dhan accounts were opened so that the poor may benefit from the banking system.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of January 2022, 44.3 crore accounts have been opened under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana since its launch in 2014 with a total deposit amount of Rs 1.5 lakh crore. 67% of these accounts have been opened in rural and semi-urban areas.¹¹ <p>Table 3: Accounts opened under Jan Dhan Yojana¹¹</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Parameter</th> <th>Jan-17</th> <th>Jan-18</th> <th>Jan-19</th> <th>Jan-20</th> <th>Jan-21</th> <th>Jan-22</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Number of Accounts opened (in crore)</td> <td>6.84</td> <td>3.72</td> <td>3.1</td> <td>3.68</td> <td>3.76</td> <td>2.7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cumulative amount of deposits held (in Rs lakh crore)</td> <td>0.67</td> <td>0.74</td> <td>0.87</td> <td>1.11</td> <td>1.35</td> <td>1.5</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> 	Parameter	Jan-17	Jan-18	Jan-19	Jan-20	Jan-21	Jan-22	Number of Accounts opened (in crore)	6.84	3.72	3.1	3.68	3.76	2.7	Cumulative amount of deposits held (in Rs lakh crore)	0.67	0.74	0.87	1.11	1.35	1.5																											
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<p>Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) has facilitated funds transfer of more than Rs 13,00,000 crores to beneficiaries during the last 6 years.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of January 24, 2022, the cumulative transfer through Direct benefit Transfer was Rs 20,91,401 crore.¹² Between April 2021 and January 2022, Rs 4.53 lakh crore has been disbursed through the DBT programme to beneficiaries under 312 schemes.¹² According to government estimates, this has led to savings of Rs 2.23 lakh crore.¹² <p>Table 4: Amount disbursed through DBT¹²</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="680 373 2054 467"> <thead> <tr> <th>Parameter</th> <th>2015-16</th> <th>2016-17</th> <th>2017-18</th> <th>2018-19</th> <th>2019-20</th> <th>2020-21</th> <th>2021-22 (up to January 2022)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Number of Beneficiaries (crore)</td> <td>31.2</td> <td>35.7</td> <td>124</td> <td>129.2</td> <td>144.7</td> <td>179.9</td> <td>146.7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Amount disbursed through DBT (Rs crore)</td> <td>61,942</td> <td>74,689</td> <td>1,90,871</td> <td>3,29,796</td> <td>3,81,631</td> <td>5,52,527</td> <td>4,53,667</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Parameter	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22 (up to January 2022)	Number of Beneficiaries (crore)	31.2	35.7	124	129.2	144.7	179.9	146.7	Amount disbursed through DBT (Rs crore)	61,942	74,689	1,90,871	3,29,796	3,81,631	5,52,527	4,53,667								
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<p>India has registered a record improvement in the Ease of Doing Business ranking. Now, special emphasis is being laid on reducing Compliance Burden.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The World Bank suspended the Annual 'Doing Business' Report in August, 2020 in light of reported irregularities which are currently being investigated.¹³ In the last report, released in October 2019, India ranked 63 out of 190 countries. India was among the top ten countries showing improvement, primarily because of changes related to starting a business, obtaining construction permits, trading across borders, and resolving insolvency. Note that the World Bank has discontinued this report after data irregularities were found in the 2018 and 2020 editions.¹⁴ The central government notified a list of 180 reforms under the Business Reform Action Plan (BRAP) towards enabling Ease of Doing Business in 2018 which were to be implemented by 2019.¹⁵ In the state-wise rankings for achievement under BRAP in 2019, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Telangana were the top performers. Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Odisha, Sikkim, Tripura, and Chandigarh were placed last.¹⁶ In January 2021, the Regulatory Compliance Portal was launched by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade.¹⁷ The objective of this portal is to act as a bridge between citizens, industries and the Government in order to minimize burdensome compliances. It will also act as a first-of-its-kind central online repository of all Central and State-level compliances. 																																
<p>India has moved up from 65 to 34 in the World Tourism Index ranking.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> India was ranked 34th in the Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Report, published by the World Economic Forum in 2019.¹⁸ India's rank improved by six places, from 40th in 2017 to 34th in 2019. 																																
<p>Under the MUDRA scheme, more than 25 crore loans have been sanctioned so far, of which nearly 70% have been given to women entrepreneurs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana was launched in 2015 for providing loans of up to Rs 10 lakh to the non-corporate, non-farm small/ micro enterprises. Under this scheme, the following categories of loans can be given: (i) 'Shishu' (loans up to than Rs 50,000), (ii) 'Kishore' (loans between Rs 50,000 and Rs 5 lakh), and (iii) 'Tarun' (loans between Rs 5 lakh and Rs 10 lakh). As of November 26, 2021, total number of PMMY loans extended across the country, including SC, ST, Minority and Women Entrepreneurs is 32.11 crore, out of which 21.74 crore loans have been extended to women entrepreneurs (68%).¹⁹ <p>Table 5: Loans given under the Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana²⁰</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="680 1107 2054 1233"> <thead> <tr> <th>Parameter</th> <th>2015-16</th> <th>2016-17</th> <th>2017-18</th> <th>2018-19</th> <th>2019-20</th> <th>2020-21</th> <th>2021-22 (up to January 2022)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Number of loans sanctioned (in crore)</td> <td>3.5</td> <td>4.0</td> <td>4.8</td> <td>6.0</td> <td>6.2</td> <td>5.1</td> <td>3.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Amount sanctioned (in Rs lakh crore)</td> <td>1.4</td> <td>1.8</td> <td>2.5</td> <td>3.2</td> <td>3.3</td> <td>3.2</td> <td>1.9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Amount disbursed (in Rs crore)</td> <td>1.3</td> <td>1.8</td> <td>2.5</td> <td>3.1</td> <td>3.3</td> <td>3.1</td> <td>1.8</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Parameter	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22 (up to January 2022)	Number of loans sanctioned (in crore)	3.5	4.0	4.8	6.0	6.2	5.1	3.1	Amount sanctioned (in Rs lakh crore)	1.4	1.8	2.5	3.2	3.3	3.2	1.9	Amount disbursed (in Rs crore)	1.3	1.8	2.5	3.1	3.3	3.1	1.8
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<p>Development of small and cottage industries has received the requisite impetus through measures like modification in the definition of MSMEs, increase in the investment limit or priority in government procurement. Initiatives such as Emergency Credit Guarantee</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The government revised the upper limit for investment in MSMEs and established a new criterion based on the firm's annual turnover in the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act, 2006 in June 2020.²¹ The new definition also states that MSMEs from service and manufacturing sectors will have the same investment limits, in contrast to the separate categorisation for the two sectors as per the 2006 Act.²² 																																

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<p>Scheme for Rs 3,00,000 crore, special scheme of Rs 20,000 crore for MSMEs in distress and Fund of Funds have benefitted lakhs of small scale industries</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The calculation of investment in plant and machinery will be linked to the Income Tax return of the previous years or self-declaration of the promoter of the enterprise, in case of new enterprises. Information on turnover will be linked to the GST identification number (GSTIN). All units with GSTIN listed against the same Permanent Account Number will be collectively treated as one enterprise for turnover and investment figures.²³ Table 6: Changes in definition of MSME (figures in Rs)²² <table border="1" data-bbox="680 368 1868 579"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="3">Enterprise</th> <th colspan="2" rowspan="2">Annual Turnover</th> <th colspan="3">Investment Limit</th> </tr> <tr> <th colspan="2">Previous Investment Limit</th> <th rowspan="2">Revised Investment Limit</th> </tr> <tr> <th>2006 Act</th> <th>Revised</th> <th>Service Sector</th> <th>Manufacturing Sector</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Micro</td> <td>Up to 5 crore</td> <td>Up to 5 crore</td> <td>Up to 10 lakh</td> <td>Up to 25 lakh</td> <td>Up to 1 crore</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Small</td> <td>5 to 75 crore</td> <td>5- 50 crore</td> <td>10 lakh to 2 crore</td> <td>25 lakh to 5 crore</td> <td>1 to 10 crore</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Medium</td> <td>75 to 250 crore</td> <td>50- 250 crore</td> <td>2 to 5 crore</td> <td>5 to 10 crore</td> <td>10 to 50 crore</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> ▪ To aid Medium, Small and Micro Enterprises (MSMEs), the government also announced measures under the Aatma Nirbhar Scheme, including: (i) establishing a fund with a corpus of Rs 10,000 crore to provide equity funding for MSMEs with growth potential and viability, (ii) allowing MSMEs to borrow up to 20% of their entire outstanding credit from banks and NBFCs through loans guaranteed by the government, (iii) giving credit to promoters of MSMEs with stressed assets in exchange for equity, and (iv) releasing payments due to MSMEs by the government and Public Sector Establishments within 45 days.^{24,25,26,27} ▪ In May 2020, the government notified the General Financial Rules, 2017 to specify that global tenders up to Rs 200 crore may only be notified with prior approval of the Cabinet in exceptional cases.²⁸ The Public Procurement (Preference to Make in India) Order, 2017 was amended to enhance preference for local suppliers in government procurement contracts. The 2017 Order classifies suppliers based on the amount of local content (based on amount of value added in India) into: (i) Class-I local suppliers (50% or more), (ii) Class-II local suppliers (20%-50%), and (iii) non-local suppliers (less than 20%). The amendment states that preference in procurement for Class-I suppliers will also apply to tenders where the contract is awarded to multiple bidders. Preference will be given by (i) restricting participation from other suppliers where there is sufficient local capacity, and (ii) ensuring at least 50% of the contract is fulfilled by Class-I suppliers. It also allows foreign companies to participate in a tender when there is insufficient local capacity. In other contracts, they can only participate through a joint venture with an Indian company.²⁹ ▪ The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 provides a time-bound process for resolving insolvency. In June 2020, the Code was amended to: (i) prohibit the initiation of insolvency proceedings for defaults arising between March 25, 2020 and March, 2021, and (ii) increase the threshold for initiating an insolvency resolution process from one lakh rupees to one crore rupees.^{30,31,32,33,34} On April 4, 2021, the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Ordinance was promulgated. It amended the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 to provide a time bound process for resolving the insolvency of Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process (CIRPs). It also introduced an alternate insolvency resolution process for MSMEs called the Pre Packaged Insolvency Resolution Process (PIRP). PIRPs are required to be completed within 120 days whereas CIRPs are required to be completed within 330 days.³⁵ As of September 31, 2021, a total of 4,708 CIRPs have commenced and 3,068 of them have been closed. Of the CIRPs closed, 701 have been closed on appeal or review or settled, 527 have been withdrawn, 1,419 have ended in orders for liquidation and 421 of them have ended in approval of the resolution plan.³⁶ 	Enterprise	Annual Turnover		Investment Limit			Previous Investment Limit		Revised Investment Limit	2006 Act	Revised	Service Sector	Manufacturing Sector	Micro	Up to 5 crore	Up to 5 crore	Up to 10 lakh	Up to 25 lakh	Up to 1 crore	Small	5 to 75 crore	5- 50 crore	10 lakh to 2 crore	25 lakh to 5 crore	1 to 10 crore	Medium	75 to 250 crore	50- 250 crore	2 to 5 crore	5 to 10 crore	10 to 50 crore
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<p>More than three and a half lakh Common Service Centres are linking people in rural areas to government services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A Common Service Centre (CSC) is an access point for delivery of essential public utility services, social welfare schemes, healthcare, financial or education services in rural areas. The CSC scheme was launched in 2009 to ensure delivery of e-services in remote locations at the level of the Gram 																															

