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Q8(c)

What are the Indian government's schemes launched for poverty alleviation after the United Nation's Declaration of 'Sustainable Development Goals - 2015' ? Briefly describe

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2025 · Sociology GS 2 · 10 marks · Rural and Agrarian transformation in India

Rural and Agrarian transformation in India: Programmes of rural development, Community Development Programme, cooperatives, poverty alleviation schemes; Green revolution and social change; Changing modes of production in Indian agriculture; Problems of rural labour, bondage, migration.

Core demand of the question

- Name GOI poverty schemes launched or recast after the 2015 SDG declaration
- **Briefly describe:** PM-KISAN, NRLM continuation/expansion, MGNREGA continuation, PMAY, NFSA implementation, Ayushman Bharat, Jal Jeevan, and related SDG-framed programmes
- Do not pretend every scheme began in 2015; frame post-2015 launch or SDG alignment

Revision summary

SDG 2015 became a frame for Indian poverty policy rather than a single new statute.

PM-KISAN, Ayushman Bharat, Jal Jeevan and PMAY are major post-2015 launches.

NFSA, MGNREGA and NRLM pre-date 2015 but were continued and digitised in the SDG era.

POSHAN, PMGKAY and Ujjwala sit in the same toolkit.

The package is broad; landless and informal workers still fall through title-based and insurance-based designs.

Introduction

The UN **Sustainable Development Goals** (2015), especially **SDG 1** (no poverty) and related goals on food, health, water and work, became a frame for Indian welfare. Some schemes were **new after 2015**; others were **older rights** continued and digitally recast. A brief sociological catalogue should keep that distinction.

Body

Post-2015 launches and recasts

PM-KISAN (2019) pays an income support to landholder farmer families-poverty alleviation as a cash transfer, skewed toward those with title. **Ayushman Bharat** (2018)-PM-JAY insurance plus health and wellness centres-attacks medical impoverishment (SDG 3). **Jal Jeevan Mission** (2019) targets household tap water (SDG 6). **PMAY** (Gramin 2016, Urban 2015) is housing as asset and dignity (SDG 11). **National Nutrition Mission / POSHAN** (2018) and the continued **NFSA, 2013** (implemented through the SDG years with One Nation One Ration portability) address hunger. **NRLM / DAY-NRLM** (pre-2015 architecture, expanded with SHGs and lakhpati didi targets) is women's livelihood poverty work (SDG 5 and 1). **MGNREGA** (2005) continued as a rural employment floor through the SDG period,

including a COVID spike in demand.

- **Other aligned instruments: e-SHRAM, PMGKAY** food extra during COVID, **Ujjwala, Saubhagya**, and Direct Benefit Transfer plumbing. Together they form a **welfare architecture mapped onto SDGs**, not a single anti-poverty law.

- **Limits belong in a brief note:** landless labour gains less from PM-KISAN; insurance is not a health system; MGNREGA wages and delays remain political. PMAY can become a pucca house without a livelihood. Jal Jeevan can deliver a tap and still fail on quality. The schemes still matter as the state's post-2015 poverty toolkit, especially when read as **SDG 1 plus 2, 3, 5, 6, 8 and 11** rather than as rival ministries.

Sociologically they also recast the poor as **Aadhaar-verified beneficiaries**, which is inclusion and surveillance together. That is the post-2015 signature as much as any new acronym.

Flow diagram

SDGs 2015 -> PM-KISAN DBT
SDGs 2015 -> Ayushman
SDGs 2015 -> Jal Jeevan
SDGs 2015 -> PMAY
NFSA MGNREGA NRLM -> SDGs 2015

Conclusion

After 2015 India combined new transfers (PM-KISAN, Ayushman, Jal Jeevan, PMAY) with continued rights (NFSA, MGNREGA, NRLM). That is the government's SDG-era poverty package: wide, digital, and still uneven for the landless informal poor.

Facts & figures

PM-KISAN 2019

Income support to landholding farmer families; a post-SDG cash transfer with a title bias.

Ayushman Bharat 2018

PM-JAY hospital insurance and wellness centres, aimed at catastrophic health costs.

Jal Jeevan Mission 2019

Functional household tap connections; SDG 6 aligned rural water programme.