

CONTENTS

Foreword

07 Data can drive policy

08 An antigen for the artificial intelligence

STATE OF DEVELOPMENT 09

Global economic risks 10

Infectious diseases enter the list of economic threats for the first time since 2006

Sustainable Development Goals 11

India faces major challenges in 10 of the 17 SDGs

Environmental Performance Index 14

India lags in critical issues of air and water quality, biodiversity, and climate change

Environmental crimes 16

Courts need to dispose of 137 cases a day to clear the backlog in a year

Aspirational districts 18

Progress remains slow under agriculture and water resources, and health and nutrition

STATE OF PANDEMIC 23

India's second wave 24

May 2021 was a tragic month for India as it saw over 9 million cases and 120,000 deaths

Changing geography 26

In May, every fourth case reported in the world was from rural India

Rural health infrastructure 28

There is a shortage of health centres and staff across rural India

Deflated rural demand 32

Slow economic recovery in rural India might impact 2021-22 GDP

37 STATE OF LAND & AGRICULTURE

38 Quality of land records

14 states saw deterioration in the quality of their land records in the last one year

40 Farmers v labourers

India has more farm labourers than cultivators

44 Farmer suicides

In 2019, over 28 farmers and farm labourers committed suicide in the country every day

46 Farmers' unrest

India recorded 165 major protests across 22 states/UTs

47 Organic reality

Only 2 per cent of the country's 140 million hectare farmland is under organic cultivation

49 STATE OF CLIMATE

50 Rising temperature

2011-2020 was the warmest decade for India

52 Climate vulnerability

All the 29 Indian states are significantly vulnerable to climate change

68 Internal displacements

Over 3.9 million people in India were displaced in 2020 due to disasters

71 Major weather events

21 major weather events claimed over 1,374 lives in 2020

72 Storm brewing

Last decade saw the highest number of cyclonic storms since 1970s

73 India's spending on calamities

Odisha, Rajasthan and two other states/UTs have reduced their spendings on natural calamities

CONTENTS

STATE OF ENERGY 77

Renewables 78

India has met only 55% of its target of installing 175 GW of renewable capacity by 2022

Solar parks 80

It has been almost seven years and India is yet to launch its first solar parks project

Rooftop solar 81

The gap between the target and the achieved has only widened over the years

Access to Energy 82

Rural Haryana receives electricity for only 16 hours a day on average

STATE OF BIODIVERSITY 87

Ecosystem services 88

14 states/UTs registered a drop in the carbon retention services of their forests between 2015-16 and 2017-18

Forest fires 93

India has seen a drastic rise in forest fires since the start of 2021

Threatened species 95

12 per cent of India's 1,212 animal species in the IUCN red list are endangered

Shrinking hotspots 96

The four biodiversity hotspots in India have been reduced to 10% of their original extent

STATE OF WATER 99

River quality 100

During the 2020 lockdown, the water quality in Ganga and four other rivers worsened

Melting glaciers 102

There are 39 highly disaster-prone glaciers that need to be monitored closely

STATE OF CITIES 105

Ease of living 106

Only three state capitals feature in the top 10 list of most livable cities

109 Sewage overload

Only 28 per cent of India's sewage gets treated

113 STATE OF WASTE

114 Biomedical waste

India still disposes 12 per cent of its hospital waste without any treatment

116 COVID-19 waste

Just five states account for almost 50 per cent of the COVID-19 waste

117 Hazardous waste

India has added almost 2,400 more hazardous units in just two years

121 STATE OF AIR

122 Deaths due to pollution

Air pollution killed 1.67 million Indians in 2019, accounting for 18 per cent of the total deaths in the country

127 STATE OF INDUSTRIES

128 Grossly polluting industries

India has 2,976 GPIs, which is 8 per cent more than the units in 2019

131 STATE OF HEALTH

132 National Family Health Survey

In the past five years, India has made progress in certain key indicators but has slipped in several others

134 Cancer registry

Cases have increased in all the 28 cancer registries in India; mortality up in 13

137 STATE OF EMPLOYMENT

138 Unemployment

Urban unemployment rate shot to 14.7 per cent in May 2021

140 MGNREGA

J&K, Bihar, West Bengal see the maximum payment delays in the employment scheme