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	<p>Panchayat, where availability of internet and computers was inadequate. As of October 2021, more than 4.18 lakh CSCs operate in India, out of which 3.26 lakh CSCs are functional at Gram Panchayat level.³⁷</p> <p>Table 7: CSCs at the Gram Panchayat (GP) level between 2016-17 and 2021-22^{37,38,39}</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="678 341 1962 432"> <thead> <tr> <th>Parameter</th> <th>2016-17</th> <th>2017-18</th> <th>2018-19</th> <th>2019-20</th> <th>2020-21</th> <th>2021-22 (as of October 2021)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Number of functional CSCs at GP level</td> <td>1,33,266</td> <td>1,80,649</td> <td>2,28,547</td> <td>2,70,132</td> <td>2,78,058</td> <td>3,25,721</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Increase in number of functional CSCs</td> <td></td> <td>35.5%</td> <td>26.5%</td> <td>18.2%</td> <td>3%</td> <td>-</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Parameter	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22 (as of October 2021)	Number of functional CSCs at GP level	1,33,266	1,80,649	2,28,547	2,70,132	2,78,058	3,25,721	Increase in number of functional CSCs		35.5%	26.5%	18.2%	3%	-			
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<p>For the first time in the country, a Production Linked Incentive Scheme worth about Rs 1.5 lakh crore is being implemented in 10 manufacturing sectors.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Table 8 below shows the increase in the value of electronic equipment manufactured in India between 2014-21. <p>Table 8: Production Profile of Electronic Sector^{40,41,42}</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="678 517 2036 608"> <thead> <tr> <th>Parameter</th> <th>2014-15</th> <th>2015-16</th> <th>2016-17</th> <th>2017-18</th> <th>2018-19</th> <th>2019-20</th> <th>2020-21</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Value of electronic goods manufactured in India (in Rs crore)</td> <td>1,90,366</td> <td>2,43,263</td> <td>3,17,331</td> <td>3,88,306</td> <td>4,58,006</td> <td>5,33,550</td> <td>4,97,484</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Growth rate (%)</td> <td></td> <td>5.5%</td> <td>27.8%</td> <td>30.4%</td> <td>22.4%</td> <td>17.9%</td> <td>-6.8%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Note: Data for 2020-21 is based on provisional estimates.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ India is the second largest mobile manufacturing hub in the world. As per the government, between 2014 and 2019, the number of mobile manufacturing units has increased from two to more than 200, and the number of handsets produced has increased from six crore to 29 crore in 2018-19.⁴³ Further, export of mobile phones increased from USD 0.2 billion in 2017-18 to USD 1.7 billion in 2021 (April 2021-September 2021).⁴⁴ ▪ In March 2020, the Union Cabinet approved three schemes for the promotion of electronics manufacturing in India: (i) Production Incentive Scheme for Large Scale Electronics Manufacturing (PLI), (ii) Modified Electronics Manufacturing Clusters Scheme (EMC 2.0), and (iii) Scheme for Promotion of manufacturing of Electronic Components and Semiconductors (SPECS). Guidelines for the schemes were issued in June, 2020.^{45,46,47} The three schemes seek to provide employment to 10 lakh people by 2025. The Ministry has extended the tenure of the scheme for large scale electronic manufacturing by one year, i.e., till 2025-26. As of December 2021, approvals have been granted to 16, 1, and 2 applications for the above three schemes respectively.⁴⁸ ▪ In February 2021, the government notified a PLI scheme to Telecom and Networking Products manufacturing in India to attract investments in the telecom sector with an overall financial outlay of Rs 12,195 crore over 5 years.⁴⁹ A total of 31 applicants have been found eligible and given approval under the scheme. In April 2021, Cabinet approved a PLI scheme for white goods (manufacturing of components and sub-assemblies of air conditioners and LED lights). The Scheme is to be implemented over a seven year period, from FY2021-22 to FY2028-29 with an outlay of Rs 6,238 crore.⁵⁰ As of November 2021, 52 companies filed their application with committed investment of Rs 5,858 crore under the scheme. Of these, 42 applicants have been provisionally selected. In October 2021, a PLI scheme for specialty steel was notified. It has an outlay of Rs 6,322 crore, which would be released over five years.⁵¹ ▪ In December 2021, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology notified various initiatives for promotion of the semiconductor and electronic display industry.⁵² These are aimed at promoting higher domestic value addition in electronics manufacturing. Key details include: (i) support will be provided to 100 domestic companies of semiconductor design (covers design of integrated circuits, chipsets, system on chips, systems, and semiconductor-linked design), (ii) fiscal support of up to 50% of the project cost will be provided for setting up fabrication plants for electronic displays, and semiconductors.^{53,54} for a period of six years, (iii) an independent and specialised semiconductor mission will be launched, and (iv) the ministry will take requisite steps for modernisation and commercialisation of SCL, an autonomous body under the Department of Space.⁵⁵ The total outlay on the above programmes is estimated to be Rs 76,000 crore. ▪ The Ministry of Textiles notified the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Textiles in September 2021.⁵⁶ The Scheme aims to promote through incentives the production of certain man-made fibre apparel and fabrics, and ten segments of technical textiles products. The Scheme is valid up to 2029- 	Parameter	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	Value of electronic goods manufactured in India (in Rs crore)	1,90,366	2,43,263	3,17,331	3,88,306	4,58,006	5,33,550	4,97,484	Growth rate (%)		5.5%	27.8%	30.4%	22.4%	17.9%	-6.8%
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Growth rate (%)		5.5%	27.8%	30.4%	22.4%	17.9%	-6.8%																		

Policy Announcement	Current Status
	<p>30. The total expenditure under the scheme will be Rs 10,683 crore. States such as Tamil Nadu, Punjab, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Assam, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Telangana have expressed interest so far in the scheme.⁵⁷</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Union Cabinet approved the production linked incentive (PLI) scheme for manufacturing drones and drone components in India in September 2021.⁵⁸ The scheme has been allocated Rs 120 crore over three financial years (starting 2021-22). The scheme is available only for those manufacturers who achieve a value addition of at least 40% of their sales turnover in a year. The manufacturers will be provided incentives of up to 20% of the value addition every year. The incentive per manufacturer will be capped at Rs 30 crore, which is 25% of the total financial outlay. ▪ The Ministry of Heavy Industries notified the Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme for automobiles and auto components in September 2021.^{59,60,61} Under the scheme, eligible companies will receive incentive on incremental sales of advanced automotive products manufactured domestically. The scheme will be implemented over five years starting from 2022-23. The total outlay of the scheme is expected to have an expenditure of Rs 25,938 crore over five years. ▪ The government on May 12, 2021 approved a Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme for manufacturing of Advanced Chemistry Cell (ACC) in the country in order to bring down prices of batteries in the country. Drop in battery price will result in cost reduction of electric vehicles.⁶²

Health

During these years, emphasis has been placed not only on modernizing the healthcare systems but also on prevention of diseases.

- **Approved vaccine candidates:** Currently three vaccines are being administered in India – (i) Covishield, developed by the Serum Institute of India, (ii) Covaxin, developed by Bharat Biotech and (iii) Sputnik V, developed by Dr Reddy's Laboratories and Sputnik LLC.
- In May 2021, Covaxin was granted approval for paediatric trials in children between two and 18 years of age.⁶³
- The Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) approved the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine for restricted emergency use in India on June 29, 2021.⁶⁴ The vaccine was granted emergency use authorisation in the United States of America in December 2020.⁶⁵
- Two more vaccines were granted emergency use authorisation in India in August 2021, these are:^{66,67} (i) Janssen (developed by Johnson and Johnson), and (ii) ZyCov-D (developed by Zydus Cadila). These vaccines may be administered to all persons of 18 years of age and above. ZyCov-D may be administered to all persons of 12 years of age and above.
- In December 2021, the Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) granted emergency use authorisation for restricted use to two vaccines, Corbevax and Covovax, and an anti-viral drug, Molnupiravir, for COVID-19.⁶⁸ Note that Covaxin may be administered to children aged between 15-18 years as well. It was given emergency use authorisation for children aged between 12-18 years in December 2021.

Table 9: Details of vaccines administered

Name	Company	Prescribed Interval	Approval by WHO	Efficacy Rate
Covishield	Serum Institute of India	12-16 weeks*	Assessed and approved	70.42% based on overseas clinical studies
Covaxin	Bharat Biotech	Four-six weeks	Accessed and approved	77.8% based on interim trials
Sputnik V	Dr Reddy's Laboratories and Sputnik LLC	Three weeks	Rolling submission of clinical data underway	91.6% based on a phase three trials conducted in Russia

Note: *Prescribed interval for Covishield was increased from four to six weeks to 12-16 weeks in May 2021

Sources: Status of COVID-19 Vaccines within WHO EUL/PQ evaluation process, WHO, July 2, 2021; Vaccine Information, ICMR, last accessed on July 14, 2021; PRS.

Table 10: Phases of vaccination drive (as of January 2022)⁶⁹

Date	Group
January 16, 2021	Vaccination initiated for priority group including healthcare and frontline workers
March 1, 2021	Vaccination initiated for: (i) all people over the age of 60, and (ii) people older than 45 with co-morbidities*
April 1, 2021	Vaccination initiated for all people over the age of 45
May 1, 2021	Vaccination initiated for all people over the age of 18
June 21, 2021	Centralised procurement of vaccines and provision of free vaccines for all adults established
January 3, 2022	Vaccination initiated for children aged 15 to 18 years; precautionary dose for priority groups

Note: *Co-morbidities include heart failures, respiratory ailments, and lymphoma

Sources: Press Information Bureau, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare; PRS.

- **Primary healthcare:** The Ayushman Bharat scheme seeks to establish Health and Wellness Care centres (HWCs) which provide comprehensive primary healthcare and cover maternal, child health services and non-communicable diseases. As per the budget announcement 2017-18, 1.5 lakh Sub-Health Centres and Primary Health Centres are to be transformed into HWCs by December, 2022.⁷⁰ As of December 2021, 80,764 HWCs have been established in 37 states and union territories.⁷¹ These include 54,707 sub health centres, 21,894 primary health centres, and 4,163 urban primary health centres. Rs 1,900 crore has been allocated towards the scheme in the 2021-22 budget.⁷²
- **COVID-19 expenditure:** A Rs 15,000 crore package for expenditure on healthcare was announced in April 2020.⁷³ In September, 2020, Rs 14,232 crore was approved for expenditure for containment of COVID-19.⁷⁴ The package focuses on the following: (i) diagnostics and COVID-19 dedicated treatment facilities, (ii) procurement of essential medical equipment and drugs, (iii) strengthening national and state health systems, (iv) setting up laboratories, (v) encouraging research, and (vi) bolstering surveillance and risk communication.⁷⁵
- In June 2021, a new scheme focused on short-term emergency preparedness with special emphasis on children and paediatric care was announced. Rs 23,123 crore was earmarked for one year, which will be used for (i) short-term augmentation of human resources, (ii) increasing availability of ICU beds, medical equipment, medicines, and oxygen supply and (iii) strengthening the capacity for testing, surveillance and genome sequencing.⁷⁶
- Loan guarantee of Rs 50,000 crore was announced for scaling medical infrastructure targeting underserved areas (non-metropolitan cities). Guarantee cover will be available both for expansion and new projects related to health/medical infrastructure in cities other than the metropolitan cities. There will be a 50% guarantee cover for expansion (75% for aspirational districts) and 75% guarantee cover for new projects. Loans up to Rs 100 crore will be given up to three years of guarantee on interest rates capped at 7.95%.⁷⁷
- In 2020-21, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is estimated to have spent Rs 360 crore for COVID-19 vaccination of healthcare and frontline workers (revised estimates). In 2021-22, the Ministry of Finance has allocated Rs 35,000 crore for COVID-19 vaccination.⁷⁸
- **Health Infrastructure:** In October 2021, the Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission was launched. It seeks to strengthen the healthcare network across India within the next four to five years.⁷⁹ Three major aspects of the mission are: (i) development of diagnostic network, (ii) expansion of existing research institutes, and (iii) providing facilities for diagnostics and treatment.
- As of January 12, 2022, there are 3,141 operational testing labs reporting to ICMR.⁸⁰ This is significantly higher than that in March 2020 (79).⁸¹ A cumulative total of 70.2 crore samples have been tested for COVID-19 as of January 15, 2022.⁸²
- On July 23, 2021, the National Health Authority (NHA) published a consultation paper to invite comments on the design and functionality of the Unified Health Interface (UHI). UHI is proposed to be a foundational layer of the National Digital Health Mission (NDHM) and is envisioned to expand interoperability of health services in India through open protocols. UHI aims at streamlining the digital health service experience by technology pathways

Policy Announcement	Current Status
	<p>that enable such services.⁸³ NDHM is an autonomous government body to support universal health coverage in an efficient, accessible, inclusive, affordable, timely and safe manner.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Draft rules for implementation of the Health Data Management Policy were released in August, 2020. It seeks to ensure data privacy once NDHM is implemented and has the following features: (i) applicable to all entities involved in the NDHM, (ii) establishes a framework for secure processing of personal data, (iii) gives complete control and decision-making power to data principals, and (iv) allows persons to create a new health ID to hold data at no additional cost.⁸⁴ ▪ In September 2021, Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission was launched by the central government.⁸⁵ Every citizen will be provided with a digital health identity. The health records of the citizens will be stored digitally to avoid the loss of any health records. The citizens will have an option to give their consent for sharing their health records with medical practitioners. ▪ The Pradhan Mantri Atma Nirbhar Swasth Bharat Yojana was announced in the 2021-22 union budget with an outlay of Rs 64,180 crore over six years.⁸⁶ The scheme is targeted to: (i) support 28,812 health and wellness centres, (ii) establish 3,382 block public health units in 11 states, (iii) establish critical care hospital blocks in 602 districts, (iv) strengthen the National Centre for Disease Control, (v) operationalise 17 new public health units, and, (vi) set up 15 health emergency operation centres and two mobile hospitals. ▪ The scheme also seeks to strengthen the laboratory and public health research in the country. Under the scheme, the following is proposed to be set up: (i) integrated public health labs in all districts, (ii) a national institution for One Health, (iii) a Regional Research Platform for the World Health Organisation's South East Asia Region, (iv) nine Bio-Safety Level- three labs, and (v) four regional National Institutes for Virology.
Free treatment for 75 lakh poor under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The scheme seeks to provide insurance coverage of up to five lakh rupees per family per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalisation to poor and vulnerable families. In 2021-22, Rs 6,400 crore was allocated towards the scheme, which is a 106% increase from the 2020-21 revised estimates of Rs 3,100 crore. As of January 12, 2022, 2.6 crore persons have been admitted under the scheme.⁸⁷ Note that the scheme targets the poor, deprived rural families and identifies the occupational category of urban workers' families as per the latest Socio-Economic Caste Census (SECC) 2011 data for both rural and urban areas. ▪ A study report by the 15th Finance Commission estimated the demand and expenditure on the PMJAY for the next five years. It stated that the total costs (centre and states) of PMJAY for 2019 could range from Rs 28,000 crore to Rs 74,000 crore.⁸⁸ This estimate takes into account: (i) the assumption that all targeted beneficiaries will be covered (approximately 50 crore people), (ii) hospitalisation rates over time, and (iii) average expenditure on hospitalisation. Further, it noted that these costs could go up to between Rs 66,000 crore and Rs 1,60,089 crore in 2023 (accounting for inflation). ▪ The Economic Survey 2020-21 noted that PMJAY enhanced health insurance coverage. The proportion of health insured households increased by 54% in states that implemented PMJAY and decreased by 10% for states which did not implement it. The infant mortality rate also decreased by 20% in states with implementation whereas in states without implementation the mortality rate declined by 12%.⁸⁹ ▪ The Standing Committee on Health and Family Welfare (2020) noted that PMJAY faces various implementation challenges. These challenges include issues in: (i) identification of beneficiaries, (ii) non-inclusion of numerous eligible people, (iii) empanelment of healthcare providers, and (iv) hospital transaction system.⁹⁰
Under the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Yojana, the poor are getting medicines at extremely affordable rates from 7000 Jan Aushadhi Kendras across the country.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Under the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana, commonly used generic drugs are sold at affordable prices at Jan Aushadhi Kendras to reduce out-of-pocket expenditure in healthcare.⁹¹ As of December 2021, there were 8,560 Jan Aushadhi Kendras operating across the country.⁹² The Standing Committee on Chemical and Fertilizers (2021) noted that the coverage of the scheme remains inadequate and concentrated in a few states.⁹³ It recommended the Department of Pharmaceuticals to focus on block level coverage instead of district level coverage. Further, the Committee recommended special attention to services for people in rural areas, remote areas, slums, and for people from low-income groups.

Policy Announcement	Current Status																
Labour																	
<p>Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-dhan Yojana' was started so that poor persons including brothers and sisters engaged as domestic workers, drivers, cobblers, persons ironing clothes, farm hands etc may also get pension.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In 2019, the central government launched three schemes providing for a minimum pension of Rs 3,000 per month to small and marginal farmers, workers in the unorganised sector, and traders. All three are voluntary and contributory schemes with entry age between 18 and 40 years. Beneficiaries must give monthly contributions ranging from Rs 55 to Rs 200, as specified, which will be matched by the government.^{94,95,96} As of January 11, 2022, the three schemes have a total of 64.4 lakh registered beneficiaries.⁹⁷ <p>Table 11: Pension schemes for farmers, workers, and traders (till January, 2022)⁹⁷</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="680 448 1982 655"> <thead> <tr> <th>Scheme</th> <th>Intended Beneficiaries</th> <th>Eligibility</th> <th>Number of Registered beneficiaries</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan Dhan Yojana</td> <td>Workers from unorganised sector.</td> <td>Income of less than Rs 15,000 per month</td> <td>46,06,658</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maan Dhan Yojana</td> <td>Small farmers</td> <td>Cultivable land of up to two hectares</td> <td>17,87,326</td> </tr> <tr> <td>National Pension Scheme for Traders and Self-Employed Persons</td> <td>Shopkeepers, self-employed persons, and retail traders</td> <td>Annual turnover of less than Rs 1.5 crore</td> <td>48,000</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Scheme	Intended Beneficiaries	Eligibility	Number of Registered beneficiaries	Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan Dhan Yojana	Workers from unorganised sector.	Income of less than Rs 15,000 per month	46,06,658	Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maan Dhan Yojana	Small farmers	Cultivable land of up to two hectares	17,87,326	National Pension Scheme for Traders and Self-Employed Persons	Shopkeepers, self-employed persons, and retail traders	Annual turnover of less than Rs 1.5 crore	48,000
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<p>29 Central labour laws have been amalgamated into 4 Labour Codes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Three Codes regulating labour were passed by the Parliament in September, 2020: (i) the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020 consolidated 13 existing Acts regulating health, safety, and working conditions; (ii) the Industrial Relations Code, 2020 replaced three labour laws regulating trade unions, industrial disputes, and standing orders; and (iii) the Code on Social Security, 2020 replaced nine laws related to social security.^{98,99,100} The Code on Wages, 2019 (consolidated four existing Acts) has been passed by Parliament in July 2019.¹⁰¹ ▪ Draft Rules under the Industrial Relations Code, 2020 were released in October 2020 for public comments.¹⁰² Draft Rules under the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020 and the Code on Social Security, 2020 were released in November 2020.^{103,104} So far, 24 states have pre-published the draft rules on the Code on Wages, while 20, 18, and 13 states have pre-published the draft rules for Industrial Relations Code, Code on Social Security, and Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code respectively.¹⁰⁵ 																
<p>Government also launched the Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyan in 6 states in order to provide employment to the returnee migrant labourers in their villages, during the pandemic</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan was launched in June 2020 with an outlay of Rs 50,000 crore. The campaign aims to provide livelihood opportunities to migrant workers who have returned to their villages due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It also aims to create public infrastructure and assets in villages related to roads, housing, anganwadis, and community complexes, among others.¹⁰⁶ An additional outlay of Rs 10,000 crore was allocated for the scheme in November 2020. As of July 2021, a total of about 50.78 crore person-days employment has been generated during the Abhiyaan with a total expenditure of Rs 39,293 crore. Six states (Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh) have implemented the scheme so far.¹⁰⁷ As of December 2021, 1.24 lakh migrant labourers have undergone skill training under the scheme across these six states.¹⁰⁸ 																
<p>The Government also launched SVANidhi - a special scheme for street vendors and hawkers.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Under the Prime Minister's Street Vendor's Aatma Nirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi), launched in June 2020, the government provides an initial working capital of up to Rs 10,000 to street vendors. Under the scheme, vendors are also eligible to receive an interest subsidy of 7% per annum, up to March 31, 2022. PM SVANidhi is estimated to provide a total liquidity of Rs 5,000 crore.¹⁰⁹ As of January, 2022, 44.2 lakh loan applications have been received, of which 32.3 lakh loans have been sanctioned amounting to Rs 3,326 crore and over 28.7 lakh loans amounting to Rs 2,927 crore have been disbursed.¹¹⁰ ▪ The Standing Committee on Housing and Urban Affairs (2021) noted that scheme is facing certain implementation issues such as: (i) registration of street vendors (non-issuance of certificate of vending), (ii) slow pace of sanction and disbursal of loans, (iii) rejection of loan applications, and (iv) lack of digital access. The Committee recommended extending the scheme by at least one year and coordinating with states and urban local bodies for better implementation.¹¹¹ 																

Policy Announcement	Current Status														
<p>Under the 'Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana', 80 crore people were provided an additional 5 kg free food grains per month for 8 months.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PM Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY) is a Rs 1.7 lakh crore relief package announced on March 26, 2020 which covers benefits to workers, food distribution, cash transfers and other measures targeted towards helping the poor cope with COVID-19 and subsequent economic stress.¹¹² The scheme provides for insurance cover of up to Rs 50 lakh to 22 lakh healthcare workers (including private hospital staff) engaged in the management of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since its launch, the scheme has been extended twice (in September 2020 and in February 2021). The validity of the scheme was further extended by 180 days (from April 24, 2021 to October 21, 2021). In October 2021, the government further extended the validity of the scheme by 180 days.¹¹³ To assist with COVID-19 induced financial stress, beneficiaries of PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) was launched to provide 5 kg of grains per person and 1 kg of chana per family per month between April and November 2020.¹¹⁴ The PMGKAY scheme was relaunched in June 2021 due to the second wave, to cover the National Food Security Act beneficiaries from May 2021 to November 2021.¹¹⁵ In November 2021, PMGKAY was further extended till March 2022.¹¹⁶ As of December, 2021, 549 lakh metric tonnes of food grains have been disbursed under the scheme.¹¹⁷ During 2021, about 278 LMT food grains were allocated.¹¹⁸ 														
Agriculture and Food Supply															
<p>In order to provide expenditure support to these farmers, almost Rs 1,13,000 crore have been directly transferred to their bank accounts under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PM-KISAN scheme was launched in 2019 to provide an income support of Rs 6,000 per year to landholding farmer families, in three instalments of Rs 2,000 each. The government had expected the scheme to cover around 14.5 crore beneficiaries. As of January 8, 2022, the scheme had 12.44 crore beneficiaries.¹¹⁹ In 2021-22, 11.7 crore beneficiaries have received the first instalment, 11.5 crore have received the second instalment, and 11 crore have received the third instalment. In 2021-22, Rs 65,000 crore was allocated to the scheme, which was 49% of the total allocation to the Ministry. In 2020-21, allocation to the scheme was revised down from Rs 75,000 crore at the budgeted stage to Rs 65,000 crore at the revised stage.¹²⁰ On January 1, 2022, the government released the 10th instalment of PM-KISAN. An amount of more than Rs 20,000 crore was transferred to around 10 crore farmer families. Further, an equity grant of more than Rs 14 crore was also released to 351 farmer produce organisations.¹²¹ The Standing Committee on Agriculture (2020) noted that the issues being faced in the implementation of the scheme are: (i) non-availability of proper land records in many states, (ii) slow pace of identification of beneficiaries and uploading of data by states, (iii) issues with matching of demographic data between PM-KISAN database and Aadhaar data, (iv) incorrect bank accounts, and (v) poor internet connectivity in rural areas hampering the uploading of data. The Committee recommended that the government enhance coordination with states where enrolment is slow and take corrective steps.¹²² 														
<p>Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana has also benefitted small farmers of this country. Under this scheme in the last 5 years, about Rs 90,000 crore has been paid as compensation to the farmers against a premium of Rs 17,000 crore.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana was launched in 2016, with an aim to provide insurance coverage and financial support to farmers in the event of failure of any of the notified crop as a result of natural calamities, pests and diseases. As of January 8, 2022, 82.9 lakh farmers have been enrolled under the scheme.¹²³ In 2021-22, Rs 16,000 crore was allocated to the scheme, which was 12% of the total allocation to the Ministry. In 2020-21, allocation to the scheme was revised down from Rs 15,695 crore at the budgeted stage to Rs 15,307 crore at the revised stage.¹²⁰ <p>Table 12: Expenditure on PM-Fasal Bima Yojana (in Rs crore)</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="678 1155 1861 1230"> <thead> <tr> <th>Parameter</th> <th>2016-17</th> <th>2017-18</th> <th>2018-19</th> <th>2019-20</th> <th>2020-21 (RE)</th> <th>2021-22 (BE)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Actual Expenditure</td> <td>11,052</td> <td>9,419</td> <td>11,937</td> <td>12,639</td> <td>15,307</td> <td>16,000</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Standing Committee on Agriculture (2021-22) noted that the issues being faced in the implementation of the scheme are: (i) withdrawal of some states from the scheme, (ii) due to lack of awareness, several farmers do not submit declaration forms to opt out of the scheme and face mandatory deduction of premium from their bank accounts, (iii) delays in settlement of insurance claims, (iv) delays in taking action against defaulting insurance companies, and (v) only 15 states and union territories have notified Grievance Redressal Committees at both the state and district level. The Committee recommended addressing these issues using technology and the coordination of all institutional mechanisms.¹²⁴ 	Parameter	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 (RE)	2021-22 (BE)	Actual Expenditure	11,052	9,419	11,937	12,639	15,307	16,000
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Policy Announcement	Current Status																																																									
<p>Government decided to implement the recommendations of the Swaminathan Committee report and increased the MSP to at least 1.5 times of the cost of production.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ MSP is the assured price at which food grains are procured from farmers by the central and state governments and their agencies, for the central pool of food grains. The central pool is used for providing food grains under the Public Distribution System and other welfare schemes, and also kept as reserve in the form of buffer stock. Table 13 shows the MSP fixed by the government for Paddy and Wheat in the marketing seasons between 2014-15 and 2021-22. Table 13: MSP for Paddy and Wheat crops (Rs per Quintal)¹²⁵ <table border="1" data-bbox="678 373 1906 528"> <thead> <tr> <th>Parameter</th> <th>2014-15</th> <th>2015-16</th> <th>2016-17</th> <th>2017-18</th> <th>2018-19</th> <th>2019-20</th> <th>2020-21</th> <th>2021-22</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>MSP of Paddy (Common)</td> <td>1,360</td> <td>1,410</td> <td>1,470</td> <td>1,550</td> <td>1,750</td> <td>1,815</td> <td>1,868</td> <td>1,940</td> </tr> <tr> <td>% increase over past year</td> <td>3.8%</td> <td>3.7%</td> <td>4.3%</td> <td>5.4%</td> <td>12.9%</td> <td>3.7%</td> <td>2.9%</td> <td>3.9%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MSP of Wheat</td> <td>1,450</td> <td>1,525</td> <td>1,625</td> <td>1,735</td> <td>1,840</td> <td>1,925</td> <td>1,975</td> <td>2,015</td> </tr> <tr> <td>% increase over past year</td> <td>3.6%</td> <td>5.2%</td> <td>6.6%</td> <td>6.8%</td> <td>6.1%</td> <td>4.6%</td> <td>2.6%</td> <td>2%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ While MSP is announced for 23 crops every year, public procurement is limited to a few crops such as paddy, wheat, and, to a limited extent, pulses. Table 14 shows the production and procurement of major crops in 2020-21. Table 14: Procurement of crops at MSP in 2020-21 (Lakh Metric Tonnes)^{126,127} <table border="1" data-bbox="678 632 1951 751"> <thead> <tr> <th>Parameter</th> <th>Rice</th> <th>Wheat</th> <th>Paddy</th> <th>Cotton (in bales of 170 kg each)</th> <th>Coarse grains</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Procurement</td> <td>602</td> <td>390</td> <td>894</td> <td>92</td> <td>12</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A 2016 NITI Aayog report highlighted issues with the implementation of MSP including: (i) procurement is largely from a few states- for instance, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh and Punjab produce 45% of the country's wheat but account for 84.8% of procurement, and Punjab produces 26.5% of rice but accounts for 42.3% of procurement, (ii) low awareness among farmers before the sowing season (according to NITI Aayog, 62% of the farmers were informed of MSPs after the sowing season), (iii) long distances to the procurement centres, (iv) increasing cost of transportation for farmers, and (v) inadequate storage capacity. The NITI Aayog noted that the agricultural pricing policy needs to be reviewed to ensure that farmers are receiving remunerative prices for their produce. Farmers are often forced to engage in distress sales, i.e., selling below MSPs.¹²⁸ ▪ The Economic Survey 2019-20 observed that the regular increase in MSP is seen by farmers as a signal to opt for crops which have an assured procurement system (for example, rice and wheat). The Economic Survey also noted that this indicates market prices do not offer remunerative options for farmers, and MSP has, in effect, become the maximum price that the farmers are able to realise.¹²⁹ 	Parameter	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	MSP of Paddy (Common)	1,360	1,410	1,470	1,550	1,750	1,815	1,868	1,940	% increase over past year	3.8%	3.7%	4.3%	5.4%	12.9%	3.7%	2.9%	3.9%	MSP of Wheat	1,450	1,525	1,625	1,735	1,840	1,925	1,975	2,015	% increase over past year	3.6%	5.2%	6.6%	6.8%	6.1%	4.6%	2.6%	2%	Parameter	Rice	Wheat	Paddy	Cotton (in bales of 170 kg each)	Coarse grains	Procurement	602	390	894	92	12
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<p>One Nation, One Ration Card (ONORC)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ONORC, launched in August 2019, seeks to ensure pan-India availability of food grain entitlements to beneficiaries through portable ration cards and Aadhaar based authentication. 34 states and union territories have implemented the ONORC plan as of August 24, 2021. This covers 75 crore beneficiaries (94.3% of the population eligible for entitlements under the National Food Security Act, 2013).¹³⁰ ▪ To assist with COVID-19 induced financial stress, other schemes were implemented in addition to distribution under the National Food Security Act. The financial outlay approved for the scheme is Rs 127.3 crore.¹³¹ 																																																									
<p>The Agriculture Infrastructure Fund for Rs 1,00,000 crore has also been started</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A fund of one lakh crore rupees was approved by the Union Cabinet in July 2020 to provide credit for development of agricultural infrastructure projects at the farm-gate level.¹³² The fund will be disbursed as loans by banks and financial institutions, on which the government will provide a 3% interest subsidy, up to two crore rupees for a maximum period of seven years. The government is estimated to incur an expenditure of Rs 10,736 crore under the scheme until 2029.¹³³ As of December 2021, a total of 8,488 projects have been sanctioned under the scheme with a loan amount of Rs 6,098 crore, out of which, Rs 2,071 crore has been disbursed for 4,003 projects.¹³⁴ 																																																									

Policy Announcement	Current Status
<p>Government has also extended the facility of Kisan Credit Cards to animal husbandry and fishery sectors. The Kisan Rail, started throughout the country, is helping chart a new course by increasing the access of Indian farmers to new markets.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Kisan Credit Cards (KCC): KCC was introduced in 1998 and aims to provide adequate and timely credit through a single window system. The KCC scheme under the Aatma Nirbhar scheme will provide credit of two lakh crore rupees to 2.5 crore farmers.¹³⁵ The scheme was extended in December 2020, to provide benefits to farmers practicing animal husbandry and fisheries related activities. As on July 30, 2021, around 2.3 crore farmers have been covered under the scheme, including 8.9 lakh KCCs for farmers engaged in animal husbandry and fisheries.¹³⁶ ▪ Kisan Rail: In compliance to the announcement made in Union Budget 2020-21, Kisan Rail trains have been introduced by Indian Railways to enable speedy movement of perishables including fruits, vegetables, meat, poultry, fishery, and dairy products from production or surplus regions to consumption or deficient regions. Kisan Rail services are time tabled as well as demand based. Since the launch of first Kisan Rail service on 7th August 2020 and up to 28th November 2021, Indian Railway have operated 1,642 Kisan Rail services, transporting approximately 5.4 lakh tonnes of perishables including onion, banana, potato, garlic, pomegranate, oranges, capsicum, cabbage, cauliflower, and other fruits and vegetables. These services have operated from the states of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Telangana, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.¹³⁷
<p>Efforts have been undertaken to increase the income of fishermen through the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY). In this sector, an investment of about Rs 20,000 crore has been planned over the next 5 years.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Cabinet approved the PMMSY scheme in May 2020 to provide Rs 11,000 crore for marine, inland fisheries and aquaculture and Rs 9,000 crore for developing infrastructure (such as fishing harbours, cold chain, markets).¹³⁸ Guidelines for the Scheme were released in June 2020.¹³⁹ The scheme is to be implemented till 2024-25.¹³⁹ Under the scheme, 4,171 hectares of pond area, 122 deep sea fishing vessels, 656 sea cages for fish cultures and 109 fish and prawn hatcheries have been approved, as of December 7, 2020. 1,820 replacement boats and nets have been provided under the scheme, with livelihood and nutritional support to 1.22 lakh fishers' families.¹⁴⁰ A cumulative total of 9.4 lakh beneficiaries were covered under the scheme during 2020-21 and 2021-22.¹⁴¹ Further, the The Department of Fisheries, Government of India during 2020-21 to till date of 2021-22 has accorded approval of fisheries development project proposals to the tune of Rs. 5336.96 crore with a central share of Rs. 1823.50 crore and released an amount of Rs. 1223.96 crore to States/UTs and other implementing agencies for implementation of the approved projects under PMMSY.¹⁴²
Water and Environment	
<p>Government is working on the ambitious scheme of 'Jal Jeevan Mission'. Besides delivering water to every household (Har Ghar Jal), work on water conservation is also progressing at a rapid pace.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) was launched in 2019 with the aim to provide functional tap water connection to every rural household by 2024. It subsumed the National Rural Drinking Water Programme. As of January 2022 (since the onset of the mission), tap water connections have been added in 5.6 crore households (29% of total number of rural households). As of January 13, 2022, 45.7% of rural households (8.8 crore households) have tap water connections.¹⁴³ ▪ JJM was estimated to cost Rs 3.6 lakh crore over 2019 to 2024.¹⁴⁴ In 2021-22, it has been allocated Rs 50,011 crore, which is a 123% annual increase over the actual expenditure in 2019-20.¹⁴⁵ ▪ The 15th Finance Commission noted that under JJM, 63% of rural habitations are being provided piped water supply from ground water sources. It highlighted that this will become unsustainable, given the highly depleted water table in the country. It recommended that the dependence on ground water be reduced by: (i) fixing price on water on graded basis, where higher consumption entails higher charges, (ii) greater reliance on surface water for schemes such as JJM, and (iii) incentivising creation of rainwater harvesting structures (including stricter implementation of laws).¹⁴⁶ ▪ The Standing Committee on Drinking Water and Sanitation (2020-21) noted certain weaknesses in the implementation of the scheme including: (i) lack of participatory approach, (ii) inadequate financial resources, (iii) non-availability of technical human resources, and (iv) poor operation and maintenance of completed schemes. It recommended a speedy increase in the provision of piped water supply and effective strategies to monitor accomplished work.¹⁴⁷ ▪ National Water Mission, under the National Action Plan on Climate Change, was launched in 2008. It seeks to conserve water, minimize wastage, and ensure more equitable distribution both across and within States through integrated water resources development and management. Under the mission,

Policy Announcement	Current Status																								
<p>Efforts are being made to achieve the goal of reduction in the Emissions Intensity of GDP by 33 to 35 per cent, by the year 2030 as compared to the year 2005. India is among the frontline nations in implementing the Paris Agreement.</p>	<p>State Specific Action Plans (SSAP) have been initiated for water sector covering irrigation, agriculture, domestic water supply, industrial water supply and waste water utilization in states and union territories. As of December 2021, 27 states and union territories have signed MoU with respective Nodal agencies for preparation of SSAP, of which, five states have completed the first phase of SSAP.¹⁴⁸</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In November 2021, the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) was held in Glasgow, Scotland where leaders and representatives from 197 countries met to decide on the actions to be taken to address climate change. The Glasgow Conference Pact urged all countries to reduce greenhouse gas emissions including CO₂ by 45% (relative to 2010 level) by 2030 to limit global warming.¹⁴⁹ At the conference, the Prime Minister of India announced the following targets for India: (i) achieving net zero emissions by 2070, (ii) increasing the share of renewable energy in India's energy mix to 50% by 2030, (iii) increasing non-fossil energy capacity to 500 GW by 2030, (iv) meeting 50% of energy requirements through renewable energy by 2030, (v) reducing total projected carbon emissions by one billion tonnes by 2030, and (vi) reducing the carbon intensity of the economy to less than 45% by 2030.¹⁵⁰ ▪ As on December 31, 2021, the total installed capacity of power generation from all sources is 393 GW. Of this, total renewable energy capacity is 105 GW (which is 60% of the target to be achieved by 2022).¹⁵¹ Note that earlier, only small hydro (capacity less than 25 MW) was considered a part of renewable energy. In March 2019, the Cabinet declared large hydro as a renewable energy source.¹⁵² As of December 31, 2021, total large hydro power capacity is 47 GW. ▪ India's nationally determined contributions (2015) included the target to achieve 175 GW renewable energy capacity by 2022.¹⁵³ The table below shows progress so far: <table border="1" data-bbox="683 762 1680 1002"> <caption>Table 15: Renewable energy installed capacity so far (as of December 31, 2021)</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>India's nationally determined contributions</th> <th>Target</th> <th>Achievement</th> <th>% of target achieved</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Solar</td> <td>100 GW</td> <td>49.3 GW</td> <td>49.3%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wind</td> <td>60 GW</td> <td>40 GW</td> <td>67%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Biomass</td> <td>10 GW</td> <td>10.6 GW</td> <td>106%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Small Hydro</td> <td>5 GW</td> <td>4.8 GW</td> <td>96%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>175 GW</td> <td>105 GW</td> <td>60%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> ▪ Other targets under the Nationally Determined Contributions include: (i) reducing GHG emissions intensity of its Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by 33 to 35 percent by 2030 from 2005 level, (ii) achieving about 40 per cent cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil fuel based energy resources by 2030 with the help of transfer of technology and low cost international finance including from Green Climate Fund (GCF), and (iii) creating an additional carbon sink of 2.5 to 3 billion tonnes of CO₂ equivalent through additional forest and tree cover by 2030. India's current share of non-fossil sources based installed capacity of electricity generation is more than 40%.¹⁵⁴ In 2021, the forest and tree cover was 8,09,537 sq.km, which is 24.62% of the geographical area of the country. This is a slight increase (0.28%) from the previous assessment in 2019.¹⁵⁵ ▪ The Standing Committee on Energy (2020-21) has noted that despite the significant increase in renewable energy capacity, and more addition planned in the coming years, coal will remain the main source of power in this decade.¹⁵⁶ It noted that there may be a 30% increase in the installed thermal power generation capacity by 2029-30. 	India's nationally determined contributions	Target	Achievement	% of target achieved	Solar	100 GW	49.3 GW	49.3%	Wind	60 GW	40 GW	67%	Biomass	10 GW	10.6 GW	106%	Small Hydro	5 GW	4.8 GW	96%	Total	175 GW	105 GW	60%
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<p>A range of modern armaments are being procured to enhance the capabilities of India's</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The government had earmarked Rs 1,10,538 crore in 2021-22 for the purpose of capital acquisition/ modernisation for armed forces.¹⁵⁷ Table below shows the trends in budgetary allocation and expenditure towards modernisation between 2015-16 and 2021-22. 																								

Policy Announcement	Current Status																																										
<p>armed forces. There is also a thrust on achieving self-reliance in the defence sector.</p>	<p>Table 16: Budget Estimates and Actual Expenditure on modernisation of armed forces (in Rs crore)</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="680 277 1850 368"> <thead> <tr> <th>Parameter</th> <th>2015-16</th> <th>2016-17</th> <th>2017-18</th> <th>2018-19</th> <th>2019-20</th> <th>2020-21</th> <th>2021-22</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Budget Estimates</td> <td>77,406</td> <td>69,898</td> <td>69,473</td> <td>74,115</td> <td>80,959</td> <td>90,047</td> <td>1,10,538</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Actual Expenditure</td> <td>62,235</td> <td>69,280</td> <td>72,732</td> <td>75,892</td> <td>91,128</td> <td>31,747</td> <td>-</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Note: Actual Expenditure is based on provisional estimates.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Estimates Committee on Defence Production and Procurement (2018) noted that the share of capital procurement budget in the defence budget has been continuously declining, which has an adverse impact on the modernisation process of armed forces. The Committee recommended that provisions for adequate allocation of capital budget should be made and funds fully utilised.¹⁵⁸ ▪ The Standing Committee on Defence (2019) noted that inadequate allocation for committed liabilities could lead to default on contractual obligations. Committed liabilities are payments anticipated during a financial year in respect of contracts concluded in previous years. It recommended that the promised allocations should be disbursed for committed liabilities.¹⁵⁹ ▪ The Report of the 15th Finance Commission for 2021-26 studied the issue of whether a separate mechanism for funding of defence and internal security should be set up.¹⁶⁰ The Commission recommended setting up a dedicated, non-lapsable Modernisation Fund for Defence and Internal Security to bridge the gap between projected budgetary requirements and budget allocation.¹⁶¹ The Commission recommended an allocation of Rs 1.5 lakh crore to the Fund over a period of five years (2021-26) by allocating 1% of the gross revenue receipts of the central government for this purpose. The Fund may also contain disinvestment proceeds of the defence public sector enterprises, and funds collected through monetisation of surplus defence land (to be used only for defence expenditure). The Commission expects the fund to collect Rs 2.38 lakh crore over the 2021-26 period. A similar recommendation to create a Non-Lapsable Capital Fund Account for defence modernisation was made by the Standing Committee on Defence (2017).¹⁶² At the time, the Ministry of Finance had objected to the creation of such a fund on various grounds. It had held that though the fund is non-lapsable, it would not be available to the Ministry of Defence automatically, as it would require Parliament's sanction.¹⁶³ The Finance Minister had maintained that the present mechanism of authorisation of the budget on an annual basis is working well.¹⁶⁴ ▪ In May 2020, the Finance Minister had announced that a list of weapons and platforms banned for import will be released based on a year-wise timeline.¹⁶⁵ In August 2020, the Ministry put an embargo on import of another 101 items by putting them in the negative import list.¹⁶⁶ In May 2021, the Ministry of Defence put 108 items such as ammunitions, weapons, and various systems in the negative import list.¹⁶⁷ All items put in the negative import list will be procured from indigenous/ domestic sources. The 108 items put in the negative import list include complex systems, sensors, simulator, weapons, and ammunitions. 	Parameter	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	Budget Estimates	77,406	69,898	69,473	74,115	80,959	90,047	1,10,538	Actual Expenditure	62,235	69,280	72,732	75,892	91,128	31,747	-																		
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<p>The number of naxal-violence related incidents have declined and the naxal-affected area is shrinking. Extremism in North East is on the wane and there is a sharp decline in the number of violent incidents</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Table 17 shows the number of incidents of left-wing extremism in India and the resultant fatalities between 2016 and 2021. <p>Table 17: Incidents of left-wing extremism between 2016-21 (till August, 2021)¹⁶⁸</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="680 1150 1756 1241"> <thead> <tr> <th>Parameter</th> <th>2016</th> <th>2017</th> <th>2018</th> <th>2019</th> <th>2020</th> <th>2021 (till August)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Incidents</td> <td>1,048</td> <td>908</td> <td>833</td> <td>670</td> <td>665</td> <td>349</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Resultant deaths</td> <td>278</td> <td>263</td> <td>240</td> <td>202</td> <td>183</td> <td>110</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Table 18 shows the number of incidents of extremism in North-east India and the resultant fatalities between 2016 and 2021 <p>Table 18: Incidents of extremism in North East India between 2016-21 (till November, 2021)¹⁶⁹</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="680 1315 1771 1406"> <thead> <tr> <th>Parameter</th> <th>2016</th> <th>2017</th> <th>2018</th> <th>2019</th> <th>2020</th> <th>2021 (till November)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Incidents</td> <td>484</td> <td>308</td> <td>252</td> <td>223</td> <td>163</td> <td>187</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Resultant deaths</td> <td>152</td> <td>106</td> <td>71</td> <td>37</td> <td>28</td> <td>67</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Parameter	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021 (till August)	Incidents	1,048	908	833	670	665	349	Resultant deaths	278	263	240	202	183	110	Parameter	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021 (till November)	Incidents	484	308	252	223	163	187	Resultant deaths	152	106	71	37	28	67
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Policy Announcement	Current Status																																				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected districts covered under the Security Related Expenditure (SRE) scheme reduced from 126 to 90 in April 2018 and further to 70 in July 2021. Under SRE scheme, the central government reimburses expenditures made by State Governments (for 70 districts) of the affected States to fight left wing extremism. The reimbursed expenditures include: (i) training and operational needs of security forces, (ii) ex-gratia payment to the family of civilians/security forces killed/injured in LWE violence, (iii) compensation to Left Wing Extremist cadres who surrendered in accordance with the surrender and rehabilitation policy of the concerned State Government, and (iv) expenses on community policing, infrastructure for village defence committees, and publicity materials.¹⁷⁰ 																																				
Transport and infrastructure																																					
<p>For modernizing the country's infrastructure, work is being done on the 'National Infrastructure Pipeline' worth over Rs 110 lakh crore</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Infrastructure Pipeline was launched with a projected investment plan of Rs 111 lakh crore over five years (2020-25).¹⁷¹ NIP was launched with 6,835 projects, which has expanded to over 9,000 projects covering 34 sub-sectors. The project is aimed at increasing growth, competitiveness, and employment. The state governments, central government, and the private sector will invest 40%, 39%, and 21% in the project, respectively. The major share of the funds will be given to: (i) energy sector (24%), (ii) roads (18%), (iii) urban infrastructure (17%), and (iv) railways (12%).¹⁷² The Ministry of Finance had constituted a task force in September 2019 to draw up a National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP) of projects costing more than Rs 100 crore for the period 2019-25. The task force submitted its report on the NIP.^{173,174} The task force recommended setting up Committees for monitoring NIP progress, implementation in each infrastructure ministry, and raising financial resources for the NIP. Table 19 shows the sector-wise progress under the NIP. <p>Table 19: Projects under the National Infrastructure Pipeline (till January 2022) (in Rs lakh crore)¹⁷⁵</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="680 767 2056 948"> <thead> <tr> <th>Particular</th> <th>Transport</th> <th>Energy</th> <th>Water and Sanitation</th> <th>Social Infrastructure</th> <th>Commercial Infrastructure</th> <th>Logistics</th> <th>Communication</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Number of projects</td> <td>4,633</td> <td>692</td> <td>1,332</td> <td>1,718</td> <td>595</td> <td>163</td> <td>30</td> <td>9,163</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Project Cost (Rs lakh crore)</td> <td>59.3</td> <td>35.8</td> <td>21.1</td> <td>18.7</td> <td>6</td> <td>3.8</td> <td>1.1</td> <td>145.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>% of total projects</td> <td>50.56%</td> <td>7.55%</td> <td>14.54%</td> <td>18.75%</td> <td>6.49%</td> <td>1.78%</td> <td>0.33%</td> <td>-</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Out of the 4,633 projects in transport sectors, 3,508 are for constructing roads and bridges. Other sub sectors include railways tracks, urban public transport, and airports. Renewable energy generation constitutes the majority of the projects under the energy sector. Out of 1,718 projects in social infrastructure, 1,009 are for education infrastructure. Further, the Indian Railways is developing two dedicated freight corridors (namely Eastern and Western Dedicated Freight Corridors) to facilitate faster movement of freight. As of November 30, 2021, 1,010 km of the 2,843 km has been commissioned. This includes 659 km of the Western Corridor (out of 1,506km) and 351 km of the Eastern Corridor (out of 1,337 km).¹⁷⁶ In 2018, the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways launched the Bharatmala Pariyojana, with the aim of optimising the efficiency of movement of goods and people across the country. The Bharatmala Pariyojana envisages development of about 26,000 km length of Economic Corridors. Major projects completed under Bharatmala Pariyojana include the Eastern Peripheral Expressway, Delhi-Meerut Expressway, Narmada Bridge, Chenani – Nashri Tunnel, and the Dhaula-Sadia Bridge. Since 2017, the Agra expressway has been made fully operational, along with the inauguration of Purvanchal Expressway. Further, the Bundelkhand Expressway, Ganga Expressway, Gorakhpur Link Expressway, and Ballia Link Expressway have been initiated.¹⁷⁷ 	Particular	Transport	Energy	Water and Sanitation	Social Infrastructure	Commercial Infrastructure	Logistics	Communication	Total	Number of projects	4,633	692	1,332	1,718	595	163	30	9,163	Project Cost (Rs lakh crore)	59.3	35.8	21.1	18.7	6	3.8	1.1	145.8	% of total projects	50.56%	7.55%	14.54%	18.75%	6.49%	1.78%	0.33%	-
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<p>Under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, construction of 6.42 lakh km of road network has been completed in rural areas of the country</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) aims to connect all eligible unconnected habitations in rural areas with all-weather roads. The scheme has been allocated Rs 15,000 crore in 2021-22, which is a 9.4% increase from the 2020-21 revised estimate of Rs 13,706 crore. Phase three of PMGSY was launched in 2019 for the consolidation of 1.2 lakh kilometres of roadways through rural links and routes.¹⁷⁸ <p>Table 20: Progress made under PMGSY (in km)¹⁷⁹</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="680 373 1980 496"> <thead> <tr> <th>Period</th> <th>2015-16</th> <th>2016-17</th> <th>2017-18</th> <th>2018-19</th> <th>2019-20</th> <th>2020-21</th> <th>2021-22 (as of January 2022)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Target road length</td> <td>33,649</td> <td>48,812</td> <td>51,000</td> <td>57,700</td> <td>50,097</td> <td>46,164</td> <td>61,703</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Completed road length</td> <td>35,155</td> <td>47,446</td> <td>48,746</td> <td>16,856</td> <td>27,301</td> <td>36,675</td> <td>22,108</td> </tr> <tr> <td>% of targets achieved</td> <td>104.5%</td> <td>97.2%</td> <td>95.6%</td> <td>29.2%</td> <td>54.5%</td> <td>79%</td> <td>36%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Standing Committee on Rural Development (2018-19) noted that the pace of work under the scheme has been really low, especially in hilly states like Uttarakhand. It recommended that the pace of completion of projects be increased to ensure achievement of the target of the scheme.¹⁸⁰ The Standing Committee on Rural Development (2020-21) noted that the upkeep and maintenance of roads has been poor. It recommended the Ministry to ensure stricter norm compliance and hold the contractors and agencies accountable for their negligence.¹⁸¹ 	Period	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22 (as of January 2022)	Target road length	33,649	48,812	51,000	57,700	50,097	46,164	61,703	Completed road length	35,155	47,446	48,746	16,856	27,301	36,675	22,108	% of targets achieved	104.5%	97.2%	95.6%	29.2%	54.5%	79%	36%
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Urban and Rural Development																																	
<p>Under the SVAMITVA scheme, villagers are now acquiring legal rights over their property</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The SVAMITVA scheme was launched in April 2021 with an aim to provide the 'Record of Rights' to village household owners possessing houses in inhabited areas in villages. This is achieved by issuing legal ownership cards (property cards). Under the scheme, ownership rights are demarcated by mapping land parcels through drones. The scheme is being implemented with the collaborative efforts of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, State Revenue Department, State Panchayati Raj Department, and Survey of India (Sol). The States need to sign Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Sol for implementation of the scheme. So far, 29 States have signed MoU with Sol. The Scheme aims to cover all the villages across the country by March 2025 with an estimated cost of Rs 566 crore.¹⁸² As of January 2022, 24,517 property cards have been distributed.¹⁸³ Issue of property cards lead to ease of securing bank loans, reducing property related disputes, and comprehensive village level planning. 																																
<p>Housing for two crore poor people</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) seeks to provide housing for all by 2022. It has two components: PMAY-Urban and PMAY-Gramin. ▪ PMAY-U was launched in June 2015 to provide housing for all in urban areas by the year 2022.¹⁸⁴ The scheme comprises four components: (i) in-situ rehabilitation of existing slum dwellers (using the existing land under slums to provide houses to slum dwellers) through private participation, (ii) credit linked subsidy scheme (CLSS) for Economically Weaker Sections, Lower Income Groups, and middle-income group (MIG), (iii) affordable housing in partnership, and (iv) subsidy for beneficiary-led individual house construction. ▪ PMAY-U has been allocated Rs 8,000 crore for 2021-22. This is a 62% decrease over the revised estimates for 2020-21.¹⁸⁵ In November, 2020, an additional Rs. 18,000 crores were allocated towards the PMAY (Urban) scheme for 2020-21 for the grounding of 12 lakhs houses and completion of 18 lakh houses. ▪ The Credit Linked Subsidy Scheme for middle income group (annual income between Rs 6 lakh and Rs 18 lakh) under the PMAY-U has been in force since 2017. It seeks to provide grants on home loans by eligible urban poor or middle-income group for acquisition, construction or enhancement of houses. The government estimates that this will bring in an investment of Rs 70,000 crore in the housing sector and benefit 2.5 lakh families.¹⁸⁶ In 2021-22, this scheme was allocated ten lakh rupees, a 98% decrease from the actual expenditure in 2019-20. ▪ Additionally, the Credit Linked Subsidy Scheme for economically weaker sections and low income group has also been in force since 2017. Under the scheme, the beneficiaries are eligible for an interest subsidy at the rate of 6.5% for a tenure of 20 years or during tenure of loan whichever is lower. The credit linked subsidy will be available only for loan amounts up to six lakh rupees. In 2021-22, the scheme was allocated Rs 1,000 crore, an increase of 																																

Policy Announcement	Current Status												
	<p>29% from the actual expenditure in 2019-20. As of December 2021, 17.35 lakh beneficiaries have availed subsidy on housing loans through Credit Linked Subsidy Scheme (CLSS), out of which 6.15 Lakh beneficiaries are from Middle Income Group.¹⁸⁷</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Standing Committee on Urban Development (2019) recommended ensuring timely release of funds to achieve the goal of 'Housing for All' by 2022.¹⁸⁸ The Union Cabinet had approved the creation of a National Urban Housing Fund (NUHF) worth Rs 60,000 crore in February 2018.¹⁸⁹ The NUHF aims to raise funds till 2022 to ensure a sustained flow of central release under PMAY-U to enable construction of houses. The Standing Committee on Urban Development (2020) recommended establishing a system to incentivise better performing states under the scheme.¹⁹⁰ The table below provides the implementation status of the scheme as of January 18, 2022. <p>Table 21: Houses completed under PMAY-U (in crore)¹⁹¹</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="683 501 1283 563"> <thead> <tr> <th>Houses sanctioned</th> <th>Houses Completed</th> <th>% Completed</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1.14</td> <td>0.53</td> <td>46.5%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Note: This information was last updated in January 18, 2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Ministry of Rural Development has been implementing PMAY-G since April 2016 to provide assistance to eligible rural households with overall target to construct 2.95 crore pucca houses with basic amenities by March 2024.¹⁹² PMAY-G has been allocated Rs 19,500 crore for 2021-22.¹⁹³ <p>Table 22: Houses completed under PMAY-G (in crore)¹⁹⁴</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="683 687 1283 750"> <thead> <tr> <th>Houses sanctioned</th> <th>Houses Completed</th> <th>% Completed</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2.17</td> <td>1.69</td> <td>77.9%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Note: This information was last updated in January 18, 2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Observing that out of the total 4.3 crore persons earmarked for the scheme, only 2.32 crore have become eligible after verification by Gram Sabhas, the Standing Committee on Rural Development (2021) noted the possibility of a politically motivated approach in identification of beneficiaries.¹⁹⁵ To ensure proper identification of beneficiaries, the Committee recommended: (i) downsizing the role of Gram Sabhas and Panchayats in identification of beneficiaries and roping in private/ non-governmental bodies for verification and authentication, (ii) incorporation of a block development officer for oversight, and (iii) transferring ownership of the housing unit to the designated nominee after the death of a beneficiary. Further, it recommended: (i) establishing close coordination with the concerned ministries for effective implementation, (ii) educating beneficiaries about the consequences of unwillingness to opt for MGNREGS, (iii) ensuring construction of functional toilets, and timely payment of Rs 12,000 assistance to beneficiaries under Swachh Bharat Mission, and (iv) improving the provision of LPG connections (from 30%) under PMUY. 	Houses sanctioned	Houses Completed	% Completed	1.14	0.53	46.5%	Houses sanctioned	Houses Completed	% Completed	2.17	1.69	77.9%
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<p>More than 10 crore toilets were built under 'Swachh Bharat Mission' so that the dignity of sisters and daughters from poor families is maintained and they are not inconvenienced.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Swachh Bharat Mission was launched in 2014.¹⁹⁶ It has two components: Swachh Bharat Mission – Gramin (SBM-G) and Swachh Bharat Mission Urban (SBM-U). While the rural component of the Mission is implemented under the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, the urban component implemented by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs. SBM-G was allocated Rs 9,994 crore in 2021-22, an increase by 67% over the 2020-21 revised estimates (Rs 6,000 crore), Under the scheme, 100% of districts were declared to be free from open defecation in October 2020. As of January 2022, 10.88 crore household toilets have been built under the Mission. SBM-U was allocated Rs 2,300 crore in 2021-22, an annual increase of 35% over actual expenditure for 2019-20. The total estimated cost of implementation of SBM-U is Rs 62,009 crore. Of this, the share of the central government is Rs 14,623 crore, and states' assistance will amount to Rs 4,874 crore. The remainder is to be financed via various sources such as the private sector, Swachh Bharat Kosh, market borrowing, and external assistance.¹⁹⁷ Under the scheme, 62.6 lakh individual household toilets have been constructed.¹⁹⁸ The Standing Committee on Rural Development (2018) highlighted the following challenges: (i) a village with 100% household toilets cannot be declared Open Defecation Free (ODF) till all the inhabitants start using them, (ii) toilets have been constructed with low quality of raw materials or without provision of water availability, and (iii) fall back rate of ODF declared villages has been very high due to filing of wrong information and non-sustainability of toilets.¹⁹⁹ 												

Policy Announcement	Current Status
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Standing Committee on Urban Development noted in early 2020 that toilets built under the scheme in areas including East Delhi are of very poor quality, and do not have adequate maintenance.²⁰⁰ Additionally, it also highlighted in September 2020 that uneven release of funds for solid waste management across states/UTs needs to be corrected to ensure fair implementation of the programme.²⁰¹ The Standing Committee on Urban Development (2021) also expressed concern about the slow pace in achieving targets for source segregation and waste processing.²⁰² ▪ In February 2021, the Finance Minister announced in her budget speech that the Urban Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0 will be launched.²⁰³ Urban Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0 will focus on: (i) sludge management, (ii) waste-water treatment, (iii) source segregation of garbage, (iv) reduction in single-use plastics and (v) control of air pollution caused by construction, demolition, and bio-remediation of dumpsites. On October 1, 2021, the Prime Minister launched SBM-Urban 2.0 with the mission to make all our cities 'Garbage Free'.²⁰⁴ ▪ As per the latest NFHS survey (2019-21), 70% of the population live in households that use an improved sanitation facility (65% in rural households).²⁰⁵ In 2015-16, around 49% of the population were living in households with improved sanitation facilities.
Energy	
<p>More than 14 crore gas cylinders were given free of cost throughout the country.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana was launched in May 2016 with the objective of providing five crore Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) connections to women from below poverty line (BPL) households. In April 2018, the scheme was expanded to include women beneficiaries from seven categories (SC/ST, PMAY, AAY, most backward classes, tea garden, forest dwellers, Islands). The target was revised to eight crore LPG connections, which was achieved in August 2019.²⁰⁶ In August 2021, the central government launched the Ujjwala 2.0 scheme. Under the revised scheme, along with a deposit free LPG connection, the beneficiaries will be provided first refill and hotplate free of cost. Further, migrants will not be required to submit ration cards or address proof. As of January 2022, a total of 8.97 crore LPG connections have been released under the PMUY.²⁰⁷ As of November 2021, there were 30.21 crore LPG consumers in India.²⁰⁸ As per NFHS-5, 59% of households use clean fuel for cooking.²⁰⁵ In rural areas, the percentage of households which use clean fuel is 43%, while for urban it is around 90%. ▪ A 2019 report by the Comptroller and Auditor General on the scheme included the following findings: (i) while LPG coverage in India has increased from 62% to 94% in 2016-19, average annual refill consumption continues to be low, pointing to lack of sustained usage by beneficiaries, (ii) only 19% of total connections were installed within seven days of giving details, pointing to delays in installations, (iii) there is a risk of domestic cylinders being diverted for commercial purposes in high consumption cases, and (iv) there is a lack of performance indicators in the scheme.²⁰⁹
<p>Rs 9,000 crore has been sanctioned for the North-East Gas Grid Project.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The project, which was launched in 2019, is being undertaken by the Indradhanush Gas Grid Limited, which is a joint venture of five central public-sector enterprises. Viability Gap Funding (VGF) of 60% of the projected cost of Rs 9,265 crore was approved by the Cabinet in January 2019.²¹⁰ VGF gives a one-time capital subsidy for projects considered unattractive for complete private investment. As of December 31, 2020, 1,544 km of the total proposed 1,656 km of the project has been laid.²¹¹
<p>More than 2.5 crore free electricity connections were given so that every poor person's house is electrified.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana (SAUBHAGYA) was launched in 2017 to achieve universal household electrification to all un-electrified households in rural areas and poor households in urban areas. Between October 2019 and November 2020, 2.8 crore households were electrified under the scheme. Rs 6,220 crore was released by the central government for the implementation of this scheme in 2020-21.²¹² As of December 2021, 21.45 crore rural households have been electrified out of a total of 21.5 households (99.9%).²¹³ ▪ The Ministry of Power noted that the COVID-19 pandemic and the resultant lockdown have adversely impacted finances of the power sector. Under the Aatma Nirbhar Scheme, power distribution companies, central government owned power generating companies, and rural electrification and power finance corporations were provided aid to ensure liquidity in the energy sector. These include: (i) Rs. 3.03 lakh for power distribution companies for carrying out certain reforms for infrastructure creation and up-gradation of systems. Qualifying discoms will be provided with assistance in installing smart meters,

Policy Announcement	Current Status
	<p>feeders, and overhead lines, (ii) In August 2020, the Cabinet approved a one-time relaxation to rural electrification corporations and power finance corporation for extending working capital loans to discoms above the limit imposed by the Ujjwal DISCOM Assurance Yojana, i.e. 25% of last year revenue.²¹⁴, (iii) A proposal to defer fixed charges levied by central government owned power generating companies was passed by the Cabinet in August 2020.²¹⁵ The charges can be repaid in three interest free equal instalments. Further, the Cabinet advised generation companies and transmission companies to keep the rate of penal charges for late payments (late payment surcharge) less than simple interest rate of 12% per annum.²¹⁶ To avail these benefits, discoms will have to send a proposal to their respective state governments.²¹⁷.</p>
<p>20 lakh solar pumps are being provided to farmers under the Pradhan Mantri Kusun Yojana</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PM-KUSUM was launched in March 2019 for solarisation of agriculture pumps.²¹⁸ The scheme aims to add solar and other renewable capacity with total financial support of Rs 34,035 crore from the central government between 2017 and 2022. In 2020, the targets under the scheme were increased from the installation of 17.5 lakh pumps generating 25.8GW to 20 lakh pumps generating 30.8GW of energy.²¹⁹ ▪ 5,000 small solar power plants, seven lakh standalone solar pumps and solarisation of four lakh grid connected pumps were targeted for sanction in 2020-21.²¹⁹ 20 MW of small solar power plants, 75,098 standalone off-grid solar water pumps, and solarisation of 1,026 existing grid-connected agriculture pumps have been installed/operationalised as of November 2021.²²⁰
Social Welfare	
<p>Under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - Rashtriya Grameen Aajeevika Mission, more than 7 crore women entrepreneurs have become a part of the network of nearly 66 lakh Self Help Groups in the country.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM), launched in 2011, aims to reduce poverty by providing rural poor with institutional platforms to increase household income through enhancements in livelihood and improved access to financial services. The Aajeevika scheme within the mission, seeks to establish self-help groups led by women in rural households.²²¹ In 2021-22, the Mission was allocated Rs 13,678 crore, which is a 49% increase from the 2020-21 allocation of Rs 9,210 crore.²²² As of January 2022, there are 70.9 lakh self-help groups operating under the Aajeevika scheme with 8.1 crore members.²²³
<p>More than 3.5 crore children were vaccinated under 'Mission Indradhanush'.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mission Indradhanush, which was launched in 2014, aims to cover unvaccinated and partially vaccinated children in areas with low immunization coverage. It seeks to immunise children against 12 diseases. As of December 2021, under the scheme, 3.86 crore children and 96.8 lakh pregnant women have been vaccinated.²²⁴ The full immunization coverage in children aged between 12 to 23 months as per the National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5) (2019-21) was 76.4%, an increase from 62% as per NFHS-4 (2015-16).²⁰⁵
<p>Keeping in mind the safety of the women, work on several initiatives such as setting up One Stop Centres, National Database of criminals, Emergency Response Support System and Fast Track Courts across the country is progressing at a rapid pace.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ One stop centres: These were set up under the National Mission for Empowerment of Women, launched in 2015, to support women affected by violence. These provide various services such as police, medical, legal, and psycho-social aid alongside shelter. As of September, 2021, 733 centres have been approved across 35 states and union territories, of which 704 are operational.²²⁵ ▪ Fast track courts: The Department of Justice sought to set up 1,023 courts, including 634 fast-track special courts for fast trial and disposal of pending cases related to rape and 389 courts dealing exclusively with children's sexual abuse in 2019.²²⁶ This has been approved for another two years (2021-23) at a total outlay of Rs 1,573 crore. As of October 2021, 681 fast track special courts including 381 courts dealing exclusively with children's sexual abuse have been made functional in 27 states and union territories.²²⁷ Further, fast track courts have been set up to deal with cases of heinous crimes, civil cases related to women, children, senior citizens, HIV/AIDS etc and property related cases pending for more than 5 years as recommended by 14th Finance Commission. As of October 2021, 914 fast track courts are functional across 23 states and union territories. Further, 31.92 lakh cases have been disposed by fast-track courts (since 2015), while the fast-track special courts have disposed 64,217 cases as of October 2021.²²⁷
<p>Work is being done towards protecting the health of infants and pregnant women through</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Rashtriya Poshan Abhiyaan was approved in 2017 with a budget of Rs 9,046 crore for three years.²²⁸ It seeks to reduce the level of stunting, under-nutrition, anaemia, and low birth weight babies. It targets to reduce stunting, undernutrition and low birth weight by 2%, and anaemia (among young

Policy Announcement	Current Status										
various initiatives like Rashtriya Poshan Abhiyaan, free check-ups and financial assistance to pregnant women.	children, women and adolescent girls) by 3% per annum respectively. Further, it aims to achieve reduction in stunting from 38.4% (NFHS-4) to 25% by 2022. Note that as per NFHS-5 (2019-21), stunting in children aged five or below has reduced to 35.5%. As of January 2022, 12.5 crore anganwadi centres have been registered under the scheme, and 10.5 crore beneficiaries have availed the scheme. ²²⁹										
Women's participation in Armed Forces is increasing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of March 2021, there were 6,796 women employees in the Indian Army. There are 1,602 and 696 women employees in the Air Force and Navy respectively.²³⁰ The central government has sanctioned enrolment of 1,700 women in Corps of Military Police in a phased manner.²³¹ Further, the Defence Forces have opened entry for women candidates in the National Defence Academy (NDA), allowing girls to appear in NDA entrance exams from July 2022 courses onwards. For the first batch, written exam has been conducted on 14th November, 2021.²³¹ 										
Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act has been implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019 was passed by Parliament.²³² It defines a transgender person as one whose gender does not match the gender assigned at birth. The Act prohibits the discrimination against a transgender person, including denial of service or unfair treatment in relation to: (i) education; (ii) employment; (iii) healthcare; (iv) access to, or enjoyment of goods, facilities, opportunities available to the public; (v) right to movement; (vi) right to reside, rent, or otherwise occupy property; (vii) opportunity to hold public or private office; and (viii) access to a government or private establishment in whose care or custody a transgender person is. The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Rules, 2020 were notified in September, 2020.²³³ The status of implementation of the 2019 Act and 2020 Rules is as follows:- 										
Table 23: Implementation of the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019											
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="622 750 1249 775" style="width: 50%;">Measure</th> <th data-bbox="1249 750 2051 775" style="width: 50%;">Status</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="622 775 1249 890">The 2020 Rules specify that to obtain a certificate of identity, a transgender person shall make an application to the District Magistrate in the prescribed form. This can be submitted in person or by post, till online facilities are developed by the state government concerned.</td> <td data-bbox="1249 775 2051 890">The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment launched the National Portal for Transgender Persons on November 25, 2020.²³⁴ Through this portal, any transgender applicant can obtain certificate of identity and identity card, without any physical interface. As of January 2022, 4,527 certificates and 4,524 identity cards have been issued on the portal.²³⁵</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="622 890 1249 1002">The 2020 Rules specify that the appropriate government must constitute a welfare board to protect the rights and interests of transgenders and facilitate access to schemes and welfare measures.</td> <td data-bbox="1249 890 2051 1002">12 states and UTs have constituted Transgender Welfare Boards.²³⁶ These are Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Chandigarh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Tripura, and Mizoram.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="622 1002 1249 1225">The 2019 Act specifies that the appropriate government must formulate welfare schemes and programmes to facilitate and support livelihood for transgender persons, including their vocational training and self-employment.</td> <td data-bbox="1249 1002 2051 1225">The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has formulated a scheme named Support for Marginalised Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise (SMILE) for five years with a fund allocation of Rs 100 crore.²³⁴ This scheme has a sub scheme named 'Comprehensive Rehabilitation for Welfare of Transgender Persons', which focusses on rehabilitation, provision of medical facilities, counselling, education, skill development, and economic linkages to the transgender persons. Further, skill development training to transgender beneficiaries is being provided through Pradhan Mantri - Dakshta Aur Kushalta Sampann Hitgrahi Yojana (PM-DAKSH).^{234,237}</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="622 1225 1249 1425">The 2019 Act specifies that the appropriate government must take steps for the rescue, protection and rehabilitation of transgender persons. The 2020 Rules specify that the appropriate government shall create institutional and infrastructure facilities, including temporary shelters, short-stay homes and accommodation, choice of male, female or separate wards in hospitals and washrooms in establishments, within two years of the rules coming into force.</td> <td data-bbox="1249 1225 2051 1425">In November 2020, the central government launched a scheme named 'Shelter Home for Transgender Persons'.²³⁸ It identified ten cities to establish 13 shelter homes (Garima Greh) on a pilot project basis. Each home will rehabilitate at least 25 transgender persons. 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Policy Announcement	Current Status														
	12 pilot shelter homes in Maharashtra, Gujarat, Delhi, West Bengal, Rajasthan, Bihar, Chhatisgarh, Tamil Nadu and Odisha. ²³⁴														
Education															
<p>Keeping in mind the global requirements and challenges of the 21st century, the Government has announced the National Education Policy.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ National Education Policy: The National Education Policy (NEP), 2020, released on July 30, 2020, included the following recommendations towards inclusive digital education: (i) development of interface for online classes, (ii) creation of digital repository for coursework, (iii) use of channels like radio and TV in multiple languages where digital infrastructure is lacking, (iv) creation of virtual labs, and (v) training of teachers to become high quality online content creators. NEP mandates that development of National Curriculum Frameworks for school education, early childhood care and education, teacher education, and adult education respectively. In September 2021, the Ministry of Education constituted a National Steering Committee for development of the National Curriculum Frameworks.²⁴⁰ ▪ The University Grants Commission (UGC) notified the University Grants Commission (Establishment and Operation of Academic Bank of Credits in Higher Education) Regulations, 2021 on July 28, 2021.²⁴¹ The regulations establish an Academic Bank of Credits, which will be an online entity to store student's academic credits from all registered Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs). It will enable a credit transfer mechanism, which will allow students to structure their higher educational degree as per their choice of time, place and level of learning. ▪ Digital education: Guidelines for digital education in schools were released by the Ministry of Human Resources Development on July 14, 2020, prescribing steps that could be taken by schools towards digital learning. Its key features include: (i) provision for categorisation of households based on availability of digital infrastructure through a survey, (ii) teachers to devise comprehensive plans based on factors including availability of digital devices and special needs, (iii) cap on the screen time and total online activities of teachers per day,²⁴² and (iv) Internet access under BHARAT NET scheme has been made available to government institutions and improve connectivity in rural areas. The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology has been assigned to provide fibre to government institutions, including schools. This project is for providing internet connection to government schools in respective Gram Panchayats.²⁴³ ▪ PM eVidya: PM eVidya scheme was initiated in May 2020 to unify all efforts towards access to online education.²⁴⁴ The scheme includes: Table 24: Components of PM eVidya scheme ^{245, 246} <table border="1" data-bbox="678 997 2013 1407"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="678 997 1115 1029">Component and Purpose</th> <th data-bbox="1115 997 2013 1029">Implementation Progress</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="678 1029 1115 1114">National Digital Infrastructure for Teachers which establishes a common platform across India</td> <td data-bbox="1115 1029 2013 1114">The portal was launched in 2017. 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Policy Announcement	Current Status																				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 4.4% of rural households have access to a computer (excludes smartphones), and nearly 15% have access to internet facilities. Amongst urban households, 42% have access to internet (2017-18 data).²⁴⁷ Table 25 details access to computer and internet in households and ability to use them among children aged 5-14. <p>Table 25: Access and ability to use Computer and Internet (2017-18)²⁴⁷</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="680 371 2058 523"> <thead> <tr> <th>Particular</th> <th>Households having computers</th> <th>Households having internet facility</th> <th>Ability to use computer in age group 5-14</th> <th>Ability to use internet in age group 5-14</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Rural</td> <td>4.4%</td> <td>14.9%</td> <td>5.1%</td> <td>5.1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Urban</td> <td>23.4%</td> <td>42.0%</td> <td>21.3%</td> <td>19.7%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Overall</td> <td>10.7%</td> <td>23.8%</td> <td>9.1%</td> <td>8.8%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Note: Computer does not include smartphone. Ability to use a computer means to be able to carry out any of the tasks such as: (i) copying or moving a file/folder, (ii) sending emails, (iii) transferring files between a computer and other devices, among others. Ability to use internet means to be able to use the internet browser for website navigation, using e-mail or social networking applications.</p>	Particular	Households having computers	Households having internet facility	Ability to use computer in age group 5-14	Ability to use internet in age group 5-14	Rural	4.4%	14.9%	5.1%	5.1%	Urban	23.4%	42.0%	21.3%	19.7%	Overall	10.7%	23.8%	9.1%	8.8%
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<p>In 2014, there were only 387 medical colleges, but today there are 562 medical colleges in the country.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 132 government medical colleges and 77 private medical colleges have been approved in the country since 2014. Since 2014, the number of undergraduate seats and postgraduate seats in medical colleges have increased by 72% and 78% respectively.²⁴⁸ ▪ Under the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY), setting up of 22 new AIIMS have been approved. Out of these, six (Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Jodhpur, Patna, Raipur, and Rishikesh) are functional.²⁴⁹ 																				
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<p>After ensuring electrification of every village, the Government is implementing a mission to connect over 6 lakh villages of the country through optical fibre.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bharat Net was launched in 2011 to provide connectivity to 2.5 lakh Gram Panchayats (GPs) through optical fibre. It was earlier called the National Optical Fibre Network Initiative. In the fifth tranche of the Atmanirbhar Bharat package, an outlay of Rs 19,401 crore was announced for BharatNet scheme to increase broadband connectivity in villages.⁷⁶ As of September 2021, Rs 26,044 crore have been disbursed under the project.²⁵⁰ As of January, 2022, 1.81 lakh GPs have been connected by laying out 5.58 lakh km of optical fibre cable. Of these, 1.71 lakh GPs are service ready on satellite media.²⁵¹ 																				
Science and Technology																					
<p>The formation of 'Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre - IN-SPACE' will accelerate major reforms in the space sector. Today ISRO space scientists are working on important missions such as 'Chandrayan-3', 'Gaganyaan', and 'Small Satellite Launch Vehicle'</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACE) is an independent nodal agency under the Department of Space to encourage and promote the private sector for their participation in the Space Sector. Private players will also be able to use ISRO infrastructure through INSPACE.²⁵² ▪ Chandrayaan-3 will be the third lunar exploration developed by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). The launch is tentatively scheduled for the second quarter of 2022-23. Its configuration has been refined based on learnings from Chandrayaan-2, in terms of capacity and design.^{253,254} ▪ India's maiden human space mission "Gaganyaan" will be launched in 2023. An expenditure of Rs 9,023 crore has been approved for the programme. The total cost of the programme is estimated to be within Rs 10,000 crore, and includes the cost of technology development, flight hardware realisation, and developing essential infrastructure elements. Space flight training for four astronaut candidates and national collaboration on design, development, and delivery has commenced. Four biological and two physical science related experiments from academic institutions have been shortlisted for the unmanned missions.²⁵⁵ India will become the fourth nation in the world to launch a Human Spaceflight Mission after the USA, Russia and China.²⁵⁶ ▪ ISRO is developing a Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV) with private participation to be launched in first quarter of 2022. The government has sanctioned a total cost of Rs 169 crore for the development project including the development and qualification of the vehicle systems and the flight demonstration through three development flights.²⁵⁷ 																				

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